NEWSFLICK APP

A MINI PROJECT REPORT

Submitted by

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ABSTRACT

Accessing credible news efficiently is essential in today's fast-paced digital world. The *NewsFlick App* is a mobile application built using Kotlin for the Android platform, designed to present users with up-to-date news content from a variety of trusted external APIs. The application fetches and displays current newspaper articles in an organized and user-friendly interface, enhancing news consumption for users on the go.

This app incorporates key features such as article search, local data caching using SQLite for offline access, and a like system that allows users to bookmark or prioritize articles of interest. It embraces modern Android development practices, including API data fetching using Retrofit or similar libraries, RecyclerView with custom adapters for dynamic content rendering, and intuitive UI/UX principles for smooth navigation. Core functionalities include home screen article display, keyword-based search, and user interactions like liking and saving articles.

The project aims to simplify access to real-time news while allowing personalized interaction with content. With a strong offline-first approach and efficient local storage, it provides consistent usability even with limited connectivity. Future scalability may include user authentication, push notifications for trending topics, language customization, and AI-powered news recommendations. The NewsFlick App is designed to serve as a smart, lightweight, and responsive tool for modern news readers.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

In today's information-rich and fast-paced digital world, staying updated with the latest news has become an essential part of everyday life. Whether following current affairs, technology, sports, or entertainment, individuals often face difficulties accessing credible news sources quickly and efficiently. The *NewsFlick App* is a Kotlin-based Android application developed to simplify and enhance the news reading experience by providing users with real-time access to curated newspaper articles from external APIs—all within a clean, mobile-friendly interface.

With the growing dependence on mobile applications for content consumption, this project leverages Android's modern development tools to build a responsive and user-centric platform for exploring news. The application enables users to browse the latest articles, search for topics of interest, and mark favorite articles using a like feature. Integration with SQLite ensures offline access by storing viewed articles locally, while features like view and custom adapters allow for smooth, dynamic content rendering and efficient UI updates.

Designed for readers of all backgrounds—students, professionals, or casual users—the *NewsFlick App* offers an elegant balance between usability and performance. Its offline-first approach, clean layout, and modular codebase make it both practical and scalable. Future enhancements may include personalized news feeds, category-based filtering, push notifications, and AI-driven recommendations. This project represents a functional application of mobile development principles aimed at improving how users engage with and consume news on the go.

The *Newspaper Article App* is a Kotlin-based Android application developed to simplify and enhance the news reading experience by providing users with real-time

access to curated newspaper articles from external APIs—all within a clean, mobile-friendly interface. With the growing dependence on mobile applications for content consumption, this project leverages Android's modern development tools to build a responsive and user-centric platform for exploring news.

1.2 OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the *NewsFlick App* is to provide users with a seamless and accessible platform to browse and read real-time newspaper articles from trusted online sources. In a time when information is constantly evolving, this app ensures users stay updated with the latest news in an organized, efficient, and user-friendly manner. By utilizing reliable APIs, the app delivers high-quality content directly to the user's mobile device without the need to search across multiple platforms.

Another core objective is to implement a local storage system using SQLite to enable offline accessibility. Often, users may not have a stable internet connection, and being able to view previously fetched articles ensures uninterrupted access to news content. This offline-first approach improves the app's usability and makes it more dependable for users in varying network conditions.

The app also focuses on enhancing user interaction through features such as article search and liking/bookmarking. These functions allow users to personalize their reading experience by searching for specific topics and saving articles they find valuable or interesting. This level of interaction makes the app more than just a viewer—it becomes a tool for managing personal news preferences.

Finally, the project is designed with scalability in mind. While the current version includes essential features like news fetching, local storage, search, and like

functionality, the architecture allows for future enhancements such as user accounts, push notifications, article categorization, and AI-based content recommendations. This ensures the app can evolve with user needs and remain relevant in an everchanging digital news landscape.

1.3 EXISTING SYSTEM

In the current digital ecosystem, most users rely on individual news websites or large aggregator apps to access news content. These platforms often come with distractions such as ads, paywalls, or an overwhelming amount of information, which can reduce the quality of the reading experience. Additionally, many of these apps require constant internet connectivity, limiting their usefulness in areas with poor network coverage or for users seeking a minimal, focused news experience.

