MADRAS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ANNA UNIVERSITY CHENNAI – 600 044.



DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

PROJECT REPORT SUMMER INTENSHIP IT5513

Project Title: Connect++ (Social Connecting Platform)

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Introduction:

Connect++ is a dynamic and feature-rich social media platform developed using the MERN (MongoDB, Express.js, React.js, Node.js) stack. The platform aims to foster a collaborative environment specifically designed for tech enthusiasts, merging the best aspects of professional networking and technical knowledge sharing.

Objectives:

- Foster Collaboration Among Tech Enthusiasts
- Create a platform that brings together individuals with shared interests in technology to share ideas, experiences, and solutions.
- Provide users with intuitive tools, such as speech-to-text functionality and share their thoughts and content
- Enhance User Interaction and Engagement
- Incorporate features like private messaging
- Offer an environment similar to technical forums, enabling users to ask questions, provide answers, and learn from peers.
- Provide a User-Friendly Interface
- Encourage Professional Networking
- Blend professional networking features inspired by platforms like LinkedIn with technical problem-solving features from Stack Overflow, catering to tech-savvy users.
- Offer Future Scalability and Flexibility

Tech Stack:

Frontend

- React.js:
 - o For building an interactive and dynamic user interface.
- Material-UI:
 - o For modern and responsive UI components.
- CSS:
 - o For styling the application and ensuring a polished user experience.

Backend

- 1. Node.js:
 - For server-side logic and handling API requests.
- 2. Express.js:
 - o To create and manage RESTful APIs efficiently.

Database

- 1. MongoDB:
 - A NoSQL database for storing user data, posts, and other app content.

Deployment and Environment

- 1. Localhost:
 - o Development and testing environment.
- 2. Mongoose:
 - To connect and interact with MongoDB in a Node.js environment.

Additional Tools and Features

- 1. Speech Recognition API:
 - o For speech-to-text functionality during post creation.
- 2. Otp Verification

Used Email.js for live otp verification on login.

Features

1. User Authentication and Authorization

- Secure registration and login functionality using JWT.
- Session management to ensure only authorized users access their profiles.

2. Social Media Post Creation

- Create posts with text
- o Rich-text content editing using Markdown support.
- Speech-to-text integration using the Web Speech API for effortless post writing.

3. Interactive User Engagement

- o Users can like, comment on, and share posts.
- Following/unfollowing other users to create personalized feeds.

4. Real-time Updates

 Posts, likes, and comments update dynamically for a seamless user experience.

5. User Profiles

 Personalized profile pages showcasing user posts, profile pictures, and follower stats.

6. Responsive Design

 Optimized UI for desktop and mobile devices using Material-UI.

7. Error Handling and Alerts

 Integrated error alerts for input validation and API errors to guide users effectively.

8. Private Chat

Users can send and receive private messages to/from other users.

System Design

DB Design

User Collection:

Centralized management of user data allows secure authentication and enables personalized user experiences. Connected to the **Post**, **Comment**, collections to manage user activity and relationships.

2. Post Collection

It supports dynamic content creation and sharing, forming the backbone of the Connect++ social feed.Linked to **User** for author identification.Connected to **Comment** and **PostLike** for community interactions.

3. Comment Collection.

Facilitates meaningful discussions and feedback on user posts. Connected to **Post** for linking comments to the respective post. Linked to **User** for tracking comment authorship.

4. PostLike Collection

It enables features like top-liked posts and user engagement metrics. Linked to **Post** for associating likes with specific content. Connected to **User** for tracking which users liked a post.

5. Conversation Collection

It acts as a reference for associating messages with their respective conversations. Linked to **User** for identifying participants.

6. Message Collection

Supports real-time communication functionality within the platform. Linked to **Conversation** to group messages. Connected to **User** for tracking message senders.

Implemetation Details:

Frontend:

• Developed using React.js with Material-UI for an attractive and responsive user interface. Features include post creation, image uploads, commenting, messaging, and translation. State management is handled using Redux to manage global application state.

