FINAL YEAR PROJECT REPORT



SECURE ONLINE VOTING SYSTEM USING FACE RECOGNITION



STREAM: - ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

YEAR: - 4th

SEMESTER: -8th

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ABSTRACT

The word "Vote" means to choose from a list, to elect, or to determine. The main goal of voting is to come up with leaders of the people's choice. Some countries have problems when it comes to voting. Some of the problems involved include ridging votes during elections, insecure or inaccessible polling stations, inadequate polling materials, and also inexperienced personnel.

Nowadays the Internet is accessible to almost everyone. Before the Internet, if you wanted to keep up with the news, you had to walk down to the newsstand when it opened in the morning and buy a local edition reporting what had happened the previous day. But today a click or two is enough to read your local paper and any news source from anywhere in the world, updated up to the minute. Thus an online platform for voting fits in perfectly.

This online voting/polling system seeks to address the above issues. It should be noted that with this system in place, the users, citizens, in this case, shall be given ample time during the voting period. They shall also be trained on how to vote online before the election time.

INTRODUCTION TO ONLINE VOTING SYSTEM

An online voting system is an online voting technique. In this system, people who are registered in the system can cast his/her vote online without going to any physical polling station. There are many voting procedures that are being used for voting purposes, such as ballot paper, EVM machines but all these procedures require more time and more manpower. People also have to wait in long queues which takes a lot of time in the process.

To eliminate all these drawbacks, we provide an online voting system that provides features such as accuracy, convenience, and privacy. Our website will not only save time but also will make a hassle-free user experience. Our online voting system provides a platform with proper instruction where users can register themselves to cast a vote remotely. During the entire process, a lot of verification processes are carried out which makes this entire system secure. This project is a voting system by which any voter can use his/her voting rights from anywhere.

BACKGROUND STUDY

The secure online voting system (SOVS) also known as e-voting is a term encompassing several different types of voting embracing both electronic means of counting votes. Electronic voting technology can include punched cards, optical scan voting systems, and specialized voting kiosks (including self-contained direct-recording electronic voting systems or DRE). It can also involve the transmission of ballots and votes via telephones, private computer networks, or the internet.

Online voting is an electronic way of choosing leaders via a web-driven application.

The advantage of online voting over the common "queue method" is that the voters have the choice of voting in their own free time and there is reduced congestion. It also minimizes errors in vote counting. The individual votes are submitted in a database which can be queried to find out who of the aspirants for a given post has the highest number of votes. This system is geared towards increasing the voting percentage in most countries since it has been noted that with the old voting method (the Queue System), the voter turnout has been a wanting case.

With the system in place also, if high security is applied, cases of false votes shall be reduced. With the "ONLINE VOTING SYSTEM", a voter can use his/her voting right online without any difficulty. He/she has to register as a voter first before being authorized to vote. The registration should be done before the voting date to enable data updates in the database. However, not just anybody can vote. For one to participate in the elections, he/she must have the requirements. For instance, he/she must be a registered citizen i.e. must be 18 and above years old. As already stated, the project 'Online Voting' provides means for fast and convenient voting, and access to this system is limited only to registered voters. Internet voting systems are appealing for several reasons which include; People are getting more used to working with computers to do all sorts of things, namely sensitive operations such as shopping and home banking and they allow people to vote far from where they usually live, helping to reduce absenteeism rate.

SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

The main purposes of SOVS include:

Provision of improved voting services to the voters through fast, timely, and convenient voting Checks to ensure that the members who are registered are the only ones to vote. Cases of "Dead People" voting are also minimized.

A secure Online voting system (SOVS) will require being very precise or cost-cutting to produce an effective election management system Therefore crucial points that this (SOVS) emphasizes are listed below:

- i. Require less staff during the election.
- ii. This system is a lot easier to independently moderate the elections And subsequently, reinforce its transparency and fairness.
- ii. Less capital, less effort, and less labour-intensive, as the primary cost and effort will focus primarily on creating, managing, and running a secure online portal.
- iv. Increased number of voters as individuals will find it easier and more convenient to vote, especially those abroad.

