# Flight Booking Management System

(Draft File)

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# **Objective**

The **Flight Management System** is a backend-only project that allows users to securely sign up, log in, and search for details using API endpoints tested via **Postman**. Instead of using public APIs, the system retrieves flight data from a **MongoDB database** containing manually inserted dummy data. Access to flight search is protected using **JWT authentication**, ensuring only logged-in users can retrieve flight details. Built with **Node.js**, **Express.js**, and **Mongoose**, the project demonstrates key backend concepts like RESTful API design, password hashing with **bcrypt**, and secure route protection.

#### **Problem Statement**

In real-world airline and travel booking systems, the management of user authentication and real-time flight search requires secure, efficient, and scalable backend systems. However, building such systems using live flight APIs can be expensive, complex, and dependent on third-party services.

Moreover, many beginner and intermediate developers find it challenging to understand how the backend of a flight booking system works — including user login/signup flows, database integration, and secure access to protected data. There is also a need for testing backend APIs in a structured environment without relying on user interfaces or production-level data.

To address these challenges, this project proposes a backend-only Flight Management System that simulates a flight booking experience using predefined (dummy) flight data stored in MongoDB. The system includes user authentication with secure login/signup, JWT-based route protection, and a flight search API — all of which are tested through the Postman API client.

This solution provides a controlled, offline-ready environment to practice and demonstrate core backend development skills while simulating how a real flight booking platform might operate behind the scenes.

# Technologies, stack and tools used

# a. Backend Stack

Component	Technology Used	Purpose
Runtime	Node.js	Server-side JavaScript execution
Framework	Express.js	To create RESTful API endpoints
Database	MongoDB	To store dummy flight data and user credentials
ODM Library	Mongoose	To define schemas and interact with MongoDB
Security	bcryptjs	To hash passwords securely before saving
Authentication	jsonwebtoken (JWT)	To generate and verify authentication tokens
HTTP Client	axios / node-fetch	(Optional) For external API simulation if required

# b. Testing & Simulation Tools

Tool	Purpose
Postman	Used to test and verify all backend API endpoints (e.g., login, signup, flight search) without a frontend UI

# c. Development Tools

Tool	Purpose
Visual Studio Code	Used as the primary code editor for writing and managing the Node.js backend code
MongoDB Compass	GUI tool to view and manage MongoDB collections (users, flights)

# Module 1

#### Login & Signup:

The **Signup and Login Module** of the Flight Management System is responsible for managing user registration and authentication. It ensures that only authorized users can access protected parts of the application, such as the flight search functionality.

#### **Signup Functionality**

- Method: POST
- Endpoint: 8000/api/register
- During signup, the user is required to provide:
  - Full name
  - o Email
  - o Phone number
  - Password
- Validation logic is implemented to ensure data integrity:
  - o The **email** must include the '@' symbol to follow a basic email format.
  - o The phone number must be exactly 10 digits long.
- If the input fails validation, an appropriate error message is returned.
- Upon passing validation:
  - o The password is **hashed using bcrypt** to ensure security.
  - The user data is then stored in the **MongoDB** database using a **Mongoose** schema.

This process ensures that only valid and secure data is accepted into the system.

# **Login Functionality**

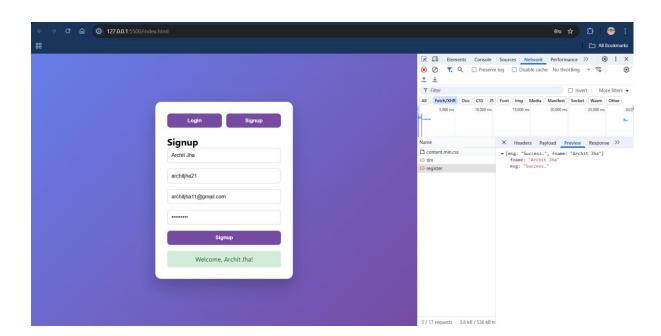
- Method: POST
- Endpoint: 8000/api/login
- The login endpoint verifies a user's **email and password**.
- If the email exists and the password matches (checked using bcrypt.compare()):
  - o A JWT (JSON Web Token) is generated and sent back in the response.
  - o This token is used to authenticate subsequent requests to protected routes.

