Proposals

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Proposal 1

A communication loop system to address academic pressure and Mental Stress:

Providing proactive support to students with academic challenges, identifying and engaging them early involving concerned faculty and students

Overview:

The relationship between **academic backlog** and **mental stress** is directly proportional. Students struggle to cope with the pressure of catching up on missed academic work, they can experience heightened levels of **stress** and **anxiety**. To effectively tackle this issue, we will establish a **loop system** for communicating stress situations among **key stakeholders** within the academic community.

Aim:

The aim of setting up the **communication loop** and **support mechanism** is to help the student community with poor academic performance such that they don't face the stress and anxiety of being unable to catch up with courses. This should significantly **decrease** the number of students with **backlogs** and hence improve the academic welfare of such students.

Implementation:

1. **Establishment of Communication Channels:** Set up consistent communication channels among students, professors, Faculty Advisors, Department Representatives, General Secretary Students' Welfare Technology Students' Gymkhana and other pivotal stakeholders.

2. **Identification and Support Mechanism :** Implement an identification mechanism based on attendance and class performance for identifying students who exhibit signs of academic difficulties and stress. Such students can be supported by adding them to study groups (with help of respective department representatives) and providing them study materials.

3. **Creation of a Feedback Loop :** Establish a feedback loop to evaluate the effectiveness of the support provided and to make necessary adjustments keeping faculty, student representative and reporting to the counselling centre if required.

Impact:

Implementing the communication loop system would enable the **early identification** of students facing academic challenges, allowing for **timely intervention** and **support**. This

proactive approach helps students address their backlog effectively. Additionally, the system would create a support network within the academic community, fostering a sense of belonging and care among students. This supportive environment encourages students to seek help and guidance from their peers and mentors.
Overall, the communication loop system would contribute to students' **overall well-being** and mental health by reducing the negative impact of academic backlog. It helps create a more positive and conducive learning environment, benefiting the entire academic community.

Background work:

1. **Discussed with students facing academic issues (within hall & department):**
   I had a discussion with students facing academic issues including backlogs, poor class performance and the ones feeling left behind. The main issues were **lack of study groups** and **lack of study materials**. Also the students are not in contact with their faculty advisors which defeats the purpose of allotting faculty advisors in the first place.

2. **Discussed the student academic issues with my professors:**
   The professors are of the opinion that students with poor academic records can be uplifted by studying with peers. Also, the professor agreed that the students with poor performance should be tracked early and should be notified along with their faculty advisor so as to prevent the anticipated decline.

Proposal 2

Integrating MFQP and MetaKGP and adding a StudyShare feature in the ApnaInsti App:

Providing student community with a medium for knowledge sharing to enhance academic welfare of student community

Overview:

The ApnaInsti mobile application is a vital academic resource hub for students at IIT Kharagpur. Recognizing the need for a more robust and user-friendly interface, we propose a **comprehensive revamp** of the MFQP (Midterm, Finals, Quiz, and Projects) and Metakgp within the app for improving overall academic welfare of students. The StudyShare feature will enable students to share their class notes and other study materials to enhance knowledge sharing within the student community.

Aim:

The aim of revamping MetaKGP and MFQP is to make **academic resources** easily **accessible** to students to improve their **academic welfare**. Through these resources students will be easily able to prepare and hence it would eventually **reduce** the academic performance related **stress** and **anxiety**. The StudyShare feature will further help the academically weaker students with study material.

Implementation:

The following steps outline the approach for implementing this proposal:

1. **Integrate MFQP and MetaKGP features in the ApnaInst App :** Integrating MFQP and MetaKGP will make the access to academic resources easier to students. This will also increase the number of students using the resources hence improving the academic welfare of the students.

2. **Study Share feature:** Adding a study share section on ApnaInsti for students to upload notes would promote **collaborative learning** and **knowledge-sharing**. It enhances accessibility to study materials and fosters a sense of community. The notes could be uploaded on online approval by the student (like class representative) to ensure the right content gets uploaded.

