NewsNIC
“e-News Clipping” Solution from NIC

User Manual

Prepared by:
Library & Information Services Division

Amendment Log

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1.1. Background

Newspapers constitute an important source of information as they contain the latest information in the form of news with, often, daily updating. The information published in newspapers covers every aspect of socio-techno-economic scenario prevalent in individual countries and around the world. Being aware of the importance of information published as news in newspapers, libraries have been providing News Clipping Services in various ways since newspapers were invented. Initially, libraries used manual methods to mark, cut, and paste the news items from newspapers and then circulate these among key personnel in an organization.

With the advent of IT during last few decades, libraries have started to automate this service by designing bibliographic databases of news clippings and providing online access for the users. This certainly has facilitated wide circulation of the news clippings and better searching of the archives. However, in such systems the news clippings themselves were often delivered in print format. More recently, these bibliographic databases have been supplemented by the inclusion of the news clippings as scanned images. A number of libraries and agencies have implemented this kind of News Clipping Imaging systems. Such systems have eliminated the delivery of news items in print and instead the news items are provided in digital form as scanned images. However, such systems provide for limited searching of the archive file of news images.

With the introduction of Web technology, the availability of better Scan/OCR (Optical Character Reading) software and the advent of relational database management systems, some libraries have opted to implement a Web-based full-text news clipping system. In such a system, the news clippings are converted to text/HTML format and stored in the appropriate field in a database along with other fields such as title, author, date, paper name, etc. Such full-text databases of news clippings are then accessed by library users over the Web and in a network environment. This certainly has improved the access of news clippings over the Web and archives searching from the full-text body of the news items.

1.2. NewsNIC Project

The access, delivery and retrieval of a news clipping service in the traditional/manual manner is really a time consuming job, especially in a large organization such as ours where library users are posted all over the country. Therefore, it was decided to undertake the NewsNIC project to develop a Client / Server and web-based full-text news clipping system in the library for better and quicker delivery of useful news to remote users over parent network - NICNET. The NICNET is a nation-wide satellite based communications network set up by our parent organization - the NIC serving the Government of India (NICNET, 2002).
1.3. Objectives

Main Objectives of this project are:-

- to eradicate the traditional/manual method of news clipping service and thus, to save the manpower time and efforts
- to provide the full-text news in digital form with better archive retrieval techniques
- to make use of IT tools in the library and thus to set an ideal example of Web-based full-text news clipping service
- to implement such a system in other Government libraries in India connected through parent network - NICNET
- to install this product in all the Government libraries in India

1.4. History

The version 1.0 was implemented during 2000 and is accessible over the NIC Intranet at http://library.nic.in/newsnic and has been running successfully fulfilling the objectives mentioned above.

1.5. Advantages

The web-based news clipping systems have various advantages over traditional news clippings services and a few have been listed below:

- instant access of news clippings over the Web through a common user interface
- global access of news clippings in real time by remote users
- access to full-text news supplemented with graphics, charts, tables, etc.
- up-to-the-minute updated access of news
- dynamic updating of the back-end database from many locations
- provision of a high level of search options for news archive retrieval
- instant feedback from users
- unlimited downloading and printing
- environmental friendly

1.6. Users

This current version of “NewsNIC” will be used by all kinds of libraries, information centres and information disseminating agencies.

1.7. Costing Policy

It has been decided by the competent authority that the software will be distributed FREE to all Government organizations under the “e-Governance” movement of NIC. NIC will also implement this software and will extend the support /training to NIC users only.
1.8. Systems Requirements

To run this software smoothly, users need to have following minimum requirements :-

Hardware:

1. Web Server (P IV with 512MB RAM, HDD 40 GB)
2. Clients (P IV with 256 MB RAM, HDD 20 GB)
3. Scanner With OCR Software

Software / OS:

4. Windows 2000 Server or above for Server PC
5. Windows 2000 Professional / XP for clients
6. Internet Information Server 5.0