LITERATURE SURVEY

1) Electronic Voting Machine with Enhanced Security:

Authors: Shashank S Kadam, Ria N Choudhary, Sujay

Dandekar, Debjeet Bardhan, Namdeo B Vaidya

Published in: 2018 3rd International Conference on Communication and Electronics Systems (ICCES)

This paper describes the construction and design of voting machine using ATMEGA 32 microcontroller which has security of three extra layers. EVM takes a lot of time for the process of voting using ballot papers. So considering to the amount of time, manpower to be saved for extremely fast and reliable. So here implementation of the system is in such a way that voting secrecy is maintained without using ballot paper. VVPAT is currently used for voting machine which is expensive than EVM. EVM gives 100% proof of tamper, where results are just a click away. But this EVMs can be tampered easily by changing the hardware connections. So this paper proposes a three layered extra security.

Disadvantages: Security risk present.

Limitations: Issue of Compatibility can occur.

2) Biometrically Secured Electronic Voting Machine

Authors: Rahil Rezwan; Huzaifa Ahmed; M. R. N. Biplob; S. M. Shuvo; Md. Abdur Rahman

Published in: 2017 IEEE Region 10 Humanitarian Technology Conference (R10-HTC)

In this paper, Arduino and Finger print scanner is used to implement the system which identifies each voter, also count votes and avoids fake votes. In this system voter is identified using FPS which detects if a person is a registered or not and also it denies for the voter to cast the second vote.

Disadvantages: Advanced security system can be required for significance of investments and costs to implement.

Limitations: Application should be known to users.

3) Multipurpose platform independent online voting system

Authors: Ajay Nair, Gulabchand K. Gupta

Published in: International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology (IRJET) Volume: 03 Issue: 10 | Oct-2016

In this system the voter just needs to have a Aadhar card number and a smart phone which can scan the barcode implemented on the system. The user can vote on any location as it is totally online based application. This system creates its own voting ballot. The encryption of vote data is at the user's end and decryption is at the local administrator end. This makes the system more authenticated and secure for voting.

Disadvantages: Risk of fraud can happen.

Limitations: Smartphone is required for this system

OBJECTIVE OF PROJECT

The specific objectives of the project include:

- 1. Improving the existing/current voting process or approach.
- 2. Implementing an automated voting system.
- 3. Validating the system to ensure that only eligible voters are allowed to vote.
- 4. An increasing number of voters as individuals will find it easier and more convenient to vote, especially those abroad.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

The SECURE ONLINE VOTING SYSTEM shall reduce the time spent making long queues at the polling stations during voting. It shall also enable the voters to vote from any part of the globe as explained since this is an online application available on the internet. Cases of vote miscounts shall also be solved since at the backend of this system resides a well-developed database using MYSQL that can provide the correct data once it's correctly queried. Since the voting process shall be open as early as possible, the voters shall have ample time to decide when and whom to vote for.

OLD METHODS OF VOTING

- 1. <u>Paper-based voting</u>: The voter gets a blank ballot and uses a pen or a marker to indicate he wanted to vote for which candidate. Hand-counted ballots is a time and labour-consuming process, but it is easy to manufacture paper ballots and the ballots can be retained for verifying, this type is still the most common way to vote.
- 2. <u>Lever voting machine</u>: Lever machine is peculiar equipment, and each lever is assigned for a corresponding candidate. The voter pulls the lever to poll for his favourite candidate. This kind of voting machine can count up the ballots automatically. Because its interface is not user-friendly enough, giving some training to voters is necessary.

In recent years, a considerable number of countries have adopted E-voting for their official elections. These countries include; America, Belgium, Japan, and Brazil.

HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

- CPU: Core i3 or higher, (2133MHZ, minimum recommended)
- Minimum 4GB RAM
- 2 GB free Hard drive space
- Webcam resolution (640×480)
- VRAM (GPU): 512 MB

