## 9.3 Stream Classes

A stream can be defined as a sequence of data. There are two kinds of Streams:

## 1) Byte Streams:

- ➤ Java byte streams are used to perform input and output of 8-bit bytes.
- ➤ It provides supports for handling I/O operations on byte.
- ➤ It has InputStream and OutputStream classes at the top of hierarchy.

## 2) Character Streams:

- ➤ Java Byte streams are used to perform input and output of 8-bit bytes, whereas Java Character streams are used to perform input and output for 16-bit unicode.
- ➤ It provides supports for managing I/O operations on characters.