What is Node.js?

* Node.js is a server-side platform built on Google Chrome's JavaScript Engine (V8 Engine).
* Node.js is an open source, cross-platform runtime environment for developing server-side and networking applications.

## Features of Node.js

* **Asynchronous and Event Driven** − All APIs of Node.js library are asynchronous, that is, non-blocking. It essentially means a Node.js based server never waits for an API to return data.
* **Very Fast** − Being built on Google Chrome's V8 JavaScript Engine, Node.js library is very fast in code execution.
* **Single Threaded but Highly Scalable** − Node.js uses a single threaded model with event looping. Event mechanism helps the server to respond in a non-blocking way and makes the server highly scalable as opposed to traditional servers which create limited threads to handle requests.
* **No Buffering** − Node.js applications never buffer any data. These applications simply output the data in chunks.
* **License** − Node.js is released under the MIT license

Where to Use Node.js?

Following are the areas where Node.js is proving itself as a perfect technology partner.

* I/O bound Applications
* Data Streaming Applications
* Data Intensive Real-time Applications (DIRT)
* JSON APIs based Applications
* Single Page Applications