Topic 2:
PHP Overview

Course Code: CIS331
Module Leader: Md. Minhaj Hosen

What is PHP?

▶ PHP is a server side scripting language. that is used to develop Static websites or Dynamic websites or Web applications. PHP stands for Php Hypertext Pre-processor, that earlier stood for Personal Home Pages.

Why use PHP?

- PHP is open source and **free.**

- Short learning curve

- Large community document

- Most web hosting servers support PHP by default unlike other languages such as ASP that need IIS. This makes PHP a cost effective choice.

- PHP is regular updated to keep abreast with the latest technology trends.

- Other benefit that you get with PHP is that it's a **server side scripting language**; this means you only need to install it on the server and client computers requesting for resources from the server do not need to have PHP installed; only a web browser would be enough.

- PHP has **in built support for working hand in hand with MySQL**; this doesn't mean you can't use PHP with other database management systems. You can still use PHP with
  - Postgres
  - Oracle
  - MS SQL Server
  - ODBC etc.

- PHP is **cross platform;** this means you can deploy your application on a number of different operating systems such as windows, Linux, Mac OS etc.