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P.B. No. 21, Hassan 573 202, Karnataka

Full stack development (23IS553)

TOPIC: Disaster relief management system

Submitted By:

Name	USN
Reshma S C	4MC23IS088
Sinchana C S	4MC23IS105
Thanmayi K Y	4MC23IS117
Rachana Gowda Y L	4MC23IS084
Prarthana J	4MC23IS074

Under The Guidance of:

Mr Krishna Swaroop

Assistant Professor,
ISE

Department of Information Science and Engineering

Malnad College of Engineering

Hassan - 573 202

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Disaster Relief Management System

Abstract

A Disaster Relief Management System is a web-based platform that helps coordinate emergency response efforts during natural or man-made disasters. It enables efficient communication, resource distribution, victim support, and volunteer management—all in one place. Abstract

The Disaster Relief Management System (DRMS) is a centralized, web-based platform designed to streamline emergency response operations during natural and man-made disasters. It facilitates real-time coordination between organisers, donors, and volunteers, enabling efficient resource distribution, transparent communication, and impact tracking. The system supports role-based access for organisers, disaster data management, donor engagement, and item matching workflows. Through features like donation history, feedback mechanisms, and disaster updates, DRMS ensures accountability and responsiveness. This report outlines the system's architecture, key functionalities, and user flows, demonstrating its potential to enhance disaster relief efforts through technology-driven collaboration.

The Disaster Relief Management System (DRMS) is a robust, web-based platform engineered to optimize the coordination and execution of emergency response operations during both natural and human-induced disasters. In the face of increasing climate-related catastrophes and urban vulnerabilities, the need for a centralized, transparent, and scalable digital infrastructure has become paramount. DRMS addresses this gap by offering a unified interface for organisers, donors, and volunteers to collaborate in real time, ensuring that aid reaches affected communities swiftly and efficiently.

Introduction

Disasters—whether natural like floods and earthquakes, or man-made like industrial accidents—require swift, organized, and transparent response mechanisms to minimize human suffering and economic loss. Traditional relief efforts often face challenges such as fragmented communication, inefficient resource allocation, and lack of donor visibility. The Disaster Relief Management System (DRMS) addresses these issues by offering a unified digital platform that connects organisers, donors, and volunteers in real time.

The system empowers organisers to manage disaster entries, coordinate relief logistics, and communicate with stakeholders through secure, role-based access. Donors can view active disasters, contribute money or items, track their impact, and receive updates and receipts. Volunteers and team members can assist in query resolution and resource distribution. By integrating features like item matching, disaster filtering, and feedback panels, DRMS ensures that every contribution is purposeful and traceable.

In recent years, the frequency and intensity of disasters have escalated due to climate change, urban expansion, and geopolitical instability. These events demand not only rapid mobilization of resources but also seamless coordination among multiple stakeholders. However, conventional disaster relief efforts often suffer from siloed operations, manual tracking, and limited visibility into donor contributions and resource utilization. This fragmentation can delay aid, reduce trust, and hinder long-term recovery.

Digital platforms have become indispensable in modern disaster relief management, offering speed, transparency, and coordination that traditional systems often lack. As disasters grow more frequent and complex due to climate change, urbanization, and geopolitical instability, the need for agile and unified response mechanisms has intensified. Conventional relief efforts frequently suffer from fragmented communication, manual tracking, and limited donor visibility, which can delay aid and erode public trust. In contrast, digital platforms like the Disaster Relief Management System (DRMS) streamline operations by connecting organizers, donors, and volunteers in real time. These systems enable secure, role-based access for managing disaster entries, coordinating logistics, and resolving queries. Donors benefit from transparent tracking of their contributions, while volunteers can engage in targeted resource distribution and feedback collection.

Organiser

- Organisers access the system using a registered email and password.
- Login credentials are validated against encrypted records to ensure security.
- Failed login attempts are tracked, and account lockout mechanisms are in place to prevent brute-force attacks.

