

Lost and Found Portal for College Campus

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Abstract – The Lost and Found Portal is a web-based application designed to efficiently manage lost and found items within a college campus. The system allows users to report lost or found items by providing relevant details such as item category, description, location, and images. It offers secure user authentication, a centralized database, and automated matching to improve accuracy and transparency. By digitizing the traditional manual process, the portal reduces time, minimizes item loss, and enhances coordination between users and administrators.

Keywords- Lost and Found, College Campus, Web Portal, Database, Item Tracking, Admin Module, User Authentication, Automated Matching.

INTRODUCTION

In a college campus, losing personal belongings such as ID cards, books, electronic devices, or accessories is a common problem. The traditional method of reporting and managing lost and found items is often time-consuming, unorganized, and inefficient. Students, faculty, and staff frequently move between classrooms, laboratories, libraries, hostels, and common areas, increasing the chances of misplacing personal items. Traditional systems like notice boards, verbal communication, or office registers are slow, unstructured, and often ineffective, causing delays in item recovery.

This portal introduces a centralized digital platform where campus members can easily report lost or found items at any time. It improves communication and coordination between individuals, increasing the likelihood of returning belongings quickly and correctly. The system also promotes honesty, accountability, and a sense of social responsibility among users. By keeping proper digital records, the institution can maintain transparency and reduce confusion in handling lost property.

METHODOLOGY

The Lost and Found Portal is implemented as a web-based application built on a client-server architecture. The front end is developed using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and Bootstrap to create an interactive and responsive interface. The back end uses Python (Flask/Django) for server-side logic, routing, and API handling. A relational database (MySQL/PostgreSQL) stores user profiles, item records, and system logs. When a report is submitted, the system performs input validation, stores the data securely, and a matching algorithm compares item attributes (name, category, description, date, location) to identify possible matches.

Table 1- Components Used in the System

Sr.No	Component	Type	Purpose	Cost
1	HTML, CSS, JS, Bootstrap	Frontend	UI Design	Free

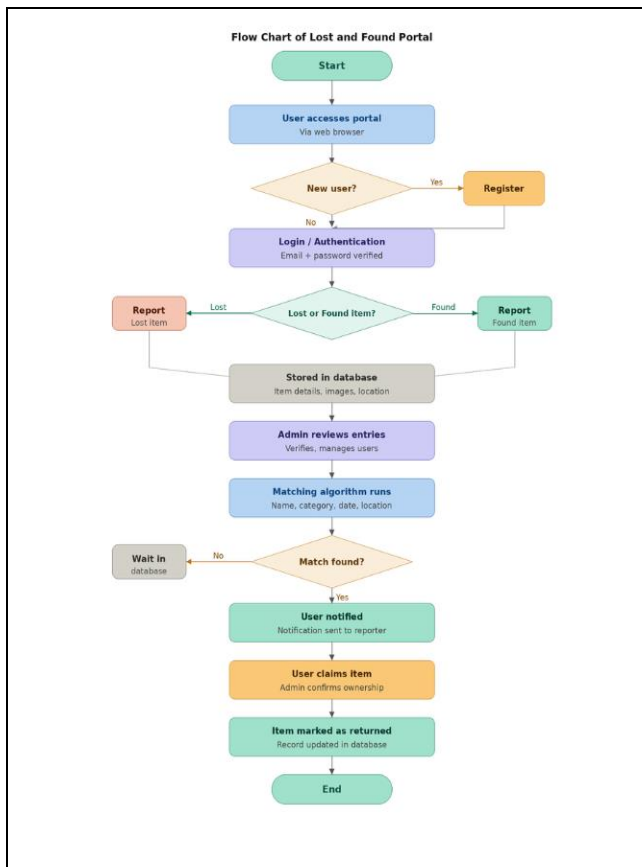


Fig. 1 – Flow chart of Project

DESIGN

The Lost and Found Portal was successfully developed and tested. The system enables campus users to report and search for lost or found items in real time. Below are the screenshots of the working portal demonstrating all key features

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS FOR USER

1. User Registration and Login : The user visits the portal via a web browser. New users click Registration and fill in their name, email, mobile, address, city, and password. Existing users log in with email and password to access the system.

