HearNSee: Adaptive Education for Deaf & Blind Students

Duration: August 2024 – November 2024 **Event:** Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2024

Technologies Used: Java, Spring Framework, MySQL, React.js, Machine Learning,

Artificial Intelligence, Neural Networks, Chatbots

Project Overview

HearNSee is an inclusive, adaptive learning platform designed to support the educational needs of students aged 5 to 16, including those with visual and hearing impairments. The platform was created as part of the **Smart India Hackathon 2024**, with the goal of building an environment where all students can learn and thrive, regardless of their physical limitations.

This project was inspired by the need for accessibility in education and aims to reduce the barriers faced by deaf, blind, and neurotypical students by offering tailored learning experiences.

Key Functional Areas

1. For Blind Students

- o Audio-based navigation and learning materials
- Speech-based feedback and interaction

2. For Deaf Students

- o Sign language recognition and translation using computer vision
- Visual-based learning tools and instructions

3. For General Students

- o Interactive modules with video, audio, and quizzes
- o Gamified learning elements to enhance engagement

Core Features

- Multi-sensory Learning: Combines audio, visual, and tactile learning tools
- Real-Time Feedback: Enables continuous assessment and improvement
- Accessibility Focus: Developed with the principles of universal design for learning (UDL)
- Cross-Device Support: Accessible via web platforms and designed for both desktop and tablet use
- Secure User Authentication: Each student has a personalized profile with tracked progress

Technological Implementation

- Frontend: Developed using React.js for a fast and responsive user interface
- Backend: Implemented using Java with the Spring Framework for robust backend logic and REST APIs
- Database: Used MySQL for storing user data, learning materials, and activity logs
- Machine Learning: Integrated models for sign language recognition and adaptive content delivery
- AI & Chatbot: Built AI-powered bots to assist students and teachers in real time
- **Neural Networks**: Used for gesture and voice recognition, enabling accessibility for students with impairments

Goals and Future Enhancements

1. AI-Powered Customization

 Develop adaptive learning paths based on each student's performance and preferences

2. Multilingual Support

Offer content in regional and global languages for wider access

3. Scalable Architecture

 Upgrade platform to support additional age groups, learning modules, and subjects

4. Collaborative Learning

o Add group-based activities and peer interaction features for enhanced engagement

5. Global Expansion

 Make the platform available internationally with support for localized content and cultural adaptation

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Impact and Vision

HearNSee is built on the vision that education should be accessible to every student, regardless of physical or cognitive ability. By using modern technologies and inclusive design principles, this project aims to eliminate learning barriers and offer equal opportunities to all learners.

The ultimate goal is to revolutionize the traditional education system by introducing adaptive, personalized, and inclusive learning experiences at scale.

Skills Demonstrated

- Full-stack Web Development (Java, Spring Boot, React.js)
- Database Design and Integration (MySQL)
- Machine Learning Model Development
- Research and Innovation for Accessibility
- Artificial Intelligence & Neural Network Applications
- Chatbot Development
- Team Collaboration and Problem Solving
- Presentation and Documentation for Hackathon Events