* BI (Business Intelligence tools have been developed to gather and analyze the data for decision making because decision making is quite different from operational processing and is not well supported by operational databases.
* BI is a tool which involves in Collecting, analyzing, aggregating, making decisions based on data from operations databases including other sources and also monitoring business decisions.
* Components of BI architecture:-

1. ETL (extract, transform and load) tools: To extract data from operational databases and other external sources, transform the data when necessary and load the data into a data store.
2. Query and analysis tools: It is an OLAP (Online Analytical processing) tool to retrieve and analyze data in the data store.
3. Data visualization tools: To present data to the user in an understandable way.

* Data Warehouse: A subject-oriented, integrated, time-variant, non-updatable collection of data used for supporting management decision-making process.
* Operational Database: A transaction-oriented operational database.
* Transient Data: The data which is used in most operational systems in which the existing records are over-written by the new data.
* Periodic Data: The data used by most data warehouses, where the data is never physically altered or deleted once they are added to the data store.
* Data Mart: A data warehouse that has limited scope.
* Data Warehouse Design: The use of dimensional model also referred as a star schema.
* Fact Tables: A table that contains factual or quantitative data about a business unit such as ordered units. Fact tables are commonly in 3NF.
* Primary keys for dimensional tables should be simple surrogate keys.

* The grain of the fact table is the level of detail in the table, determined by the intersection of all components of the primary key.