Permission Levels:

- **View:** Allows users to browse disaster entries, donor lists, and feedback without making changes.
- **Edit:** Grants the ability to update disaster details, respond to messages, and manage feedback.
- **Delete:** Enables removal of outdated or incorrect records, including disaster entries and user messages.

Security Highlights

- All user actions are logged for audit purposes.
- Passwords are stored using secure hashing algorithms.
- Optional multi-factor authentication (MFA) can be enabled for enhanced security.
- Role changes and account access modifications are tracked to ensure accountability.

Disaster Entry Fields

Each disaster entry includes the following structured fields:

- **Disaster Type:** Categorizes the nature of the disaster (e.g., Flood, Earthquake, Fire, Cyclone).
- **Location**: Specifies the affected area, including city, district, or GPS coordinates.
- **Severity:** Indicates the impact level (e.g., Low, Moderate, Severe, Critical).
- **Description:** Provides a detailed narrative of the disaster, including causes, effects, and immediate needs.

Status Tracking

Each disaster entry includes a status field to indicate its current phase:

- **Active**: The disaster is ongoing and requires immediate attention.
- **Resolved:** Relief efforts are complete, and the situation is stabilized.
- **Under Review:** The disaster is being assessed, verified, or awaiting confirmation.

Real-Time Updates

- Organisers can post updates to disaster entries, such as new needs, progress reports, or logistical changes.
- These updates are visible to donors and volunteers, fostering engagement and responsiveness.

Benefits

- Enables organisers to maintain a centralized disaster database with rich, structured information.
- Supports real-time decision-making and resource allocation.
- Enhances donor trust through transparent documentation and status updates.

Donor Flow

The Donor Flow module in the Disaster Relief Management System (DRMS) is designed to provide a transparent, engaging, and user-friendly experience for individuals who wish to contribute to disaster relief efforts. It enables donors to explore active disasters, make informed contributions, track their donations, and stay updated on the impact of their support. This module fosters trust and accountability by offering real-time visibility into how donations are utilized.

Disaster Info on Homepage

The homepage serves as the primary interface for donors to discover ongoing and past disasters posted by organisers. Each disaster entry is presented with essential details to help donors understand the context and urgency of the situation. These include:

- **Type**: Specifies the nature of the disaster, such as flood, earthquake, cyclone, or fire.

- **Location**: Indicates the affected area, including city, district, or region.
- **Severity**: Describes the impact level, helping donors prioritize high-urgency cases.
- **Description**: Provides a brief overview of the disaster, including its cause and current status.
- **Date**: Displays when the disaster occurred or was reported.

To enhance discoverability, the homepage includes filtering options that allow donors to sort disasters by type or region, enabling them to focus on causes that align with their interests or geographic preferences.

Donor Profile Page

Each donor has a personalized profile page that displays their identity and contribution history. The profile includes:

- **Name and Contact Information**: Basic identification details for communication and receipt generation.
- **Donation History**: A chronological list of donations made by the donor, including:
- The name of the disaster supported.
- Type of donation (monetary or in-kind).
- Amount or value of the donation.
- Date of contribution.
- Status of the donation (e.g., received, pending).

This feature promotes transparency and allows donors to reflect on their impact over time.

Disaster Filtering & Search

To streamline the donation process, DRMS offers advanced filtering and search capabilities. Donors can refine their search using the following criteria:

- **Disaster Type**: Filter by categories such as flood, earthquake, or fire.
- **Region**: Focus on specific geographic areas.
- **Urgency Level**: Prioritize disasters based on severity or immediate need.

Donation History & Receipts

Donors can access a comprehensive history of their past contributions. For each donation, the system provides:

- Real-time status updates that reflect the progress of the donation:
- Confirmed: The donation has been acknowledged by the organiser.
- Dispatched: The donation has been sent or delivered.
- Used: The donation has been utilized in relief efforts.

This feature enhances accountability and builds donor confidence.