#### **Access Control Using JWT**

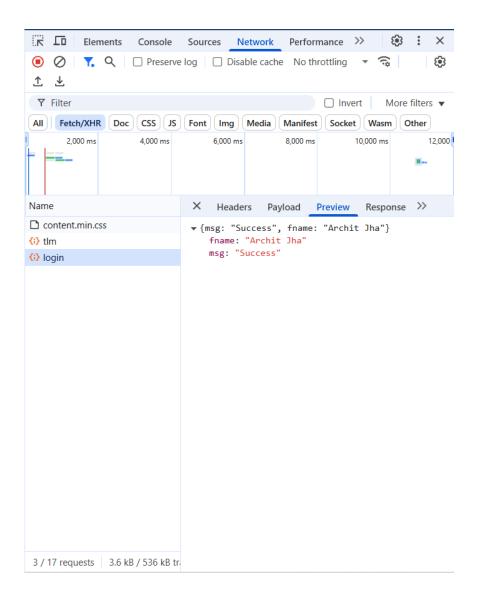
- The system uses **middleware** to verify JWT tokens.
- Only users with valid tokens can access protected routes like /search-flights.
- This ensures that unauthenticated users cannot access sensitive data.

#### **Testing in Postman**

- The module is tested entirely using **Postman**.
- Signup and login requests are sent with JSON payloads.
- After a successful login, the returned JWT token is added in the Authorization header (as Bearer <token>) to test protected APIs like flight search.
  - Signup page:



# • Login page



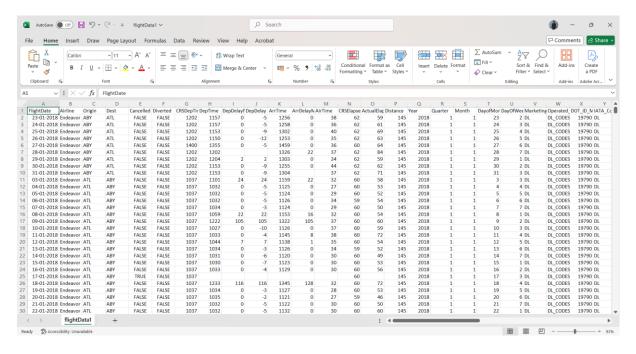
#### • Entry in Database

# **Module 2**

#### **Data Collection**

The flight-related datasets used in this project were sourced from **Kaggle**, a popular online platform for datasets and data science competitions. The data was curated and cleaned to match the application's schema requirements, including flight details, pricing, layovers, seat availability, and city information. Some additional fields like **layoverDuration**, **seatCounts**, and **onDate** were generated or randomized using Excel formulas for simulation purposes.

• Raw data:

