

Computer Its Role in Life Today

Or

The Age of Computers

Or

Computers— The Modern Man's Intelligence Machine

Essay No. 01

In this age of science and technology, humanity is witnessing an explosion of knowledge. Computer a machine that promises to beat man in various fields – is one the latest useful inventions word today. The computer fevers his caught everybody from a child of three to an old man of seventy. Everyone is talking about computers networking from a child of three or an old man seventy. How important computer has become in life today. Every office, factory, modems, computer virus etc. This shows developed country in the world is equipped with a computer. A computer has already become an inseparable part of life. It helps a doctor I his diagnosis; it helps an engineer in his multifarious activities; guides a pilot or a navigator to safety; it helps a public or a private official or businessman in more ways that one. It is an important part of every institution, every office and every establishment public or private in several countries.

A computer is basically an electronic calculating machine. It performs, complex and enormous calculation with tremendous speed, precision and diligence. It accepts data, performs operations according to instruction and provides the results of the operations. In addition to its speed in performing complicated calculations, the computer has an ability to reproduce, rearrange and reconstruct information that can prove an invaluable asset in science, medicine, technology or any other branch of knowledge.

The heart of the computer is the integrated circuit. Each circuit can carry out millions of calculations in a second. A computer is programmed first and then fed with a problem in the form of a code, be in FORTAN, ALGOL or COBOL.

The first computer was huge in size 51 feet in length and 8 feet in height. Soon computer technology was modified. They different phases of

evolution of computers are conveyed by the term 'generation'. We are now using the fifth generation computers in the advanced countries of the world. The development of computer is now directed towards a process of the miniaturization of the components. Today a chip of silicon, smaller than the thumb nail of an infant, can accommodate all the elaborate electronic circuits that make the brain of the computer. From the huge computer of earlier days, computer has covered a long road to Pentium Computers that are able to process complicated data in a matter of seconds.

The key to how artificial intelligence machines will work lies with new style programs and software. Communication between man and machine is expected to be raised to the level of human communication. The human brain is not capable of retaining, for example the massive and ever-increasing base of medical knowledge. So, the computer will act as an assistant with all the information.

The Uses of computers are too many. The computer performs the assigned tasks in seconds. The solutions are correct to the minutest detail. Today there is a computer at the beck and call of every research worker, every senior doctor, engineer or technician. It is on the road to produce robots to assist the housewives in their daily household chores. Portable computers are being used by people in business to make complex calculations. The CAT Scanner provides doctors with a view of the whole human body. The computer has now entered almost every field of human activity. One can watch video CD's and video conferencing, send volumes of data from one machine to the other in the farthest corner of the world ISDN exchanges have revolutionized the use of computers. A mere pressing of a button can off-load your heavy mail let you know all statistics on various subjects, place before you and control your other machines. Programmed computers are being used in controlling and monitoring the movement of traffic, reservation of seats in airways and railways, in educational institutions, in defense establishments, in ships and planes all over the world.

In India, computerization of important sectors like defense, energy, steel, mining, cement, railways, airlines, communication and education has already taken up. There is need for adequate trained manpower without which computers cannot be effectively utilized.

Although the use of computers has phenomenally grown, it has some fundamental limitations. The computer cannot exercise judgement or commonsense. It has to be meticulously instructed in the programme and it acts as it is instructed. It is also alleged that the privacy of people is being threatened as every detail regarding a person's whole life can be squeezed into a few

centimeters of computer tape. Also, the use of computers is adding to unemployment all over the country as a single computer can do the work of hundreds of manual workers.

Though there are a few problems or irritants, it cannot be denied that computers are a boon to humanity. No country in the world can afford to ignore this very important machine.

The computers have so revolutionized the day-to-day life of human beings that it has encompassed its every activity. The explosion of Information Technology, the Website and the windows have thrown all the knowledge of the world at man's feet. One can visit every nook and corner of the world and glean any sort of knowledge from website. And it is not the end but the beginning of a revolution.

Essay No. 02

Computers

A computer is a marvellous invention of our times. It is a machine which can do a variety of wonderful and complicated calculations in no time, rather instantly. It stores an ocean of information on magnetic tapes, analyses it, and gives results as and when required. It has helped us in overcoming man difficult problems of multiple calculations, scientific data processing, record keeping and industrial complications. It has proved a matchless handmaid of science, technology and industry. It has already superseded human mind in respect of storage of information and instant multiple calculation. The speed and accuracy with which it works is really staggering and stupendous. A computer is a fantastic machine.

The first automatic computer was made in 1937 in the U.S.A. Since then there has been phenomenal progress in the development and up gradation of computers. The coming computers are likely to be faster and complicated. The Fortran IV, which was considered then as ultimate, has been left far behind by later language. Each new generation of computers has been smaller, lighter, more fast and powerful than the one before. The next wave of these calculating machines will further revolutionize the use of computers. Now note-book sized pocket computers are a common thing. Programmers and hardware engineers are busy in making a new type of computers equipped with an electronic style, pad and deciphers handwriting, and circuitry that allows it to communicate with other computers using radio waves. With no need to enter information on key-board or to communicate by plugging into a telephone line. These "pentop" or "planitop" computers should have far more radical effect than the personal computer which is most frequently used as a deskbound replacement for the manual typewriter. According to the

latest information available, the personal computer would finally become a consumer appliance. The new machines would be so light and portable that users won't have to think about whether or not to bring their computer with them. It will be a matter of course.

The fear that one day computers would supersede human mind is really not based on facts. In spite of radical and marvellous developments in computer hardware and software technology it would remain only a machine. It can never attain the creativity and thinking of the human mind. It can never usurp the place and position of human brain. After all a computer itself is a product of human mind. Do you think a computer can write plays and poetry as did Shakespeare or Kalidas? Human mind is not a machine. Its workings are so complicated, quick, multiple and complex as never to be fully explained and understood. Computers are wonderful, but they can never compete with human mind, let alone superseding man's mind. No doubt this miracle machine is a great help to human mind, but no machine, however sophisticated, subtle and super, can ever be as self-determining as man. A computer always depends on human consciousness for its operation and going.

The help of computers has made the complicated industrial and technological operations and their related problems easy to solve. Computerization in offices, business establishments, factories, etc., has proved very beneficial in terms of costs, time and energy. But it has certainly increased and added to the problems of unemployment. A computer can replace scores of people. In spite of this problem, computers are going to stay forever. They have become a necessity. India is computerizing very fast. The spurt in the use of these miracle machines in various places like railways, airlines, banks, defense services, business organisation, factories, offices and research establishments is breath-taking. Thus, computer industry in India has a very bright future. On the export front this industry has shown remarkable achievements. Many computer producing companies have come into existence in India, and a few of them are exporting these indigenously produced machines to various developed and developing countries of the world.

The high-speed data processing electronic machine, called computer, has made its presence felt in India in a big way. Recently they have been introduced in schools. Their application and use in various fields of life has now become a must. In defense they help radars, missile and rocket launching, automatic flights, etc. Computers have increased the power and capacity of human working manifold. A manager in a company can now depend on a computer for many of his office duties. It can compute and calculate huge amounts of expenses, income, sales, pension, provident fund, income tax, etc., within no time. Railways and airlines now offer instant information on bookings with the help of computers. Computer network has reduced distances as it can be used to co-ordinate activities at different places. To be short, the versatility of computers is marvellous.

But computers have brought their problems. They can commit mistakes and when they do, they create many problems. Their mistakes are really blunders, and more risky than those committed by men. Computers have their own virus, and they can become its victim. The so much dependence on computers makes men mentally weak. But the advantage far outweighs these few disadvantages.