

Smart Traffic Control Using Computer Vision

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Abstract: *A Smart Traffic Control System using Computer Vision utilizes cameras, image processing techniques, and machine learning algorithms to monitor, analyze, and manage traffic flow automatically. Unlike conventional traffic systems, this approach does not rely solely on pre-defined signal timings. Instead, it dynamically adjusts traffic signals based on real-time traffic density and road conditions. Cameras installed at intersections capture live video feeds, which are processed using computer vision algorithms to detect vehicles, count traffic density, identify congestion levels, and monitor violations such as red-light jumping or illegal lane changes.*

The core of this system lies in image processing and object detection techniques. Computer vision models such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), YOLO (You Only Look Once), or other deep learning-based detection frameworks are used to identify vehicles in video frames. These models can classify different types of vehicles, including cars, buses, trucks, motorcycles, and bicycles. By analyzing the number and movement of vehicles in each lane, the system determines the level of traffic congestion in real time. Based on this analysis, an intelligent controller adjusts the duration of traffic signals to prioritize lanes with higher vehicle density, thereby improving traffic flow and reducing waiting times.

In addition to traffic density estimation, the system can also perform advanced functionalities such as accident detection, emergency vehicle recognition, and traffic rule enforcement. For example, if an ambulance or fire truck is detected approaching an intersection, the system can automatically switch the traffic signal to green for that lane, ensuring faster emergency response times. Similarly, computer vision algorithms can detect accidents or unusual traffic patterns and immediately alert traffic authorities for quick intervention.

Another significant advantage of computer vision-based traffic systems is their ability to collect and analyze traffic data over time. The collected data can be used to generate traffic patterns, predict peak traffic hours, and assist city planners in designing better road infrastructure. Integration with Internet of Things (IoT) devices and cloud-based systems can further enhance the system's capabilities by enabling remote monitoring, centralized traffic control, and real-time data sharing across multiple intersections.

Furthermore, this system contributes to environmental sustainability by reducing idle time at intersections, lowering fuel consumption, and minimizing carbon emissions caused by traffic congestion. It also improves road safety by detecting traffic violations and providing automated surveillance, which can discourage reckless driving behavior.

Despite its many advantages, implementing a smart traffic control system using computer vision also presents certain challenges. These include varying weather conditions, low-light environments, occlusions between vehicles, and the requirement for high computational power to process real-time video data. However, advancements in deep learning, edge computing, and high-performance hardware are continuously improving the reliability and efficiency of such systems.

Keywords: Smart Traffic Control System, Traffic Management, Artificial Intelligence, Image Processing, Emergency Vehicle Detection, YOLO Object Detection



I. INTRODUCTION

Traffic congestion has become a major issue in many cities due to the rapid increase in the number of vehicles and population growth. Most existing traffic signal systems operate on fixed timing schedules, which means the signals change after a specific time regardless of the actual traffic conditions on the road. Because of this limitation, vehicles often wait at signals even when the opposite road has very little traffic. This inefficient traffic management leads to longer travel times, unnecessary fuel consumption, environmental pollution, and driver frustration.

To solve these problems, intelligent traffic management systems are being developed using modern technologies such as artificial intelligence and computer vision. Computer vision is a technology that allows computers to analyze images and videos and extract useful information from them. In traffic systems, cameras placed at road intersections can capture live video of vehicles and road activities. The captured video is then processed using image processing and machine learning techniques to detect vehicles and analyze traffic flow.

A smart traffic control system based on computer vision can automatically monitor traffic conditions and adjust traffic signals according to the level of congestion on each road. Instead of using fixed signal timings, the system evaluates the number of vehicles present in different lanes and dynamically changes the duration of green signals. Roads with higher traffic density can be given longer signal time, while roads with fewer vehicles can be cleared quickly. This adaptive signal control helps improve traffic movement and reduces waiting time at intersections.

Another advantage of this system is its ability to detect traffic violations and unusual situations. Computer vision algorithms can identify vehicles crossing the signal during a red light, illegal lane usage, or other traffic rule violations. The system can also recognize emergency vehicles such as ambulances or fire trucks and provide them priority by adjusting the traffic signal, allowing them to pass through intersections quickly.

Moreover, the data collected from traffic cameras can be stored and analyzed to understand traffic patterns and peak hours. This information can help traffic authorities and city planners make better decisions about road infrastructure and transportation policies. When integrated with technologies like IoT and cloud computing, the system can support remote monitoring and centralized control of traffic signals across multiple locations.

Although implementing computer vision in traffic systems has some challenges, such as varying lighting conditions, weather changes, and overlapping vehicles, ongoing advancements in deep learning and image processing are improving the accuracy and performance of these systems.

Overall, a smart traffic control system using computer vision offers an effective and modern approach to managing urban traffic. By analyzing real-time video data and making automatic decisions, the system can reduce congestion, improve road safety, and contribute to more efficient transportation in smart cities.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

Traffic congestion is a growing problem in many urban areas due to the rapid increase in vehicles and limited road infrastructure. Traditional traffic signal systems generally operate using fixed-time control, where signals change after a predefined time interval regardless of the actual traffic conditions. This often results in inefficient traffic flow, increased waiting time at intersections, and unnecessary fuel consumption. Because of these limitations, researchers have focused on developing intelligent traffic control systems that can respond to real-time traffic situations.