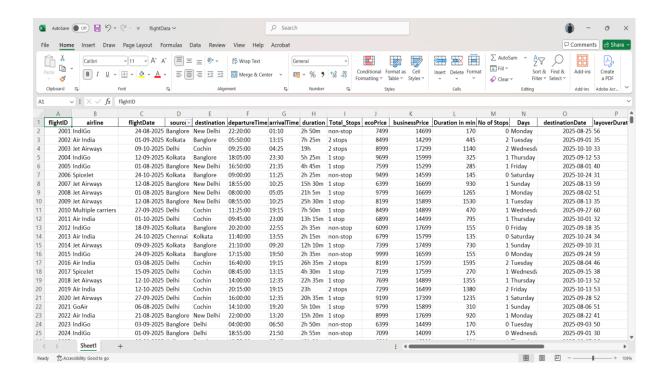


#### **Data pre-processing**

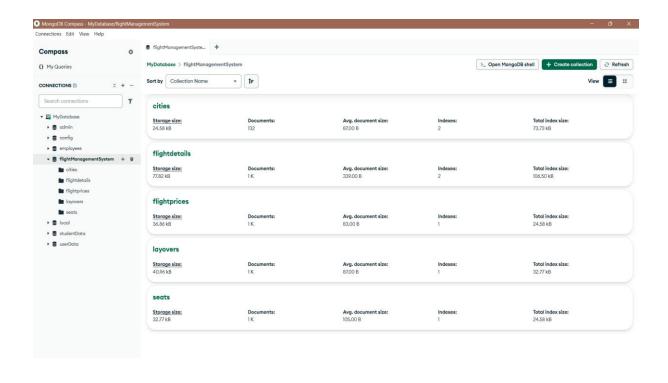
To align the dataset with the application's backend schema, the data was thoroughly pre-processed. Fields were cleaned, normalized, and transformed as needed to ensure consistency across all modules. The data was organized into five main MongoDB collections:

- cities (containing city information)
- **flightdetails** (storing flight schedules and routes)
- **flightprice** (containing pricing information for economy and business classes)
- seats (tracking available seats per flight)
- **layovers** (detailing intermediate stop durations). Additional fields such as layoverDuration and onDate were either generated or adjusted to match the application's requirements.

Pre-processed data



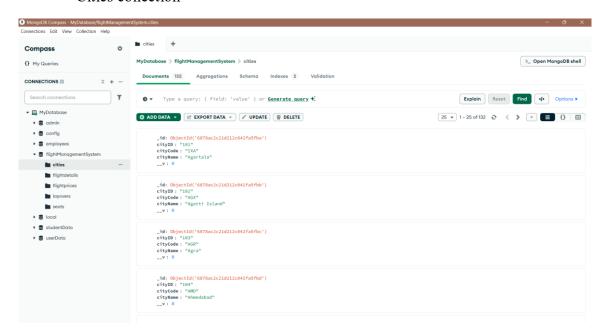
• Collections imported in MongoDB



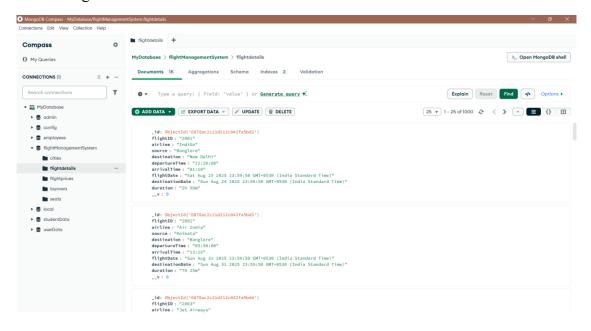
#### **Data Insertion**

The data used in this project was imported from **pre-processed Excel files** tailored to meet the structural requirements of the flight management system. Using **Node.js** and the **xlsx** library, Excel sheets were read and converted into JSON format. Dedicated **Mongoose schemas** were created for each MongoDB collection to maintain data integrity and validation. The data was then inserted into MongoDB using the insertMany() method for each collection.