Item Donation Matching

To facilitate in-kind donations, DRMS includes a smart item matching system. The process works as follows:

- Organisers post lists of needed items for each disaster.
- Donors can browse these lists and select items they are willing to contribute.
- The system automatically matches donors to needs based on:
- Geographic proximity, to reduce logistics complexity.
- Available inventory, ensuring donors only see relevant requests.

This feature ensures that item donations are purposeful, timely, and efficiently delivered.

Disaster Updates

Organisers can post regular updates for each disaster, which are visible to all associated donors. These updates may include:

- **Relief Progress**: Reports on how aid is being distributed and what has been accomplished.
- **New Needs**: Additional resources or support required as the situation evolves.
- **Thank-You Messages**: Acknowledgments to donors for their contributions.

These updates keep donors informed and emotionally connected to the cause.

Contact Organiser

To encourage communication and collaboration, donors can reach out to organisers through a built-in messaging form. This feature allows donors to:

- Ask questions about specific disasters.
- Coordinate the logistics of item donations.
- Offer additional help or suggestions.

This two-way communication channel strengthens trust and responsiveness.

Donor Dashboard

The donor dashboard provides a visual summary of the donor's engagement with the platform. It includes:

- **Total Donations Made**: A cumulative count or value of all contributions.
- **Active Disasters Supported**: A list of ongoing relief efforts the donor is involved in.
- **Impact Summary**: A high-level overview of how the donor's contributions have been used, including metrics or testimonials where available.

System Architecture

The Disaster Relief Management System (DRMS) follows a Three-Tier Architecture, ensuring modularity, scalability, and maintainability across its components.

1. **Frontend (Presentation Layer)**

- Provides a responsive and intuitive web interface for organisers and donors.
- Displays disaster listings, donation forms, dashboards, and profile pages.
- Enables filtering, searching, and real-time updates.

2. **Backend (Application Layer)**

- Implements core business logic for disaster management, donation tracking, and user workflows.
- Manages role-based access, item matching, and feedback routing.

- Handles API requests and responses between frontend and database.

3. **Database Layer**

- Stores structured and unstructured data including:
    - User profiles (organisers, donors)
    - Disaster entries and metadata
    - Donation records
    - Feedback and communication logs
- Supports both relational and NoSQL models for flexibility.

Security

- Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) ensures users operate within defined permissions.
- Encrypted Passwords using hashing algorithms (e.g., bcrypt).
- Secure Data Transmission via SSL/TLS protocols to protect sensitive information.

Tech Stack

Frontend

- **HTML, CSS, JavaScript** – Core technologies for structure, styling, and interactivity.

Backend

- **Django(Python) -** Offers a secure, scalable and rapid development framework with built-in admin and database support.

Database

- **SQLite** – Relational databases for structured data.

