

Project Report

Online Student Portal

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Abstract

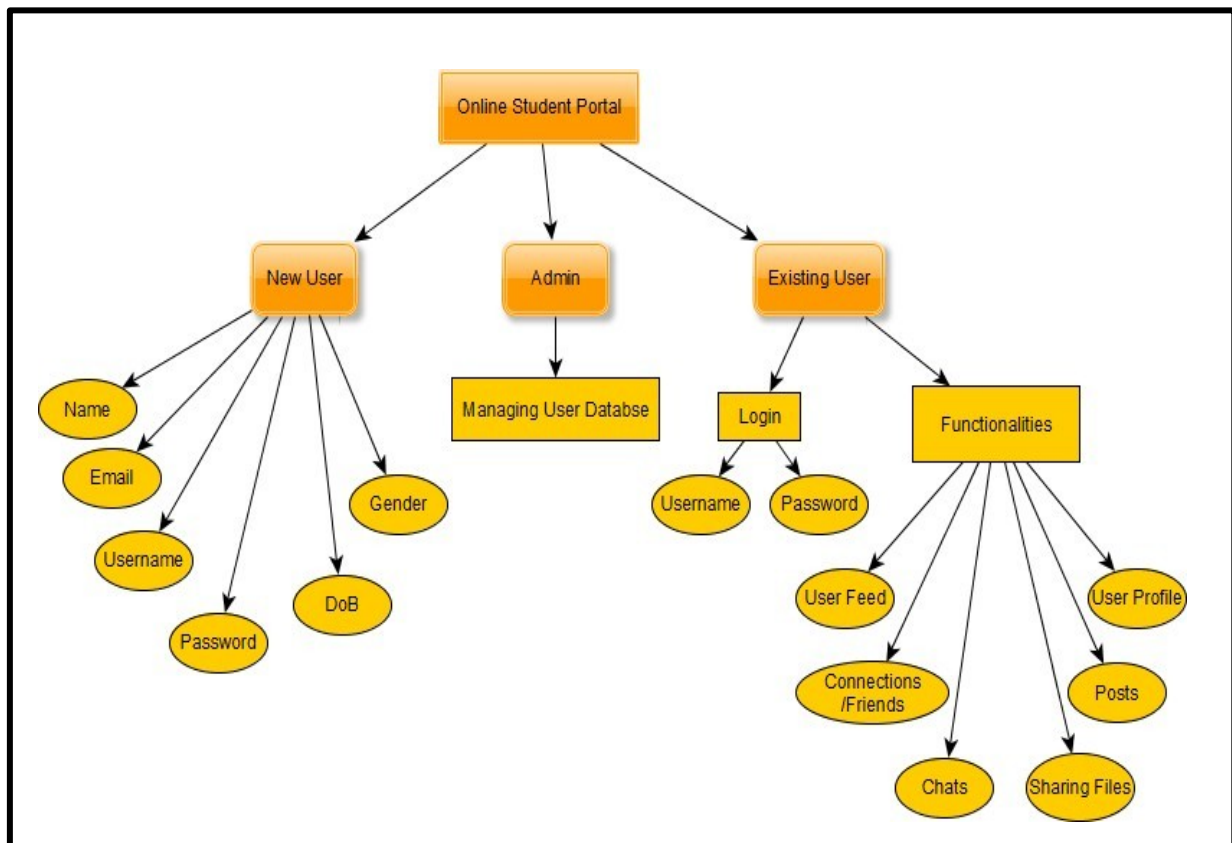
In this project, we create a web-application wherein we create a student portal for the students of VIT. Using this online portal, the students can interact with others by forming groups based on their interests and allowing the other students to join them. Individual students would be required to create an account to access the features of this portal which shall be managed by the group administrator which shall be the creator of the group by default. Thereafter, every time a student logs in to the portal, it will be using their own user id and password. The groups consist of discussion forums wherein students shall post some topics of discussion and the fellow students could like, comment or share the same in order to indulge in the interaction. Groups shall also comprise of real time chatting facility wherein all the students belonging to a particular group shall be able to communicate with each other in a single chat window. In addition to this, the group members shall be entitled to share among themselves different types of files including text, links and images. Although, every group member shall be entitled to invite any individual into the group, the member rights would remain solely with the administrator. The administrator, however, can be altered in case they would like to hand over the group administration to another member of the group. The application would, at every time, shall be displaying whether an individual is online by a green mark and also the total number of students online at a particular time. The profile of each user shall be managed efficiently and shall be assigned a public username, a profile picture and an optional biography.

