Name: - Anmol Vaswani
Div: -D15A
Roll No.: - 67

PWA Experiment - 7

Aim - To write meta data of your Ecommerce PWA in a Web app manifest file to enable "add to homescreen feature

Theory -

Regular Web App

A regular web app is a website that is designed to be accessible on all mobile devices such that the content gets fit as per the device screen. It is designed using a web technology stack (HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Ruby, etc.) and operates via a browser. They offer various native-device features and functionalities. However, it entirely depends on the browser the user is using. In other words, it might be possible that you can access a native-device feature on Chrome but not on Safari or Mozilla Firefox because the browsers are incompatible with that feature.

Progressive Web App

Progressive Web App (PWA) is a regular web app, but some extras enable it to deliver an excellent user experience. It is a perfect blend of desktop and mobile application experience to give both platforms to the end-users.

Difference between PWAs vs. Regular Web Apps:

A Progressive Web is different and better than a Regular Web app with features like:

1. Native Experience

Though a PWA runs on web technologies (HTML, CSS, JavaScript) like a Regular web app, it gives user experience like a native mobile application. It can use most native device features, including push notifications, without relying on the browser or any other entity. It offers a seamless and integrated user experience that it is quite tough for one to differentiate between a PWA and a Native application by considering its look and feel.

2. Ease of Access

Unlike other mobile apps, PWAs do not demand longer download time and make memory space available for installing the applications. The PWAs can be shared and installed by a link, which cuts down the number of steps to install and use. These applications can easily keep an app icon on the user's home screen, making the app easily accessible to the users and helps the brands remain in the users' minds, and improving the chances of interaction.

3. Faster Services

PWAs can cache the data and serve the user with text stylesheets, images, and other web content even before the page loads completely. This lowers the waiting time for the end-users and helps

the brands improve the user engagement and retention rate, which eventually adds value to their business.

4. Engaging Approach

As already shared, the PWAs can employ push notifications and other native device features more efficiently. Their interaction does not depend on the browser user uses. This eventually improves the chances of notifying the user regarding your services, offers, and other options related to your brand and keeping them hooked to your brand. In simpler words, PWAs let you maintain the user engagement and retention rate.

5. Updated Real-Time Data Access

Another plus point of PWAs is that these apps get updated on their own. They do not demand the end-users to go to the App Store or other such platforms to download the update and wait until installed.

In this app type, the web app developers can push the live update from the server, which reaches the apps residing on the user's devices automatically. Therefore, it is easier for the mobile app developer to provide the best of the updated functionalities and services to the end-users without forcing them to update their app.

6. Discoverable

PWAs reside in web browsers. This implies higher chances of optimizing them as per the Search Engine Optimization (SEO) criteria and improving the Google rankings like that in websites and other web apps.

7. Lower Development Cost

Progressive web apps can be installed on the user device like a native device, but it does not demand submission on an App Store. This makes it far more cost-effective than native mobile applications while offering the same set of functionalities.

Pros and cons of the Progressive Web App

The main features are:

Progressive — They work for every user, regardless of the browser chosen because they are built at the base with progressive improvement principles.

Responsive — They adapt to the various screen sizes: desktop, mobile, tablet, or dimensions that can later become available.

App-like — They behave with the user as if they were native apps, in terms of interaction and navigation.

Updated — Information is always up-to-date thanks to the data update process offered by service workers.

Secure — Exposed over HTTPS protocol to prevent the connection from displaying information or altering the contents.

Searchable — They are identified as “applications” and are indexed by search engines.
Reactivable — Make it easy to reactivate the application thanks to capabilities such as web notifications.
Installable — They allow the user to “save” the apps that he considers most useful with the corresponding icon on the screen of his mobile terminal (home screen) without having to face all the steps and problems related to the use of the app store.
Linkable — Easily shared via URL without complex installations.
Offline — Once more it is about putting the user before everything, avoiding the usual error message in case of weak or no connection. The PWA are based on two particularities: first of all the ‘skeleton’ of the app, which recalls the page structure, even if its contents do not respond and its elements include the header, the page layout, as well as an illustration that signals that the page is loading.

