
SMART BUS TRACKER

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ABSTRACT

The Smart Bus Tracker system is designed to provide real-time tracking and monitoring of public transportation buses using GPS and mobile technologies. The system enables passengers to view accurate bus locations, estimated arrival times, and route information through a user-friendly interface. It also assists administrators in managing fleets efficiently by offering data on bus speed, schedule adherence, and operational status. By improving transparency, reducing waiting time, and enhancing passenger convenience, the Smart Bus Tracker contributes to a smarter and more efficient public transportation ecosystem.

The Smart Bus Tracker is an IoT-based system aimed at improving the efficiency and user experience of public transportation. The project integrates GPS modules, cloud-based data handling, and a mobile/web application to deliver real-time bus location updates and estimated time of arrival (ETA) to passengers. The system simultaneously provides transport authorities with insights into fleet operations, such as route deviations, delays, and performance analytics. By offering accurate, real-time information and ensuring seamless communication between buses, servers, and end-users, the Smart Bus Tracker reduces uncertainty in travel planning, minimizes waiting times, and enhances the reliability of the overall transit network.

KEYWORDS: GPS, IoT, Webapplication, Artificial Intelligence, Database, Real Time System, ETA Prediction.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Public transportation plays an important role in daily travel, but passengers often face

problems such as uncertain bus arrival times, long waiting periods, and lack of accurate route information. These issues reduce the efficiency and reliability of transportation services. A Smart Bus Tracker system is designed to solve these problems by providing real-time tracking and monitoring of buses using modern technologies.

The Smart Bus Tracker project combines GPS, IoT, GSM, and mobile communication technologies to continuously monitor the location of buses and share live updates with passengers and administrators. The system helps users track buses easily, estimate arrival times, and improve travel planning. In addition, it enhances passenger safety, reduces management difficulties, and supports the development of intelligent and smart transportation systems for modern cities.

2.0 MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 System Materials and Technical Stack

- 1 Agronomic The Smart Bus Tracker system is designed using modern web development technologies and IoT-based hardware components to provide real-time bus tracking and transportation management services. The system aims to improve passenger convenience by offering accurate bus location details, estimated arrival times, and route monitoring through a web-based platform. The integration of hardware devices, cloud services, and web technologies enables efficient communication between buses, administrators, and passengers.
- 2 The hardware section of the system consists of a GPS module, GSM or Wi-Fi communication module, and a microcontroller such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi. The GPS module continuously captures the live geographical coordinates of the bus. The communication module transfers the collected data to the cloud database through internet connectivity, while the microcontroller manages the processing and coordination of all hardware operations.
- 3 Frameworks & Languages: The software and web development section includes frontend and backend technologies used to build the Smart Bus Tracker web application. The front end of the system is developed using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to create an interactive and responsive user interface. Bootstrap is used to improve the design and responsiveness of the web pages. The backend is developed using Java for handling server-side operations, API requests, and data communication.
- 4 A cloud database such as Python Flask or MS-SQL is used to store and manage real-time tracking information. Google Maps API is integrated into the web application to display

the live location of buses on digital maps. The system follows an Internet of Things (IoT) architecture, where all devices and applications communicate over the internet in real time. This architecture reduces passenger waiting time, and supports the development of smart transportation systems

3.0 Implementation Methods

3.1 The Smart Bus Tracker system was successfully developed and tested using web development technologies and real-time tracking concepts. The system provides an interactive web-based platform that allows users to access transportation services efficiently. The output of the project demonstrates the successful integration of user management, bus tracking, route monitoring, booking services, and notification functionalities.

3.2 The homepage of the system provides a user-friendly interface where passengers can access different transportation services. Users can register and log in securely through the signup and login modules. The authentication system ensures that only authorized users can access personalized services such as booking history, account management, and recharge facilities.

3.3 After successful login, the dashboard page displays the main functionalities of the Smart Bus Tracker system. The dashboard acts as the central control panel where users can navigate to different modules such as live bus tracking, bus routes, available buses, seat booking, notifications, and account settings. The interface is designed to be simple, responsive, and easy to use on both desktop and mobile devices.