Introduction

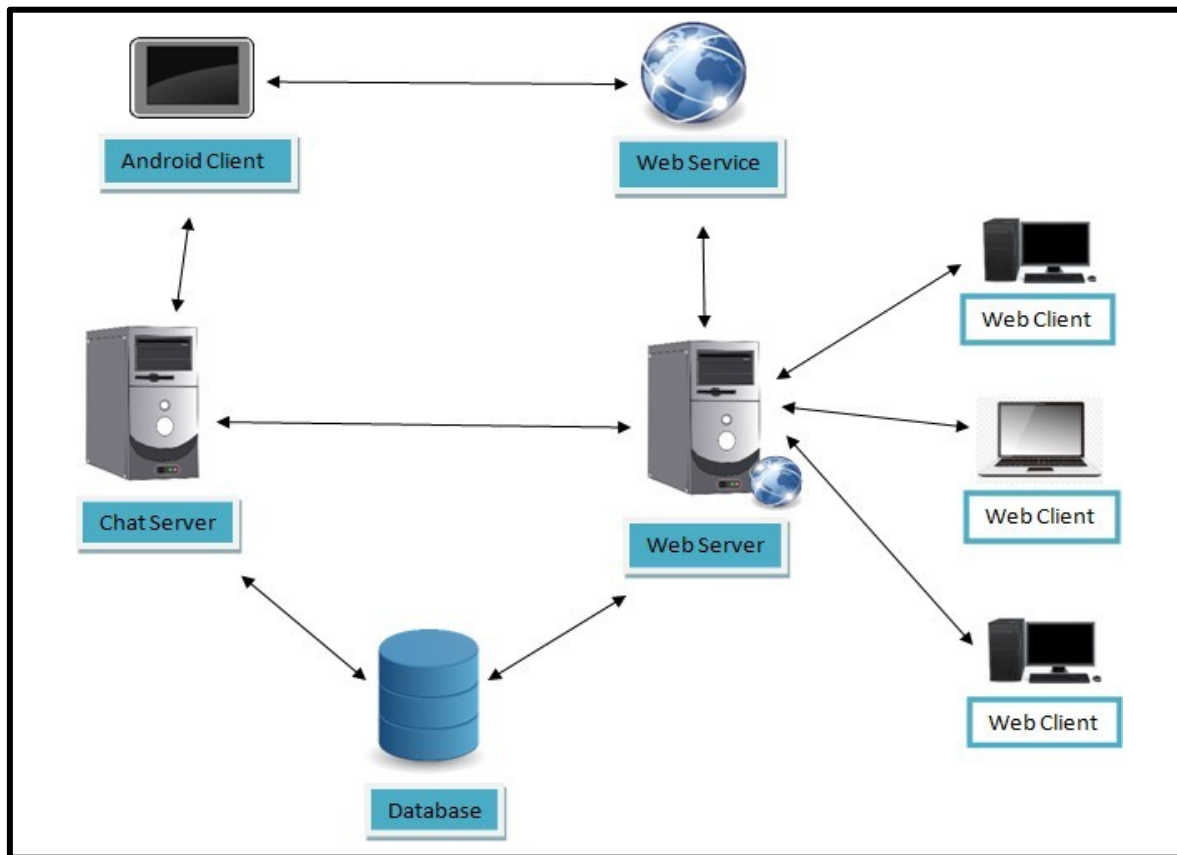
Problem Statement

This project is to create a chat application with a server and users to enable the users to chat with and share files with each other; to develop an instant messaging solution to enable users to seamlessly communicate with each other. The project should be very easy to use enabling even a novice to use it effortlessly.

Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)



Architecture Diagram



User Guidelines

1. On opening the website, the user shall be required to create an account following which they can subsequently login to use the application.
2. The user shall be redirected to their dashboard upon logging in wherein they'll find the various options in the navigation panel on the left side of the page.
3. The options consist of private chat, public chat, private share, public share as well as public announcements.
4. The user clicks on each of the options to achieve the desirable actions.
5. Finally, when the user has accomplished their tasks, they can click on logout from their dashboard by clicking on the Logout option in the navigation menu.

Tools and Methodologies

Software Utilised:

1. PHP/MySQL
2. XAMPPServer
3. WebBrowser
4. TextApplication

Process Model Adopted:

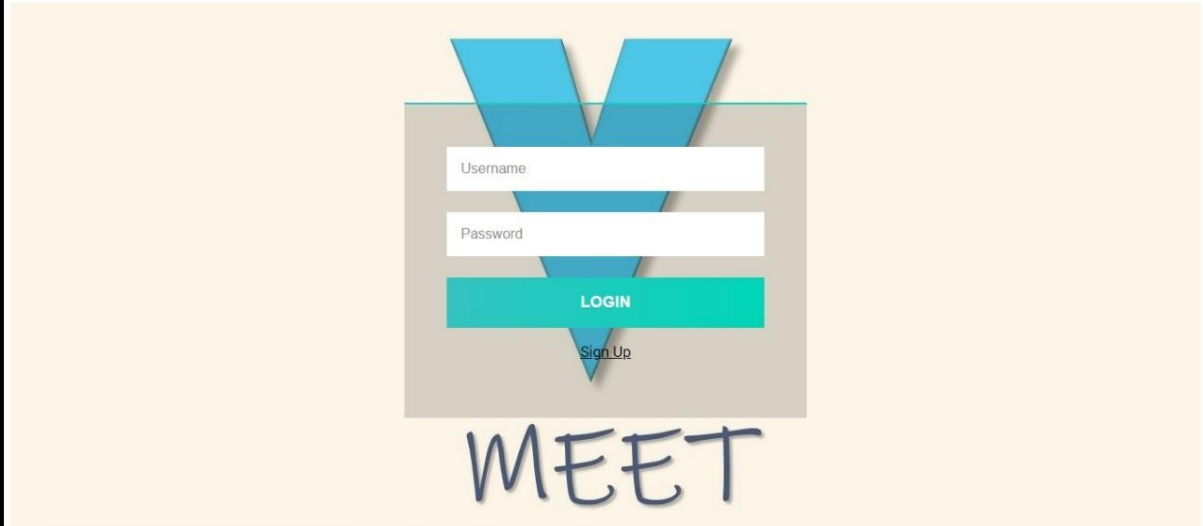
We choose the **Incremental Process Model** because it is designed to produce the software in increments. It combines the elements of linear and parallel process flows. The incremental model applies linear sequences in a staggered fashion as time progresses. Since we need to focus on the delivery of an operational product with each increment, we go for the incremental model. Also, since we have an unavailability of staffing for a complete implementation by the deadline that has been established for the project, incremental development is particularly useful.

In addition, increments can be planned to manage technical risks. For example, a major system might require the availability of new software that is under development and whose delivery date is uncertain. It might be possible to plan early increments in a way that avoids the use of this software, thereby enabling partial functionality to be delivered to end users without any unwanted delay.