TECHNOLOGIES USED

- ✓ Frontend technology
- o Html
- o CSS
- o JavaScript
- o JQuery
- o Thymeleaf

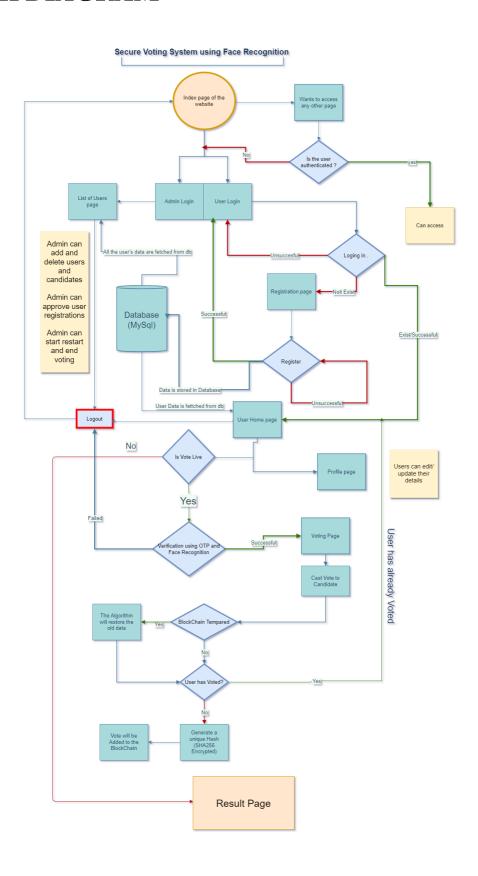
- ✓ Backend technology
- o Java
- o Python
- o Open CV
- o Spring
- o Spring MVC
- Spring boot
- o Spring JPA
- o Hibernate
- Spring security
- Tomcat server
- o MySQL

DESCRIPTION

This project describes the possible way of voting systems that can be done online with some features such as accuracy, convenience, flexibility, and privacy. This website provides guidance with proper video as well as written instructions in a popup. Users have to register themselves with proper documentation id proof on the website. After successful registration, he/she can log in to our website with proper credentials and cast their vote securely and safely upon further verification. Once cast they can log out from this site secure and safe. If someone tries to edit details after registration he/she has to provide proper supportive documents which will be verified by the administrator further.

The main aim of this project is to cast votes with proper anti-corruption techniques and to minimize errors and be hassle-free.

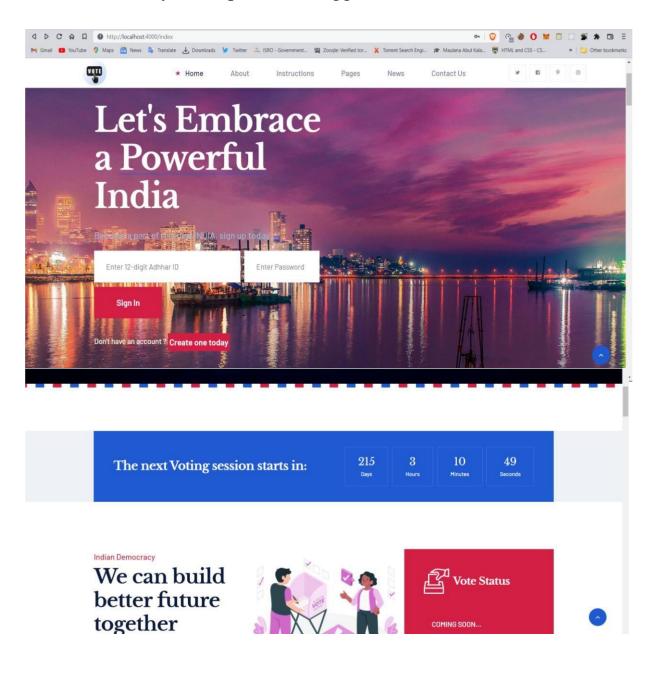
BLOCK DIAGRAM



WORKING PROCESS

This website is made with the concern of usability to its users, so a proper guidance with accurate stepwise instructions is provided with a video model as well as text in the screen.

When a user tries to access our website, they will be redirected to the index/home page. On this page, they can get various information about the voting process or how many people vote in India. They can also read our "Mission and Vision" of this entire project. They can even contact us if they have queries or suggestions.

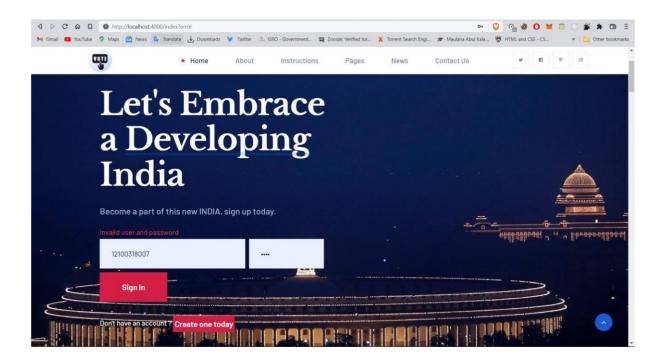


Front-end: We have used HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to create the page.