Computer vision has emerged as an important technology for improving traffic management systems. It allows computers to analyze images and video streams captured by cameras installed at road intersections. Using image processing techniques, vehicles can be detected, counted, and tracked from video frames. Based on this information, the system can estimate traffic density and determine the level of congestion on each road. This approach enables traffic signals to be controlled more efficiently according to actual traffic conditions.

Several studies have explored the use of image processing algorithms for vehicle detection and traffic density estimation. Early methods used techniques such as background subtraction, edge detection, and frame differencing to identify moving vehicles in video footage. These methods helped in estimating the number of vehicles present in a particular lane and



adjusting signal timing based on traffic volume. Although these techniques were simple and computationally efficient, their accuracy could be affected by lighting conditions, shadows, and overlapping vehicles.

With advancements in artificial intelligence, researchers have started using machine learning and deep learning models to improve the accuracy of vehicle detection. Algorithms such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) and object detection models like YOLO are capable of identifying different types of vehicles in complex traffic environments. These models analyze video frames to detect and classify vehicles such as cars, buses, trucks, and motorcycles. By counting the detected vehicles, the system can estimate traffic density more accurately and adjust traffic signals dynamically.

Some research studies have also focused on developing adaptive traffic signal systems that use computer vision to control signal timing. In these systems, cameras continuously monitor traffic at intersections, and the captured video is processed in real time to measure traffic flow. The system then allocates green signal time based on the number of vehicles waiting in each lane. This adaptive approach improves road utilization and reduces traffic congestion compared to traditional fixed-time traffic signals.

In addition to traffic density estimation, computer vision techniques have also been applied for monitoring traffic violations and improving road safety. Systems have been developed to detect red-light violations, track vehicle movement, and analyze traffic patterns at busy intersections. These capabilities help traffic authorities monitor road conditions more effectively and take necessary actions when violations occur.

Overall, previous research shows that computer vision plays a significant role in developing intelligent traffic control systems. By using cameras and advanced image processing techniques, these systems can analyze traffic conditions in real time and improve traffic signal management. Although challenges such as lighting variations, weather conditions, and occlusion between vehicles still exist, continuous improvements in computer vision algorithms are making these systems more accurate and reliable for real-world applications.

III. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Traffic congestion has become a major issue in urban areas due to the rapid increase in the number of vehicles and limited road infrastructure. Most traditional traffic signal systems operate on fixed timing, where the signals change after a set time without considering the actual traffic conditions at the intersection. This often results in inefficient traffic management, where roads with fewer vehicles receive the same signal time as heavily congested roads, causing unnecessary delays, longer waiting times, fuel wastage, and increased air pollution. Additionally, manual traffic monitoring is not always effective at busy intersections. Therefore, there is a need for an intelligent traffic control system that can automatically monitor traffic density in real time and adjust signal timings accordingly. A smart traffic control system using computer vision can address this problem by detecting and counting vehicles from camera footage and dynamically controlling traffic signals to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion.

IV. EXISTING PROBLEM

The existing traffic management systems in most cities are based on fixed-time traffic signals that operate according to predetermined time intervals. These systems do not consider the real-time traffic conditions at road intersections. As a result, the same signal timing is applied to all directions regardless of the number of vehicles waiting in each lane. This often causes inefficient traffic flow, where roads with heavy traffic experience long waiting times while roads with fewer vehicles remain underutilized. Such imbalance leads to traffic congestion, increased travel time, and frustration among drivers, especially during peak hours.

Another major issue with traditional traffic systems is the lack of real-time monitoring and automatic decision-making. In many places, traffic control still relies on manual observation by traffic police, which is not always effective at busy intersections or during high traffic volumes. These systems also lack the ability to analyze traffic patterns, detect congestion quickly, or respond to sudden changes in traffic conditions. As a result, vehicles spend more time waiting at signals, which increases fuel consumption and contributes to environmental pollution. The growing number of vehicles



on the road further makes these traditional systems less efficient and highlights the need for a more intelligent and automated traffic management approach.

V. METHODOLOGY

The proposed Smart Traffic Control System using Computer Vision follows a layered architecture to ensure efficient data processing, traffic analysis, and signal control. Each layer in the system performs a specific function, starting from capturing traffic data to processing and managing traffic signals based on vehicle density.

1. Client Layer:

The Client Layer represents the user interface through which traffic authorities or system operators interact with the system. It provides access to traffic monitoring dashboards, live camera feeds, and system controls. Users can view traffic conditions at different intersections, monitor vehicle movement, and observe how traffic signals are being managed. This layer ensures that the system is easy to operate and allows administrators to supervise traffic operations effectively.

