Full Stack Development with MERN

1.Introduction

Project Title: Book a Doctor using MERN

Team Members

- Abikumar-Technical Lead
- Adhithya S Back-end Developer
- Parameshwaran R- Front-end Developer
- PARTHIBAN G- Full-stack Developer

2. Project Overview

Purpose:

This project aims to create a web application that enables users to book appointments with doctors online. The platform allows users to view available doctors based on specialization, book appointments, and communicate with doctors through chat. Admins can manage doctors' availability and oversee user interactions.

Features:

- User registration and login with JWT authentication.
- Doctor profile management (create, update, delete).
- Appointment booking and tracking.
- Real-time messaging between users and doctors.
- Admin dashboard for managing doctors, appointments, and users.
- Payment integration for paid consultations.

3. Architecture

Frontend: Built using React.js, the frontend provides a dynamic user interface. It includes components for authentication, doctor browsing, appointment booking, and live chat, leveraging React Router for seamless navigation.

Backend: The backend is developed with Node.js and Express.js. It handles requests, user authentication, doctor profile management, appointment scheduling, and integrates with MongoDB for data storage.

Database: MongoDB stores information about users, doctors, appointments, and chats. Collections are structured to allow fast access and updates, e.g., users, doctors, appointments, messages.

4. Setup Instructions

Prerequisites:

Node.js v14+

MongoDB v4+

(Optional) npm or yarn for package management

Installation:

1. Clone the repository:

git clone <repository-url>

2. Navigate to both the backend and frontend directories and install dependencies:

For Backend:	
cd backend	
npm install	
For Frontend:	
cd/frontend	
npm install	

5. Folder Structure

Client (Frontend):

- src/components: Reusable React components (e.g., LoginForm, DoctorCard).
- src/pages: Pages for different routes (e.g., Home, DoctorList, Appointment).
- src/utils: Utility functions, API calls, and helper methods.
- src/styles: CSS files for styling.

Server (Backend):

- config: Contains the database connection configuration.
- controllers: Business logic handling (e.g., handling appointments, user registration).
- routers: API route definitions.
- middlewares: For JWT authentication, error handling.
- schemas: MongoDB models for users, doctors, appointments.

6. Running the Application

Frontend: Start the frontend server: npm start

Backend:

Start the backend server:

npm start

7. API Documentation

POST /api/auth/login – User login with JWT authentication.

- POST/api/auth/register User registration.
- GET/api/doctors Fetch available doctors based on specialization.
- POST/api/appointments Book an appointment with a selected doctor.

Example Response (Fetch Doctors):

```
json
{
    "status": "success",
    "data": {
      "doctors": [
      {
          "id": "doctor-id",
          "name": "Dr. John Doe",
          "specialization": "Cardiology",
          "rating": 4.5,
          "availableTimes": ["10:00 AM", "02:00 PM"]
      }
    ]
    }
}
```

8. Authentication

Authentication is managed using JWT tokens. After successful login, users receive a token that is stored in local storage. Protected routes (e.g., appointment booking) require a valid JWT token for access, verified using middleware.