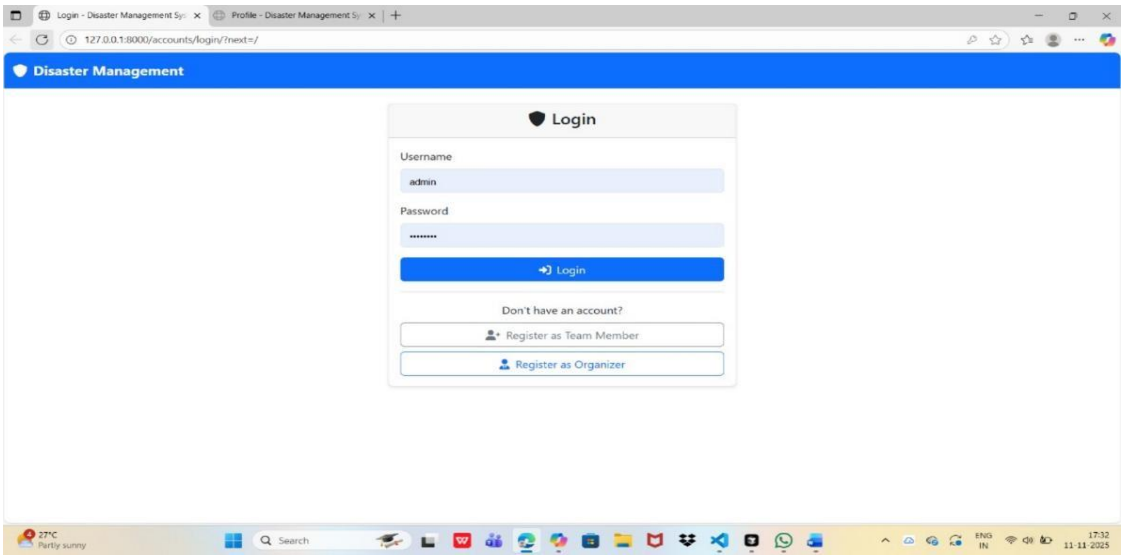
Key Features

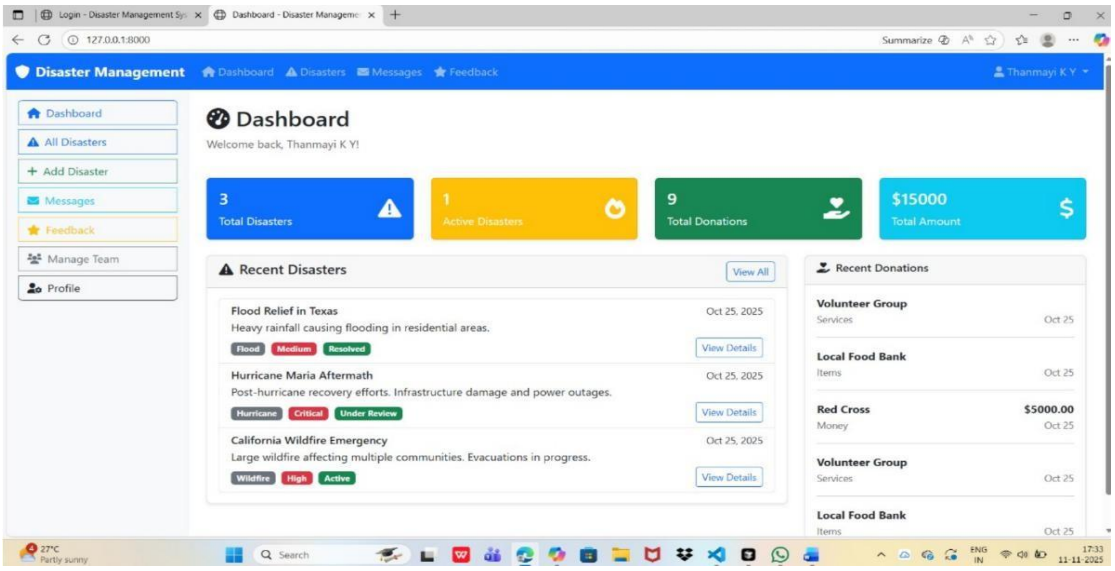
- **Role-Based Login**: Separate access for organisers and donors with permission control.
- **Disaster Management Panel**: Organisers can create, update, and track disaster entries.
- **Donation Tracking**: Donors can view history, download receipts, and monitor status.