Experiment and Results

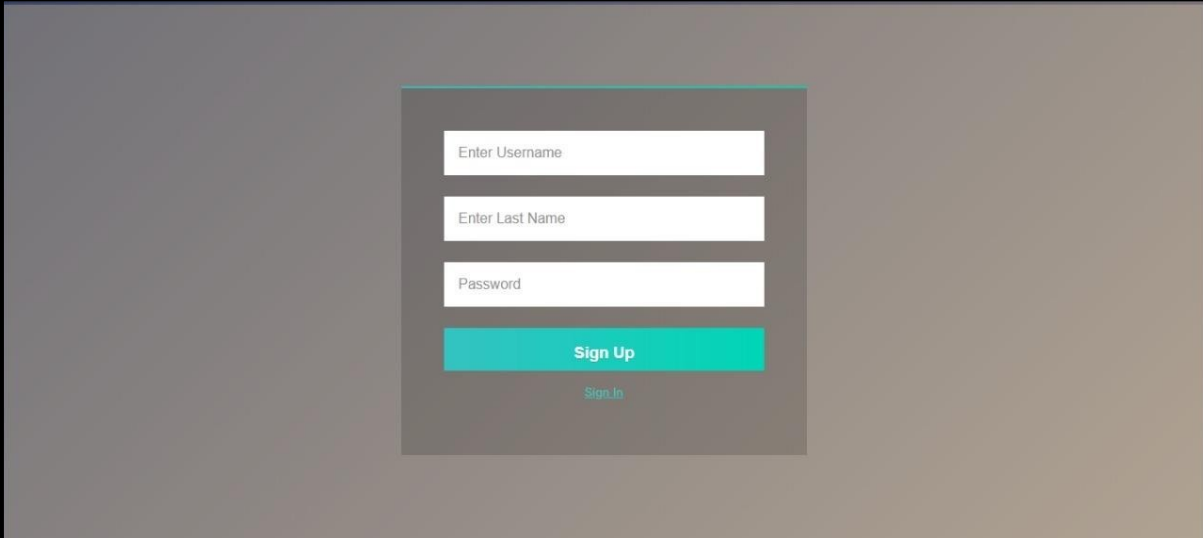
Snapshots of the User Interface

The User Login Page



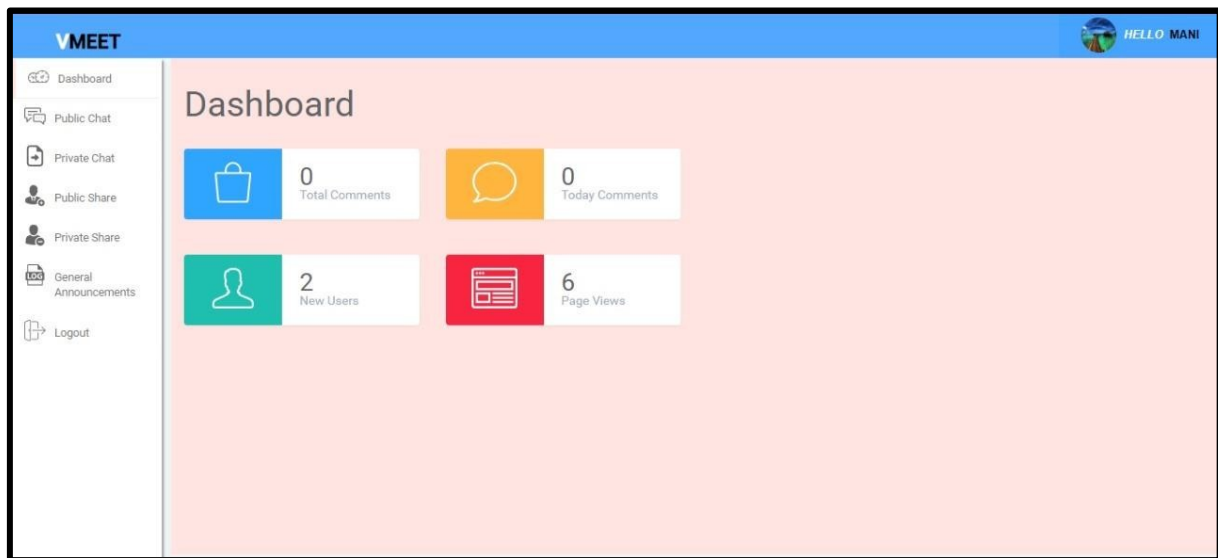
A screenshot of a user login page. The background is a light beige color. In the center, there is a large, stylized blue 'V' logo. Below the logo, there is a light gray rectangular box containing the login form. The form has two white input fields: the top one is labeled 'Username' and the bottom one is labeled 'Password'. Below these fields is a teal button with the text 'LOGIN' in white. Underneath the button is a link that says 'Sign Up' in a small, dark font. At the bottom of the page, the word 'MEET' is written in a large, blue, hand-drawn style font.