The existing solutions generally lack offline functionality and customization options for casual users. While some premium apps provide saved articles or bookmarks, they are often locked behind subscriptions or require account creation. There's also limited flexibility in terms of lightweight performance and quick browsing for users who want to simply check headlines or explore articles based on specific keywords without unnecessary clutter.

Furthermore, mainstream news apps often prioritize content based on algorithms and sponsored material, reducing the sense of user control. For individuals looking for a simplified and personal way to browse articles, existing systems do not provide enough tools to like, track, or manage content in a user-defined way. This gap highlights the need for an alternative system that allows real-time news access, simple article management, and reliable offline support—all in one lightweight mobile app.

1.4 PROPOSED SYSTEM

The *NewsFlick App* aims to provide a clean, focused, and responsive platform for users to browse and manage daily news articles. Unlike mainstream news applications that are often cluttered with ads, subscriptions, or sponsored content, this proposed system is designed to offer a minimal and distraction-free experience tailored to casual readers. Developed using Kotlin for Android, the app integrates external news APIs to fetch real-time articles and stores essential data locally using SQLite, ensuring both speed and offline availability. It focuses on user convenience, smooth navigation, and personal content control. Core Features of the Proposed System:

1) Real-Time News Fetching and Display

- The app connects to a trusted external API to fetch the latest newspaper articles across various categories.
- Users are presented with up-to-date headlines and summaries, allowing quick access to important news.
- Content loads automatically on launch, reducing the need for manual updates.

2) Search Functionality for Specific Articles

- A built-in search bar allows users to look up articles based on keywords.
- Search is instant and matches content from the currently fetched dataset.
- This helps users filter relevant topics like sports, politics, or technology effortlessly.

3) Like/Bookmark Feature for Personalization

- Users can like or bookmark articles they find useful or wish to read later.
- Liked articles are stored locally and accessible even without an internet

connection.

• This feature turns the app into a personal news manager, not just a viewer.

4) Offline Access with Local Database (SQLite)

- Article metadata and liked articles are stored in a local SQLite database.
- This ensures that users can revisit articles even when there is no network coverage.
- It adds reliability and continuity across sessions without depending on the cloud.

5) Clean UI with Simple Navigation

- The interface is minimalistic, designed to reduce visual clutter and improve focus on content.
- Buttons for liking, searching, and navigating between screens are clearly labeled and easy to use.
- The design ensures accessibility for users across different age groups and technical backgrounds.

6) Scalability and Future Enhancements

- The app's modular codebase supports future integrations such as:
 - Push notifications for breaking news.
 - oCategorization of articles by topic or source.
 - \circ Speech-to-text search for improved accessibility.
 - o User accounts for cross-device syncing.
- This opens up opportunities for feature-rich versions in future updates.

By combining utility, performance, and ease of use, the Grocery Manager app delivers a practical solution for users looking to better manage their grocery shopping experience. It not only simplifies list management but also promotes efficiency and coordination in household grocery planning.

CHAPTER 2

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CHAPTER 3

SYSTEM DESIGN

3.1 GENERAL

The system design of the NewsFlick App focuses on delivering a smooth and intuitive platform for users to browse, read, save, and share news articles from various categories. The app adopts the Model-View-ViewModel (MVVM) architecture, ensuring a clear separation between data handling, user interface logic, and display elements. This separation enhances the maintainability and testability of the codebase while supporting future scalability and feature expansion.

The app leverages core Android Jetpack components such as ViewModel for managing UI-related data, LiveData for real-time UI updates, and Room (or local file storage) to store saved or bookmarked articles for offline reading. Data is fetched from local JSON files or integrated APIs (in advanced versions), and the app allows users to view articles by category, date, or relevance through a responsive and categorized layout.

The system is designed to support offline-first functionality, enabling users to access previously saved articles without requiring a continuous internet connection. This is achieved through local data persistence using Room or file I/O. Kotlin is used as the development language due to its concise syntax, modern features, and seamless compatibility with Android APIs. Optional integration with cloud storage can be considered for syncing user bookmarks across devices.

User data, such as saved articles or preferences, is handled securely using encrypted Shared Preferences or local secure file access. The app incorporates user-friendly sharing options such as SMS or social media integration to let users quickly share

articles with others. Proper permission handling, minimal background processing, and optimized UI design ensure a secure, low-latency experience suitable for a wide range of Android devices and user demographics.

