

An information system architecture is a formal definition of the business processes and rules, systems structure, technical framework, and product technologies for a business or organizational information system. The architecture of an information system encompasses the hardware and software used to deliver the solution to the final consumer of services. The architecture is a description of the design and contents of a computerized system. If documented, the architecture may include information such as a detailed inventory of current hardware, software and networking capabilities; a description of long-range plans and priorities for future purchases, and a plan for upgrading and/or replacing dated equipment and software.

Subsystems of MIS:

1. **Transaction processing system** (collects, stores, modifies and retrieves the data transactions of an organization)
2. **Management reporting system** (mechanism for monitoring the mission of the organization)
3. **Decision support system** (DSS is a collection of integrated software applications and hardware that form the backbone of the organization's decision making process)
4. **Office information system** (uses hardware, software and networks to facilitate communications among employees.)
5. **Expert system** (AI based system that converts knowledge of an expert in a specific subject into a software code) (eg. Checking of OMR sheets)

DSS:

A **decision support system (DSS)** is an [information system](#) that supports business or organizational [decision-making](#) activities. DSSs serve the management, operations and planning levels of an organization (usually mid and higher management) and help people make decisions about problems that may be rapidly changing and not easily specified in advance

Characteristics of DSS:

1. Data collection
2. Data management
3. Data analysis
4. Data presentation