The User Signup Page

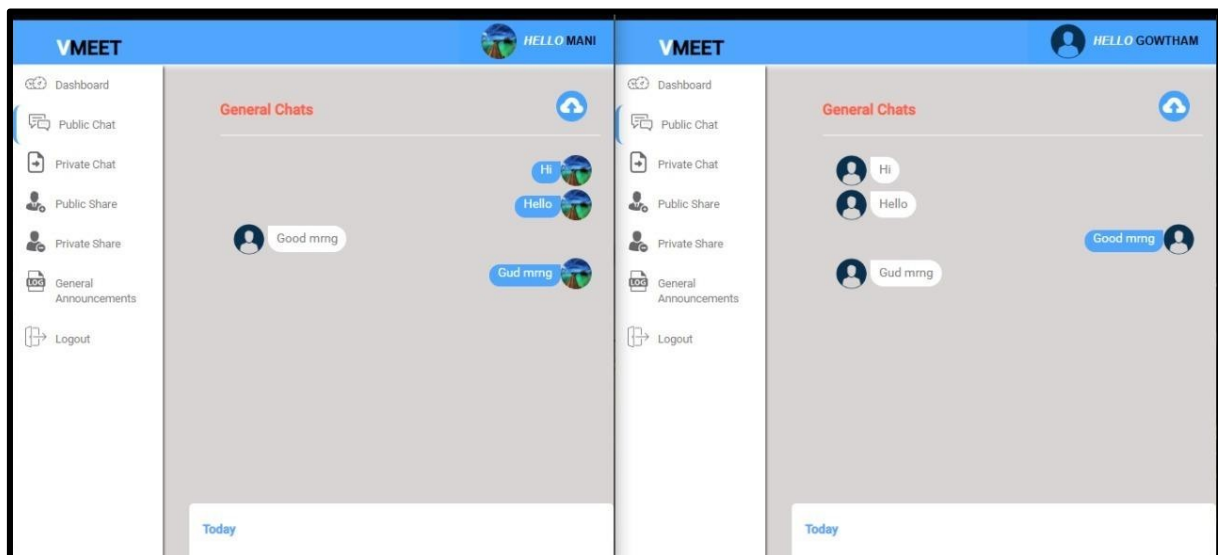


A screenshot of a user signup page. The background is a solid dark gray. In the center, there is a light gray rectangular box containing the signup form. The form has three white input fields: the top one is labeled 'Enter Username', the middle one is labeled 'Enter Last Name', and the bottom one is labeled 'Password'. Below these fields is a teal button with the text 'Sign Up' in white. Underneath the button is a link that says 'Sign In' in a small, dark font.