2. Presentation Layer:

The Presentation Layer is responsible for the user interface and interaction. It is implemented using Django templates and ensures responsive web design for compatibility across devices. Multilingual support is incorporated at this layer to make the platform accessible to a diverse user base. This layer handles user requests and forwards them to the application layer.

3. Application Layer:

The Application Layer manages the core operations of the system. It coordinates communication between different modules, processes incoming data from cameras, and sends instructions to control traffic signals. This layer ensures that the system operates smoothly by managing requests, processing video inputs, and executing system functions such as vehicle detection and signal timing adjustments.

4. AI Processing Module:

The AI Processing Module is the main component responsible for analyzing traffic images and videos using computer vision techniques. It uses image processing and deep learning algorithms to detect and count vehicles from live camera feeds. By analyzing the number of vehicles present in each lane, the system estimates traffic density and identifies congestion levels. Based on this analysis, the module provides recommendations for adjusting traffic signal timings to improve traffic flow.

5. Business Logic Layer:

The Business Logic Layer contains the decision-making rules that control how the system responds to traffic conditions. It interprets the results generated by the AI processing module and determines the appropriate traffic signal timing for each lane. For example, if a particular road has a higher number of vehicles, the system allocates a longer green signal duration to clear the traffic. This layer ensures that the system follows predefined rules and logical conditions for efficient traffic management.

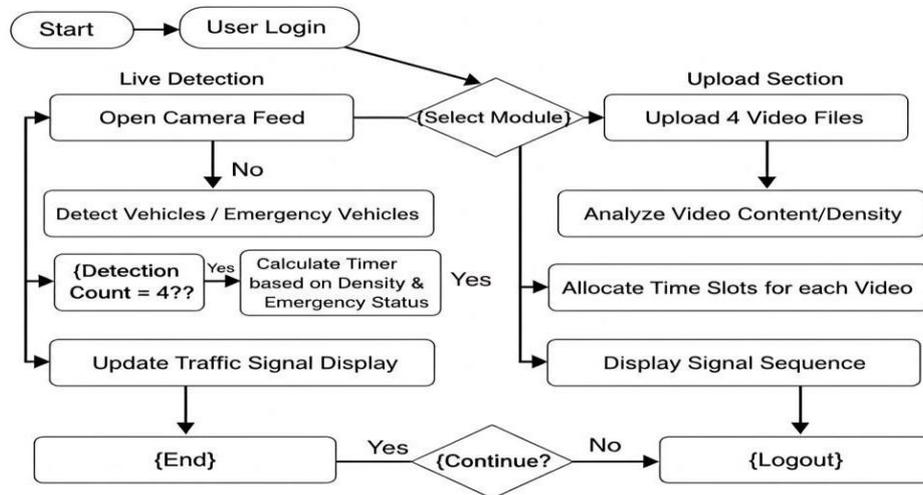
6. Data Layer:

The Data Layer is responsible for storing and managing all system-related data. This includes recorded traffic videos, vehicle detection results, traffic density data, and historical traffic records. The stored data can be used for future analysis, system improvements, and understanding traffic patterns over time. Proper data storage also helps in monitoring system performance and generating reports for traffic management authorities.



VI. BLOCK DIAGRAM

Traffic Management System Flow



VII. OBJECTIVE

1. To develop a smart traffic control system using computer vision that can automatically monitor traffic conditions at road intersections.
2. To detect and count vehicles from live video or camera footage using image processing and computer vision techniques.
3. To analyze traffic density in different lanes by calculating the number of vehicles present in each direction.
4. To dynamically control traffic signal timing based on real-time traffic conditions instead of using fixed signal timing.
5. To reduce traffic congestion and minimize waiting time at intersections by improving traffic flow.
6. To decrease unnecessary fuel consumption and reduce environmental pollution caused by long vehicle idling at traffic signals.
7. To provide an efficient and intelligent traffic monitoring system that assists traffic authorities in better traffic management.

VIII. FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- The proposed system shall capture live video from cameras installed at traffic intersections to monitor vehicle movement in real time.
- The system shall detect vehicles from the captured video using computer vision and image processing techniques.
- The system shall count the number of vehicles present in each lane to determine the level of traffic density.
- The system shall analyze traffic conditions based on vehicle count and traffic flow at the intersection.
- The system shall dynamically adjust traffic signal timings according to the real-time traffic density to improve traffic flow.
- The system shall display traffic monitoring information such as detected vehicles, vehicle count, and signal status through a monitoring interface.
- The system shall store traffic data and vehicle detection results for future analysis and reporting.
- The system shall generate alerts or notifications when heavy traffic congestion is detected at an intersection.



IX. NON-FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Performance:** The system should process video input and detect vehicles quickly to ensure real-time traffic monitoring and signal control.
- **Accuracy:** The system should provide accurate vehicle detection and traffic density estimation using reliable computer vision techniques.
- **Reliability:** The system should operate continuously without failure to ensure consistent traffic monitoring and signal management.
- **Scalability:** The system should be capable of expanding to monitor multiple intersections without affecting performance.
- **Usability:** The system should provide a simple and easy-to-use interface for traffic authorities to monitor traffic conditions.
- **Security:** The system should protect system data and restrict unauthorized access to the traffic monitoring platform.
- **Maintainability:** The system should be easy to maintain, update, and improve when new features or technologies are introduced.
- **Availability:** The system should remain available and functional for long periods to support uninterrupted traffic management.

