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HACKATHON DAY 6: DEPLOYMENT PREPARATION AND STAGING

As the project nears completion, today was all about **deployment preparation**. I worked on setting up a **staging environment**, configuring hosting platforms, and ensuring the application is ready for users.

KEY STEPS TAKEN:

Setting Up a Staging Environment

Selected **Vercel** as the hosting platform.

Connected my **GitHub repository** for automatic deployments.

Configured **build and deployment settings** to ensure smooth staging builds.

Secured **environment variables** within Vercel to keep sensitive data safe.

Validated the application in a production-like environment to catch any final issues.

Understanding Environment Management

Learned about **professional deployment environments**, including:

DEV (Development) – Local coding and testing.

SIT (System Integration Testing) – Ensuring all parts work together.

UAT (User Acceptance Testing) – Testing with real users before launch.

PROD (Production) – The live, customer-facing version.

DR (Disaster Recovery) – A backup environment for emergencies.

Final Testing & Documentation

Conducted additional staging tests and documented the results.

Created a **professional deployment guide**, including test reports and performance summaries.

REFLECTION

Deployment preparation is a critical step in making sure the project runs smoothly post-launch. With the staging environment ready and final tests in place, I'm looking forward to pushing this project live soon!