The Server side scripting language used in the development of the proposed system is PHP embedded in HTML. It was originally designed in 1994 by Rasmus Lerdorf, it is a general purpose server side programming language used primarily for the purpose of developing websites. Initially known as Personal Home Page, now called Hypertext Pre-processor. One of the most popular social networking sites such as Facebook and a well-known educational institution are both based on PHP, therefore, making it popular and increasing its credibility. Sites developed using PHP can be maintained, improved updated with ease periodically. The reasons behind PHP been popular is the following advantages; cross platform, easy database connection, easy to use, and open source[[1]](#footnote-1).

* **Cross Platform.**

PHP based applications work on diverse platforms, it is supported by most Operating Systems such as; Windows, UNIX, and Linux, PHP codes can be written in all of these platforms and also web pages can be view or run applications based on PHP. Both MySQL and Apache easily interface with PHP. PHP can be integrated with various technologies like Java effortlessly and does not need any requirement for redevelopment. It therefore advantageous as it would save time and money.

* **Easy database connection.**

It is mandatory to have features that help PHP connect to database all the time since it is widely used on the internet to build website such as; ecommerce sites that require database management system.

There are built-in module in PHP that helps it to connect easily with database, this makes it demanding in the field of web development to develop websites that are data driven. With PHP time required to develop a web based application with an efficient Database Management System (DBMS) is reduced significantly

* **Easy to use.**

The easy to use nature of PHP makes it widely used. PHP is clean, easy, organised, fluent and direct, hence a good programming for starters, this is in contrast with other languages that seams complex. PHP is logical a times, with well-defined or organised syntax.

To learn PHP no intensive manual or studying is required, it commands and function can easily be understood and can easily figure out what is does from the name. The syntax is somewhat to that of C, which makes it easier for new users to code.

Speed is the primary need of web development, looking the challenges faced by people of slow internet connection and slow speed of data. This make it necessary and more preferred to have a fast loading web site. PHP is found the fastest language when compared to other programming languages.

In usual conditions, it takes a time to connect to the database, when attempting to fetch certain data from the database. A lot of time is taking to connect to the database, then get the data after the statement is executed. These set of task is performed in PHP with faster speed than other scripting languages. Connecting to database and using other application PHP is faster in both cases.

The higher and faster speed of PHP gives it more important and advantageous over other scripting languages and it application is given a significant administrations like; the server administration and mail functionalities.

* **Open source.**

A significant advantages of PHP is that it is *Open Source*. It is entirely and readily available for everyone unlike other scripting languages used for the development of web pages that requires it users to pay for it supporting files, PHP is open to all, whatever time and anywhere.

A starter in PHP need not to disturb about it support as it is looked after and developed by a very large group of developers, helping in creating support community of PHP to make it helpful to all users for manipulation and implementation of PHP.

4.7.2 Database connection

In order to create the database and connect it with the web application, the MySQL was used. MySQL is an open source relational database management system (RDBMS) based on Structured Query Language (SQL) provided by Oracle12. For the front-end web development HTML (Hypertext Markup Language) and CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) were used, which are two of the core technologies that are used for designing websites13. In order to achieve a responsive design, Materialize CSS Framework was used. Materialize Framework is designed by Google and combines all the principles of successful design14. Also, JavaScript was used to add some dynamic features in HTML. JavaScript is the programming language for HTML. Finally, jQuery which is a JavaScript library was used in order to extend JavaScript’s features on the web application15.

1. <https://www.w3trainingschool.com/php-advantages-disadvantages> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)