Self Guide Application for Organized Experiences

Shanthi D L[1], Dr. Keshava Prasanna[2], Harsh Koomar[3], Ridhi Malani[4]

[1]*Assistant Professor Department of Information Science and Engineering*
BMS Institute of Technology and Management Bengaluru, India
[2]*Professor, Computer Science & Engineering*
CIT, Gubbi,Tumkur, India
[3,4] *Students Department of Information Science and Engineering*
BMS Institute of Technology & Management Bengaluru India

Abstract *— Self-Guide is a travel assistance web application, pre-loaded with your customized itinerary details. Have destination information right at your fingertips: attractions, shopping, restaurants and much more. Enhance your experience and discover additional points of interest to explore using geolocation of the place you are travelling to. Self-Guide's map will give you the best route. Self-Guide provides you with Trip journal, local attractions, currency convertor & much more. The application aims at reducing the overall effort involved in organizing a guided trip or experience by a Travel Company. In the application that we will be developing, the focus would be on to delivering the itineraries to the tourists in an interactive and much easier as well as convenient way by making use of their current location.*

Keywords *— Customized, itinerary, self-Guide, travel assistance*

I. INTRODUCTION

Travelling is fun. Be it guided tours or self-guided tours, both of them are fun in some ways or the other. One of the difficulties people face while visiting a new country is searching for necessities around the place they are staying. These necessities include everything from restaurants to pharmacies. Another difficulty might be looking at the hard copy or the pdf of itinerary again and again to know the schedule. Now we make it easy in a fun way.

The Web App is compatible with a mobile browser which makes it easy for the Tourism Companies organizing guided tours and experiences to different countries by having them upload their itinerary on our Web App. The uploaded itinerary is shown to the tourist day wise with the highlights and other important information such as bus routes, etc. There is an option to look for various attractions, restaurants, spas, coffee places, shopping, etc.

Also, there is an option to contact your guide directly from the app without the need to have his contact information. There is also an option for the tourist to maintain a journal of his trip on the app itself by taking notes of whatever he/she wishes to jot down. Just to provide convenience to the tourist, there is an option for currency conversion.

The system will have a feedback system which will help the travel company to enhance the user experience while going for the next trip.

The Proposed System also has Mobile Applications for both Android and iOS which makes it much more accessible.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

All the existing system are based on the very basic concept of having data pre-loaded for certain places and show it if the user is in that place. Most of the existing applications are just for the use of an individual or a group of 2 or 3 planning trip on their own. None of these can be used by a travel company or agency to enhance their market. The existing systems have GPS tracker enabled and pre-recorded data which the user can listen to gain the information about the site they are visiting. None of these offer any other special feature which might enhance the user travel experience. Also, the existing system has many explicit hardware or software requirements like RFID cards.

For e.g. let's consider Google Trips which is completely tourist focus application only meant to be used by an individual. The platform does not provide solutions for an enterprise, company or any organization. Personal Itineraries can be created and used within the travel duration. It also shows the nearby attractions falling on the way. It links with Gmail and fetches the travel information to update the itinerary.

Our application is meant to be used by both a Company and the tourist travelling with the company. The itinerary provided by the company organizing trip is uploaded on the application and delivered interactively to the respective tourists. There are other options available as well like Currency Converter, Personal Journal which are not provided by Google Trips. An option to contact the

guide is also available which makes it easier for the tourists to stay in touch with the guides.

III. PAGE PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed system will combine various features such as GPS based attraction suggestions including restaurants, spas, shopping, etc. The itinerary given by the tourism company will be uploaded by the admin in a specified format which will be visible only to the people who are going on that particular trip.

Each tourist will be provided with a User Id and password which will be valid to access the web application only during the trip. The Self Guide initially consists of 3 prominent portals:

A. Admin Portal

- Upload the itinerary
- Create tourists Accounts

B. Guide Portal

- Trip itinerary
- Contact Information of all the on-board tourists
- Location sharing with the tourist on request

C. Tourist Portal

- Trip itinerary
- Nearby Attractions
- Currency Convertor
- Contact Guide
- Trip Journal (Share by E-mail and Post on Facebook)
- Trip Feedback
- Chat with on-board members
- Download documents

The proposed system does not have any explicit hardware requirements and has very minimal and basic system requirements such as:

- Android Version 7.0 or above
- iOS 10 or above
- 4GB Ram
- 128 MB free storage

IV. METHODOLOGY

Fig. 1 gives a flow of how an on-going trip will be processed by the application.