Backend:

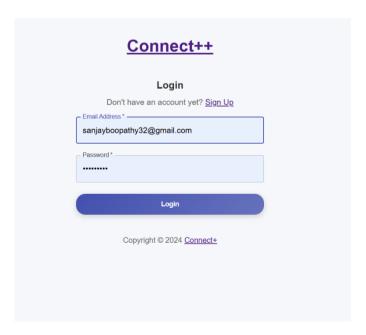
• Built with Node.js and Express.js to handle API requests, routing, and middleware.Authentication implemented using JWT for secure user sessions.WebSockets used for real-time messaging and notifications.

Database:

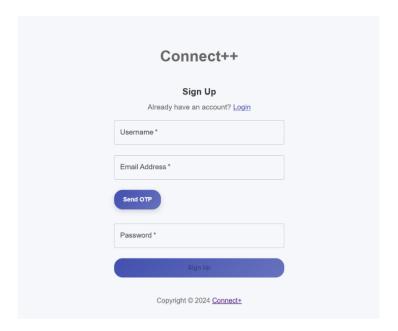
• MongoDB is used for data storage, designed with collections such as User, Post, Comment, Conversation, and Message. Each collection is linked using references to ensure efficient data retrieval.

Screenshots:

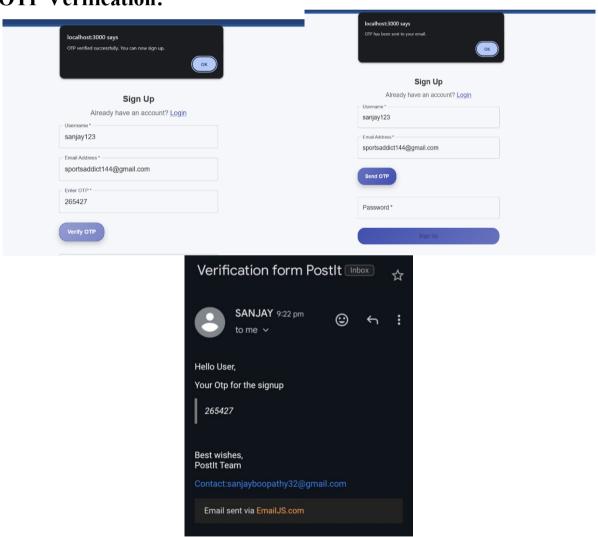
Login Page:



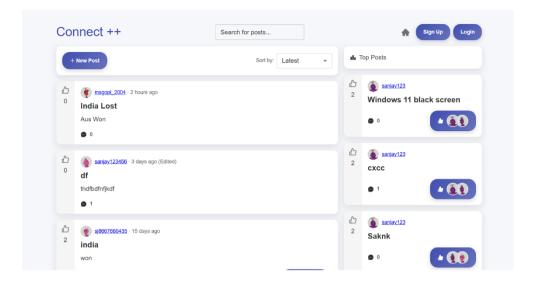
Signup Page:



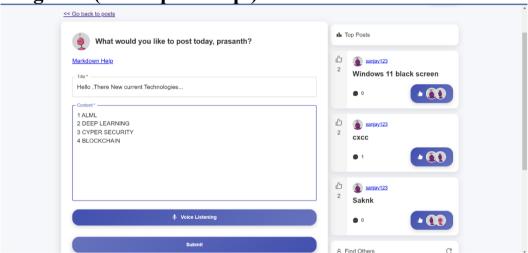
OTP Verification:



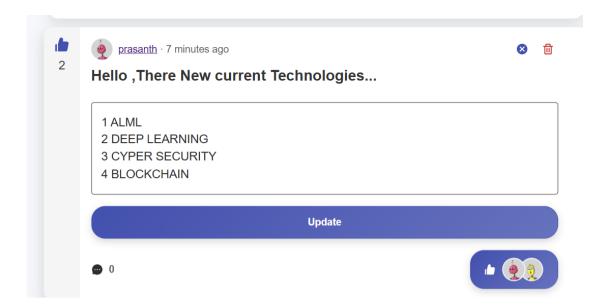
Home Page:



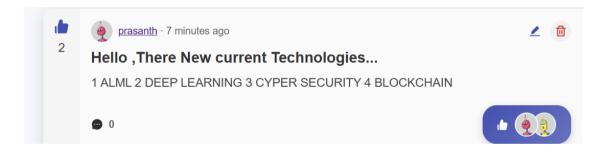
Creating Post (Web Speech Api):