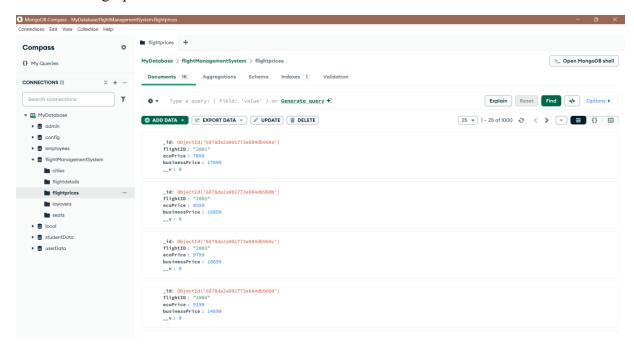
• Cities collection



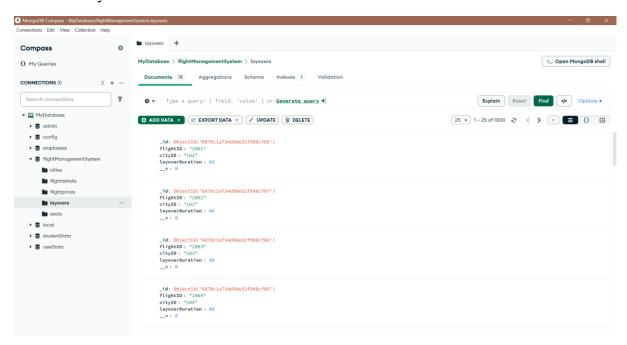
• flightDetails collection



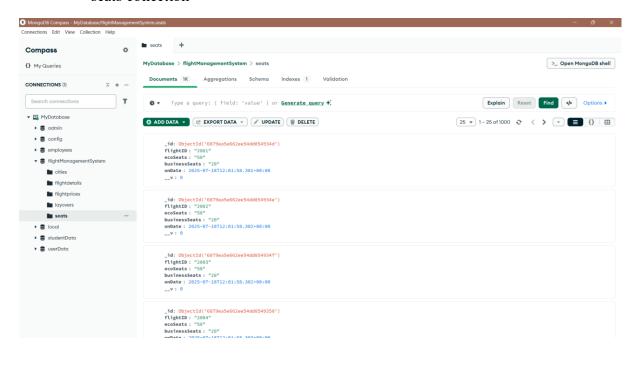
#### • flightprices collection



#### • layovers collection



#### seats collection



#### **Data Updation**

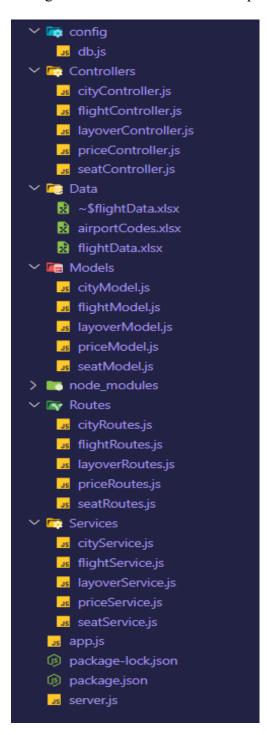
Data updation in the flight management system ensures that key fields remain current and accurate. The onDate field in the seats collection is designed to automatically capture the current date (IST) at the time of insertion, reflecting real-time availability. Other fields such as ecoSeats and **businessSeat** are dynamically updated. whenever a booking is made—deduction of required number of seats per transaction. Similarly, updates can be performed on flightprice, layovers, or flightdetails collections when schedules, pricing, or routing information change. This ensures the system maintains up-to-date records aligned with actual flight operations.

# Module 3

#### **Folder Structure:**

I have organized my Node.js project by creating a clean folder structure to improve readability and maintainability. The main entry point is app.js, and I have separated the code into folders like:

- routes for defining API endpoints
- **controllers** for handling request-response logic
- services for business logic
- **config** folder to manage the database connection setup