3.4 The bus tracking module is one of the major outputs of the system. Through the integrated map functionality, users can view the live location of buses in real time. The map module uses location-based services to display bus movement and route information accurately. This feature helps passengers estimate arrival times and reduce unnecessary waiting at bus stops.

3.5 The routes module provides complete route details for different buses operating within the transportation network. Users can view source locations, destination points, and intermediate stops. This improves travel planning and helps passengers choose suitable routes according to their requirements.

3.6 The seat booking module enables users to reserve seats online through the web application. Passengers can check seat availability and book tickets digitally without visiting physical ticket counters. This reduces manual effort and improves convenience for users.

4.0 Functional Flow of the System

The functional flow of the Smart Bus Tracker system begins when the user accesses the web application through a browser or mobile device. New users are required to register and create an account, while existing users can log in using their credentials. After successful authentication, users are redirected to the main dashboard.

The dashboard provides access to multiple functionalities such as live bus tracking, route information, seat booking, notifications, and account management. When a bus starts its journey, the GPS module installed in the vehicle continuously captures location coordinates. These coordinates are transmitted to the cloud server through the communication module.

The server processes the received data and updates the database in real time. The web application retrieves this information through APIs and displays the current location of buses on the integrated Google Maps interface. Passengers can view bus movement, estimated arrival time, and route details instantly.

Users can also access the booking module to reserve seats for available buses. Once the booking is completed, confirmation details are stored in the database and displayed in the user account section. Notifications related to schedule updates, booking confirmations, and travel alerts are automatically sent to users through the notification system.

The complete functional flow ensures smooth communication between hardware devices, servers, databases, and user interfaces, resulting in an efficient and intelligent transportation management system.

5.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Smart Bus Tracker system was successfully implemented and tested using web development technologies, cloud databases, and real-time GPS tracking mechanisms. The system effectively provided live bus location updates, route management, online booking facilities, and notification services through a user-friendly web interface. The GPS module continuously transmitted location coordinates to the cloud database, and the updated information was accurately displayed on Google Maps with minimal delay. User authentication, account management, and booking modules functioned efficiently, allowing secure access to transportation services. The responsive web design ensured smooth operation across desktops, tablets, and smartphones, while backend

technologies maintained stable communication between the server and database systems. The results demonstrate that the Smart Bus Tracker system improves transportation management by reducing passenger waiting time, increasing operational efficiency, and providing accurate real-time information. The system successfully overcomes limitations of traditional transportation systems by introducing live tracking, automated updates, and digital booking services. Features such as cloud integration, route visualization, and real-time notifications enhance passenger convenience and travel planning. Although minor challenges related to internet connectivity and GPS signal interruptions may affect performance, the overall system proves to be a reliable and scalable solution for intelligent transportation management and smart city development.

6.0 Discussion of Findings

6.1 The implementation and testing of the Smart Bus Tracker system demonstrate that the proposed solution effectively improves transportation monitoring and passenger convenience through the integration of GPS tracking, cloud databases, and web technologies. The system successfully provided accurate real-time bus location updates with minimal delay, reducing uncertainty regarding bus arrival times and improving travel planning. The web-based platform increased accessibility for both passengers and administrators by offering live tracking information, route details, booking services, and notifications through a responsive interface. Features such as user authentication, account management, and Google Maps integration further enhanced system security, usability, and real-time route visualization.

6.2 The findings also indicate that the online booking and notification modules improved communication between passengers and transportation services while reducing manual operations. Technologies such as Node.js, Express.js, Firebase, and modern frontend frameworks ensured stable backend processing and efficient real-time data synchronization. Although the system may experience minor limitations due to internet connectivity or GPS signal interruptions, the overall performance remained reliable and efficient. The study confirms that the Smart Bus Tracker system is a practical, scalable, and intelligent solution that supports modern transportation management, passenger safety, and smart city development.

