

CovAct

Long Description

A business support portal

CovAct is a dynamic web-application project that would be acting as a helping hand for small-scale businesses, self-employed people, people working in rural areas who want to connect to customers and exponentially increase their reach, people engaged in handicrafts, and many others who are trying to get some support in their work. CovAct is built as an open source interactive medium that connects an organization or a person who needs some sort of resource but finding it difficult to get connected to them. It helps them by providing a free platform to put their products and directly connect to the people who need them. Since no third party is involved here, it is much more convenient and beneficial for the users of CovAct. Customer i.e. the person who wants something can easily discover their need because of a flexible and easy to use model of the project. Because of its easy handling structure, anyone who doesn't have much knowledge of using apps can easily use it and that includes millions of underprivileged people in India, or any third world country, and that makes it more useful for everyone irrespective of their age, knowledge, background, economic status, or anything. CovAct wants to push those small-scale workers who had to suffer a lot during COVID19 and right now are finding it hard to financially sustain themselves and their businesses. CovAct makes it possible that small-scale or self-employed workers get a push and aid in their business or work during such times when it's hard to survive and earn or even get some service. If we look at the market around, we cannot find any other efficient model compared to CovAct which focuses on empowering small-scale/self-employed workers in such a way that our application ought to.

The application as its core is built up of HTML,CSS & Javascript, it is a server-side rendered app using NodeJS as a runtime environment. It uses **MongoDB Atlas (which is a NoSQL database program) and the corresponding data is stored on its cloud servers**. The list of some of the dependencies used in the development of the app are:

1. ExpressJS : for routing
2. Mongoose : to work with the DB
3. Express-session and handlebars : for cookies and template engine
4. Morgan : for login
5. PassportJS : for authentication
6. Nodemon : continuously watches the server

The application also has an integrated IBM Watson-Assistant named De-oxys which helps the user to navigate through the application as well as create COVID19 awareness at the same time. Around 60-70 intents have been added to the assistant to train it. There's also a feature of real-time live chatting which is powered by DeadSimpleChat, once you log-in using google-Oauth (uses authorization tokens to prove an identity between consumers and service providers) and once you gain access to the app your profile automatically gets constructed using your google+ particulars. Now, you're ready to create a portfolio of the businesses and services you'd be providing whereas the users would be able to browse through all the posts in the public posts section. Lastly, it uses a Jot form to gain instant feedback and reviews within a click.

The future scope of the projects includes creating an end to end system aided by gps, map functionalities, simulated queues, push notifications in building a secure gateway.