Impact:

The revamped MFPQ module will lead to improved user engagement, academic performance hence revitalising the MetaKGP and MFQP culture. The StudyShare feature

will improve the knowledge sharing culture within the student community and help the academically weaker students with relevant academic resources.

Background work:

1. **Discussion with the Advisor of Developers' Society:**
   The idea was discussed with the advisor of Developers' Society and confirmed that the implementation of StudyShare is feasible and the idea was appreciated.

2. **Discussion with student community:**
   Upon discussing with the student community regarding the needs of academic resources it turned out that resource sharing feature is commonly in demand but is unaddressed and unorganised (mostly done through WhatsApp).

Proposal 3

Digitalization of the Student Brotherhood Fund allotment and Medical Appointment process:

Revamping operational workflows at IIT Kharagpur through digital innovations for seamless management of student funding and medical scheduling

Overview:

The proposal outlines a comprehensive digital transformation plan for the **Student Brotherhood Fund (SBF) allotment** and **Medical Appointment** process at IIT Kharagpur. This initiative aims to revolutionise operational workflows, enhance transparency, and improve accessibility for students and administrators.

Aim:

The aim of this proposal is to harness digital technologies and integrate them seamlessly into existing systems, thereby transforming the SBF allotment and Medical Appointment process at IIT Kharagpur. This transformation aims to create a transparent, efficient, and user-centric system that aligns with the fund's objectives of **promoting unity**, **easing financial burdens**, and **enhancing community welfare** within the institute.

Current Scenario:

1. Currently, the SBF allotment process suffers from several challenges. It is characterised by manual, **time-consuming procedures** that lack greater degree of transparency and are prone to errors. The criteria for fund availability and the process to avail it are not well-defined, leading to confusion among students. Additionally, there is a significant **lack of awareness** regarding the fund's purpose, application procedures, and eligibility criteria.

2. Students face difficulties with the current manual appointment booking system at BC Roy Hospital. Issues include multiple trips for appointments, **uncertainty about doctor availability**, **long waiting times**, and **inconvenience in obtaining medical certificates**. The lack of transparency and information adds to the overall inefficiency of the process

Implementation:

1. **Integration with ERP System:** The first step involves integrating the SBF application and Medical appointment module into the ERP portal. This integration will provide a centralised platform for students to access and submit their fund applications and schedule their appointments.

2. **User-Friendly Application Form:** The ERP portal will feature a user-friendly application form where students can fill in their details, specify the type of assistance needed (Loan of Honour or Donation), and upload necessary documents such as income certificates or medical bills.

3. **Real-Time Updates and Tracking:** Upon submission, the ERP system will generate a unique reference number for each application, allowing students to track the progress of their requests in real time. Updates regarding application status, meeting schedules, and committee remarks will be readily visible on the portal also, check the doctor's availability in real time.

4. **Workflow Automation:** The digitalized process for SBF application will automate workflow routing, sending applications from students to wardens for initial verification and then to relevant academic deans for final approval. Committee remarks and decisions will be recorded and updated in the ERP system under each application.

5. **Communication and Notifications:** The ERP system will also facilitate effective communication through email notifications. Students will receive notifications for application submissions, application/appointment status updates, and final decisions, ensuring transparent and timely communication throughout the process.

Impact:

The proposed digitalization initiative is expected to have a profound impact on the SBF allotment and Medical Appointment process at IIT Kharagpur:

1. **Increased Awareness:** The digital platform will significantly enhance awareness among students regarding the SBF, its objectives, and the process to avail funds.

2. **Efficiency and Transparency:** Automation and real-time updates will streamline the application process, reduce turnaround times, and enhance transparency in decision-making.

3. **Improved Accessibility:** The user-friendly ERP portal will make the application process accessible to all students, including those with limited technical proficiency.

4. **Enhanced Tracking and Monitoring:** Real-time tracking and monitoring capabilities will enable administrators to efficiently manage and monitor fund allocations and utilisation.

5. **Better Communication:** Email notifications and updates will ensure clear and timely communication, reducing ambiguity and improving overall user experience.