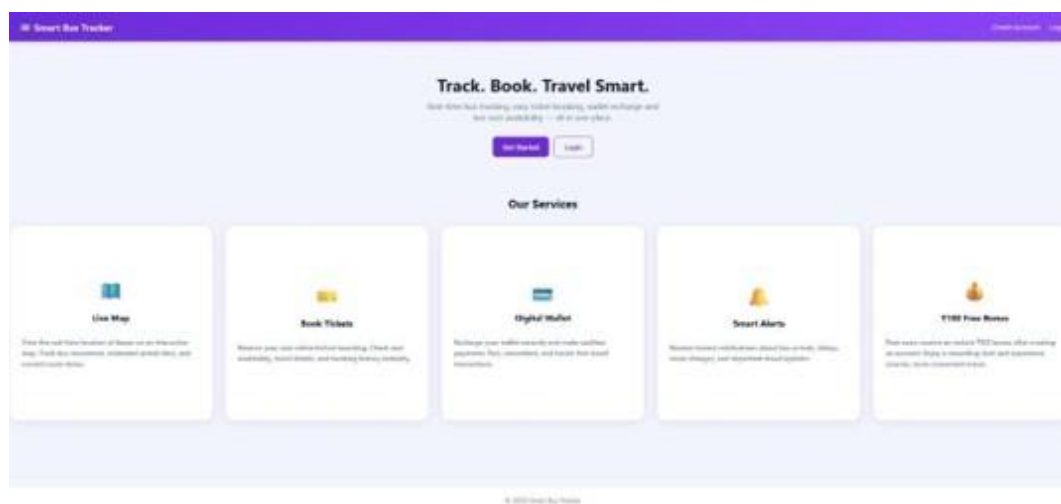


Fig. 1: Ticket Book Interface.

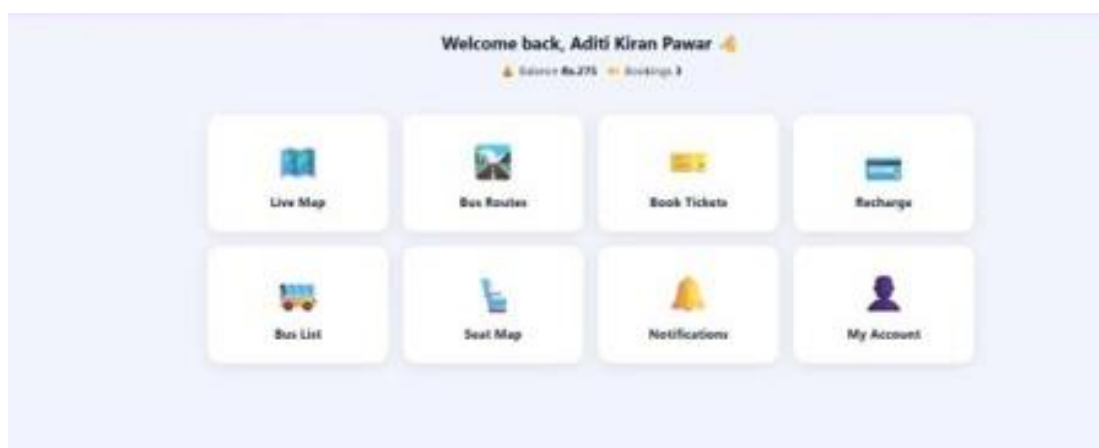


Fig. 2: Home Page.



Fig. 3: Live Bus Map Tracking.

The screenshot shows the 'Book a Ticket' interface. At the top, there's a purple header with 'Smart Bus Tracker' and a yellow bus icon. Below the header, the title 'Book a Ticket' is centered. Underneath, the current balance is shown as 'Balance: Rs.275'. The form includes a 'Select Route' dropdown menu currently set to 'Route R1 - School A (Rs.30)', a 'Seat Number' input field with the value '1', and a 'Travel Date' field showing '02-06-2026' with a calendar icon.

Fig. 4: Ticket Booking.

The screenshot displays the 'Recharge Wallet' screen. It features a purple header with 'Smart Bus Tracker' and a 'Back' button. The main content shows the 'Current balance' as '₹275'. Below this, there's a 'Quick Add' section with buttons for ₹50, ₹100, ₹200, and ₹500. A text prompt 'Or enter custom amount (₹)' is followed by an input field containing '100' and a green 'Add Money' button. At the bottom, there's a small copyright notice: '© 2026 Smart Bus Tracker'.

Fig. 5: Recharge Wallet.