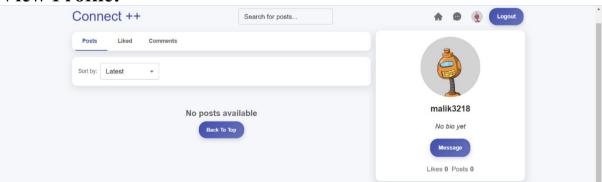
Update Post:



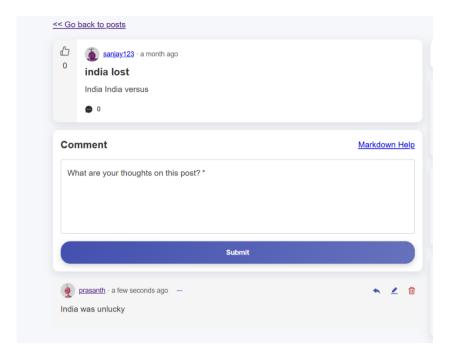
View Post:(Edit/Delete)



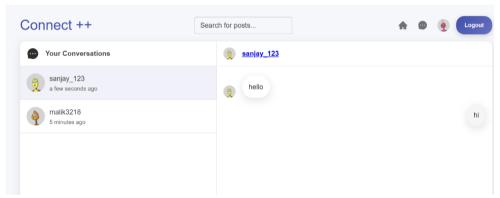
View Profile:



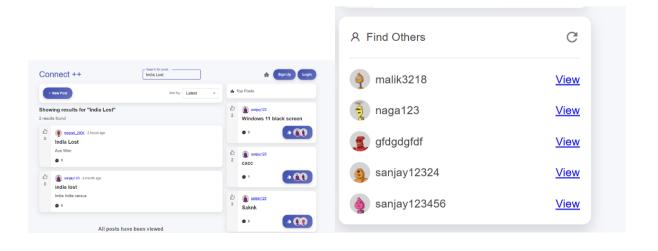
Comment on Posts:



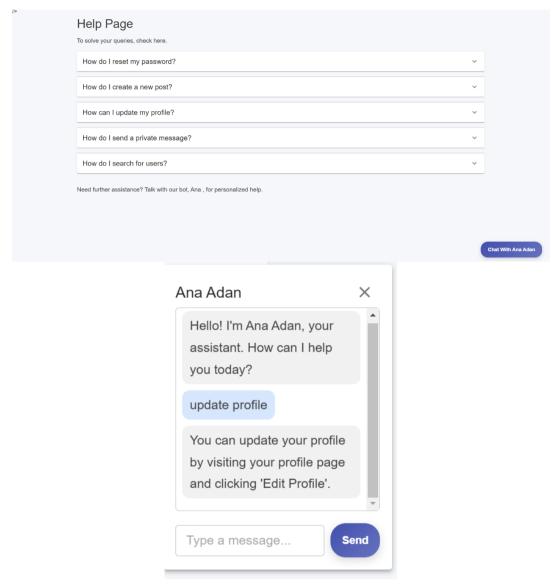
Chat:



Find Post and Users:



Simple Help Page with Pre-Input Bot:



Future Enhancements:

- Mobile Application: Develop mobile app versions for both Android and iOS to increase accessibility.
- Advanced Search: Implement filters for searching users and posts based on location, hashtags, and other attributes.
- Analytics Dashboard: Provide users and admins with insights such as post engagement, follower growth, and message trends.
- Enhanced Security: Add two-factor authentication (2FA) and advanced role-based access control.
- Video Uploads: Extend the post feature to support video uploads along with images.

Conclusion

Connect++ successfully bridges the gap between professional networking and social media for tech enthusiasts. With features like real-time messaging, multilingual support, and a user-friendly interface, the platform fosters collaboration and knowledge sharing. The robust design ensures scalability, and the admin module provides comprehensive control over platform data. Moving forward, Connect++ will focus on expanding its features and optimizing the user experience to become a versatile social media platform for techies.