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| **Microprocessor** | **Micro Controller** |
| 1G mobile phone | 1G mobile phone |
| Microprocessor is heart of Computer system. | Micro Controller is a heart of embedded system. |
| It is just a processor. Memory and I/O components have to be connected externally | Micro controller has external processor along with internal memory and i/O components |
| Since memory and I/O has to be connected externally, the circuit becomes large. | Since memory and I/O are present internally, the circuit is small. |
| Cannot be used in compact systems and hence inefficient | Can be used in compact systems and hence it is an efficient technique |
| Cost of the entire system increases | Cost of the entire system is low |
| Due to external components, the entire power consumption is high. Hence it is not suitable to used with devices running on stored power like batteries. | Since external components are low, total power consumption is less and can be used with devices running on stored power like batteries. |
| Most of the microprocessors do not have power saving features. | Most of the micro controllers have power saving modes like idle mode and power saving mode. This helps to reduce power consumption even further. |
| Since memory and I/O components are all external, each instruction will need external operation, hence it is relatively slower. | Since components are internal, most of the operations are internal instruction, hence speed is fast. |
| Microprocessor have less number of registers, hence more operations are memory based. | Micro controller have more number of registers, hence the programs are easier to write. |
| Microprocessors are based on von Neumann model/architecture where program and data are stored in same memory module | Micro controllers are based on Harvard architecture where program memory and Data memory are separate |
| Mainly used in personal computers | Used mainly in washing machine, MP3 players |