Weaknesses refer to:
IOS support from version 11.3 onwards;
Greater use of the device battery;
Not all devices support the full range of PWA features (same speech for iOS and Android operating systems);
It is not possible to establish a strong re-engagement for iOS users (URL scheme, standard web notifications);
Support for offline execution is however limited;
Lack of presence on the stores (there is no possibility to acquire traffic from that channel);
There is no “body” of control (like the stores) and an approval process;
Limited access to some hardware components of the devices;
Little flexibility regarding “special” content for users (eg loyalty programs, loyalty, etc.).

Code-
manifest.json

```
{
    "name":"PWA Tutorial",
    "short_name":"PWA",
    "start_url":"index.html",
    "display":"standalone",
    "background_color":"#5900b3",
    "theme_color":"black",
    "scope": ".",
    "description":"Counter App",
    "icons":[
    {
    "src":"images/two_192.png",
    "sizes":"192x192",
```

```
    "type":"image/png"
    },
    {
    "src":"images/one_512.png",
    "sizes":"512x512",
    "type":"image/png"
    }
]
}
```

index.html

```
<html>
    <head><link rel="stylesheet"
href="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/normalize/8.0.1/normalize
.css">
        <link rel="stylesheet" href="index.css">
        <link rel="manifest" href="/manifest.json">
    </head>
    <body>
        <h1>People entered:</h1>
        <h2 id="count-el">0</h2>
        <button id="increment-btn"
onclick="increment()">INCREMENT</button>
        <button id="decrement-btn"
onclick="decrement()">DECREMENT</button>
        <button id="save-btn" onclick="save()">SAVE</button>
        <p id="save-el">Previous Entries:</p>
        <script src="index.js"></script>
    </body>
<script>
  window.addEventListener('load', () => {
    registerSW();
  });
  async function registerSW() {
    if ('serviceWorker' in navigator) {
      try {
        await navigator
              .serviceWorker
              .register('serviceworker.js');
      }
      catch (e) {
        console.log('SW registration failed');
      }
```