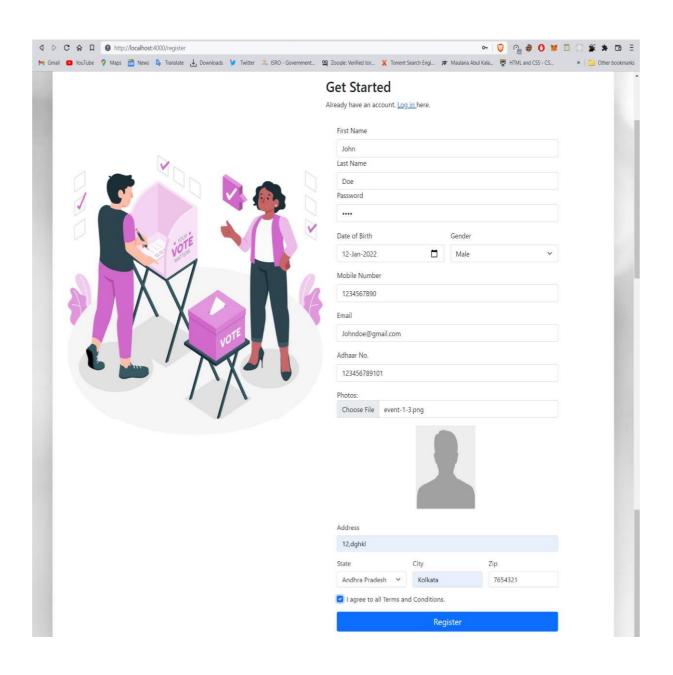
Back-end: We have used Spring Boot and Spring Security to achieve the feature of not accessing any other page unless the user is registered.

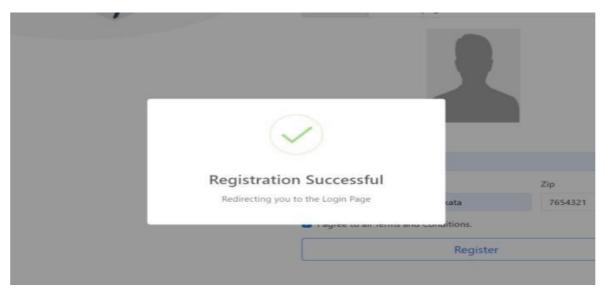
If the user wants to access another page, he will be redirected to the home page if the user is not a registered user. In order to access all the features of our website, the user needs to log in with proper credentials. Upon successful login, they will be redirected to the user's home page.

Back-end: Again, we have used Spring boot and Spring security to achieve the login feature where only registered users can log in with correct credentials.



In case the user is not registered, then they can register themselves from the link given on our index page. They need to provide proper documentation and proof in order to successfully register. Upon successful registration, they will be redirected to the index page where they can log in and enjoy the features of our website.







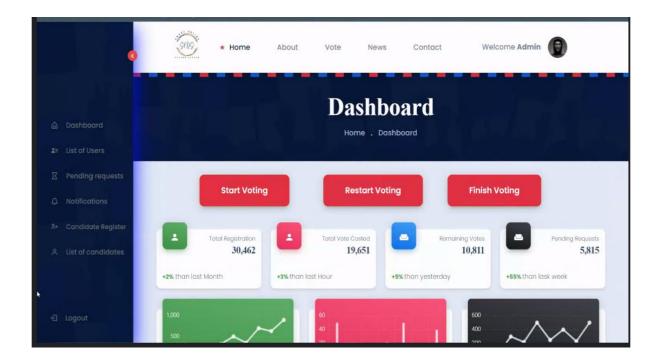
We have also included a User Guide or Instruction menu so that users can understand the various features and functionality of our website. It provides guidance with proper video as well as written instructions in a popup.

Front-end: We have kept many checks on the registration page such as mobile number length, username length, all fields must be filled, no duplicate registration, etc.