Background Work:

1. **Discussed with Medical Officer, BC Roy Technology hospital:**
   The idea was discussed with Dr. P.K Shannigrahi and was an immediate implementation is felt necessary considering the increased number of students and the hassle which the offline process creates.

2. **Discussed with ERP section:**
   The ERP team has endorsed the idea, and suggested that implementation, creation and maintenance of a new module within the ERP are achievable and feasible.

Proposal 4

Establishment of Shelters along the 2.2 and Clocktower to Nalanda Classroom Complex Route (Ardeshir Dalal Marg)

Installing shelters on campus will provide students with protection from monsoon rains and scorching summer heat, enhancing their comfort and well-being

Overview:

A common challenge students face during their daily commute along 2.2 and other Nalanda Classroom Complex routes is the lack of shelter,especially noticeable during adverse weather conditions.The absence of refuge during rainfall or storms disrupts their academic routine and raises safety concerns, with potential accidents from falling tree branches.

Aim:

The proposal addresses these challenges by introducing state of art shelters strategically located along 2.2 and Clock Tower to the Nalanda Classroom Complex roadside enabling refuges during rainfall or storms, mitigating disruptions to students' academic routines and alleviating safety concerns associated with potential accidents from falling tree branches

Implementation:

The following steps outline the approach for implementing this proposal:

1. **Feasibility Study:** Collaborate with the Civil Section to conduct a comprehensive study to determine optimal shelter locations along the 2.2 road and Clock Tower to the Nalanda Classroom Complex roadside to ensure accessibility and maximum coverage for students' routes.

2. **Budget Allocation:** Engage with the institute's financial department and Alumni to secure the necessary funding, exploring innovative financing solutions to overcome budget constraints.

3. **Student Engagement:** Release a Google Form to gather student opinions on proposed locations and features for the shelters, ensuring community involvement in the project planning.

4. **Construction and Installation**: Oversee the construction and installation process, ensuring adherence to safety standards, project timelines, and budget allocations.

5. **Maintenance Plan:** Develop a sustainable maintenance plan for the upkeep of the shelters and water facilities involving the institute's maintenance team.

Impact:

The inclusion of shelters underscores the institute's commitment to addressing student safety concerns while simultaneously adding convenience and minimising disruptions to academic schedules.

Background work:

1. A review of safety incidents encountered by students over the previous year was undertaken to pinpoint any common occurrences. This analysis focused on incidents like accidents, injuries, or discomfort experienced by students during their daily travels, aiming to grasp the extent and seriousness of these issues

2. Consultations with the Fire Department and Civil Section were undertaken to ensure that the proposed solution aligns with safety standards while remaining feasible.