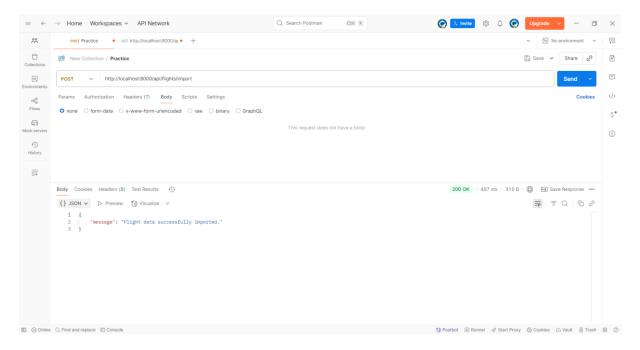


#### **GET/POST API Method**

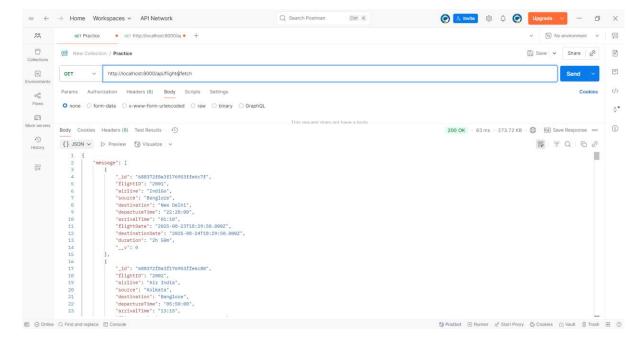
I have implemented both **GET** and **POST** APIs in my project. The GET APIs are used to fetch data from the database. The POST APIs allow inserting new data into the respective collections. Each API is connected through routes, handled by **controllers**, and processed with the help of **services** for clean and modular code management.

