

Social Networking Media for Indian Students and Organisations: T - Forum

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Abstract- The T – Forum is a web application developed for Indian students and organisations as a technical discussion forum. In this application anyone that has a mail id and interest to learn more can register themselves as a member of this forum. This application allows the different users to post any queries to the forum which can be answered by any other user of this application. One of the main features of this application is that any basic clarifications that do not match the standard of the query can be asked through personal messaging to that particular user. Queries that are posted can be in the form of text or even pictures. This application also acts an interface to enable communication among different techies across the globe. Every query has a category within which they fall and hence queries can also be searched efficiently using the interface provided for the search. The other feature is the posting of articles on different topics by the users. Overall it provides a way of better technical discussions to happen that would be fruitful to the society.

Keywords- Forum, Discussion, Messaging, Queries

I. INTRODUCTION

T – FORUM or Technical Forum was developed as a result of various shortcomings faced in several famous discussion forums. One among them was the lack of clarity in what the actual query is or the way of understanding the reply to the query could be different from what the user tries to convey. When a user tries to get a clarity on the particular statement, the conversations in a public forum becomes unnecessary for other users. In order to eliminate this issue, the personal messaging was introduced in the T – FORUM. This occurs mainly due to the lack of basic knowledge about the topic. These issues have been overcome by this application. The reliability of the application is maintained for any large number of users and also discussions. The T-FORUM consists of the following main modules: user profile page, the emphasizes skills, employment history and education, professional network news feeds with a limited number of customizable modules. Membership for T-FORUM is free and for all synchronisation of user Network, members are called connections.

II. HOW IT WORKS?

This application was mainly developed as a result of the lack of ability to understand the subject being discussed. This occurs as a result of lack of knowledge of basic understanding of the subject being discussed. It is developed such that any amateur users can also understand the most technical discussions. The main objective of the project is to help the online users to maintain their social account with their personal users and official users. The T-FORUM helps to maintain the online community to share contents related to articles along with images, videos, events etc. with registered users through enhanced features. This T-FORUM is based on Web Application in which user can create their account and use the forum depending upon their willingness. The Social Networking Media site is designed to make students life more interactive and technology oriented. This web application provides the users to create a public profile within a particular domain. Social Networking Media is not only constraint to communication or interactivity between the users but it also benefits the user to share their knowledge effectively. The reliability of the application is maintained for any large number of users and also discussions. It is developed using the basic HTML and styled using the CSS to keep the development simple. The reliability is maintained through the whole development phase and is assured to have the ability to handle large number of users. In order to identify users that are very active in the fruitful use of applications are marked as starred users to enable the new members of the forum to get exposure of the goodness of the technical discussions in the forum.

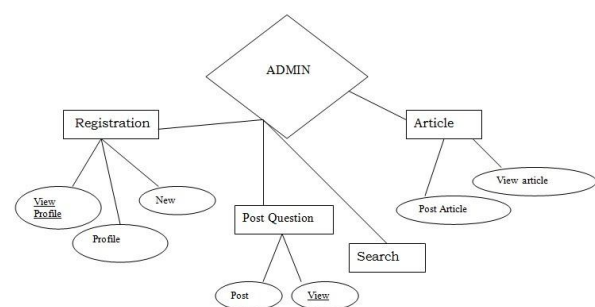


Fig 1 – Working of T – FORUM

III. DISCUSSION FORUM

The discussion forum forms the basis of the whole application and the main module that defines the purpose of this application. It is made very user friendly to suit all kinds of users based on their technical knowledge: amateur, intermediate or even an expert. When a user logs in into the T – forum, they can either reply to an already posted query or even post a new query. Every query will fall into any one of the categories, so that the search becomes easy. They can also view any queries or replies posted by them at any period of time in the history. The conversations can be continued at any period of time, that is, there is no expiry to a particular discussion.



Fig 2 – The T FORUM

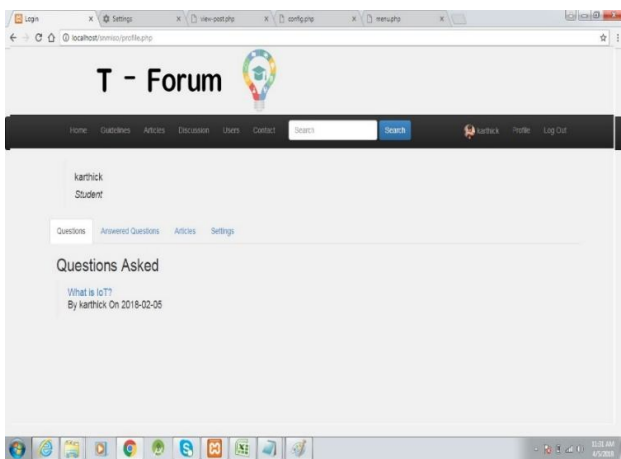


Fig3– Posting Queries

IV. CHALLENGES FACED

The main challenge was to handle large amount of data being generated everyday due to discussions and also the pictures being shared. With every increasing number of users, the amount of data generated also increases to a great extent, hence handling them should have a good database design as a basic step. The database used is MySQL is used to maintain the large amount of data being generated on a day to day basis. Maintaining the reliability through the generation of large amount of data everyday is a challenge in the T – FORUM.

V. HOW IS IT DIFFERENT?

As said earlier, based on the shortcomings faced in the different discussion forums, the T – FORUM was designed. The Existing System is a forum site. The organisation or individual can share the articles only on payment. Existing system does not provide direct questioning in forum. The user can to communicate with the persons they are connected. No Forum is having provision to publish articles in it. These backlogs were overcome in the T – FORUM. This application is hosted on the Core FTP Lite version which is an online hosting interface to make the application available for millions of users across the globe. This is an application mainly developed for students.

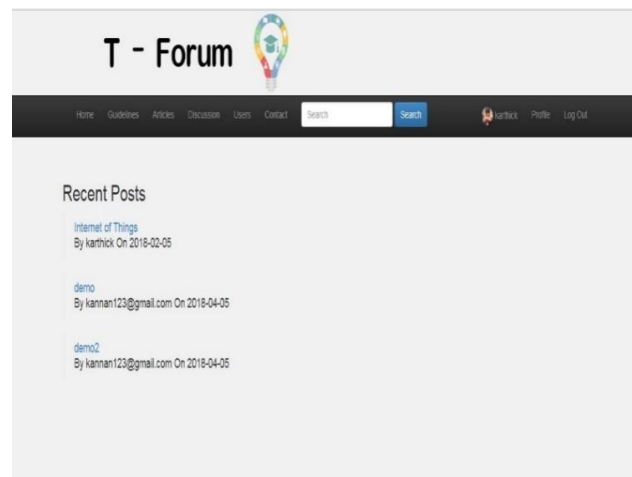


Fig 4 – Home Page

VI. FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS

The future enhancement would be adding several features like separating the users based on the level of their skills so that they do not encounter any unnecessary discussions. Another feature would be suggesting the discussions they can join in based on their history. In this version, since all the recent posts are displayed in the home page, it could serve as a way of suggesting the users. Since this an open forum, it has a great chance of being useful to several people across the globe.

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