Project Specifications

Online Discussion Forum

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1. Abstract

This project is aimed at developing online forum for the group discussion. This is a web-based application. Any user can post a question on any topic and can reply for the other user's questions. The user can invite others for discussion. This will be helpful for a small office, school or a department or for any group who is interested to share the ideas and post articles that can be viewed by a group of users.

The 'Online Discussion Forum' is mainly developed for academic institutions. Because the discussion forum facilitates exploratory learning by allowing students to review and respond to the work of others and approach learning in diverse ways. Empowers students to express themselves. For students with different learning styles, an online discussion board can be a venue where they feel more comfortable contributing to group discussions. With positive reinforcement from interactions on the discussion board, an increase in in-class participation may also occur.

2. High Level Design Specification

The project contains the following main modules.
- Registration
- Category
- Post Question
- Answer
- Admin
- Search

- **Registration Module**

  To post a question or to reply to a question a user must be registered. Existing users can login with the provided credentials. New users can register through 'Register' option available in the forum page.

- **Category Module**

  This module will play a crucial role as a main module. Users can post their questions by selecting the category. To post a question or answer to a question user must choose the category. This category will help to classify the articles and questions available in the forum.

- **Post Question Module**

  This module is mainly for the registered users. To post a question, a user must be registered in the forum. After logging in, the user can post a question by choosing the category.

- **Answer Module**

  Each and every posted question will get the answer from the Discussion Forum team and also from different user.

- **Admin Module**

  The 'Admin' module the admin user to perform administrator activities such as maintains the forum policy. If users are posting the irrelevant questions, or repetitive questions, the admin user can interfere and close the question. The admin can remove the content from the forum at any time without prior announcement.

- **Search Module**

  This module is used to search the posted queries, articles. Both registered and non registered users can search in the forum.

3. Mandatory Requirements

- **User-defined exceptions must be generated.**

The following are the sample scenarios where user-defined exceptions required. Identify the other mandatory requirements and implement them.

  a. Entering Invalid user id
  b. Entering Invalid user name and password etc.

- **Primary Key and foreign key constraints must be specified in database design.**
- **Session management must be implemented.**

Session tracking or management must be properly maintained between the pages until the user log outs the session.

4. Best Practices

The development team must follow the best practices.

1. Coding Standard

- Methods and class names must be meaningful
- Meaningful names for variables
- Meaningful names for controls. To clearly identify the controls, the controls name can start with the control name followed by their functionality name

Sample

txtCustomerName – text field which is used to enter the customer name
btSubmit – button to submit the fields entry

2. Validation for all the fields

- Missing of mandatory fields entry
- Entering numbers for name field etc.
- Identify the other required validation and implement them.

3. Layout design and arrangement of the controls must be proper in UI design

4. Title messages for each dialog and screen must be meaningful.

5. Deliverables Expected

- Project Documentation Report
- Database script file
- UI design document

6. Database Design

A partial database schema is given below. Additional tables or attributes may be added as per requirement. These database tables are samples only.

ARTICLE

Column	Description
Article_Id	Article Id
Category_Id	Category Id
Article_Subject	Article Subject
Article_Link	Article Link
Article_Content	Article Content
Key_Id	Key Id

CATEGORY

Column	Description
Category_Id	Category Id
Category_Name	Category Name

KEYWORD

Column	Description
Key_Id	Key Id
Keyword	Keyword

QA

Column	Description
QA_Id	Question & Answer Id
User_Name	User Name
Question_Id	Question Id
ADate	Answer Date
Answers	Answers
UserImage	User Image

QUESTION

Column	Description
Question_Id	Question Id
User_Name	User Name
Category_Id	Category Id
Key_Id	Key Id
QDate	Question Date

Questions	Questions
Question_Description	Question Description

USERS

Column	Description
User_Name	User Name
Password	Password
FirstName	First Name
LastName	Last Name
Email	Email Id
Country	Country
User_Image	User Image
SecurityQuestion	Security Question
SecurityAnswer	Security Answer
AccessDate	Access Date

1. SCREEN DESIGN

User Login
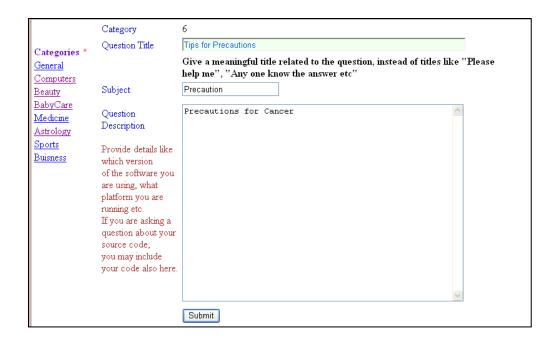

Registration

Posting a Question

Post an Answer

Post Your Answer

Provide Precautions For Cancer and detail about lucky stone

Enter your name   Soniya

Enter your answer   Lucky stone is blue stone.

Attach Your Image   C:\Documents and Settings\A   Browse...   Upload

Upload Successfully