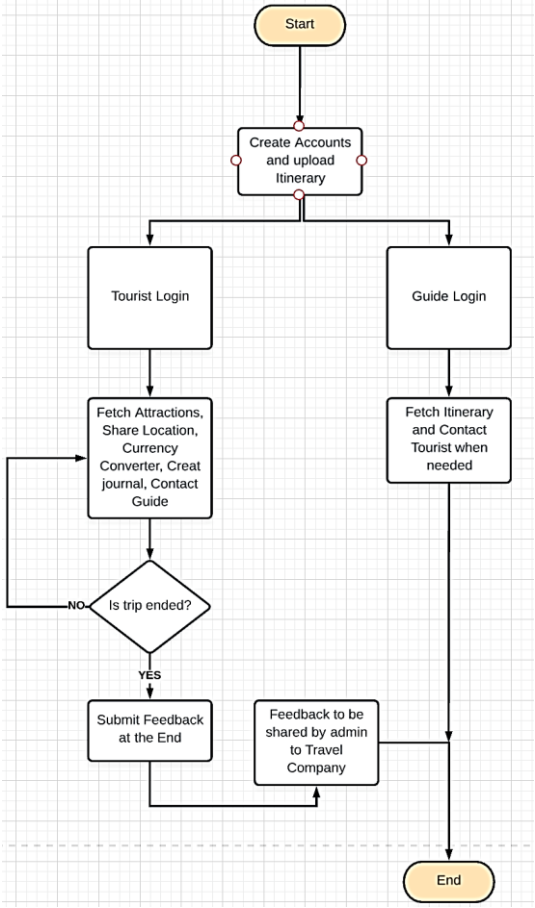

Fig1. Control Flow of the proposed system.

The application will have three portals namely Admin, Guide and Tourist. The initial step would be to obtain the itinerary from the Travel Company along with the tourist list and guide details if any. The tourist list, the itinerary and the guide details will be uploaded on the application by the admin portal. Moving forward, login accounts will be created for all the tourists and guide through which they will be able to access the application only throughout the trip. Therefore, the major roles of the admin would be to upload the itinerary, creating accounts and sharing the credentials with the travel company to pass them on to the tourists.

The Guide Portal would have a very basic functionality to fetch the itinerary and contact the tourists. This would be provided in two different formats. One of them being able to contact a tourist individually and the other one would be to notify all the tourists regarding some update.

The main part of the application would be Tourist centered. Once a tourist receives his/her credentials and logs in to the application, he will have a whole load of options to access. A tourist would be able to

view a detailed itinerary of the trip cleanly sorted date wise. The tourist can click on a particular date to view the complete details of that day's schedule.

Another most important option that the tourist would get is to locate and navigate to various attractions, restaurants, spas, pharmacies, etc right from within the application. The tourist would also get an option of Currency Converter in order to know different currency values while travelling abroad. Another interesting option in this portal is that the tourist would be able to maintain his/her trip journal on the application itself and thus he/she need not carry a separate item for maintaining the same. By default, this journal will be sent to them via email and they would also have an option to share it on Face book.

For the emergency purposes, there would also be an option to contact your guide through mail or over call.

At the end of the trip, all the tourists would get trip end feedback which they need to fill and submit. This feedback would be passed on to the company organizing the trip through the admin portal. The guide will not have access to any of the feedbacks.

V. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

The proposed itinerary feature of this application has a look as that given in Fig 2. Also, the various options available for the tourist is shown on Fig 3.

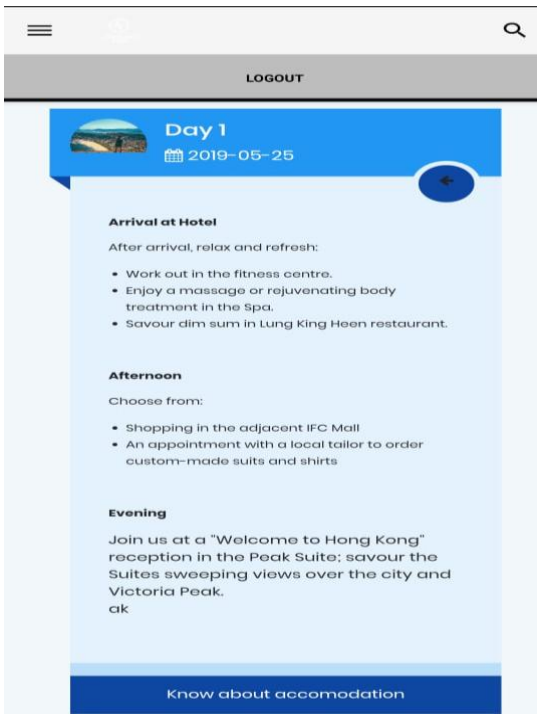

Fig. 2. Displaying an Itinerary

Also the proposed includes other required facilities like weather updates, currency converter,