The screenshot shows the 'Welcome Back' login page. It has a purple header with 'Smart Bus Tracker'. The central white card contains a lock icon, the title 'Welcome Back', and the instruction 'Login to your account'. There are input fields for 'Email' (with the address 'aditpawar@gmail.com') and 'Password' (masked with dots). A checkbox labeled 'Remember me -- next time auto login' is checked. A purple 'Success!' button is at the bottom of the card, with a link 'No account? Create one' below it.

Fig. 6: Login Page.

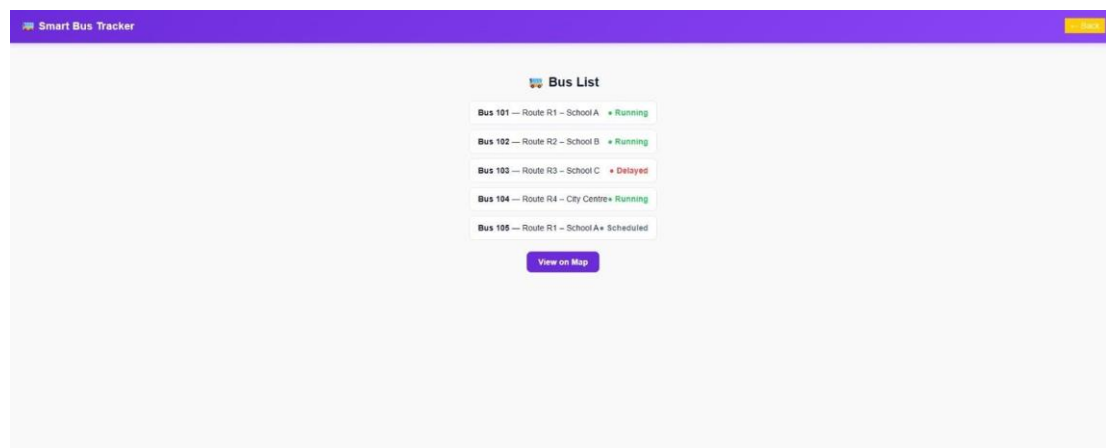


Fig 7: Bus Schedule.

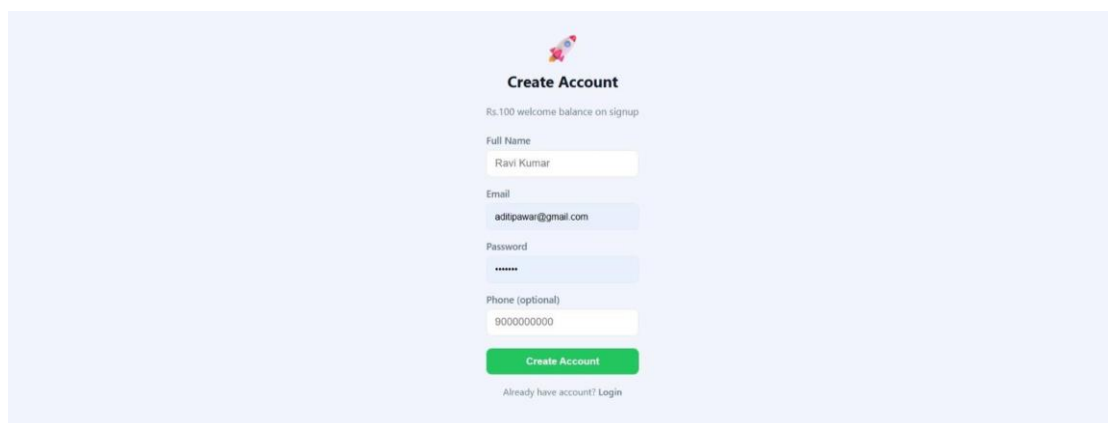


Fig 8: Create Account.