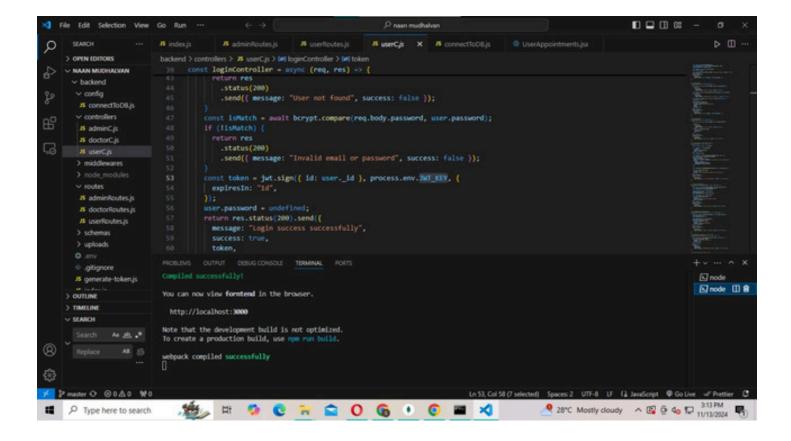
9. User Interface

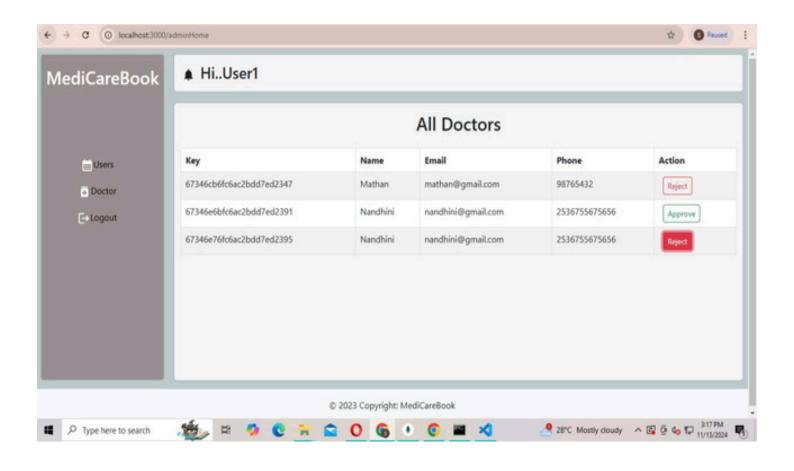
- Login and Registration Form: For new users to sign up or log in.
- Doctor Catalog: A page where users can browse available doctors by specialization and availability.
- Appointment Booking: A page where users can schedule appointments with doctors.
- Dashboard: Displays user's upcoming appointments and past visit history.
- Real-time Chat: A messaging feature for users to communicate with their doctor before or after the consultation.

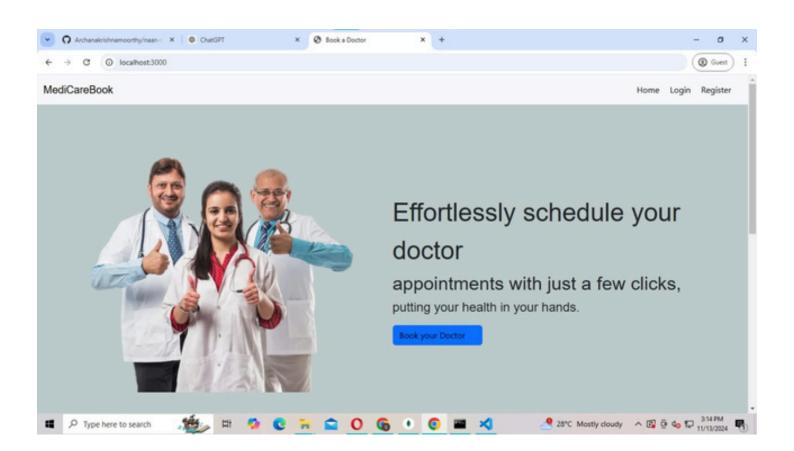
10. Testing

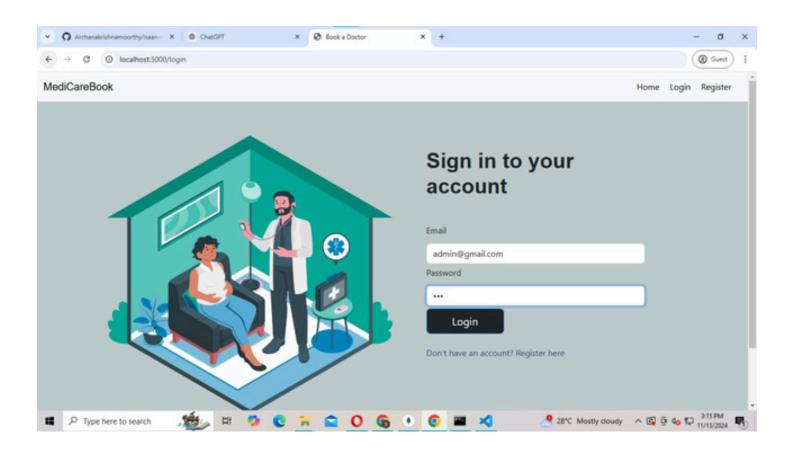
Testing is conducted using tools like Jest for unit tests (for React components) and Postman for API testing (validating API responses and functionality)

