

PROJECT SYNOPSIS REPORT
ON
HOSTELERS' EMPORIUM
SUBMITTED
TO
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
FOR
Back End Engineering(22CS026)

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Problem Statement

Create a web platform for Chitkara University students to facilitate the buying and selling of items, primarily aiding graduating seniors in selling reusable goods to incoming juniors and freshers, while ensuring secure, user-friendly transactions for all users.

Title of project:

Chitkara Exchange: The Student Marketplace

Objective & Key Learnings:

Objective: Develop a full-stack web platform for Chitkara University students to facilitate the buying and selling of items, focusing on aiding graduating seniors in selling to incoming juniors and freshers, ensuring monetary benefits and promoting sustainable exchanges.

Front-End:

- Technologies: HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, React.js
- Features: Responsive UI, state management, item listing and search functionalities.

Back-End:

- Technologies: Node.js, Express.js, Nodemon
- Features: RESTful APIs for user and item management, business logic for dynamic pricing

Database:

- Technologies: File System
- Features: CRUD operations

Deployment:

- Platforms: Localhost

Additional Tools:

- Version Control: Git, GitHub
- Communication: WhatsApp, Discord for team collaboration and project management.

Options available to execute the Project:

1. In-House Development

- **Description:** Assemble a team of student developers and designers from within the university to build the platform.
- **Pros:** Cost-effective, fosters skills among students, and allows for tailored features based on student needs.
- **Cons:** Limited experience and potential delays due to academic commitments.

2. Freelance Developers

- **Description:** Hire freelance web developers and designers to create the platform.
- **Pros:** Access to experienced professionals, faster development time, and expertise in best practices.
- **Cons:** Higher costs, potential communication issues, and less control over project direction.

3. Partnership with a Local Tech Company

- **Description:** Collaborate with a local tech firm specializing in web development.
- **Pros:** Professional support, established processes, and a focus on user experience and security.
- **Cons:** Potentially higher costs and less involvement from students in the development process.

4. Open Source Platform Customization

- **Description:** Use an existing open-source marketplace platform (e.g., Sharetribe, OpenBazaar) and customize it for Chitkara University.
- **Pros:** Faster deployment, proven frameworks, and a strong community for support.
- **Cons:** May require technical expertise for customization and could limit certain functionalities.

Advantages

- 1. Sustainable Practices**
 - **Description:** Encourages recycling and reusing items, reducing waste and promoting sustainability within the campus community.
 - **Benefit:** Fosters an environmentally friendly mindset among students.
- 2. Cost Savings**
 - **Description:** Provides an affordable way for students to buy and sell items, especially essential goods like furniture and electronics.
 - **Benefit:** Helps students save money, which is crucial for many in a university setting.
- 3. Community Building**
 - **Description:** Creates a platform for students to interact, fostering a sense of community and collaboration.
 - **Benefit:** Strengthens relationships among students and encourages networking.
- 4. User-Friendly Experience**
 - **Description:** Designed specifically for Chitkara University students, ensuring that the platform meets their unique needs and preferences.
 - **Benefit:** Increases user engagement and satisfaction.
- 5. Secure Transactions**
 - **Description:** Incorporates secure payment methods and user verification to ensure safe transactions.
 - **Benefit:** Builds trust among users, encouraging more transactions on the platform.

Disadvantages

- 1. Initial Development Costs**
 - **Description:** The project may require significant upfront investment for web development and marketing.
 - **Drawback:** Limited budget may impact the project's sustainability.
- 2. Maintenance and Updates**
 - **Description:** Ongoing maintenance and updates are necessary to keep the platform functional and secure.
 - **Drawback:** Requires continuous resources and effort, which may be challenging for a student-led initiative.
- 3. User Adoption**
 - **Description:** Gaining initial traction and convincing students to use the platform may take time.
 - **Drawback:** Slow adoption can hinder the project's success and impact.
- 4. Competition**
 - **Description:** Competing with other marketplaces or social media platforms where students might already be buying and selling items.
 - **Drawback:** May struggle to differentiate itself and attract users away from established platforms.
- 5. Potential for Scams**
 - **Description:** Despite security measures, there's always a risk of fraudulent listings or users.
 - **Drawback:** Can lead to distrust and negative experiences for users, potentially harming the platform's reputation.

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