

## **What is Information?**

Information is data processed for some purpose. Information can only be considered to be real if it meets certain criteria i.e.

- It must be communicated to the recipient.
- It must be in language that is understood.
- It must be in a suitable form.
- It must be relevant for achieving some purpose.

Information is not restricted to printed words or words of mouth alone. It is also present in the form of artwork, colors, gestures, facial expressions, and body movements. Information may be a physical entity, which can be quantifiable, for example sound waves of a whistle, speed of a car, temperature of the room. Its consumption can be quantified. Information is also a fact, for example, what is your name? What are your job timings? What is the number of students?

Information is used as knowledge. "Knowledge implies a state of understanding beyond awareness." (**Debons and Croneweth, 1988**) Information is a commodity. It has economic value. Information is also used to influence and persuade. Sellers get economical benefits through advertisements. "Information is the substance of cultural enrichment and amusement. People are willing to pay for it, which is the basis for the entertainment industries." (**Cawkell, 2003**) Information can be a service as well. Business is providing information-based services that produce information products and services.

## **Data vs. Information**

Data is raw, unorganized facts that need to be processed. Data can be something simple and seemingly random and useless until it is organized. When data is processed, organized, structured or presented in a given context so as to make it useful, it is called information.

## **What is Technology?**

- Technology is humans using objects (tools, machines, systems and materials) to change the natural and human-made environment.
- Technology is developed by people to modify their environment.
- Technology is evolving every month, so company must keep up with the newest technology to earn customer satisfaction and make profit.

## **What is Computer?**

A computer is a general purpose, programmable device that is used for the production and processing of information. A computer is capable of calculating and storing results.

## How computers process information?



## Components of a Computer System