#### • flightDetails:

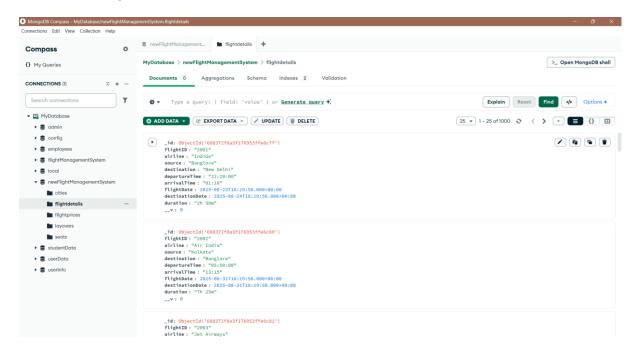
o POST API-



#### o GET API-

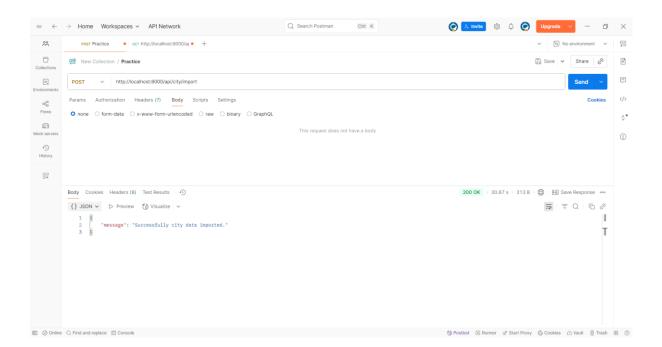


#### o DB Collection-

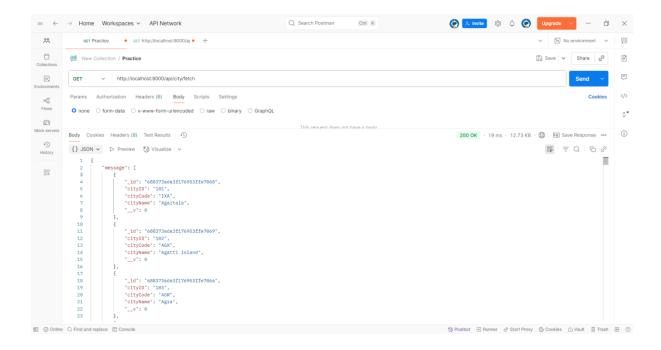


#### • cities:

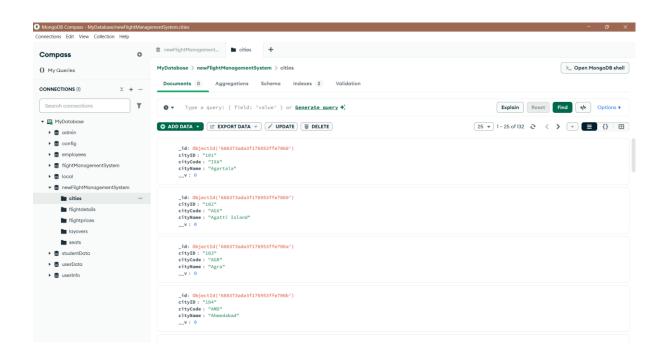
#### o POST API-



#### o GET API-

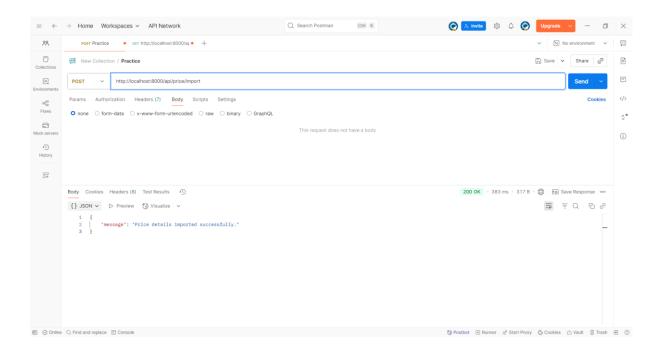


#### o DB Collection-



## • flightPrices:

#### o POST API-

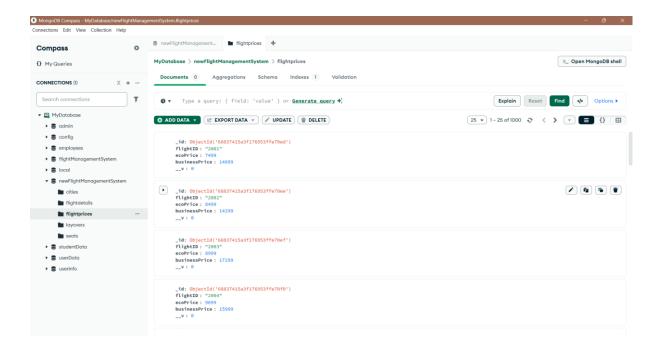


#### o GET API-

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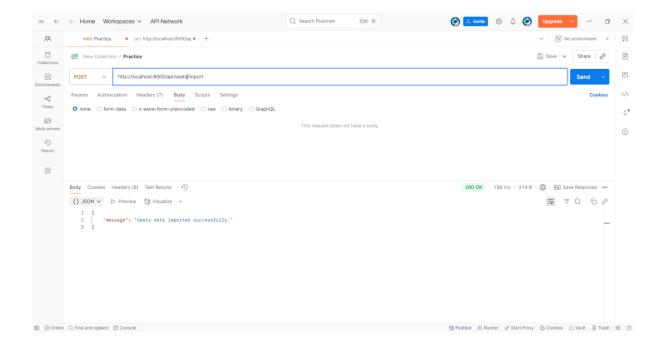
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"ecoPrice": 7499,
"businessPrice": 14699,
"__v": 0
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"flightID": "2003",
"ecoPrice": 8999,
"businessPrice": 17299,
"__v": 0
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#### o DB Collection-