3.1.1 SYSTEM FLOW DIAGRAM

The system flow diagram illustrates the complete process from user interaction to the seamless browsing, saving, and sharing of newspaper articles. The flow begins when the user selects a news category or taps on an article from the app's clean and intuitive interface. These actions are immediately processed by the ViewModel layer, which acts as a bridge between the user interface and the underlying data handling logic.

Instead of using Room Database, the app employs local JSON files or internal storage to fetch and manage article data. For saved or bookmarked articles, SharedPreferences or file-based storage is used to persist user preferences. This approach ensures that users can access their saved content even without an internet connection.

LiveData is used to observe data changes. Whenever the article list or bookmark state is updated, UI components such as automatically refresh to reflect the latest information, ensuring a responsive and engaging reading experience. The LiveData mechanism ensures that users always see current content without needing to manually refresh or reload screens.

For operations like saving articles locally or sharing content via SMS or other platforms, the app interacts with the device's internal storage and communication APIs while required permissions. These tasks are executed on background threads or using asynchronous methods to maintain a responsive and smooth interface, preventing any lag or unresponsiveness during critical user interactions.

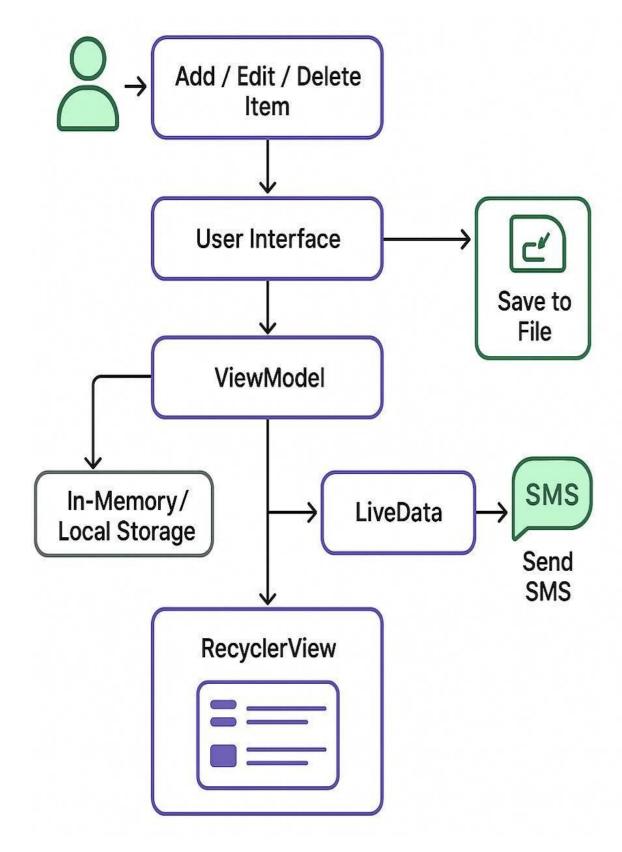


Fig 3.1 System Flow Diagram

3.1.2 ARCHITECTURE DIAGRAM

The NewsFlick App is built using the MVVM (Model-View-ViewModel) architecture, ensuring a clean separation of concerns and enhancing the app's scalability, maintainability, and ease of testing. The architecture is organized into the following core layers and components:

• Model Layer:

- o Handles data management through APIs or local JSON-based storage.
- o Implements the Repository pattern to abstract data sources and centralize data operations.
 - o Manages data entities such as Articles, Categories, and Bookmarks.

• ViewModel Layer:

- o Acts as the intermediary between the View and the Model layers.
- o Exposes LiveData for observing article lists, selected categories, and bookmarked items.
- o Contains business logic for filtering, bookmarking, and managing article data dynamically.

• View Layer:

- o Comprises Activities and Fragments that display article lists and detailed views to the user.
 - o Uses to render lists of news articles in a scrollable format.
- o Supports user actions like selecting categories, reading articles, and bookmarking for offline access.

• **Supporting Components:**

- o Utilizes Data Binding (if enabled) to reduce boilerplate and connect UI elements directly with ViewModel data.
- o Incorporates Navigation Components for structured and smooth screen transitions between article lists and detail views.

