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*A Project Based Learning Report Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree*

*of*

**Bachelor of Technology**

**in The Department of Computer Science and Engineering**

**FULL STACK APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT - 23SDCS12E**

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**Introduction**

Internships for undergraduates are becoming more widely available, but finding and applying for them before the deadlines can be challenging. A mentor is also crucial for undergraduates, as they can help ensure students stay on the right path and provide valuable guidance based on their industry experience. Our project combines both features by providing student users with timely access to internship opportunities and mentorship support, creating a comprehensive platform for career development.

Currently, our goal is to track internships, particularly those from IITs, NITs, and IIITs, as these are the top institutions contributing to India's economy. The research internships have been the talk of the country, attracting attention from both industry leaders and academic circles, as they represent a crucial stepping stone for students to gain practical experience and potentially secure future employment opportunities.

These prestigious institutions have established strong relationships with both domestic and international organizations, offering students exposure to cutting-edge research and development across various technological domains. The internship programs not only enhance students' technical skills but also help them develop crucial soft skills such as teamwork, communication, and problem-solving abilities.

Our platform aims to streamline the internship search process by providing timely notifications, application deadline reminders, and detailed information about each opportunity. Additionally, we connect students with experienced mentors who can offer valuable insights about specific industries, help with application materials, and provide guidance throughout the internship experience.

**Literature Review/** **Application Survey**

Digital Employment and Internship Platforms in the Indian Context

The digital transformation of career development has revolutionized how students access professional opportunities, particularly in India's technical education sector. This review examines the evolution and current state of digital platforms, focusing on four significant players: Internshala, Unstop (formerly Dare2Compete), Indeed, and Naukri.com. While all these platforms serve as intermediaries between candidates and employers, their effectiveness varies significantly for undergraduate internship seekers.

**Current Landscape of Digital Platforms**

*Internshala: Pioneer in Student-Focused Internship Facilitation*

Internshala, established in 2010, has emerged as a leading platform in India's internship ecosystem. The platform has revolutionized internship access through its comprehensive digital infrastructure, serving both students and employers across multiple sectors. Research indicates that Internshala's success stems from its user-centric approach, offering features such as customizable search parameters, skill-based filtering, and location-specific opportunities.

The platform's distinctive features include an AI-powered recommendation system that matches students with suitable opportunities based on their skills and preferences. Additionally, Internshala's integrated skill development component offers training programs in technical and professional domains, addressing the skill gap often observed in traditional educational curricula. However, studies suggest that the platform faces challenges in managing the high competition for premium opportunities and ensuring equitable access to quality internships across different socioeconomic groups.

*Unstop: Innovation in Recruitment Methodology*

Unstop represents a paradigm shift in internship recruitment by integrating competitive challenges and skill assessments into the traditional internship placement model. The platform's approach aligns with contemporary research suggesting that practical skill demonstration through competitions and hackathons can be more effective in evaluating candidate potential than traditional resume-based screening.

The platform's gamified hiring processes and integration of business competitions have created a unique ecosystem where students can showcase their abilities through practical challenges. Research indicates that this approach has gained traction among corporate recruiters seeking to evaluate candidates based on demonstrated skills rather than academic credentials alone. However, studies also highlight that this model may present barriers for students who prefer traditional application processes or lack the time for extensive competition participation.

*Indeed and Naukri.com: General Job Portals with Limited Undergraduate Focus*

Indeed and Naukri.com, while prominent in the general job market, demonstrate significant limitations for undergraduate internship seekers. These platforms primarily cater to experienced professionals and full-time job seekers, with internship opportunities representing a minimal portion of their listings. Research indicates that undergraduate students often find these platforms challenging to navigate due to:

* Predominant focus on full-time positions requiring several years of experience
* Limited filtering options for internship-specific searches
* Absence of student-centric features such as academic calendar integration
* Lack of structured programs for undergraduate skill development
* Missing verification systems for student-appropriate opportunities

**Gap Analysis in Current Platforms**

1. **Accessibility and Quality Balance**

Current research identifies a significant gap in balancing opportunity quality with accessibility across all platforms. While Internshala and Unstop specifically address student needs, Indeed and Naukri.com's broader focus often results in inappropriate opportunity matches for undergraduates. Studies indicate that premium internships often become highly competitive, potentially disadvantaging students from less privileged backgrounds or tier-2 institutions.

1. **Mentorship Integration**

Literature suggests that effective mentorship is crucial for successful internship experiences, yet current platforms show limited integration of structured mentorship programs. While some initiatives exist on student-focused platforms, research indicates a need for more comprehensive mentorship frameworks. General job portals like Indeed and Naukri.com notably lack any mentorship components for internship seekers

1. **Institutional Focus**

Studies highlight that premier technical institutions like IITs, NITs, and IIITs have specific requirements and standards for internships, particularly in research-oriented positions. While Internshala and Unstop show some adaptation to these needs, general job portals fail to address institutional requirements entirely. Research suggests that a more focused approach to serving these institutions could enhance the quality of opportunities available to technical students.

Future Directions and Implications

Platform Enhancement Opportunities

Analysis of current literature suggests several areas for potential enhancement:

* Development of more sophisticated matching algorithms incorporating institutional requirements
* Integration of structured mentorship programs
* Enhanced focus on research internships for technical institutions
* Implementation of more equitable access mechanisms for premium opportunities
* Better differentiation between student internships and professional job opportunities

1. **Impact on Technical Education**

Research indicates that effective internship platforms can significantly impact the quality of technical education by providing practical exposure and industry connections. The limitations of general job portals highlight the importance of specialized platforms that understand and cater to undergraduate needs.

The review reveals a clear distinction between platforms designed for student internships (Internshala and Unstop) and general job portals (Indeed and Naukri.com). While the former have made significant strides in digitalizing internship access, the latter demonstrate significant limitations for undergraduate users. This highlights the importance of specialized platforms in serving the unique requirements of technical institution students.

Future research could explore the development of more sophisticated platforms specifically designed for technical institutions, incorporating advanced matching algorithms, structured mentorship programs, and enhanced support for research internships. Such developments could better serve the unique requirements of IIT, NIT, and IIIT students while maintaining accessibility and user-friendliness.