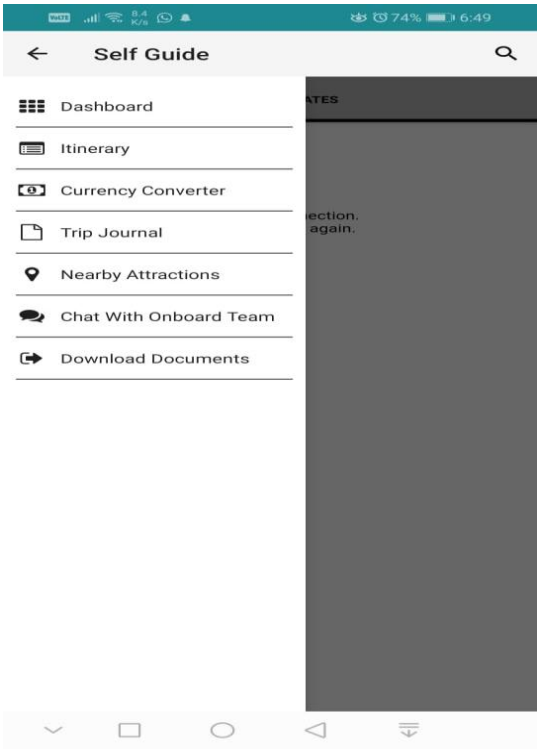

Fig 3. Displaying an Itinerary

Fig 4. Weather Update

Trip journal section follows in fig 4, fig 5, fig6 respectively

Fig 5. Currency Converter

Fig 6. Trip Journal Section

Proposed self guide application compared with different related applications shows that self guide application includes many features in one place as in Fig 7 usability in Fig 8.

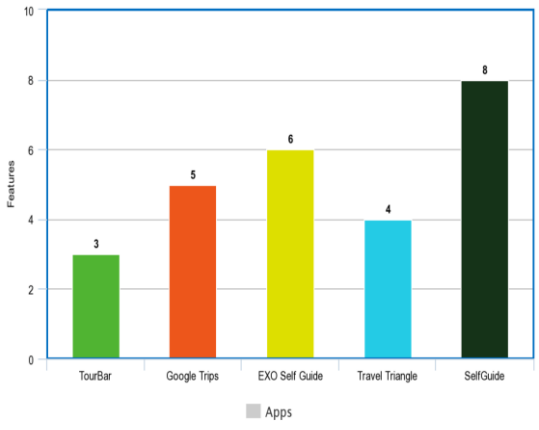

Fig 7. Comparison with different applications

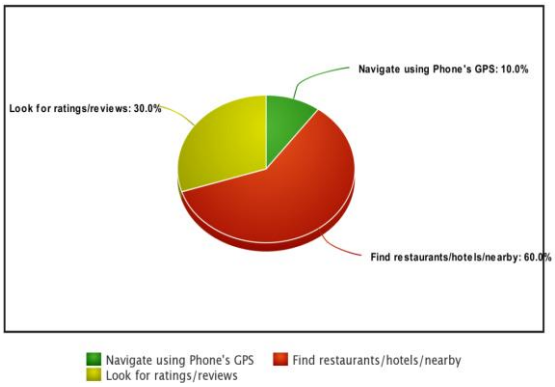

Fig 8. Usability of self guide application

VI. CONCLUSION

This system provides a platform where the company can organize, manage and keep their clients updated with each and every minute details of the trip and provide various other facilities to enhance their travelling experience by just using one application throughout. This minimizes the use of various third party applications to be used during the trip.

This system is cost effective and deployed on Cloud and uses other efficient web technologies which manifests in a combination that is extremely powerful and at the same time reliable.

In future, the expansion plan would be to market it and sell across various travel companies which organize luxury experiences since the proposed system would add a charm to the way companies deliver the itineraries to their tourists.

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