

## **Class 5 of BCA part 1(By Sachin Kumar)**

### **1. STORAGE DEVICES**

Storage devices provide permanent storage of information and programs for retrieval by the computer.

The two main types of storage devices are disk drives and memory.

There are several types of disk drives: hard disk drive, floppy disk, magneto-optical, and compact disk.

#### **Hard disk**

Hard disk drives store information in magnetic particles embedded in a disk. Usually a permanent part of the computer, hard disk drives can store large amounts of information and retrieve that information very quickly.

The disks are of different sizes such as 1G, 10G, 40G, etc.

#### **Floppy disk**

Floppy disk drives also store information in magnetic particles embedded in removable disks. Floppy disks store less information than a hard disk drive and retrieve the information at a much slower rate.

It is of 2 type

A. 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> floppy disk

B. 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> floppy disk.

#### **Magneto-optical disc**

Magneto-optical disc drives store information on removable discs that are sensitive to both laser light and magnetic fields. They can typically store as much information as hard disks, but they have slightly slower retrieval speeds.

#### **Compact Disc**

Compact Disc Drives store information on pits burned into the surface of a disc of reflective material such as

**CD-ROM.** CD-ROMs can store about as much information as a hard drive but have a slower rate of information

retrieval.

**Digital Video Disc (DVD):** This is similar and works like a CD-ROM but can store more than 15times as much information.

## **Flash drives**

Flash drives work as floppy disks but more sensitive as a hard disk that must be ejected logical before final removal from the computer system. It has more memory than floppy disks.

## **Memory Cards**

Memory Cards work as flash drive but with an additional device called the card reader. This is very effective and more durable than the flash drives.

Some devices serve more than one purpose. For example, floppy disks may also be used as input devices if they contain information to be used and processed by the computer user. In addition, they can be used as output devices if the user wants to store the results of computations on

them.

## **2. SYSTEM MEMORY**

Memory refers to the computer chips that store information for quick retrieval by the CPU. They are basically divided into two ROM and RAM.

### **RAM**

Random Access Memory (RAM) is used to store information and instructions that operate the computer's programs. Typically, programs are transferred from storage on a disk drive to RAM. RAM is also known as volatile memory because the information within the computer chips is lost when power to the computer is turned off or the computer hanged.

## **ROM**

Read-Only Memory (ROM) contains critical information and software that must be permanently available for computer operation, such as the operating system that directs the computer's actions from start up to shut down. ROM is called non-volatile memory because the memory chips do not lose their information when power to the computer is turned off