Newspaper Article App

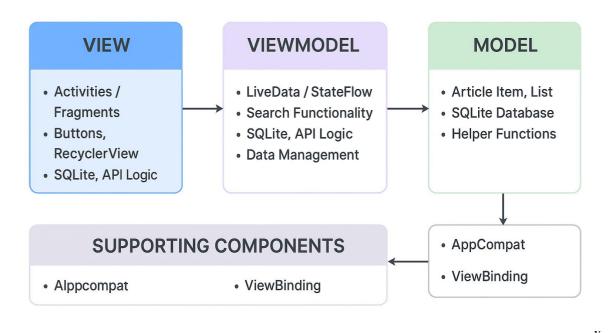


Fig 3.2 Architecture Diagram

3.1.3 ACTIVITY DIAGRAM

The activity diagram illustrates the workflow of the **NewsFlick App**, capturing the main user interactions and system behaviors. The process begins when the user opens the app. They are greeted with two options: **Login** (for existing users) or **Sign Up** (for new users who want to create an account).

Once the user successfully authenticates, they are directed to the **Home Screen**, where they can access the app's core features:

- 1. **Browse Articles:** The user can scroll through a curated list of news articles, which may be categorized by topics like Technology, Sports, Politics, etc., usually displayed using a **RecyclerView**.
- 2. **Read Full Article:** Upon selecting an article, the user is navigated to a detailed view showing the complete article content along with its publication date,

author, and source.

- 3. **Bookmark Article:** The user can tap a bookmark icon to save the article for later reading. Bookmarked articles are stored locally and can be accessed even offline.
- 4. **Filter by Category:** The user can apply filters or select specific categories to view targeted content, enhancing the browsing experience.
- 5. **View Bookmarks:** This option displays a list of all previously bookmarked articles, again shown using an optimized scrolling UI.

All these actions are accessible from the **Home Screen**, allowing the user to move seamlessly between reading, bookmarking, and filtering articles. Finally, the user can choose to **Log Out**, which redirects them to the login screen, completing the interaction loop. The activity diagram emphasizes a smooth user journey—from launching the app and authenticating, to browsing, reading, and managing articles—all while ensuring quick navigation and user-friendly interaction.

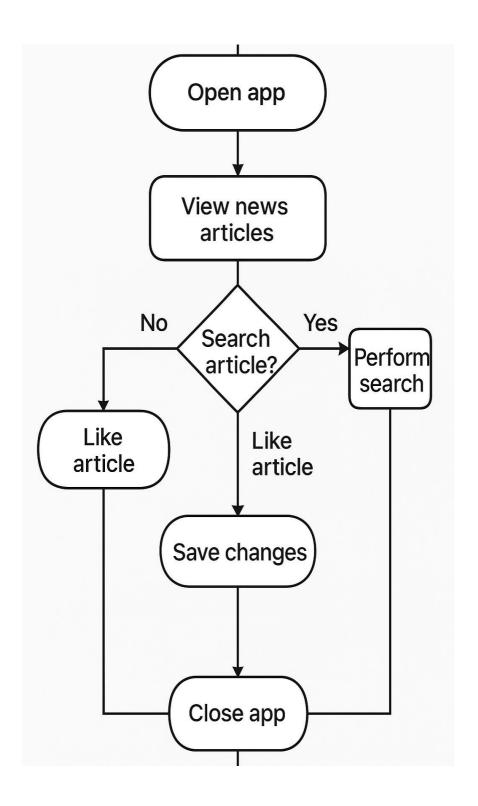


Fig 3.3 Activity Diagram

3.1.4 SEQUENCE DIAGRAM

The sequence diagram for the **NewsFlick App** illustrates the interaction between the user interface and internal components during the process of bookmarking a news article. It begins with the **User** initiating the action by clicking the bookmark icon on an article in the **UI** (Activity or Fragment). This request is passed to the **ViewModel**, which handles the user action and performs necessary validations or checks (e.g., whether the article is already bookmarked).

The **ViewModel** then calls the appropriate function in the **Repository**, which serves as an abstraction layer between the ViewModel and the underlying data source. The Repository determines the appropriate mechanism to store the bookmark—whether using local storage (like Room database or SharedPreferences) or a remote store (e.g., Firebase, if cloud sync is enabled). It communicates with the **Data Source** to persist the bookmark.