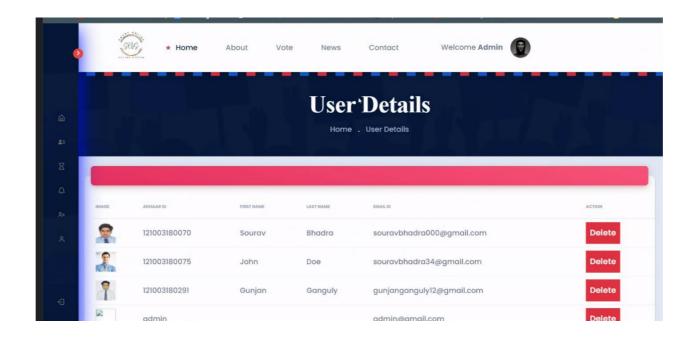
Back-end: We have used Spring Boot and Spring security to achieve all the validations and we saved the details in our database if all validations were successful.

ADMIN PORTAL

We also have an ADMIN user who has special powers. If he/she logs in they will be redirected to a different page. On this page, all the users who have registered so far will be listed. The ADMIN can edit or delete any user and perform other actions.



This is the Admin Portal where only the **Admin** can enter through proper credentials.

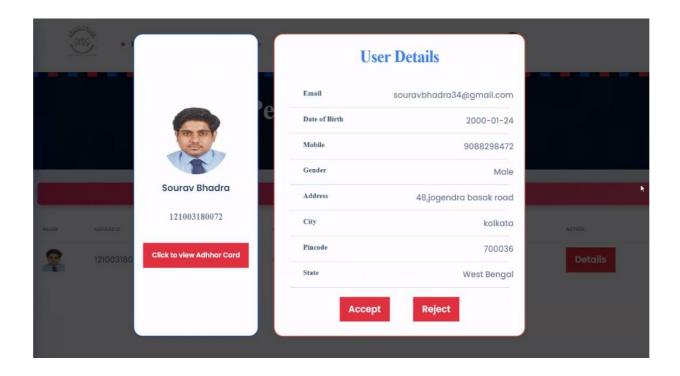


PENDING REQUEST

Front-end: We have also introduced a Pending Request Section, where new User Register Request is queued and will be approved by Admin after Successful User Registration.

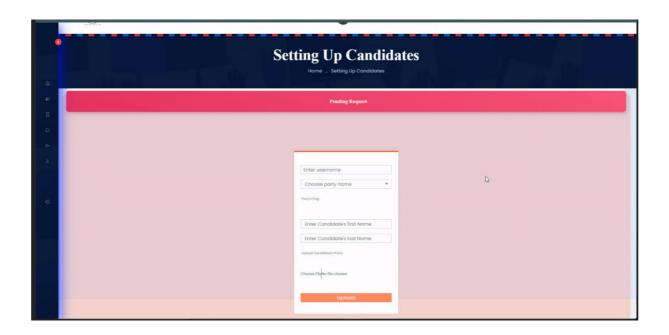
Back-end: We have used Spring Boot and Spring security to achieve all the validations and we saved the details in our database if all validations were successful.

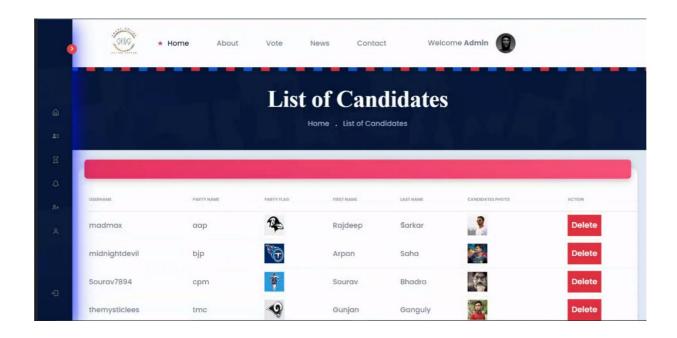
The Admin can start/restart and end voting. The Admin can also view and accept users who have registered. The Admin can add candidates who'll participate in voting.



