

## **The reasons for various design decisions and the alternatives considered:**

1. Why we decided to ask the user to answer feedback questions: Because this way, in case items are not actually available in the shop, this can help other users know about it. It helps to validate if the retailer is genuine or not. We considered the alternatives of letting the users upvote/downvote, or to write comments, but ruled out these alternatives because the main purpose of our app is to ensure that people get the things that they require, and not to serve as a platform for rating shops.
2. Why we decided to let users search for shops by items: Because usually the first thing that would come to a user's mind is the item(s) that they want to buy, and also, some items may be available in different kinds of stores. So this way, a user can see all the stores (which may be of different types, eg. grocery stores as well as medical stores) which have the item(s) that the user requires. The other alternative we considered was to let the user search for shops by 'shop type', but that would not provide the advantages which searching by item provides.
3. Why we decided to ask for the user's phone number (and GST number for shopkeepers): In order to verify the user's identity, especially that of shopkeepers, so that the possibility of fake accounts is reduced.