X. CONCLUSION

The Smart Traffic Control System using Computer Vision provides an intelligent solution to manage traffic congestion in busy urban areas. Traditional traffic signal systems operate on fixed timing and do not consider real-time traffic conditions, which often results in inefficient traffic flow and longer waiting times at intersections. The proposed system uses computer vision techniques to monitor traffic through cameras, detect and count vehicles, and analyze traffic density in different lanes. Based on this analysis, the system dynamically adjusts traffic signal timings to improve the movement of vehicles and reduce congestion.

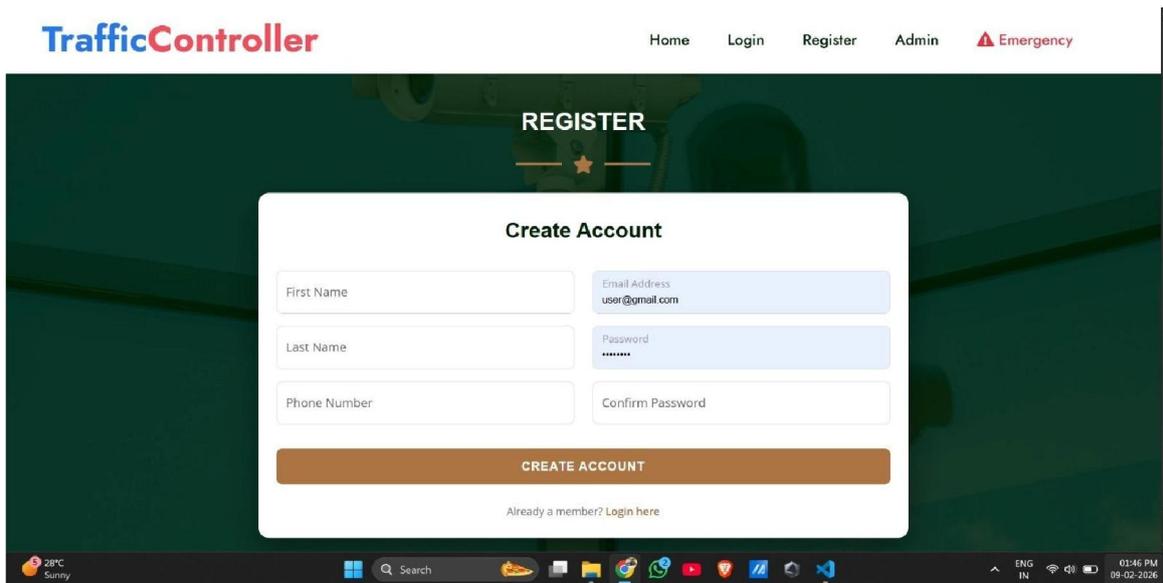
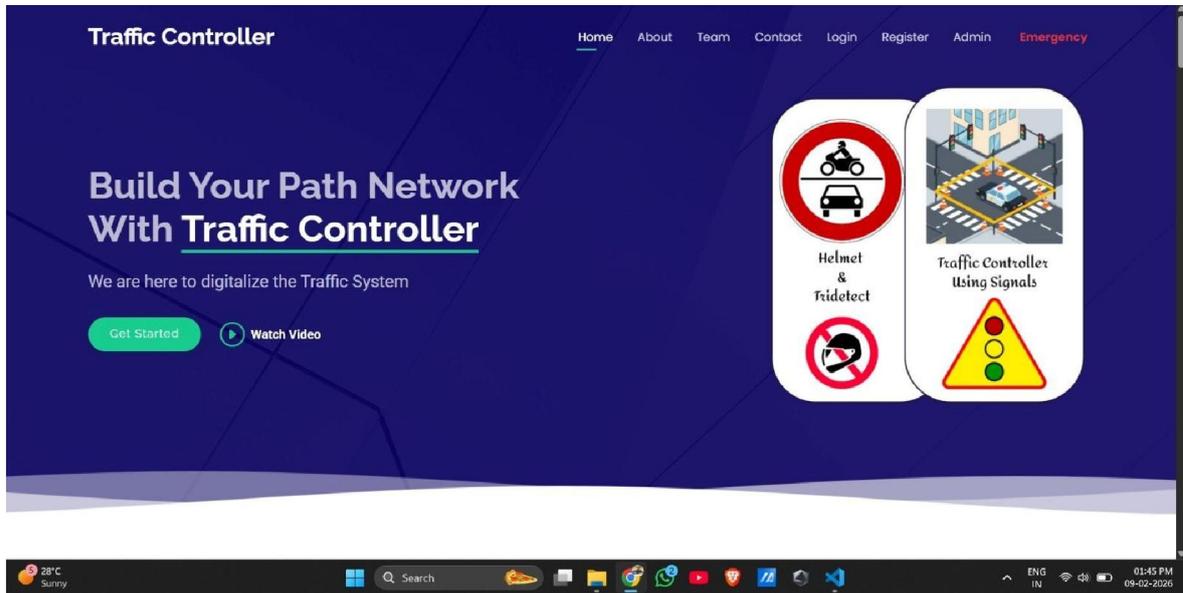
By implementing this system, traffic management can become more efficient and automated. It helps in reducing unnecessary waiting time at signals, minimizing fuel consumption, and lowering air pollution caused by idle vehicles. In addition, the system can provide useful traffic data that can assist authorities in understanding traffic patterns and improving road planning. Overall, the smart traffic control system using computer vision can contribute to better traffic management, improved road safety, and more efficient transportation in modern cities management.