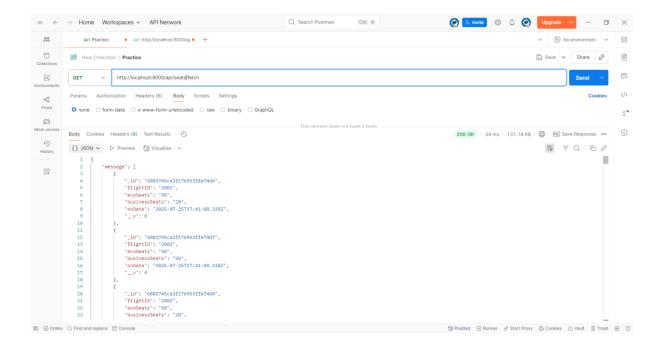


#### • seats:

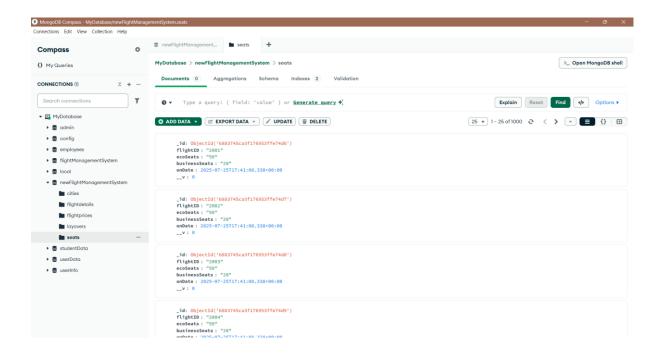
#### o POST API-



#### o GET API-



#### o DB Collection-

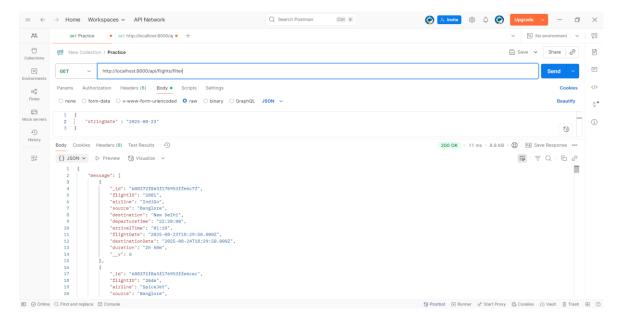


#### **Filters**

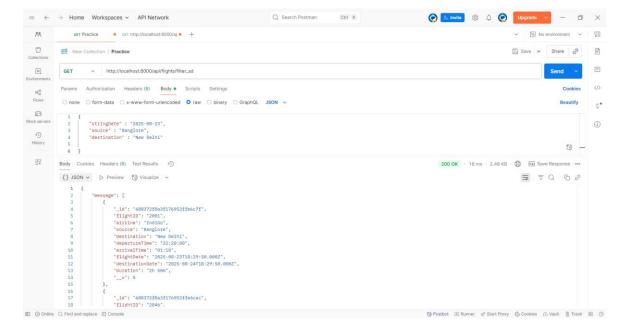
In the program, a date filter is implemented to retrieve flight data based on a specific date provided by the user. The user sends a date as a string (e.g., "2025-08-23"), which is then converted into a JavaScript Date object. The code sets the time range from 00:00:00.000 to 23:59:59.999 for that day to cover the entire date in IST. The converted date range is then used in a MongoDB query using **\$gte** (greater than or equal to) and **\$lte** (less than or equal to) operators to return all flights scheduled on that particular day. This ensures accurate filtering of records that match the complete date window.

