

Japan declared a war on floppy disks

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In news– Japan's digital ministry has recently announced that it will finally do away with floppy disks.

What are floppy disks?

- Popularly used between the 1970s and 1990s, **a floppy disk is a removable disk storage device** used to save computer data and programmes.
- The disk, **first developed by IBM, is only able to store about 800 KB of data**, which is about 0.0008 GB.
- Today we can find hard drives with storage up to 20 TB (20,000 GB). The **first floppy disks measured about 8 inches** and **were difficult to store** as they got dirty very easily.
- To address the issue, **a team from IBM developed smaller, less unwieldy floppy disks.**, which were about 3.5-5.5 inches.
- When it was introduced in the 1970s, the floppy disk was considered a massive technological breakthrough.
- With the personal computer becoming incredibly accessible, people were now able to share information easily. **Documents could be saved on a floppy disk and accessed on another computer.**
- But with the **introduction of CDs, pen drives and eventually the cloud, floppy disks grew redundant** in most parts of the world. **By 2011, all floppy disk manufacturing ceased.**

Types Of Storage Devices

Primary Storage Devices

- ROM
- RAM

Secondary Storage Devices

- Hard Disk Drive
- CD-ROM
- DVD
- Floppy Disk
- Pendrive
- Memory Card