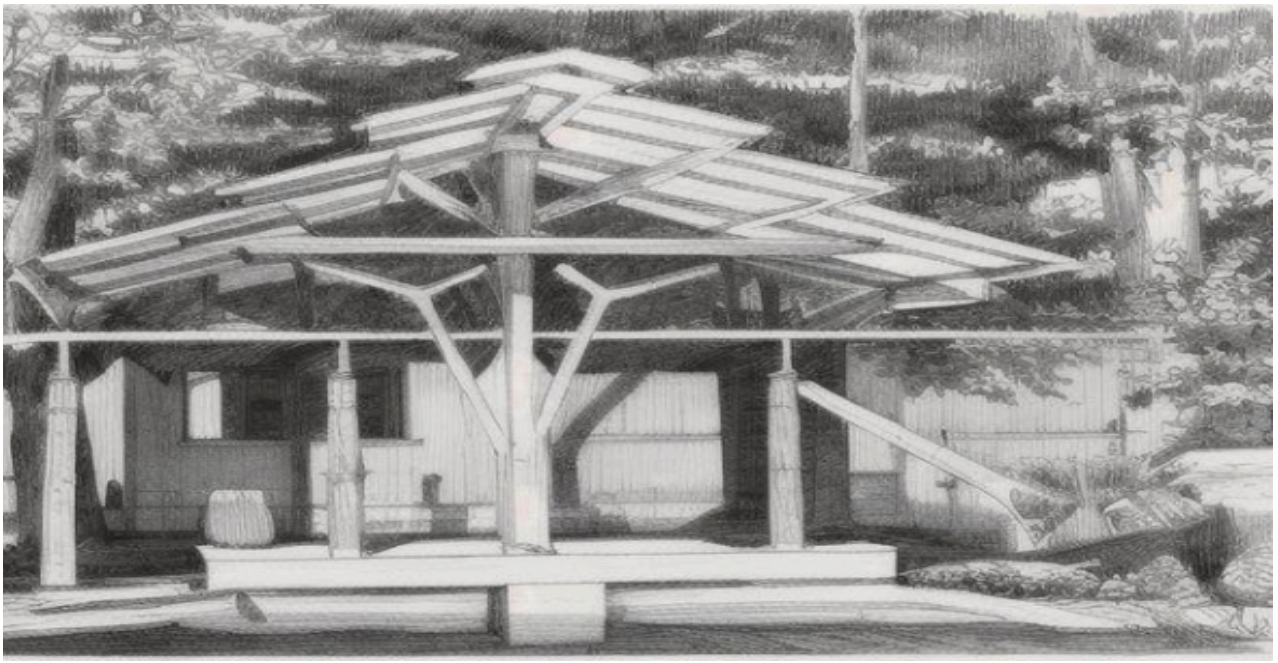

Fig4.1: Possible Structure of Shelter

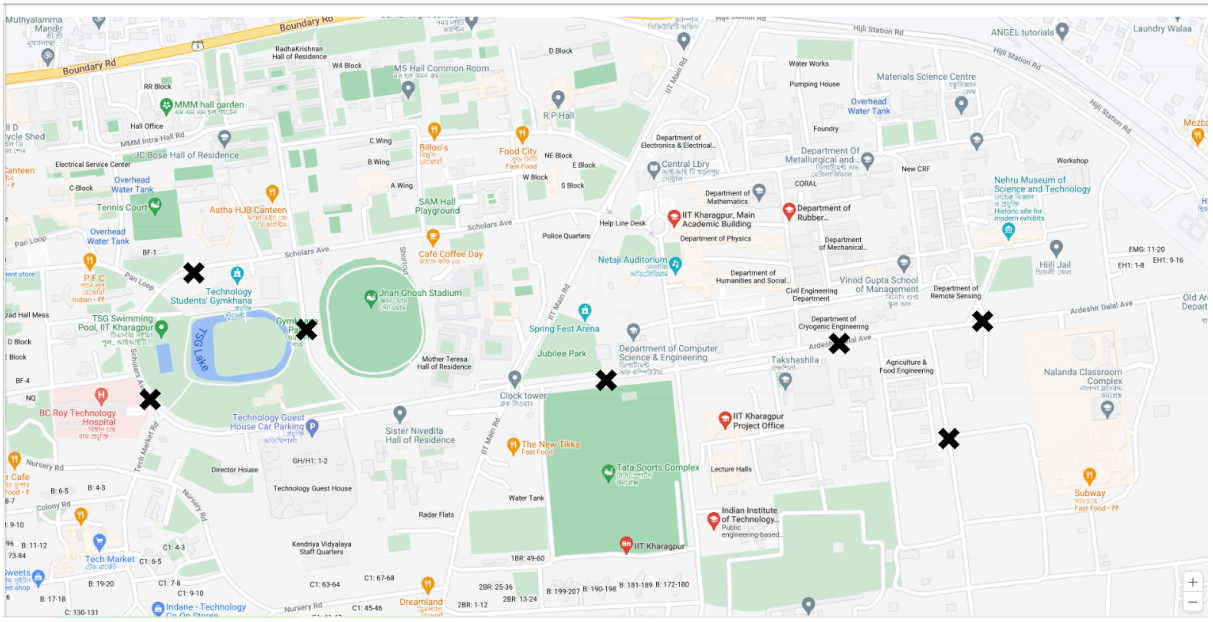

Fig4.2: Proposed Location of Shelters