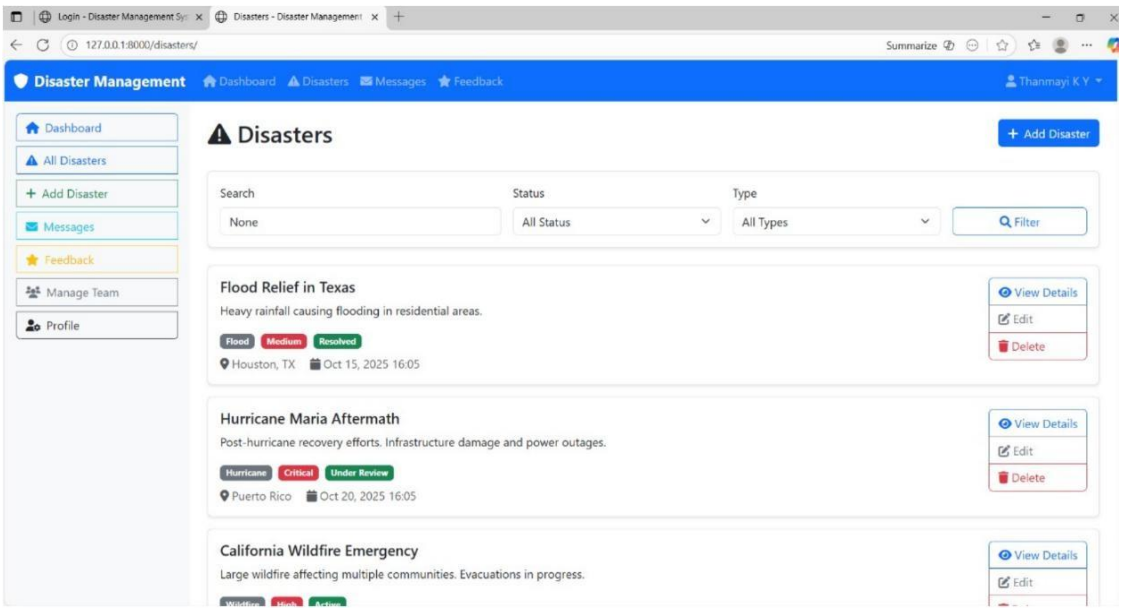
- **Smart Donation Matching**: Auto-matching of donor items with organiser needs based on location/inventory.
- **Real-Time Communication**: Messaging system and disaster updates for transparency and engagement.

Advantages

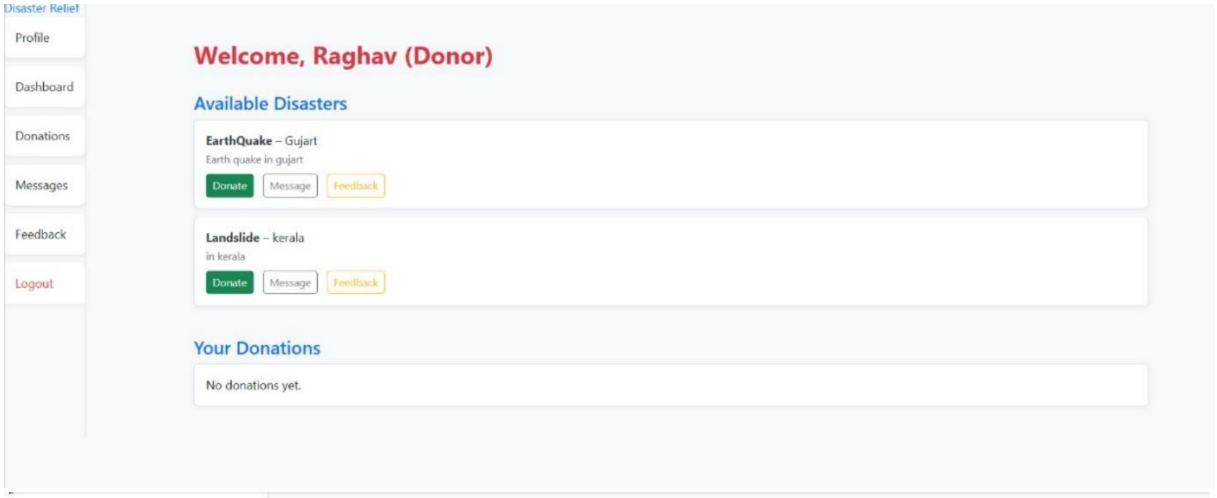
- **Transparency**: Clear tracking of resources and donor impact.
- **Centralized Data Management:** All disaster-related information, donor records, and feedback are stored in one unified system.
    - Reduces duplication, improves consistency, and simplifies reporting.
- **Real-Time Monitoring & Updates:**Organisers can post live updates on disaster status and relief progress.
    - Donors receive timely notifications, enhancing engagement and trust.
- **Customizable Role-Based Access**: Supports flexible team structures with tailored permissions.
    - Enables organisers to delegate tasks without compromising control.
- **Speed**: Faster coordination and response during disaster scenarios.
- **Scalability**: Modular architecture supports expansion across regions and disaster types.
- **Security**: Encrypted data, secure login, and role-based access ensure system integrity.