# • flightDetails:

Date filter-

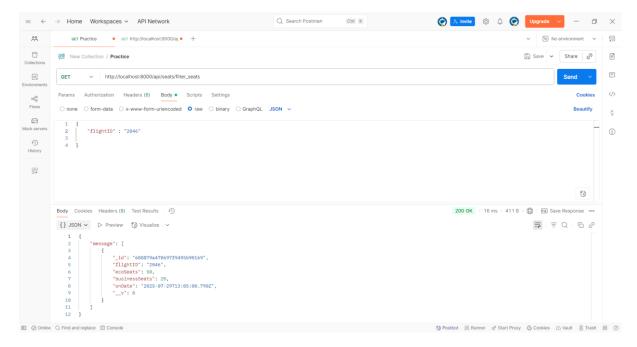


o Source and Destination filter-



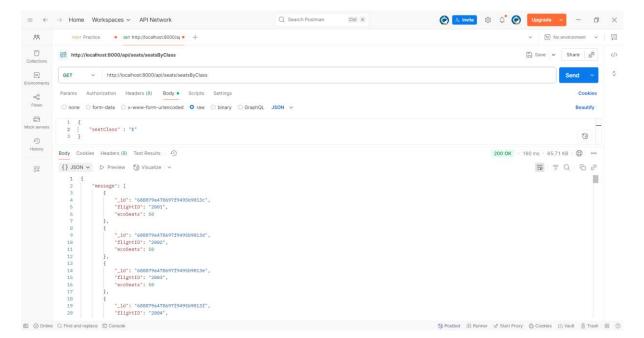
#### seats:

Seats using flightID-

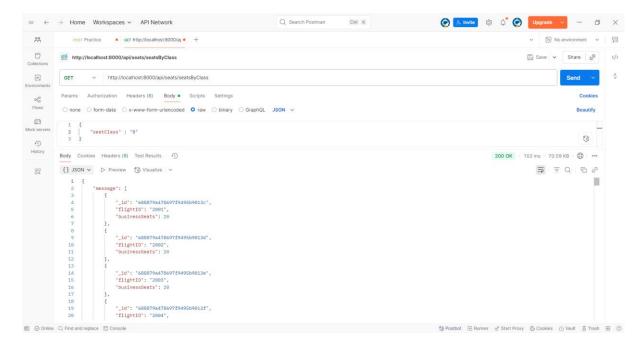


#### o Seats by class-

Economy seats



#### Business seats



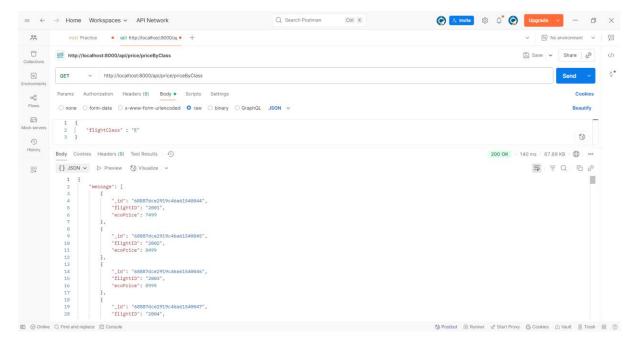
# • flightPrices:

o Price using flightID-

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#### o Price by Class-

Economy-



#### Business-

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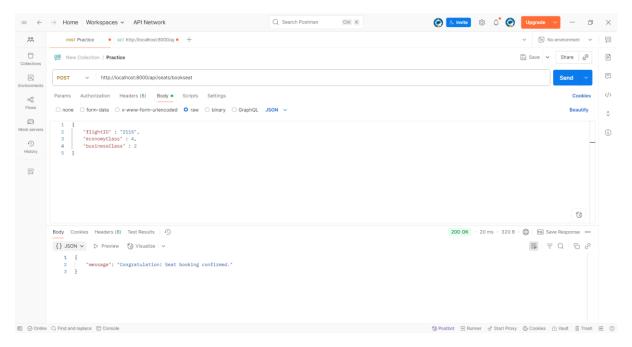
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                         "_id": "68887dce2919c46a61540044",
"flightID": "2001",
"businessPrice": 14699
                         "_id": "68887dce2919c46a61540046",
"flightID": "2003",
"businessPrice": 17299
```

# **Module 4**

#### **Dummy Booking API**

In the dummy booking API of the Flight Management System, the user books a flight by entering the **flightID**, selecting the class (**economy or business**), and specifying the number of **travellers**. The system checks for seat availability based on these inputs, and if the required seats are available, the booking gets **confirmed**.



#### Before update

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"__v": 0
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## After update

After the successful transaction, the available seat count in the selected class is automatically updated in the MongoDB database, reflecting the new seat availability in real time.