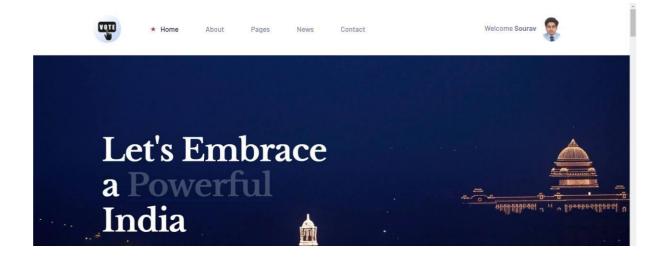
SETTING UP CANDIDATES

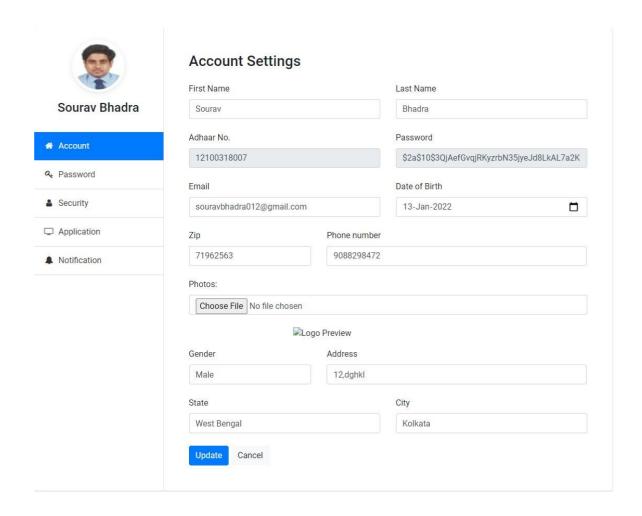
Admin can also set the Candidates for election and can view or delete the Candidates if required.





But if a normal user logs in, they will be redirected to the user's home page which is similar to the index/home page. From here they can visit other web pages. We also have included a user profile page section where the user can view or edit their details such as Address, Phone number, or Password, etc.

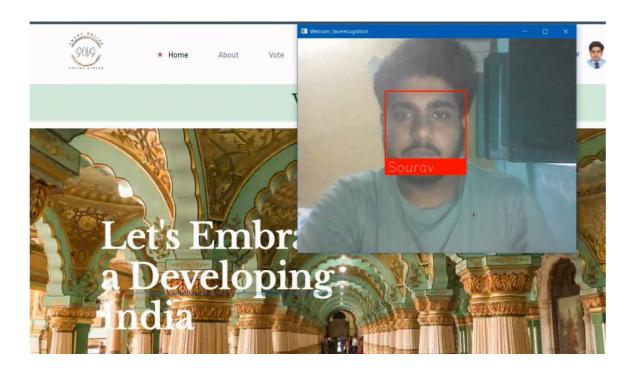




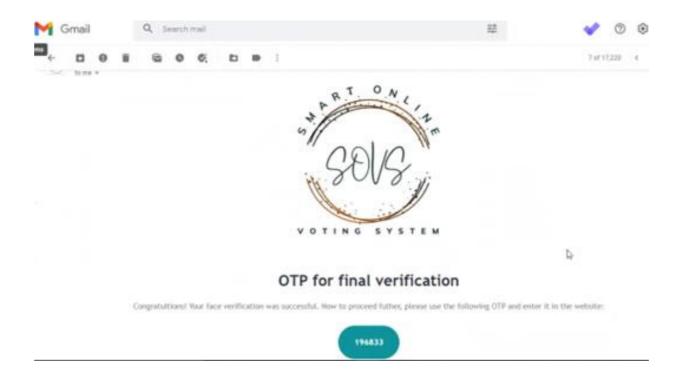
Back-end: We have used Spring Boot and Spring security to achieve this feature where admin and user are redirected to their respective pages.

From the user's home page, the user can cast their vote. In order to do that, they need to visit the voting page. They have to undergo several verifications in order to reach the voting page such as OTP verification and face verification. Upon successful completion of all the verifications, they will redirect to the voting page where they can vote for their favorite candidate.