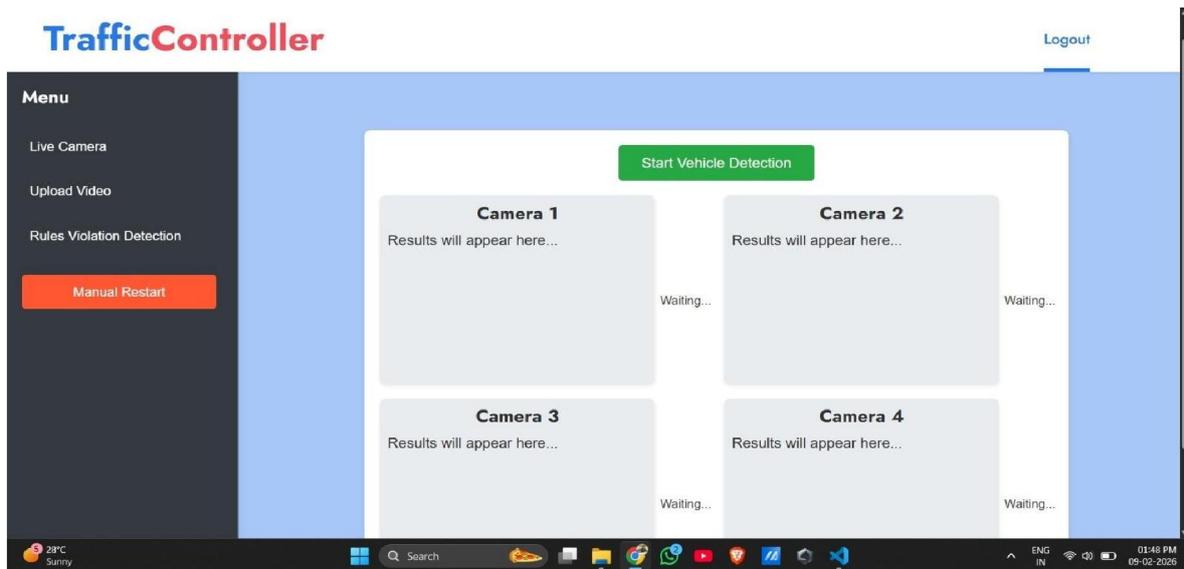
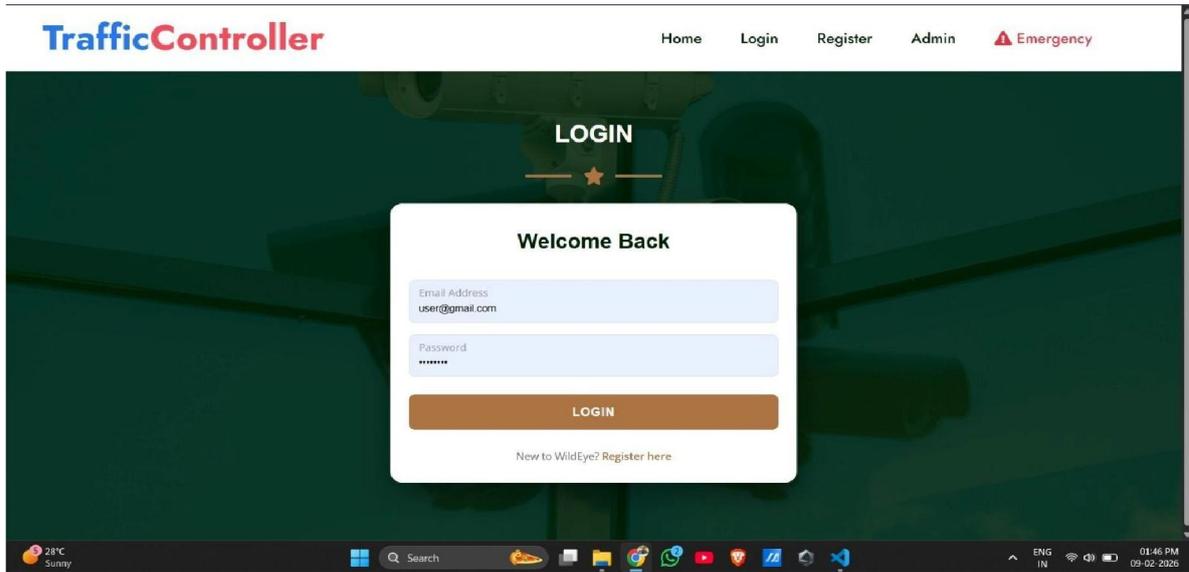
XI. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

