Phase 5: Apex Programming (Developer)

Goal: Add custom logic and automation to enhance SSRS beyond point-and-click configuration.

1. Apex Triggers

- Auto-generate Request ID: A trigger ensures each Service Request gets a unique ID if not already assigned.
- Validation on Closure: Prevents a request from being closed unless **Resolution Notes** are entered.
- Status Updates: Automatically update the related Account or Contact with the latest service request status.

2. Apex Classes

- Escalation Handler: A class that checks overdue requests and sends escalation notifications to managers.
- Assignment Logic: Assigns incoming service requests to staff based on workload, category, or priority.
- Utility Methods: Reusable methods for logging actions, formatting data, or sending custom notifications.

3. Batch Apex

- Weekly Status Update: A batch job that reviews all open service requests at the end of the week and sends summary reports to managers.
- Data Cleanup: Batch classes can archive closed requests older than a specific time period.

4. Test Classes

- Unit Tests: Cover triggers, classes, and batch processes with test data.
- Ensure at least **75% code coverage**, as required by Salesforce for deployment.
- Include **positive**, **negative**, **and bulk test cases** to ensure system reliability.

5. Error Handling & Logging

- Use **try-catch blocks** in Apex to handle unexpected errors gracefully.
- Implement a **custom error log object** to capture failures (e.g., assignment errors, escalation failures).
- Send admin alerts when critical errors occur.

6. Future Enhancements

- Add Queueable Apex for more complex asynchronous processing.
- Use **Platform Events** for real-time notifications when a high-priority request is escalated.

With Apex programming, Smart Service Request System gains flexibility for complex logic such as automatic assignment, escalations, and reporting, which cannot be achieved with clicks alone.