2. Viewing the Dashboard : After login, the user lands on the Lost and Found Items Dashboard which displays all reported items. A summary shows total reported, lost, found, and closed items. Each item card shows a photo, description, category, date, location, and status.

3. Reporting a Lost or Found Item : The user clicks Add in the navigation bar. A form appears where the user enters: Title, Description, Category, Lost Date, Location, Contact Number, Color, Brand, Notes, and

uploads a Photo. The user selects Lost or Found from the dropdown and clicks Add Item to submit.

4. Viewing My Reports : The user clicks MyReport to see their own submitted entries. Each card shows item details with Final Status (Open/Closed). If an item has been recovered, the user clicks Click Here to Close to mark it as resolved.

5. Admin - Managing Users : The admin logs in with admin credentials. Under the Users tab, the admin views all registered users with their ID, Username, Email, Mobile, Address, and City. The admin can edit or delete any user account.

6. Admin - Managing Items : Under the Items tab, the admin views the complete Lost and Found Items table showing ID, Title, Category, Lost Date, Location, Contact, Status, Final Status, and Photo. The admin can edit item details, change the final status, or delete entries.



Fig. 2: Login Page - User enters email and password to access the portal



Fig. 3: Registered Users (Admin View) - Admin views, edits, or deletes registered users

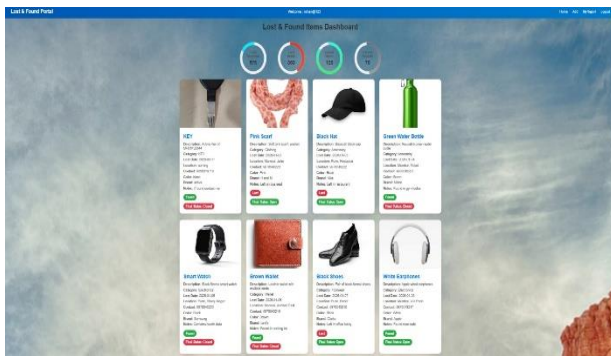


Fig. 4: Lost and Found Items Dashboard - All reported items with status, category, and photo

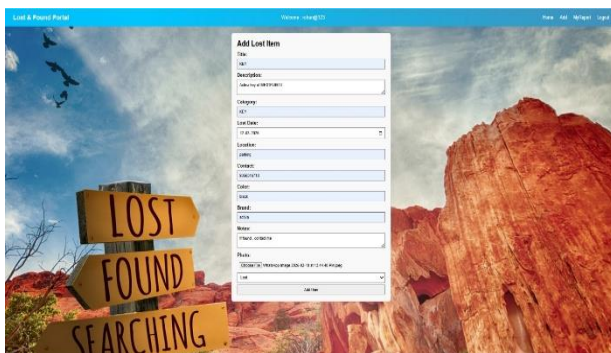


Fig. 5: Add Lost Item Form - User fills title, description, category, date, location, contact, color, brand, and photo

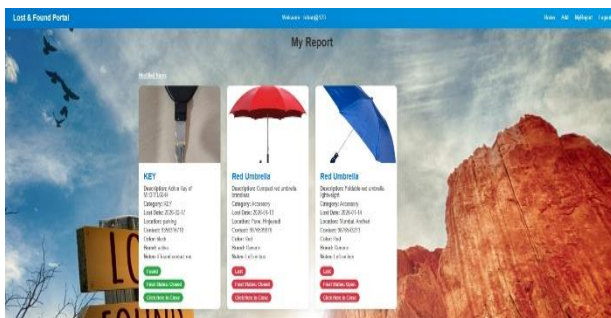


Fig. 6: My Report Page - User views their own reported items and updates final status



Fig. 7: Admin Items List - Admin manages all lost and found entries with edit and delete options

CONCLUSION

The Lost and Found Portal is an effective digital solution for managing lost and found items within a college campus. It simplifies the reporting and recovery process, reduces manual effort, and ensures better organization of records. With a user-friendly interface, centralized database, and automated matching system, the portal significantly improves the efficiency and reliability of item recovery. The system promotes honesty, accountability, and a sense of social responsibility among campus members. By maintaining digital records, the institution can analyze data to identify common loss locations and take preventive measures. The portal not only assists in recovering belongings but also encourages a responsible campus culture. Future enhancements may include image similarity matching, mobile application integration, and AI-based item recognition to further improve accuracy and user experience.

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