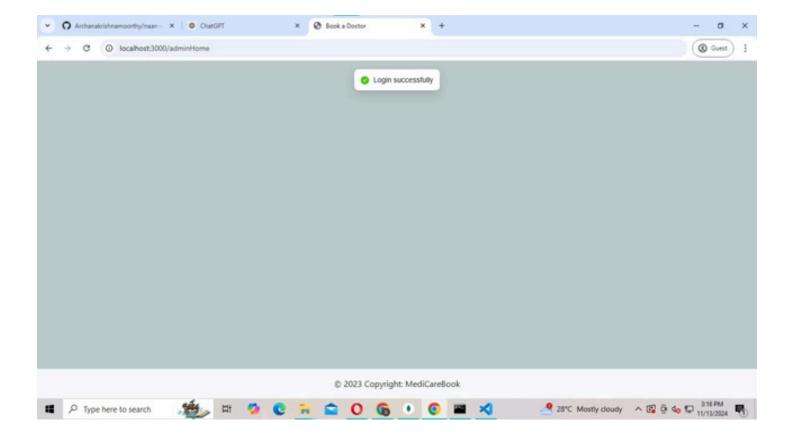
11.Screenshots

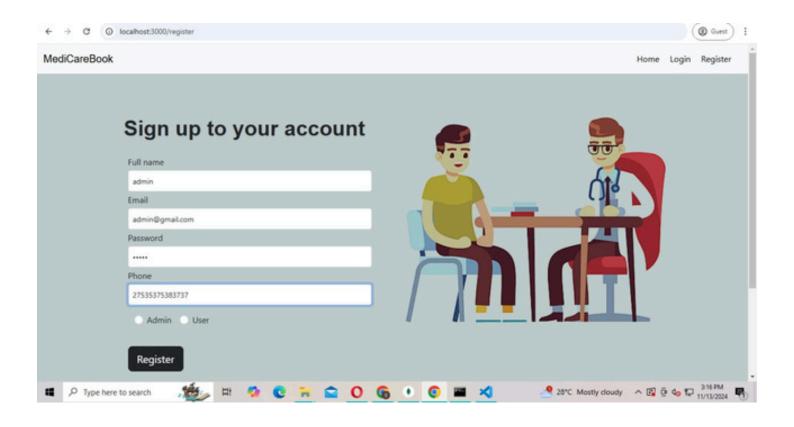


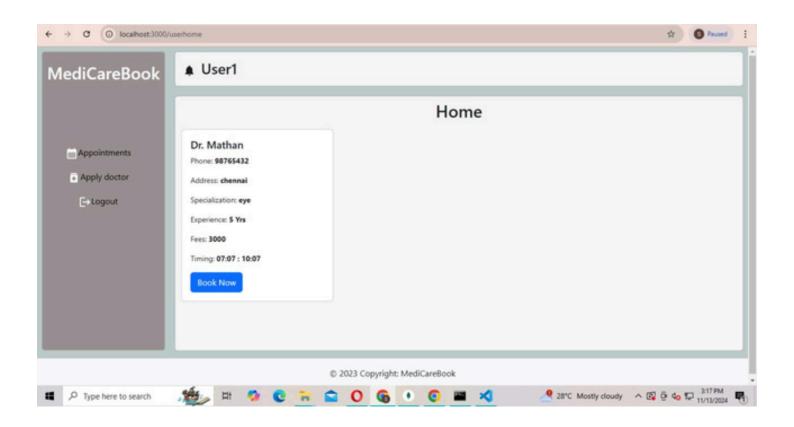












12. Known Issues

- Token expiration may log users out unexpectedly.
- Delays may occur in real-time chat due to network instability.
- Appointment times may not be updated correctly in rare cases.

13. Future Enhancements

- Payment Gateway Integration: Add support for payments for paid consultations.
- Doctor Ratings and Reviews: Allow users to rate doctors after consultations.
- Video Consultation Integration: Enhance real-time chat with video calling features.
- Admin Dashboard Enhancements: Provide more detailed analytics and reporting for appointments and user engagement.