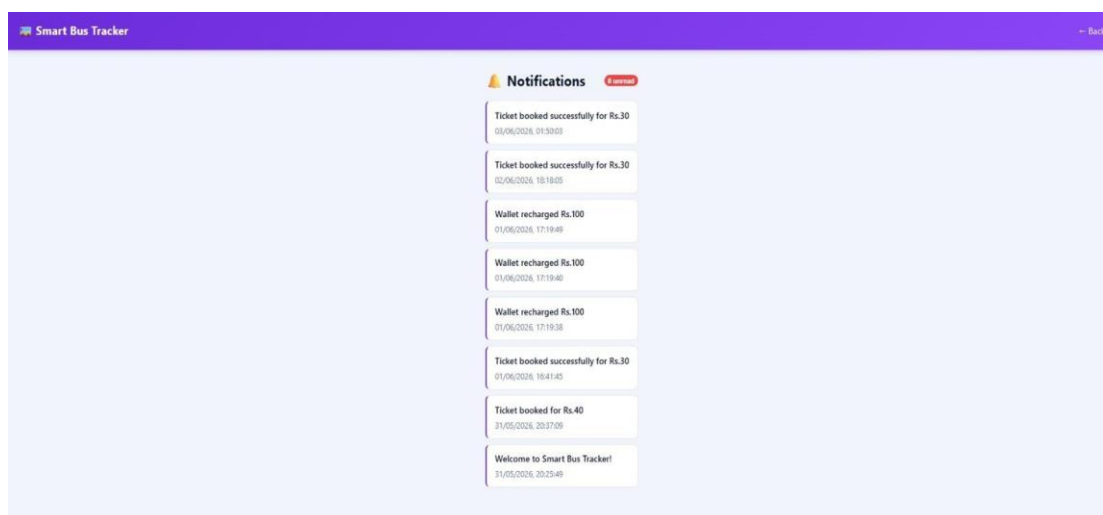


Fig 9: Notification Interface.

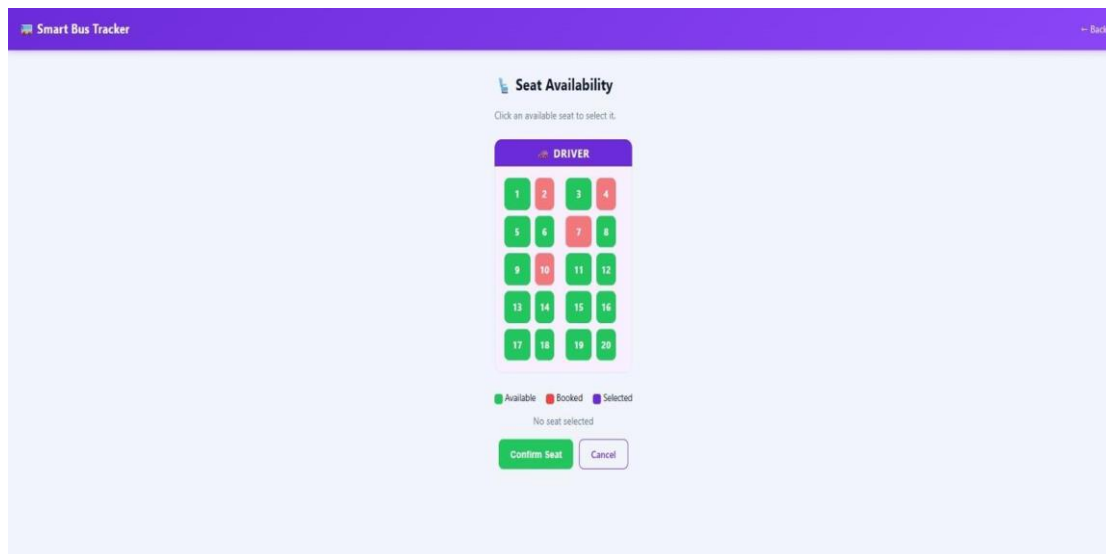


Fig 10: Seat Booking.