The User Dashboard



Public Chat



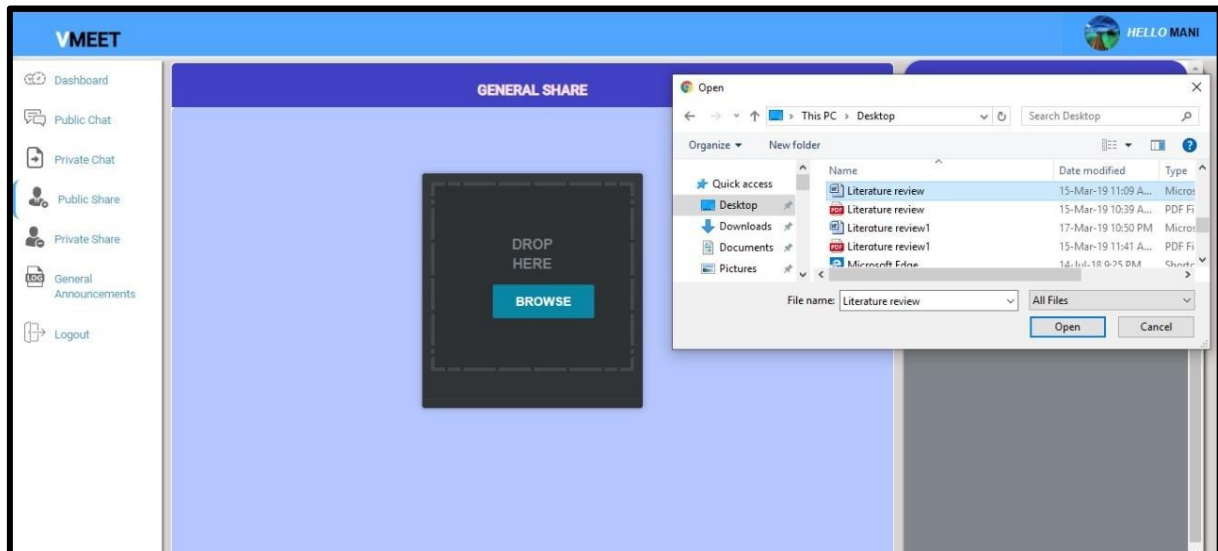
PrivateChat

The screenshot shows the VMEET application interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation options: Dashboard, Public Chat, Private Chat (selected), Public Share, Private Share, General Announcements, and Logout. The main area is titled 'Chat' and shows a conversation with 'Gowtham'. The chat history includes: 'hlo', 'I am fyn', 'What about u?', 'Hi', 'How r u?', 'I am also fyn', and 'Thank u'. At the bottom is a text input field labeled 'Type Something Here' with a send button. On the right, there is a 'Today' section with a calendar for March 2019, showing the 18th as the current date.