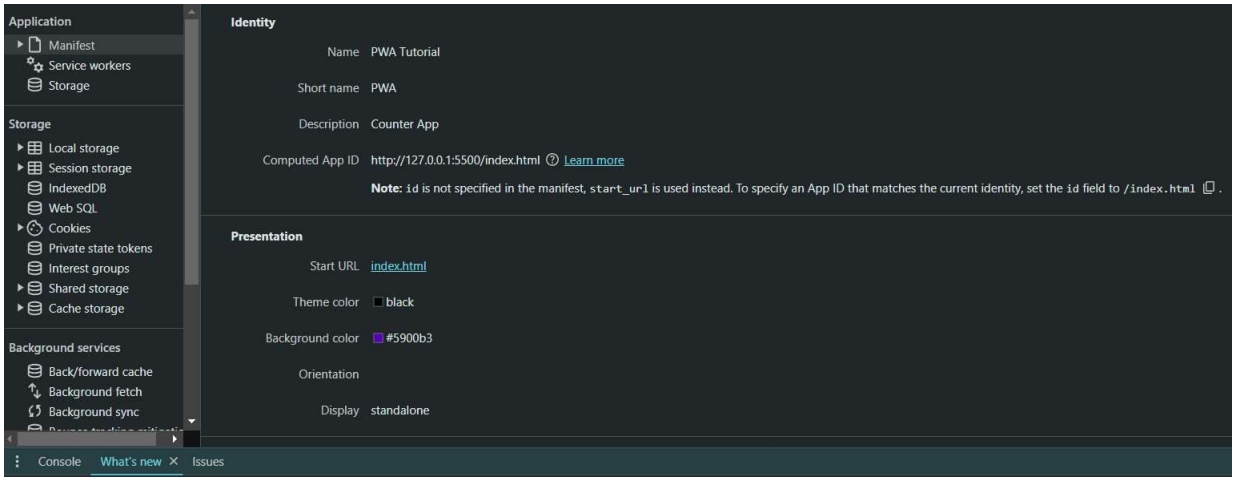
```
    }
  }
</script>
</html>
```

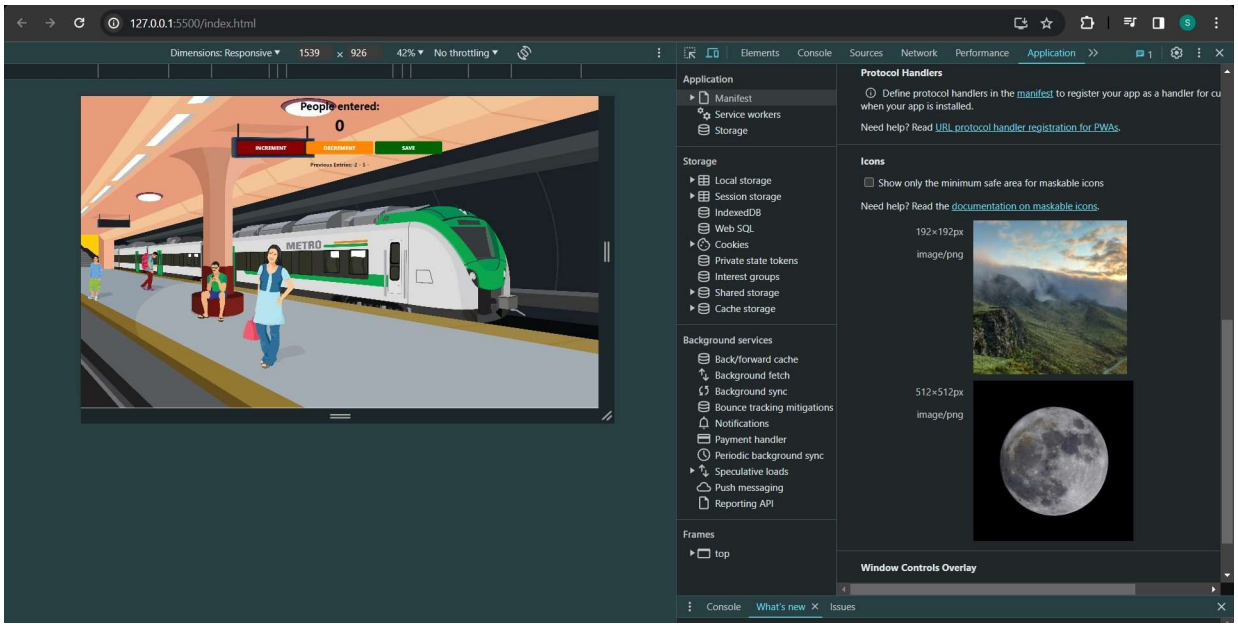
service-worker.js

```
var staticCacheName = "pwa";

self.addEventListener("install", function (e) {
  e.waitUntil(
    caches.open(staticCacheName).then(function (cache) {
      return cache.addAll(["/"]);
    })
  );
});

self.addEventListener("fetch", function (event) {
  console.log(event.request.url);

  event.respondWith(
    caches.match(event.request).then(function (response) {
      return response || fetch(event.request);
    })
  );
});
```