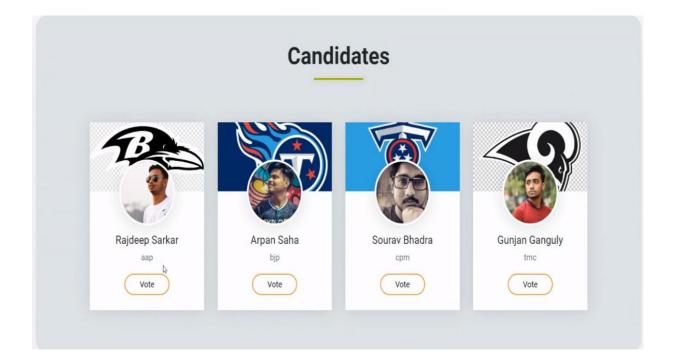
OTP VALIDATION



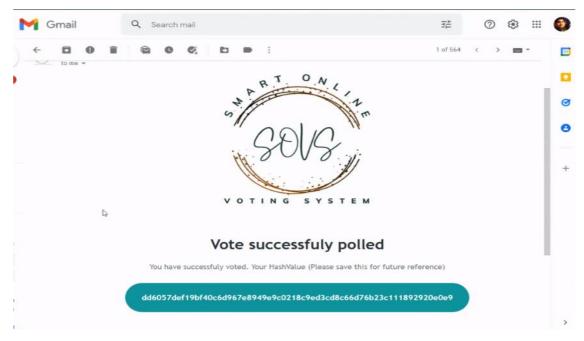


VOTING PAGE

After successful validation user will reach this voting page. Users can vote their favorite candidate.



After casting their vote, all the users will receive an email which will contain a hash value which is the encrypted id for their vote.



DISPLAYING RESULTS

After voting has ended, users can login and check the results. This page will only be available after voting has ended.

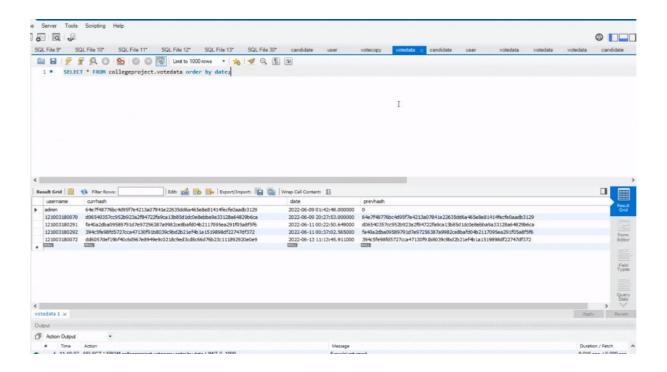


BLOCKCHAIN CONCEPT

All the votes are stored in a chain with each vote containing the previous block Hash and current Block Hash. (Hash value is generated using SHA256 encryption algorithm). If the Blockchain is tampered anyhow, the system will automatically restore the previous correct data. Since blockchain is stored in a decentralized manner, this same data is present in many other nodes. Thus, tampering one table will not break the Blockchain.

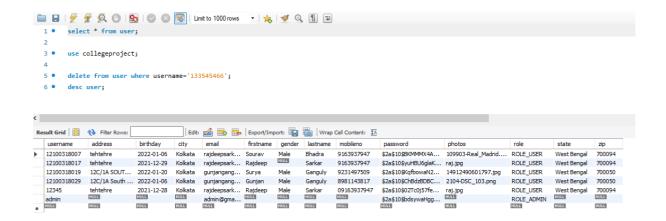
The Blockchain automatically Checks weather the user has already casted Vote. If the user had already voted then He will be logged out from their own login. If the User has not casted their vote, Then

Blockchain also authenticate the user with their account and allows user to poll the vote.



DATABASE CONNECTIVITY

We have used MYSQL as our database to store all the information. We have used one USER table to store the information of our users. The password which is stored is encrypted with the help of Spring boot to avoid password leakage. Data is automatically stored when a user registers on our website or updates his/her information.



APPLICATIONS

- One can cast his/her vote from home.
- The vote will be securely cast online on the voting website.
- The system is secure at almost every step with proper verification.
- The system provides time flexibility to its users.
- The system also provides corruption less voting with accuracy.
- This system will also increase the users who voted to no. of voters ratio since people will get the freedom to cast their votes from their homes.

CONCLUSION

This Online Voting system will manage the Voter's information by which a voter can log in and use his voting rights. The system will incorporate all features of the Voting system. There is a DATABASE that is maintained by the ADMIN in which all the names of voters with complete information are stored. The ADMIN has full access to the data of the users. It can verify the users upon registration or when they update their details. The ADMIN can also delete or update the user's details.

The user who is above 18 year's registers his/her information on the database and when he/she wants to vote he/she has to login by his Aadhaar id and password and can vote to any party only a single time. With the online voting system, the percentage of people voting may increase. It decreases the cost and time of the voting process. It is very easy to use and it is very less time-consuming.

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