**Project Title: Employee Leave Management System**

**Problem Statement:**

A company struggles to track employee leave requests manually, causing delays and confusion. To automate leave management, you need to develop a **web-based system** using Spring Boot, MySQL, and Thymeleaf.

The application will handle **only two entities**: **Employee** and **LeaveRequest**.

**Entities & Relationship**

1. **Employee**
   * Employee ID (Primary Key)
   * Name
   * Email
   * Department
2. **LeaveRequest**
   * Leave ID (Primary Key)
   * Employee (Many-to-One relationship)
   * Leave Type (e.g., Sick, Casual, Paid)
   * Start Date
   * End Date
   * Status (Pending / Approved / Rejected)

**Relationship:**

* One Employee can have multiple Leave Requests (One-to-Many).

**Functional Requirements**

1. **Employee Management**
   * Add new employees.
   * Update employee details.
   * Delete employees.
   * View all employees in a table.
2. **Leave Request Management**
   * Employees can submit leave requests.
   * Admin/staff can approve or reject leave requests.
   * View all leave requests with employee details.
   * Filter leave requests by status or employee.
3. **Dashboard**
   * Total number of employees.
   * Total leave requests.
   * Number of pending approvals.
4. **Validation**
   * Server-side validation for dates, required fields, and email format.
   * Optional: client-side validation with Thymeleaf.

**Technical Requirements**

* **Backend:** Spring Boot, Spring Data JPA, MySQL
* **Frontend:** Thymeleaf
* **Database:** MySQL with employee and leave\_request tables
* **Build Tool:** Maven
* **Server Port:** 8080