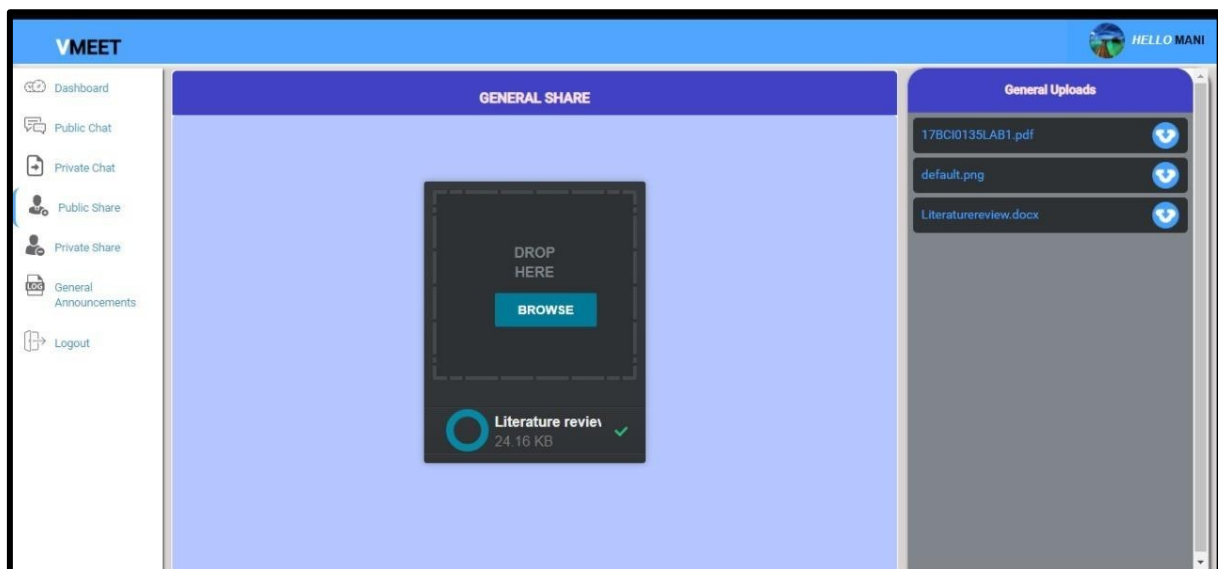
PrivateChat

The screenshot shows the VMEET application interface from the perspective of Gowtham. The sidebar is the same as the first screenshot. The main area is titled 'Chat' and shows a conversation with 'Mani'. The chat history includes: 'Hi', 'How r u?', 'hlo', 'I am fyn', 'What about u?', 'I am also fyn', and 'Thank u'. At the bottom is a text input field labeled 'Type Something Here' with a send button. On the right, there is a 'Today' section with a calendar for March 2019, showing the 18th as the current date.

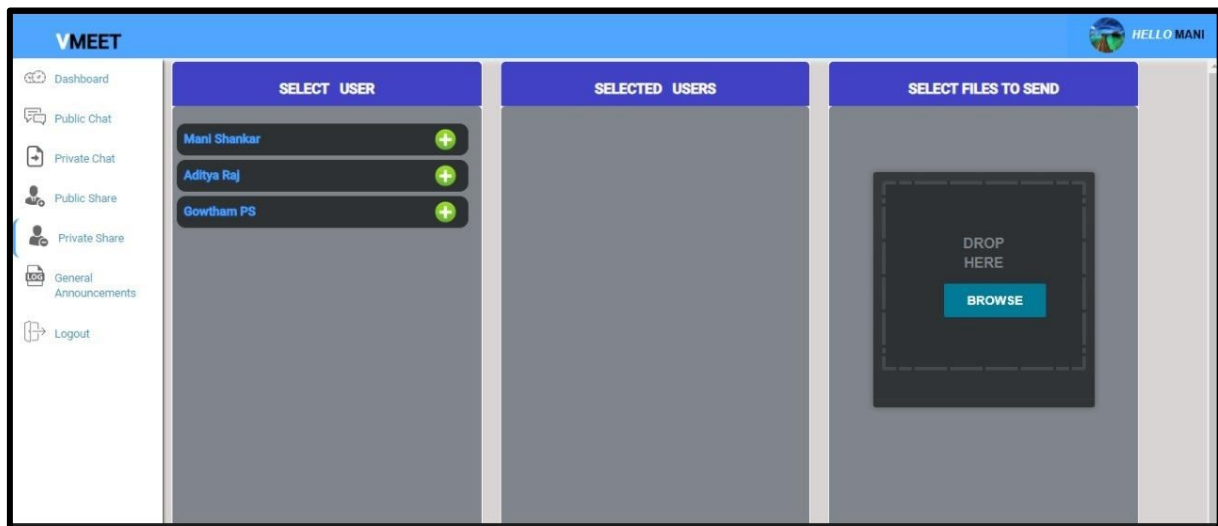
Public FileShare



Public FileShare



Private File Share



General Announcements



Conclusion

In this project, we thus have developed a platform in the form of a web application to achieve communication between the students to share messages and files. We have successfully developed the modules including private and public chats as well as private and public file sharing besides a common page for uploading important notices and information. In addition to this, on the user dashboard, we have included various statistics related to the traffic on the website including the number of people visiting the site, number of likes and comments received by them and the total number of page visits for the day along with a graph representing the traffic data.

With the development of this software, we hope to establish a common platform for all the students to share files and messages and to construct a strong network to achieve instantaneous requirements of the students in order to aid them academically and in other aspects.

References

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