LAN/Internet Connectivity

1.9. Technology Used

For designing “NewsNIC” software, following tools and technologies have been used:-

1. Front end program for Client – Visual Basic 6
2. Web Interface – HTML/ASP pages
3. Scripting Tool for ASP – VB Script / Java Script
Installation Procedure

There are following three parts of the software to be installed:-

A. Create a user in Server PC
   A1. Create a user in Server PC

B. Components to be installed on Server PC
   B.1. NewsNIC Database in MS-SQL Server
   B.2. Web Interface

C. Components to be installed on Client PC
   C.1. “NewsNIC” Software
   C.2. Set ODBC connection to server

[A.1.]. Create a user in Server PC

Before installation of any component on server PC please follow the following steps to create a user in Server PC:-

1. Logon Server PC in Administrator
2. Hook the Active Directory Users menu given under “Administrative Tools”
3. Create a new user using following screen

User name  = libuser
Password  = libuser
Keep other settings on default

4. Edit this user if required to change the user setting
[B.1]. Installation of “NewsNIC” Database in Server PC

B.1.1. Open the SQL Server Enterprise Manager – Start >> Programs >> Microsoft SQL Server >> Enterprise Manager

B.1.2. Expand SQL Server Enterprise Manager by clicking + Sign as given below…
B.1.3. Right Click the “DATABASE” option and Press “New Database” as given below…

B.1.4. Give the Name of new database – NewsNIC, keep every thing as default and press OK…NewsNIC Database is created as BLANK.
B.1.4. Right Click “NewsNIC” database you just created, go to “All Tasks” option and Click “Restore” database…
B.1.5. from the RESTORE screen given below, Select Database “NewsNIC” from Database drop-down, select “from Device” radio button given in the Restore option. keep other things as default…

B.1.6. Press SELECT DEVICE and browse Database backup file (NewsNIC)..(you can copy this file from CD/ Database folder…and select this file for restore)..
B.1.7. Press OK, OK, OK (3 times) and Select OPTION Tab…select option (Force Restore over existing database). Keeping other things as default…press Ok.

Now your database (NewsNIC) has been restored it Server PC.

B.1.8. Select “Security” option from Enterprise Manager and click “Logins”
B.1.9. Right Click “logins” to add NEW Login. Add new user i.e. libuser you just created in windows and select browse it to select. Select Database Name (NewsNIC) and Language name. Keep authentication as “Windows Authentication”

B.10. click on “Server Role” and “Database Role” as shown in the screen
Now, you have created a NewsNIC database, restored it with the backup from CD and, assigned the user i.e. libuser with the “Windows Authentication”

[B.2]. Installation of WEB Interface in Server PC
B.2.1. Browse CD and Copy "NewsNIC" Folder from CD under the following directory on Server PC:-

C:\InderPub\wwwroot\NewsNIC\.....*all files*…

b.2.2. Select “Global.asa” file from NewsNIC folder you just copied and open it for editing, change the IP address in the following line.. and save it

Application("db_Connection")="provider=sqloledb;server=10.1.12.143;database=NewsNIC;uid=newsnic;pwd=newsnic"

Keep your two folders as shared i.e. HTMLFiles, PHOTO

[C.1]. Installation of “NewsNIC” software at Client PC

Following steps are required to install this program:-

C.1. 1. Insert the Software CD in the drive and double Click the “Setup.exe” file available in the root of the CD
C.1.2. After Clicking the Setup file, following screen will appear
C.1.3. Press OK

C.1.4. Press “Continue”, Sometimes messages show old dll files available in the PC, press YES
C.1.5. In case any error comes, press IGNORE …

C.1.6. After successful installation, following message comes..
Now, you have successfully install the NewsNIC Software in your client PC. Onwards now, you will set ODBC (Open Data Base Connectivity) connection at client PC in order to connect it with the Server PC

[C.2]. Set ODBC Connection from Client PC

C.2.1 Go to START >> Settings >> Control Panel as shown in the below screen

C.2.2. Select “Administrative Tools” Icon from the list and Double Click it.
C.2.3. Select ODBC Icon and double Click it….ODBC Data Source Administrator will appear as given below…

