

CHAPTER-7

GENERAL PURPOSE APPLICATION SOFTWARE

Some of the application software are designed for general day to day applications and uses. Some of these popular general purpose application softwares are discussed below:

(1) Word Processor:-

- i. Word Processor is general purpose application software that facilitates the creation of text documents with extensive formatting.
- ii. The user can not only create a document and add lines into it but can also use different types of fonts of various sizes along with features like underlining or making a certain part of the text bold.
- iii. One can also add clipart and other graphics into the document.
- iv. Therefore we can use word processing software for various tasks from writing a simple document to designing special art effect.

- v. Preparing a common letter for different addressee (using mail merge feature), writing stories, applications and designing posters (using clip art and graphics) are some of the common applications of a word processor.
- vi. Popular examples of Word processing software are Microsoft Word and Writer (open office).

(2) Presentation Tools:-

- i. Presentation Tool is general purpose application software that facilitates the creation of presentations on any particular topic like Uses of Internet, Global Warming, Social networking or any topic of social interest and importance.
- ii. It allows one to not only create a presentation and add slides into that but also allows use of various formatting features like adding different types of background, different fonts, animations, audio, video, clipart and other graphics.
- iii. Popular examples of Presentation tools are Microsoft Power Point and Impress (open office).

(3) Spreadsheet Tools: -

- i. Spreadsheet Tool is general purpose application software that facilitates creation of tabular forms where some text and numerical values can be stored.
- ii. A spreadsheet tool not only allows one to create a document and add data into it but also allows creation of different types of charts and graphs based upon the numerical data stored in a worksheet.
- iii. Furthermore, all common mathematical and statistical formulae can be used on the stored numeric data and various text functions can be used on the text stored in the worksheet.
- iv. Popular examples of Spreadsheet tools are Microsoft Excel and Calc (open office).

(4) Database Management System:

- i. Database Management System is general purpose application software that facilitates creation of computer programs that control the creation, maintenance, and the use of database for an organization and its end users.

- ii. It allows the user to not only store data but also control the addition, deletion, management, and retrieval of data in a database.
- iii. It also allows importing and exporting the data to many formats including Excel, Outlook, ASCII, dBase, FoxPro, Oracle, SQL Server, ODBC, etc.
- iv. Popular examples of Database Management System are Base (Open Office) and Microsoft Access.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE APPLICATION SOFTWARE

Some application software are made for performing specific tasks generally used by the Institutions, corporate, business houses, etc. and such software come under the category of specific purpose application software.

The usage of few specific purpose application software is explained below:

(1) Inventory Management System & Purchasing System:-

- i. Inventory Management System is generally used in departmental stores or in an institution to keep the record of the stock of all the physical resources.

- ii. For example, a school keeps record of the number of computers, printers, printing sheet, printer cartridge available in the school's computer department.

(2) Payroll Management System : -

- i. Payroll Management System software is used by all modern organizations to encompass every employee of the organization who receives a regular wage or other compensation.
- ii. All different payment methods are calculated by the payroll software and the appropriate paychecks are issued.

(3) Hotel Management:-

- i. Hotel Management software refers to management techniques used in the hotel sector.
- ii. These can include hotel administration, accounts, billing, marketing, housekeeping, front office or front desk management, food and beverage management, catering and maintenance.

(4) Reservation System: -

- i. Commonly seen at railway reservation offices, this software helps the concerned department to automatically check the availability of the seats or

berths of any train for any particular date with incomparable speed.

- ii. Now a day's using the internet and this software one can book or reserve tickets of any train for any dates with in no time.

(5) Report Card Generator: -

- i. This software is commonly used in schools by the examination department to prepare and generate the report card of students.
- ii. It performs all possible mathematical calculations and checks whether a student can be promoted to the next class or not. It can also be used to calculate the class wise ranking of a student.

Developer tools

When a programmer starts the process of writing a program to develop software for any type of application, he/she requires a series of software developing tools like code editor, debugger and compiler. A platform where all these software developing tools are bundled into a package is known as Integrated Development Environment (IDE).

Integrated Development Environment

An Integrated Development Environment (IDE) is an application program that consists of all required software developing tools required for developing software as part of a single interface.

It typically consists of the following tools:

- Source Code Editor
- Graphical User Interface (GUI) builder
- Compiler / Interpreter
- Debugger
- Build Automation tool
- Example : Net Beans IDE , Visual Basic IDE.