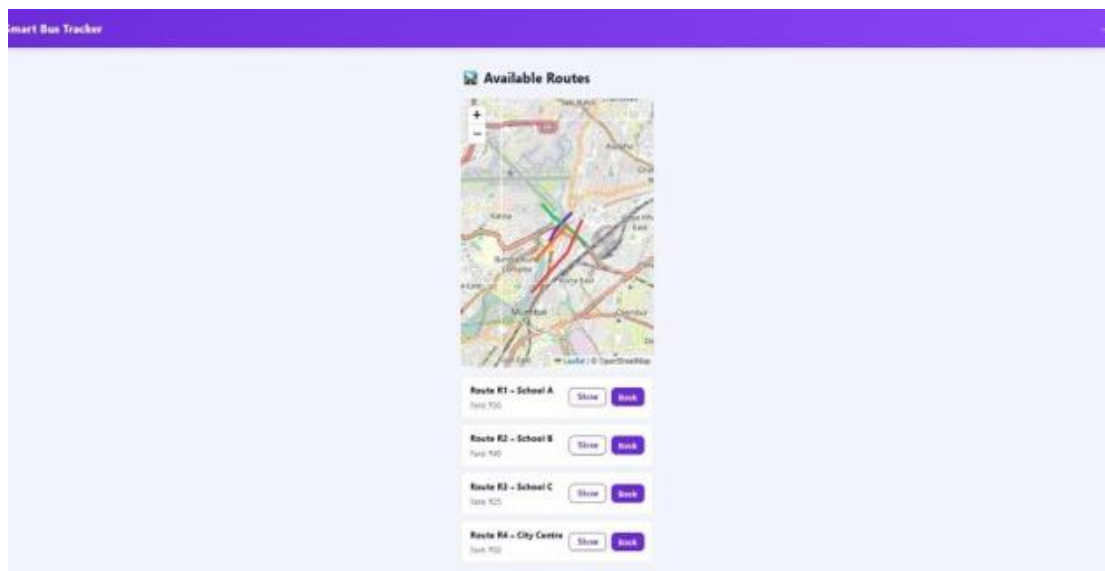


Fig 11: Routes Search.

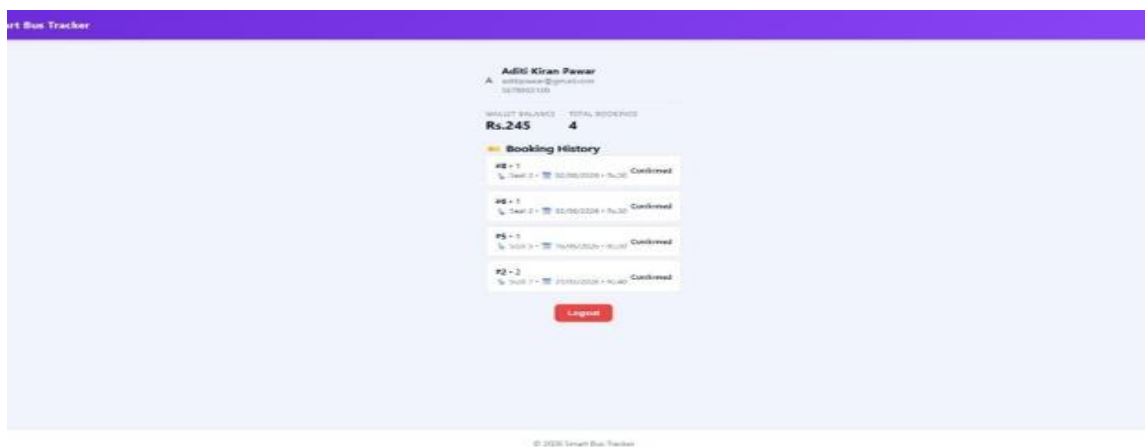


Fig 12: Booking History

7.0 CONCLUSION

The Smart Bus Tracker system was successfully designed and implemented using web development technologies, cloud databases, and GPS-based real-time tracking mechanisms. The project demonstrated the effective integration of technologies such as IoT, Google Maps API, Node.js, Express.js, and Firebase to improve public transportation management and passenger convenience. The system provided accurate live bus tracking, route management, online booking, and notification services through a responsive and user-friendly web platform. By offering real-time transportation information, the system reduced passenger uncertainty regarding bus arrival times and improved communication between passengers and transportation services.

The implementation results confirmed that the Smart Bus Tracker system performs efficiently across multiple devices while maintaining stable real-time data communication and synchronization. Features such as secure user authentication, route visualization, booking management, and cloud-based storage enhanced the reliability, accessibility, and usability of the system. Although certain limitations such as internet dependency and GPS signal interruptions may affect performance in some situations, the overall system proved to be reliable and scalable for intelligent transportation management. Future improvements may include AI-based route prediction, traffic analysis, mobile application integration, and enhanced security features to further improve system efficiency and user experience.

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