![ODBC Data Source Administrator](image1)

C.2.4. Select “System DSN Tab” and Press “Add” Button…List of Drivers will appear as given below…

![List of Drivers](image2)
C.2.5. After Selecting “SQL Server”, press FINISH Button…fill the following information in the next screen shown below,
NAME: NewsNIC,
DESCRIPTION: Leave it blank
SERVER: either select server from the drop-down list OR enter server IP address

C.2.6. Press NEXT button and select second “Radio Button” with Windows Authentication, or SQL Authentication with Login ID and Password as below:
LOGIN ID: libuser
PASSWORD: libuser
C.2.7. Press NEXT button and SELECT “NewsNIC” database from drop-down menu under “Change the Default database to”…

C.2.8. Press NEXT button and SELECT English language as Default Language and Press FINISH Button…
C.2.9. Press the TEST button and Press OK… OK
3.1. How to Start the NewsNIC Software

1. Logon client PC to Server PC by providing following user authentication
   User ID = libuser
   PW = libuser
   Domain Name : Server domain

2. Go to START >> Programs >> e-News Clipping Software >> NewsNIC

   ![NewsNIC Software Menu]

   NOTE: Sometimes, no program icon appear. In this case, you make a shortcut of the
   “NewsNIC.exe” file present in “C:\Program Files\NEwsNIC\” folder

3. Select USER CODE from drop-down and type correct PASSWORD…Main Menu of the
   NewsNIC software will appear as given below..
3. On providing proper Authentication, you will get MAIN MENU of this software to work further using various modules …
3.2. Admin Module

On clicking the “Admin Module” you will get the following screen which shows existing records in a Data Grid along with various options / facilities in the form of Buttons to do various tasks.

Online HELP is given in each of the screen in the Right side boxes. Text – Sensitive help is being provided to ease the operation of the module. Buttons captions indicate the functions related to them and are self-explanatory.

Functions of the Module

This module can be used for the following functions which have also been given in the “Module info” in right side of the screen:-

1. To retrieve the existing records by providing the values in the given text boxes
2. To Add New Record by entering the new values in the text boxes
3. To Edit the existing record by changing the values
4. To Delete the existing record by selecting from the Data Grid
5. To Change the existing PASSWROD of any user
Data Validation Rule and Check Points

1. ID is *Numeric* only and *System Generated*. It means that while adding new record there is no need to enter ID, it will be added by system automatically.
2. CODE is *alpha-numeric* in nature and this field is *10 Characters* long. It is always entered in CAPS automatically.
3. PASSWORD field should be in running case
4. While Deleting the existing record, system will check if this record is in relationship with other data. In case this record (to be deleted) is in use, record will not be deleted.
3.3. News Papers Module

On clicking the “News Paper Module” you will get the following screen which shows existing records in a Data Grid along with various options / facilities in the form of Buttons to do various tasks.

**Functions of the Module**

This module can be used to do the following functions which have also been given in the “Module Info” at right side, with case – sensitive help online:-

1. To Retrieve existing record of the News paper by their Id, Code, Name, city, etc.
2. To Add new record by providing News Paper details in the text boxes
3. To Edit the existing info for any News paper by changing these
4. To Delete the record from any News Paper by selecting the record from Data Grid
Data Validation Rule and Check Points

1. Paper ID is \textit{Numeric} only and \textit{System Generated}. It means that while adding new record there is no need to enter ID, it will be added by system automatically.

2. Paper CODE is \textit{alpha-numeric} in nature and this field is \textit{3 Characters} long. It is always will be entered in CAPS automatically.

3. While Deleting the existing record, system will check if this record is in relationship with other data. In case this record (to be deleted) is in use, record will not be deleted.

