

Exams-are-Coming

Q. What is this 'Exams-are-coming'?

*A. Exams-are-coming is an **android application** that allows the students of **Shiv Nadar University** to access the previous year question papers of the different courses offered in our university.*

Q. Why was this created?

A. This application was created out of a need to help the students to get the question papers of the different courses offered here. This was important due to the following reasons:-

- By solving the previous year question papers, we can assess how prepared we are for the coming exams. We also come to know about our **strong areas** and also those where **we need to work more**.*
- Some **particular, tricky questions** are sometimes **repeated** over the years. Solving them beforehand will help us get those extra marks.*
- Solving the previous year papers is always a part of the preparation strategy for the exams. It increases our confidence and allows us to face the exams more confidently which plays an important role in deciding our result. If these papers are easily available, it will save a lot of time.*

Q. How does this work?

- A.** *One of the most challenging tasks in the developement of this app was to figure out a way to store the question papers(in pdf format) in a database. What made it even more challenging was the fact that the size of the application would keep on increasing as more and more data is added to it. After a point, the user will have second thoughts about downloading this app due to it's size.*

*After some research, I stumbled upon a service known as '**Firestore**' which is developed by **Google**. Firestore allowed me to store the files on a **cloud server** which can be accessed from anywhere. When the user selects a particular question papers, a request is sent to the cloud server and the file is downloaded . The file is stored in the device memory or some external storage(which depends on the memory available in either of them).*

Although the size of the files downloaded is very small, this app still ensures that if a file is already downloaded, it is replaced in case the same file is downloaded again.

The files are properly arranged in a folder named 'SNU-EXAMS-Question-Papers' which can be found in the file manager of the device.

Q. Are the users of this app secure?

A. Yes, completely.

*This app includes services such as ‘**Firestore Authentication**’ which provides the same security that product such as Gmail provide to its users.*

There is no storage of password or any kind of personal information while using this app.

Q. What is the future of this app?

A. As of now, this app contains papers only of a few engineering courses. But I plan on expanding this to School of Natural Sciences and School of Humanities and Social Sciences as well.