Once the article is successfully bookmarked, the Data Source returns a success response to the Repository. The **Repository** then notifies the **ViewModel** of the successful operation. The ViewModel, in turn, updates the **LiveData** or observable state holding the list of bookmarked articles.

The **UI**, which observes changes in the ViewModel, reacts to this update by refreshing the visual state—for instance, changing the bookmark icon to a filled state or showing a confirmation message. This structured interaction ensures a responsive, real-time experience for the user and maintains a clean separation of concerns across the architecture.

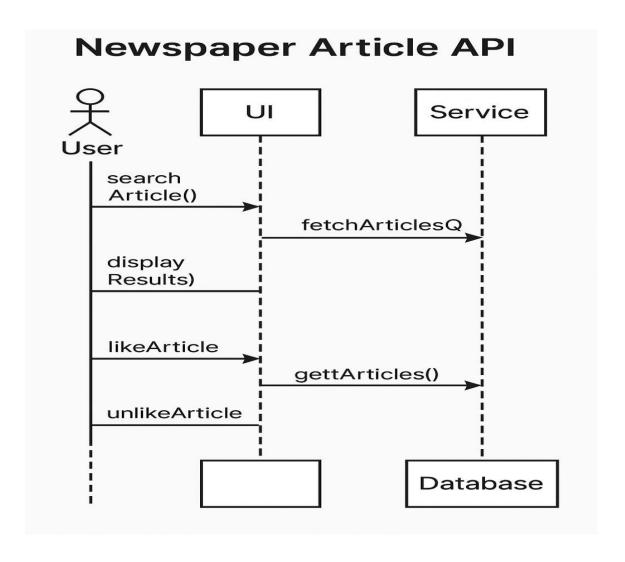


Fig 3.4 Sequence Diagram

3.1.5 USE CASE DIAGRAM

The **use case diagram** for the **NewsFlick App** visually represents the main interactions between the user and the application's functionalities. At the center of the diagram is a single **User** actor, representing the reader or app user, who engages with several distinct use cases that define the system's behavior:

1. **View News Articles** – The user can browse and read various news articles from different categories (e.g., politics, sports, entertainment). This is the primary use case of the app.

- 2. **Search Articles** Users can enter keywords to search for specific articles, headlines, or topics using the app's search functionality.
- 3. **Bookmark Articles** This feature allows users to save articles for later reading by bookmarking them. These saved articles are accessible through a dedicated section.
- 4. **Share Articles** Users can share interesting articles with others through SMS, email, or social media platforms directly from the app.
- 5. **Filter by Category or Date** Users can filter articles based on predefined categories or by the date of publication to refine their reading preferences.
- 6. **Manage Bookmarks** This includes the ability to view, remove, or reorder bookmarked articles within the app.

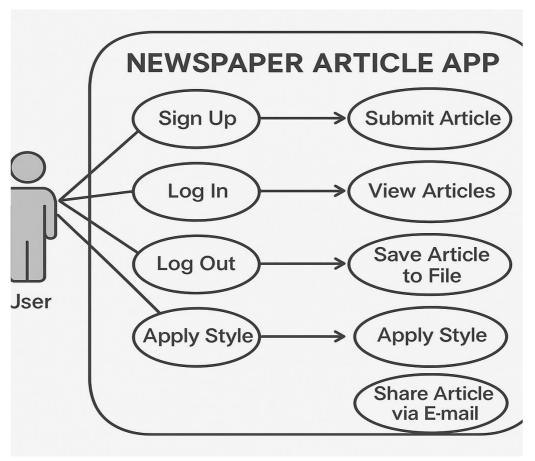


Fig 3.5 Use Case Diagram

CHAPTER 4

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The NewsFlick App is a lightweight and user-friendly Android application designed to provide users with easy access to a wide range of news articles. The app allows users to read, search, bookmark, and share articles across various categories, including politics, sports, technology, entertainment, and more. It serves as a modern digital news reader that helps users stay informed about current events in a convenient and organized manner.

The core objective of the app is to deliver an engaging reading experience by offering real-time article updates, intuitive navigation, and efficient filtering options. Users can search for articles using keywords, explore news by category or date, and personalize their experience by bookmarking important stories for future reference. The app also supports social engagement through sharing features that allow users to disseminate articles via SMS, email, or social media.