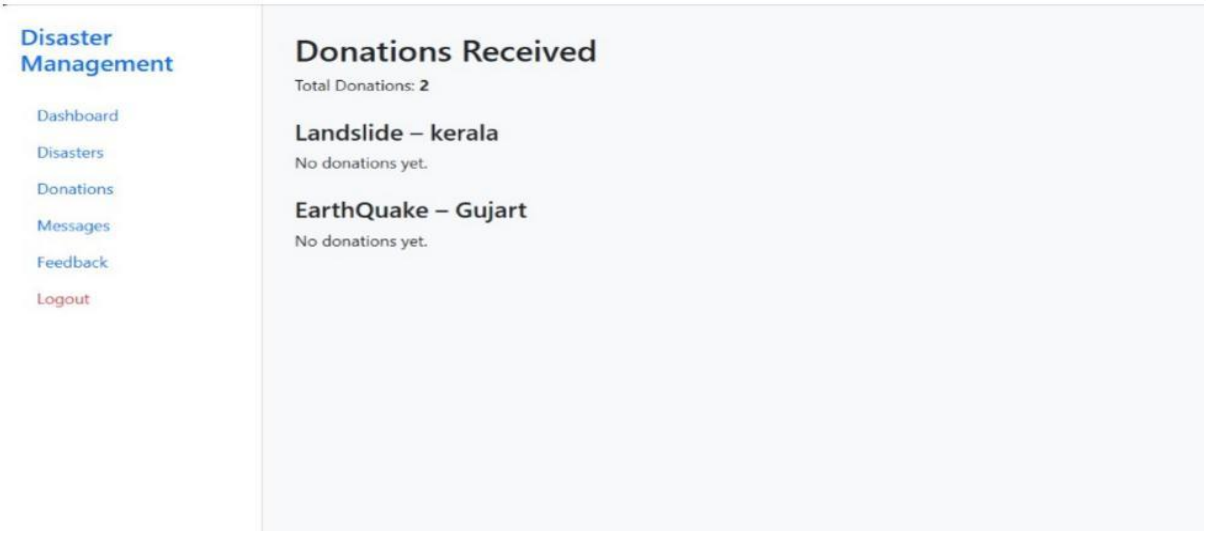






a) Organizer Dashboard





b) Donor Dashboard

Conclusion

The Disaster Relief Management System (DRMS) represents a transformative approach to emergency response coordination, leveraging technology to bridge the gap between need and support. By integrating organisers, donors, and volunteers into a unified digital platform, DRMS ensures that disaster relief efforts are not only swift and organized but also transparent and accountable.

Through its secure login and role-based access, organisers can manage disaster data, assign responsibilities, and maintain operational control. Donors benefit from real-time visibility into active disasters, streamlined donation workflows, and impact tracking through dashboards and receipts. Features like item matching, disaster filtering, and feedback panels enhance engagement and ensure that every contribution is purposeful and traceable.

The system's modular architecture and user-centric design make it adaptable to various disaster scenarios, whether local or large-scale. By digitizing the entire relief lifecycle—from disaster identification to donor impact reporting—DRMS empowers communities to respond with agility, clarity, and compassion.

In conclusion, DRMS is not just a tool for managing disasters—it is a catalyst for building resilient, responsive, and collaborative humanitarian ecosystems. Its implementation can significantly improve the efficiency, reach, and effectiveness of disaster relief operations, ultimately saving lives and restoring hope where it's needed most.