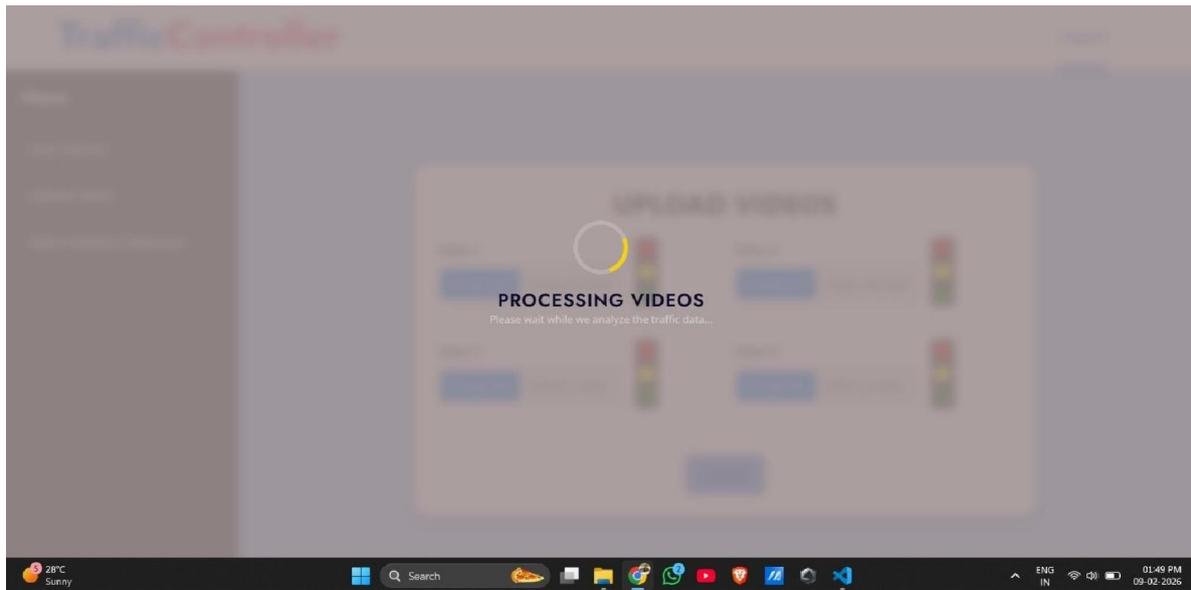
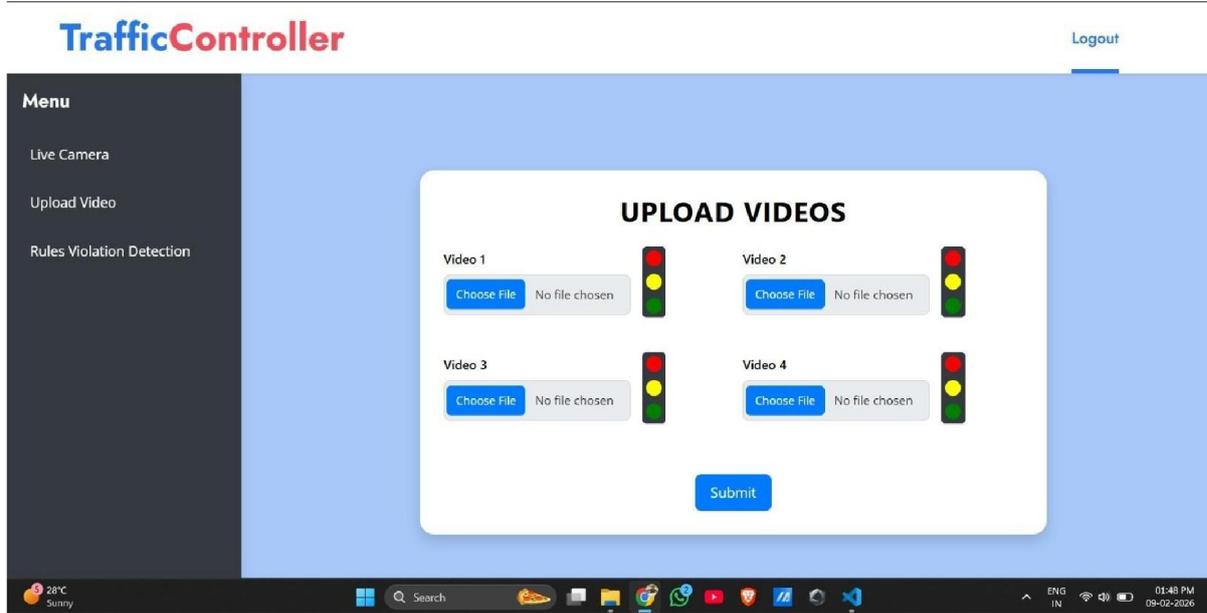
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XII. OUTPUT