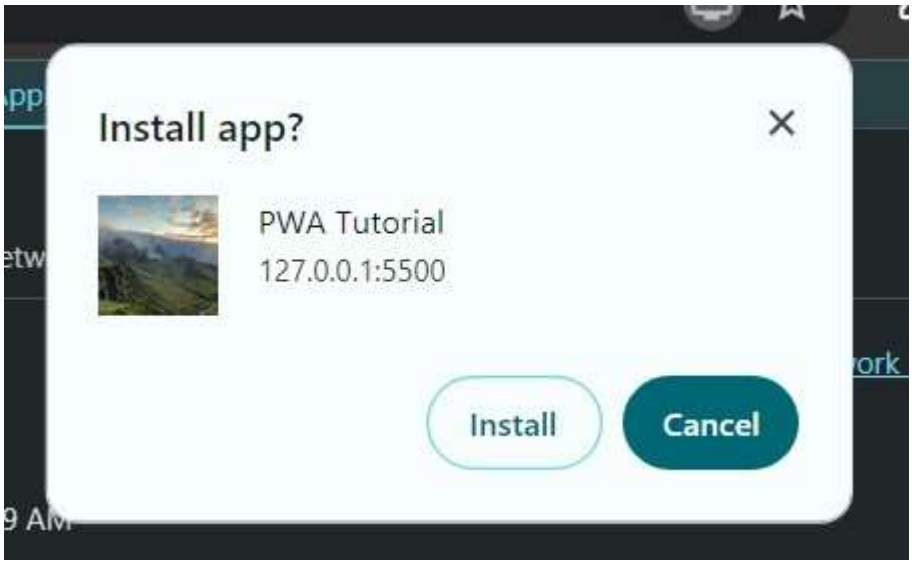
Output-

Right click->Inspect->Manifest

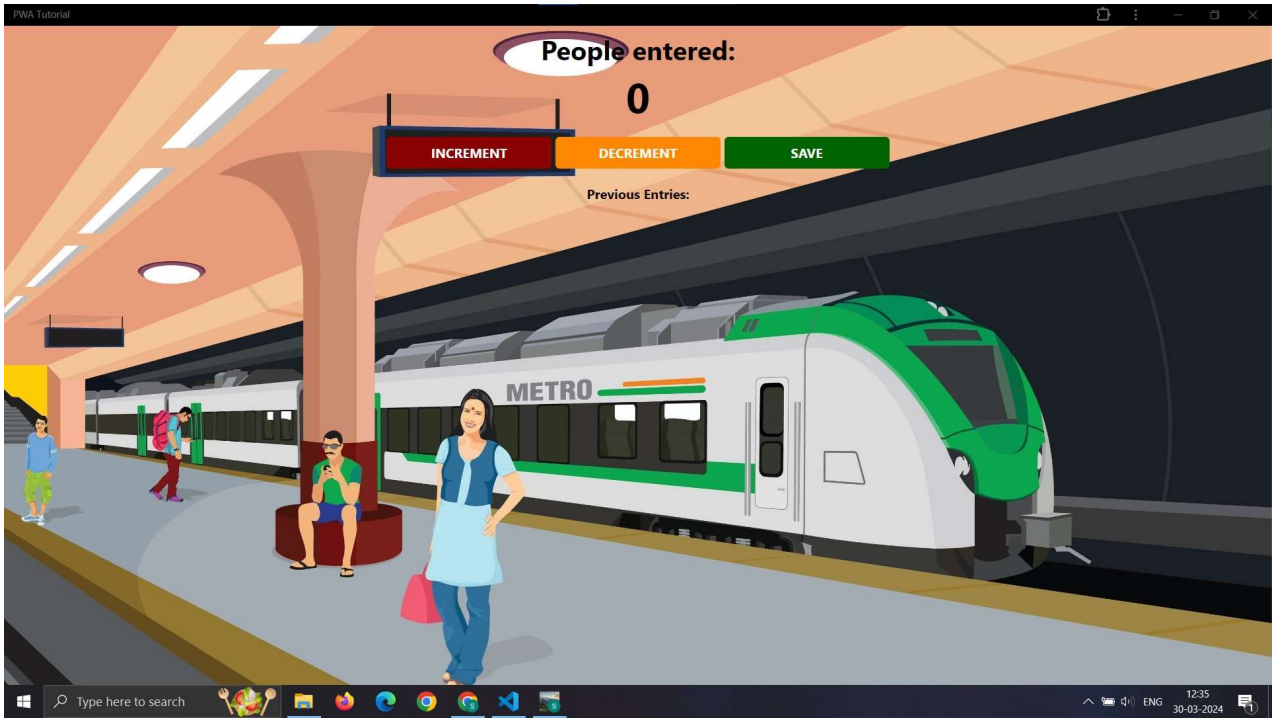




In toolbar section you will find install app. Click on that and click Install

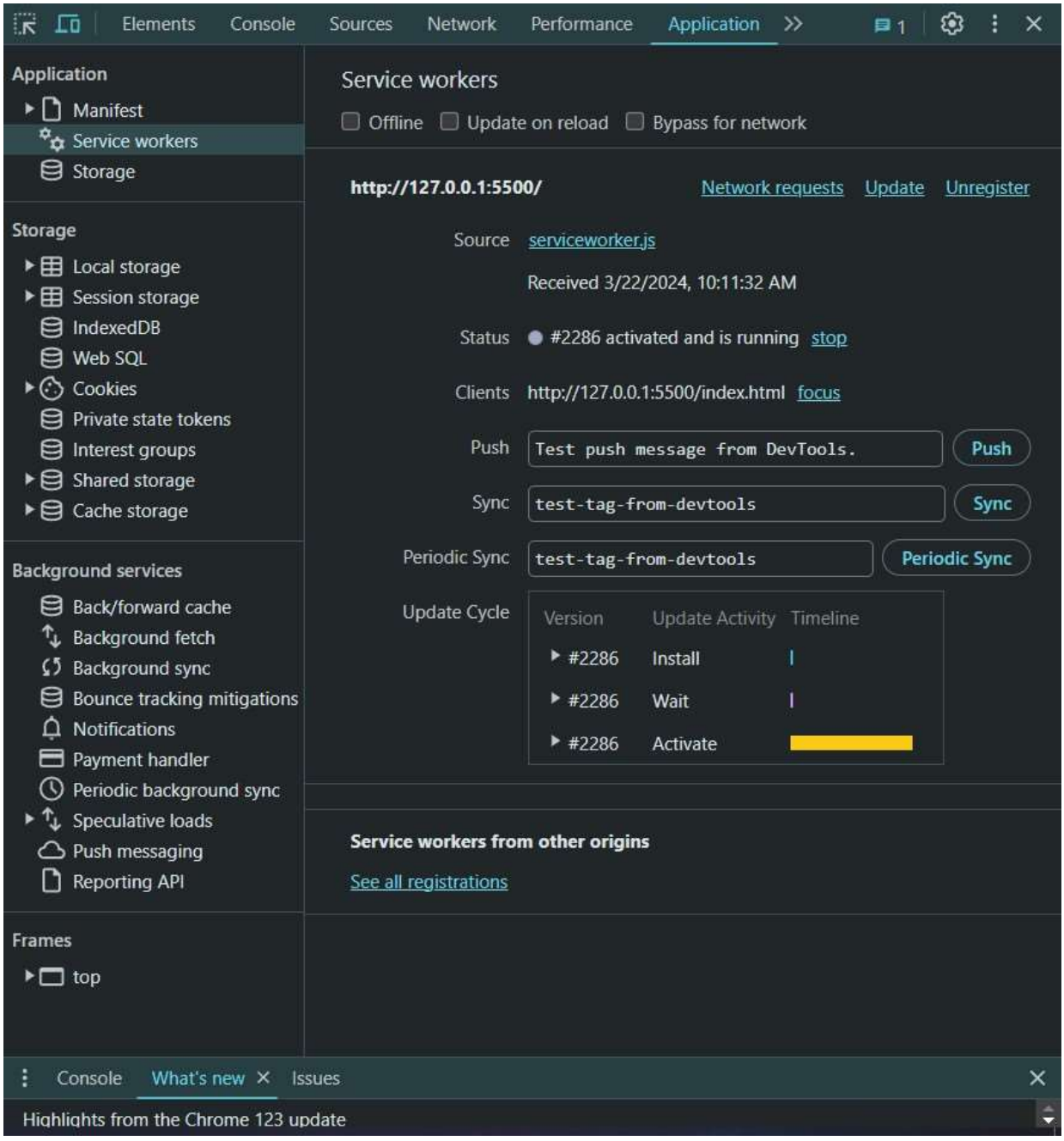


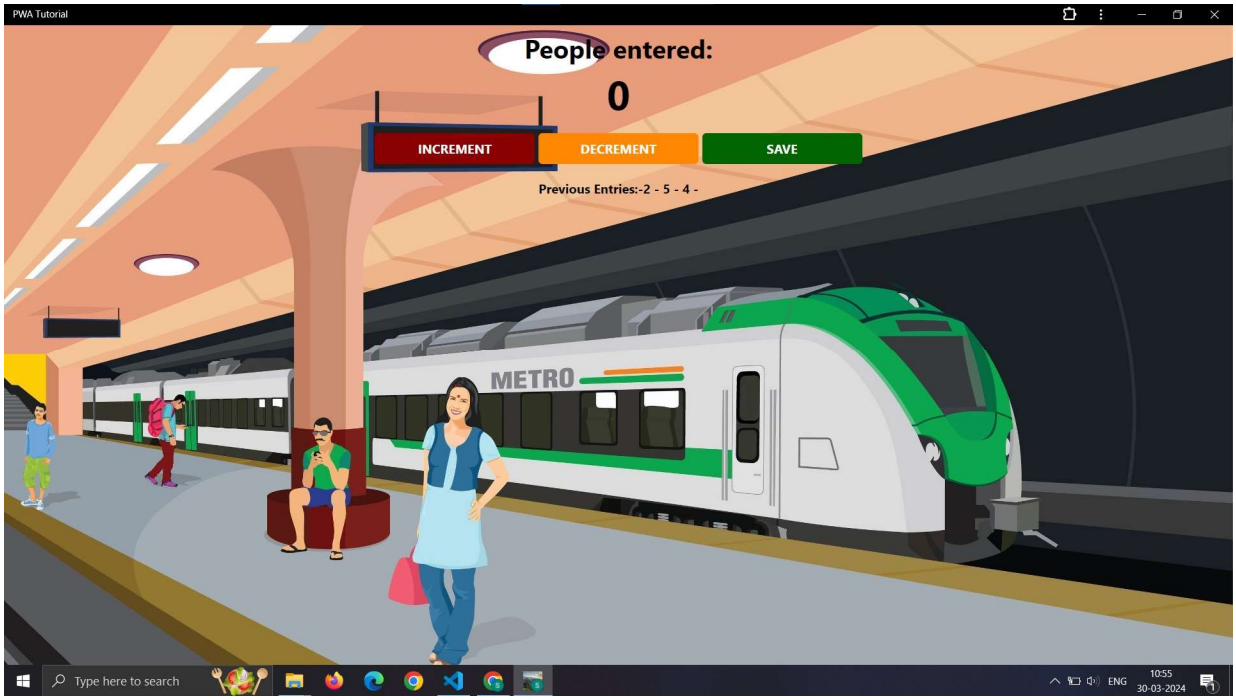
Installed app-



Conclusion-

Setting up the metadata in the Web app manifest file allows users to easily add our Ecommerce PWA to their device's home screen.


Elements
Console
Sources
Network
Performance
Application
1
Application
Manifest
Service workers
Storage
Storage
Local storage
Session storage
IndexedDB
Web SQL
Cookies
Private state tokens
Interest groups
Shared storage
Cache storage
Background services
Back/forward cache
Background fetch
Background sync
Bounce tracking mitigations
Notifications
Payment handler
Periodic background sync
Speculative loads
Push messaging
Reporting API
Frames
top
Service workers
Offline
Update on reload
Bypass for network
http://127.0.0.1:5500/
Network requests
Update
Unregister
Source
serviceworker.js
Received 3/22/2024, 10:11:32 AM
Status
#2286 activated and is running
stop
Clients
http://127.0.0.1:5500/index.html
focus
Push
Test push message from DevTools.
Push
Sync
test-tag-from-devtools
Sync
Periodic Sync
test-tag-from-devtools
Periodic Sync
Update Cycle
Version
Update Activity
Timeline
#2286
Install
#2286
Wait
#2286
Activate
Service workers from other origins
See all registrations
Console
What's new
Issues
Highlights from the Chrome 123 update



Conclusion: - Thus, we learnt how to write a metadata of our PWA in a Web App Manifest File to enable add to home screen feature.