Innovative Law System for Sri Lanka

LawBridge.lk

Higher National Diploma In Information Systems Management

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HNDISM232F-020

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Contents

1. Introduction

The legal landscape in Sri Lanka is complex, with a significant portion of legal information being manually managed and difficult to access by the general public. To address these issues, we propose the development of an innovative law system website that will make all laws in Sri Lanka accessible to everyone. The website will allow users to search for legal problems and get relevant laws instantly, create accounts, manage cases, and more.

2. Opportunity Identification Process

2.1 Problem Identification

The current manual law system in Sri Lanka presents challenges in accessibility and efficiency. Citizens, legal practitioners, and businesses often struggle to find relevant legal information quickly. A centralized, digital platform is needed to bridge this gap.

2.2 Market Need Assessment

There is a significant demand for a website that provides easy access to legal information. This platform will benefit legal professionals, businesses, and the general public by improving legal literacy and accessibility.

2.3 Target Audience Identification

- Primary Users: Lawyers, legal researchers, businesses, and the general public.
- Secondary Users: Government officials and law students.

2.4 Technology Feasibility

The website will be built using modern web development technologies, ensuring it is scalable, secure, and user-friendly. Key technologies include a robust database system (e.g., MySQL), a search engine (e.g., Elasticsearch), and a responsive front-end framework (e.g., React).

3. Stages of Website Development

3.1 Idea Generation

The core idea is to develop a website that features a law search engine where users can enter legal problems and get relevant laws instantly. Additional features include user account creation, personalized dashboards, case tracking, and the ability to bookmark and annotate specific laws.

3.2 Market Research

Market research will involve analyzing existing legal platforms, conducting user surveys, and exploring the integration of legal databases with natural language processing (NLP) to improve search accuracy.

3.3 Planning

- Website Architecture: The website will be developed using a three-tier architecture—front-end, back-end, and database.
- Front-end: The front-end will be developed using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and React, ensuring a responsive and user-friendly design.
- Back-end: The back-end will be powered by Node.js and Express, with RESTful APIs handling user requests, searches, and data processing.
- Database: MySQL or MongoDB will be used to store legal documents, user accounts, and search history. Elasticsearch will index and search through the legal texts.
- Security: The website will implement HTTPS, user authentication (OAuth 2.0), and data encryption to protect user data and sensitive legal information.

3.4 Prototyping

The prototyping phase will involve developing a minimum viable product (MVP) that includes key functionalities:

- User Registration: Users can create accounts and manage their profiles.
- Law Search: The search engine will allow users to input a problem (e.g., "tenant rights") and get a list of relevant laws.
- Case Management: Users can manage and track their legal cases within their account.

The prototype will be tested with a small group of users to gather feedback on usability, search accuracy, and overall experience. Based on feedback, the website's features, user interface, and backend processes will be refined.

4. Additional Functionality: Problem Search with Relevant Law Output

4.1 Search Engine Implementation

- Elasticsearch Integration: Elasticsearch will be used for indexing legal documents, allowing the search engine to quickly retrieve relevant laws based on keywords or phrases entered by the user.
- NLP Techniques: Natural language processing (NLP) will be implemented to enhance the search capability, ensuring that users can input problems in natural language and still receive accurate legal references.
- Search Results: The search results page will list relevant laws, with links to full-text versions and related case studies or legal precedents.

5. Conclusion

This innovative law system website will revolutionize how legal information is accessed and used in Sri Lanka. By providing a centralized, digital platform, we aim to improve legal literacy, accessibility, and efficiency for a wide range of users. The successful implementation of this website will address the current gaps in the manual law system and offer a valuable resource for the legal community and the public.

6. References

https://www.lawnet.gov.lk