Technical Review

*Technical Forum activity "***Writing of Technical Review Article***" for* **MAR 2020**

1. Title

Aarogya Setu App

2. Abstract

This is a recent development in the field of health technologies and is developed by the National Informatics Centre under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India.

This app is an updated version of an earlier app called Corona Kavach

(now discontinued)

3. Introduction

The Aarogya Setu (meaning, 'Health Bridge') is a COVID-19 tracking mobile application by the Government of India and is developed amidst the worldwide pandemic causing virus ,Coronavirus or COVID-19 for the citizens of India.

4. Objective/Motivation

The purpose of its implementation is to spread awareness and provide essential COVID-19 related health services to the people of India. It also provides information about initiatives of the Department of Health to contain COVID-19 and best practices .

5. Contribution

 This is a tracking app that is available for both Android and iOS mobile operating systems.It also uses the smartphone's GPS and Bluetooth features to track the coronavirus infection.

6. Discussion

The application determines the risk of anyone ,being near (around/within six feet of) an infected individual,using the bluetooth feature and is also capable of determining (using GPS)whether the location belongs to one of the containment zones by scanning through a database of known cases across India.

Technical Features

Aarogya Setu App has four sections:

- ❖ 1. Your Status (risk determination for the user),
- ❖ 2. Self Assess (user's risk of being infected),
- ❖ 3. COVID-19 Update (updates on local and national COVID-19 cases) and
- ❖ 4. E-pass (in development).

Aarogya Setu is currently available in 12 languages including

- ➔ English,Tamil, Hindi,Telugu,Kannada, Malayalam, Punjabi, Bengali, Oriya, Gujarati, Marathi and Assamese and is expected to be available in other Indian regional languages soon.
- ➢ On signing into the app,the user is asked to provide information related to health and identification before proceeding any further.

7. Conclusion

This initiative by the Indian Government is highly praised internationally and is currently(as of 04/05/2020) being installed by more than 75 million people across the subcontinent.

Recently(29/04/2020)the central government had mandated using this application for all employees ,in order to keep track of infections.

Vulnerabilities and Challenges

The Application Programming Interface (API) of the app has been implemented such that other web applications/programs/services can access the features and data available in the Aarogya setu app.

This has raised concerns of potential privacy and security issues about the adequacy of the application.

8. References

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