4.2 OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of this project is to develop a user-friendly and efficient mobile application that allows users to access and manage news articles in a seamless manner. The app is designed to provide a simple and organized way for users to read, search, and bookmark news articles from various sources, ensuring they stay up to date with the latest happenings around the world.

Key goals:

- Enable users to search for news articles by category, keyword, or date.
- Allow users to bookmark and save articles for future reading.

- Provide a smooth and intuitive UI for easy navigation and article viewing.
- Offer sharing options to let users send articles via SMS, email, or social media.
- Implement MVVM architecture for better maintainability and real-time UI updates.
- Support offline functionality to allow users to read previously accessed articles without an internet connection.

The system aims to simplify the process of staying informed by offering a clean, efficient, and personalized news reading experience that can be easily accessed and managed on the go.

4.3 METHODOLOGY

The development of the **NewsFlick mobile application** followed a systematic, iterative methodology grounded in proven software development practices. The process was divided into six major phases: **requirements analysis**, **system design**, **implementation**, **testing**, **evaluation**, and **deployment**.

1. Requirements Analysis

In this initial phase, user needs were identified through informal feedback and the analysis of typical news consumption behavior. The essential features determined were: searching for articles, bookmarking, viewing detailed content, sharing via SMS, and applying custom text styles for readability. The goal was to ensure that the app offered essential news functions in a streamlined, accessible way.

2. System Design

The app was structured using the **MVVM** (**Model-View-ViewModel**) architectural pattern to maintain a clean separation of concerns and facilitate testability and scalability. Major components modeled included:

- Local Storage (SharedPreferences or file-based): For saving bookmarks and user preferences.
- ViewModel & LiveData: To manage state and UI updates based on underlying data changes.
- User Interface: Designed using XML layouts with an emphasis on clarity, readability, and user comfort.

Wireframes were created for critical views such as the Home Screen, Article List, Article Details, Bookmarks, and Settings.

3. Implementation

Development was executed in **Android Studio using Kotlin**. Key implementation tasks included:

- Defining data models for news articles and bookmarks.
- Implementing ViewModels for article retrieval, filtering, and bookmarking logic.
- Building the UI using fragments and activities for modular screen management.
- Using RecyclerView for displaying dynamic article lists.
- Implementing functionality for text styling and SMS sharing.

4. Testing

A multi-level testing approach ensured the reliability and usability of the app:

- **Unit Testing:** Focused on ViewModel logic, filtering functions, and data persistence behavior.
- **UI Testing:** Used Espresso to simulate user interactions like bookmarking, styling changes, and navigation.
- **Manual Testing:** Validated smooth performance across devices, especially in offline mode and low-resource environments.

5. Evaluation and Refinement

After initial development, the app was tested by real users who provided feedback on

usability. Enhancements based on this feedback included:

- Better organization of article content and styling options.
- More intuitive bookmarking and sharing workflows.
- Optimization of loading time and responsiveness.

6. Deployment Preparation

The final steps included cleaning unused assets, optimizing code and layouts, versioning the APK, and documenting the codebase for future enhancements. The app was packaged and prepared for installation on Android devices.

4.4 Tools & Technologies Used

Technology	Purpose	
Kotlin	Programming language for app development	
Android Studio	IDE for building and testing the application	
LiveData	Real-time UI updates based on observable data changes	
ViewModel	Lifecycle-aware data management between UI and logic	
SharedPreferences Lightweight local data persistence (for bookmarks, etc.)		
RecyclerView	Displaying dynamic article lists	
MVVM	Architecture pattern ensuring separation of concerns	
XML Layouts	Designing user interface screens	
Material Design	UI components and styling for improved user experience	

CHAPTER 5

OUTPUT AND SCREENSHOTS

NewsFlick Module:

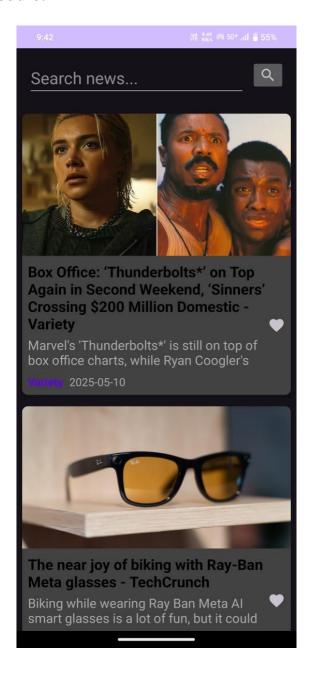


Fig 5.1 Article Module

Search Module:

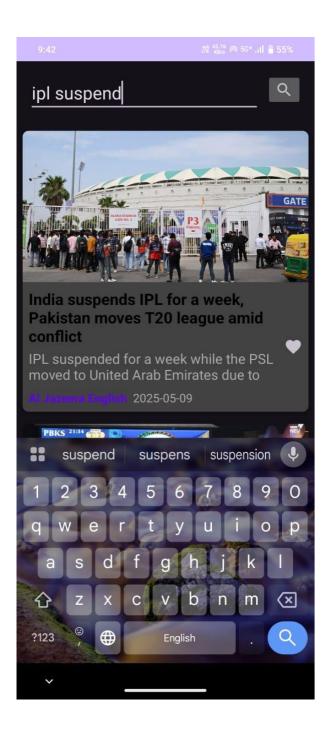


Fig 5.2 Search Module

LikeArticle Module:



Fig 5.3 Like Module

CHAPTER 6

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORKS

6.1 CONCLUSION

The **NewsFlick** application has been successfully developed using Kotlin and Android Jetpack components, with a strong focus on delivering a user-friendly, customizable, and efficient platform for reading, saving, and sharing news articles. Leveraging the MVVM architecture enabled a clean separation of concerns, resulting in a responsive and maintainable user experience that updates dynamically with changes in data.

Core features such as browsing articles, bookmarking favorites, applying custom text styles for readability, and sharing content via SMS were effectively implemented to enhance the user's engagement with news content. The app ensures an intuitive and accessible interface using XML layouts, RecyclerView for listing articles, and familiar navigation patterns for smooth user interaction.

While Room Database was not incorporated, effective local data handling through SharedPreferences or file-based storage was used to support bookmarking and offline access. This choice ensured that the app remained lightweight, responsive, and usable even in the absence of a stable internet connection.

Overall, the **NewsFlick** project meets its primary objectives:

- Efficient article viewing and bookmarking
- Support for offline access and local storage
- Real-time UI updates using MVVM and LiveData
- Enhanced readability and user personalization through text styling

6.2FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS

1. Category-Based Filtering

Allow users to filter articles based on predefined categories such as Politics, Sports, Entertainment, Technology, and Local News for easier navigation.

2. Search Functionality

Implement a robust search feature that enables users to quickly find articles by keywords, titles, or publication dates.

3. Bookmark and Save Articles

Introduce the ability for users to bookmark or save articles for offline reading or future reference.

4. Dark Mode Support

Add dark mode to enhance readability in low-light conditions and reduce eye strain.

5. Push Notifications

Notify users about breaking news or newly published articles based on their selected categories or interests.

6. Author Profiles and Contributions

Provide author profiles that display their bio and a list of articles they've contributed, helping users explore content from their favorite writers.

7. Comment and Feedback Section

Allow readers to engage with content by adding comments or feedback on articles, promoting interaction and discussion.

8. Text-to-Speech Integration

Enable text-to-speech functionality for users who prefer listening to articles rather than reading.

9. AI-Powered Recommendations

Use machine learning to suggest articles based on user reading history and preferences, increasing content engagement.

10. Multi-Language Support

Offer translations of articles or localized content in different languages to cater to a wider audience.

11. Admin Panel for Article Management

Add an admin dashboard to manage article submissions, approve content, and monitor user interactions.

12.**Offline Mode**

Enable offline reading by caching recently viewed or bookmarked articles for access without an internet connection.

6.3 FINAL THOUGHTS

The **NewsFlick App** successfully delivers a foundational platform for browsing, reading, and managing news content in a clean and user-friendly interface. Developed with an emphasis on simplicity and accessibility, the project enables users to stay informed by accessing categorized news articles, showcasing the core functionality of modern news applications. By incorporating essential features such as article listing, reading views, and basic data management, the app provides a solid base for further expansion. The structured use of components like RecyclerView, ViewModel, and clean UI layouts ensures maintainability and a smooth user experience. This project also serves as an excellent demonstration of applying software development principles such as modularity, responsiveness, and scalability.

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