

Types of networks: On the basis of area acquired, networks are of following types:

- 1.** LAN (Local Area Networks)
- 2.** MAN (Metropolitan Area Networks)
- 3.** WAN (Wide Area Networks)

LAN: A network that is spread over an area of a room or a floor or a building or a campus, can be regarded as a LAN. Usually LANs are created by individuals to operate the network services to a local area.

For example, a college can have a LAN of some PCs, a hospital can have a LAN of some PCs, a railway station can have a LAN of some phones or PCs connected to a Wi-Fi router etc.

MAN: A MAN is a city or state level network that works to operate network services in a city or in a state. For example, City-wise cable TV network is a best example for a MAN. The cellular networks spread over an entire state are also MANs.

In many countries, MANs are used to bring the services of WANs to the LANs so that those services can reach to the individual people.

WAN: WANs are those networks that are spanned over the entire globe. Usually we say that WANs have no boundary which means they can be used across the world.

Internet and WWW are the best examples of WANs.

Architectures of network:

- 1.** Client – Server Network (CS Network)
- 2.** Peer to Peer Network (P2P Network)

Client – Server Network (CS Network): These networks are made up of two types of computers. Some are Clients whereas some are Servers. Clients are those PCs that are designed to make requests for the data they want to get. On the other side, Servers are those PCs that are designed to reply to the requests of clients thereby serving them the data they wanted to get.

Peer to Peer Network: In these networks there is no any difference among PCs. All PCs enjoy same privilege and hence there is no any client or server. Instead, All PCs are collectively called Peers.

Assignments:

- 1.** How many types of network are there?
- 2.** Differentiate between CS and P2P network.