TrafficController

Logout

Menu

- Live Camera
- Upload Video
- Rules Violation Detection
- Manual Restart

 <p>0:00 / 0:00</p>	Total vehicles: 28 Time: 13s 	 <p>0:00 / 0:00</p>	Total vehicles: 28 Time: 20 sec 
 <p>0:00 / 0:00</p>	Total vehicles: 0 Time: 10 sec 	 <p>0:00 / 0:00</p>	Total vehicles: 0 Time: 10 sec 

28°C Sunny | Search | ENG IN | 01:49 PM 09-02-2026

TrafficController

Home Login Register Admin Emergency

ADMIN LOGIN

Admin Portal

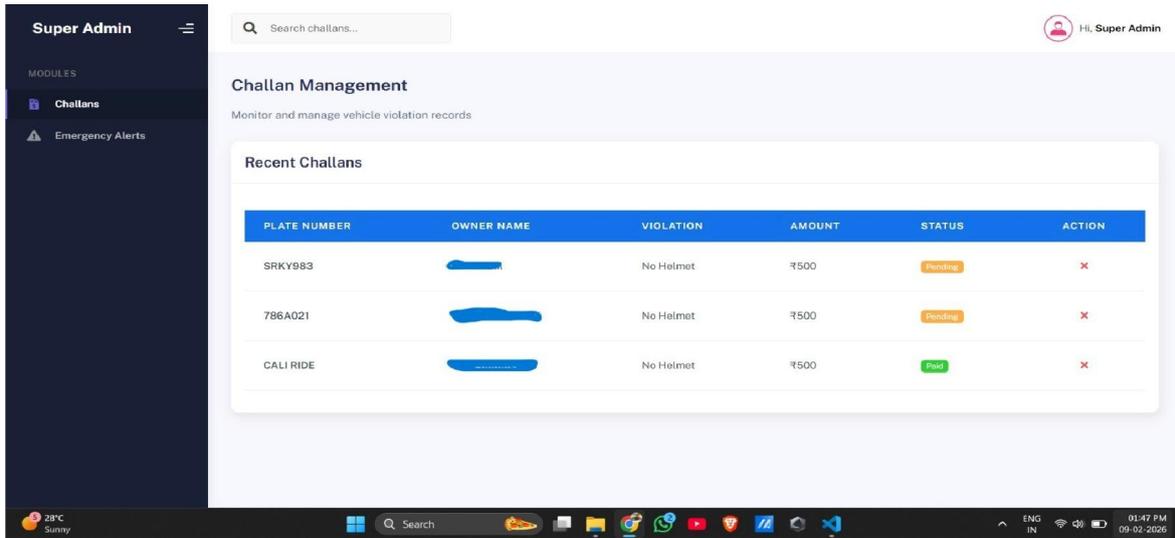
Username: user@gmail.com

Password: *****

ACCESS DASHBOARD

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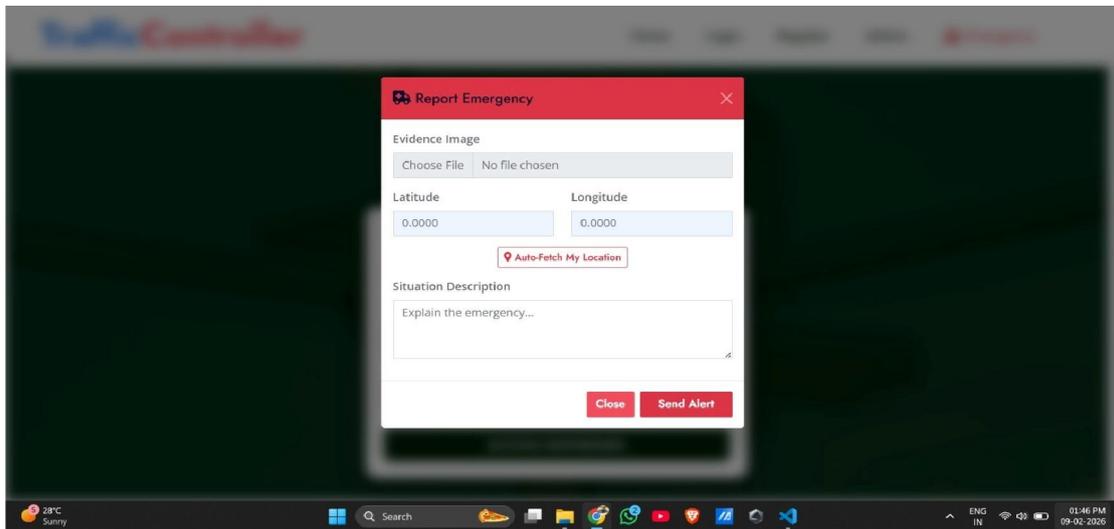




Challan Management
Monitor and manage vehicle violation records

Recent Challans

PLATE NUMBER	OWNER NAME	VIOLATION	AMOUNT	STATUS	ACTION
SRKY983	[Redacted]	No Helmet	₹500	Pending	✖
786A021	[Redacted]	No Helmet	₹500	Pending	✖
CALI RIDE	[Redacted]	No Helmet	₹500	Paid	✖



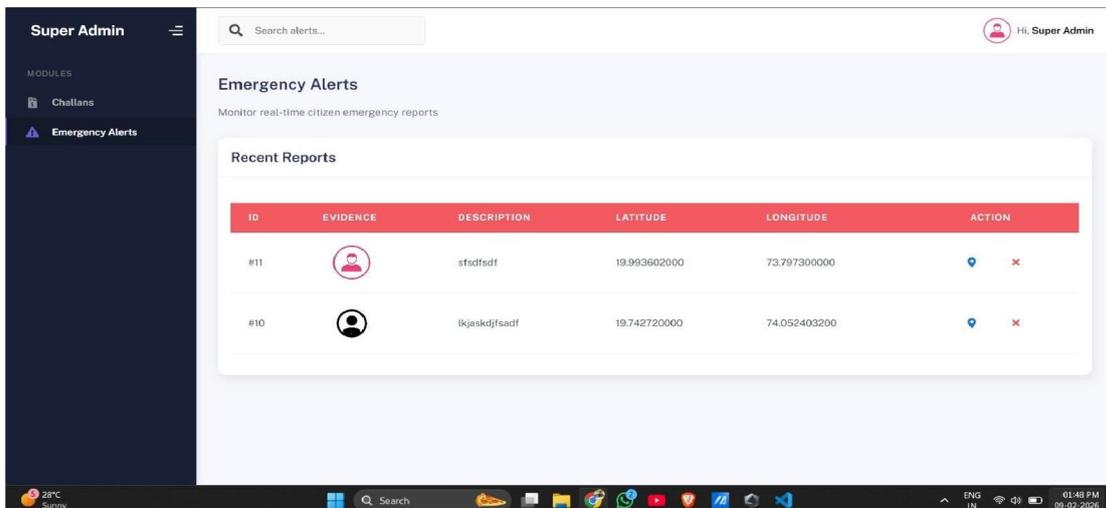
Report Emergency

Evidence Image
Choose File | No file chosen

Latitude: 0.0000 | Longitude: 0.0000
[Auto-Fetch My Location]

Situation Description
Explain the emergency...

[Close] [Send Alert]

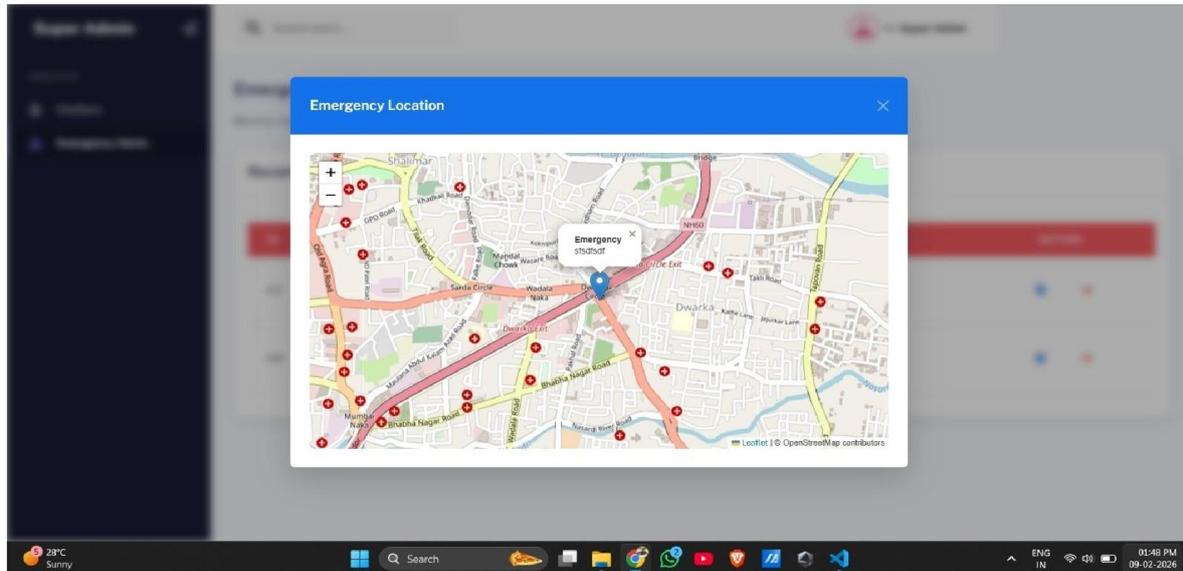


Emergency Alerts
Monitor real-time citizen emergency reports

Recent Reports

ID	EVIDENCE	DESCRIPTION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ACTION
#11	[User Icon]	stsdtsdf	19.993602000	73.797300000	[Location] ✖
#10	[User Icon]	lkjaskdjfsadf	19.742720000	74.052403200	[Location] ✖





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