4. Logo Images of the News Paper should be saved in the “Images” folder resides in Server PC where files for Web Interface have been copied e.g. \texttt{C:\InterPub\wwwroot\NewsNIC\Imges\*.} image files

5. “Image path” of any News paper is the path where Logo images will be saved under the web interface, generally it will be “Images/name of the image file with extension. e.g. Images/htn.jpg
3.4. News Module

On clicking the “News Module” you will get the following screen which shows existing News items in a Data Grid along with various options / facilities in the form of Buttons to do various tasks.

**Functions of the Module**

This module can be used to do the following functions which have also been given in the “Module Info” at right side, with case – sensitive help online:-

1. To Retrieve existing record of the News items by their Id, Title, News paper name, and date, etc.
2. To Add new News item (1 by 1) by providing necessary data in various text boxes
3. To Edit existing data in a record by selecting the record from Data Grid
4. To Delete existing record / news items from database

**Data Validation Rules and Check Points**

1. The NEWS ID is Numeric in nature and is System Generated. While adding new news item, News ID will not be entered by the user
2. Date of the News Item should be entered in Indian style only i.e. dd/mm/yyyy
3. Web Path is URL path of any News item published over internet and can be copied from ADDRESS of the Internet Browser. e.g.
4. In the text box of DETAILS, complete body of the News item should be pastes by excluding heading / date line of the news item selected
5. The news items selected to be included in database can be taken either by scanning/OCR of the printed paper or from web version of the paper.
6. News item will be saved in the same format (text/HTML, etc) as pasted from original source
7. To add news items to database in bulk will be done by Uploading program in UPLOADING module
8. News items selected can only be cut and paste in digital form
9. In case there are more than one Authors / Correspondents, these should be separated by “;” i.e. semicolon
10. While Editing the existing record of any news item from database, do not delete HTML tags from the body of the news (displayed in DETAILS field/text box)
3.5. HTML Template Module

On clicking the “HTML Template Module” you will get the following screen which shows existing HTML Template used to prepare News items in HTML Format. In fact, a Template provides a skeleton for documents style with necessary space for data elements in the form of HTML META tags. The HTML Template fulfills two purposes – 1. provides uniformity in the display style and 2. provides space for entering data elements (e.g. Title, Paper Code, Date, Author Name, Title, Keywords, etc...) from News items selected. Later these data elements embedded as HTML META Tags are used by Uploading module to transfer these data elements into the corresponding field in Database.

Functions of the Module

HTML Template can be used to generate HTML Files of the News Items selected by cut and paste methods where various data elements from news items are pasted over corresponding META tags. Then this template is saved as HTML File with the extension “htm” or “html”. Below is the copy of HTML Template:-
How to Generate News File (HTML file) using HTML Template

1. Open the template and copy it over a blank page in HTML Editor (FrontPage 2000), in HTML View replacing its original HTML codes
2. Copy the various data elements either from Scanning/OCR of printed paper or from web version of the paper and paste over corresponding META Tags as given below in blue color:
3. Copy the other data elements also such as Title, Body of the News items and paste over the HTML Tags.
4. Do not remove META tags, etc. from Template
5. Save this as HTML file in a separate folder
6. Use set scheme of file nomenclature which has been defined under “Generate HTML Files” Module.
7. Below is given a sample HTML file in HTML view:-

```
<html>
<head>
<meta name="category" content="">
<meta name="author" content="">
<meta name="mydate" content="06/11/2002">
<meta name="page" content="">
<meta name="keyword" content="">
<meta name="webpath" content="">
<meta name="username" content="">
<meta name="lname" content="">
</head>

<title>TITLE: Cybercops keep an eye on hackers</title>
</head>

<body bgcolor="#FFFFFF" text="#000000">

estreng

<font color="#000000" face="Times New Roman" size="5">

TITLE: Cybercops keep an eye on hackers</u>
</font></strong></p><blockquote>

<font face="Arial" size="2" color="#000000">

AUTHOR: Gary Silverman
</font></strong></p>

<font face="Arial" size="2" color="#000000">

NEMTIONS CONTENT

"We have been hired to investigate some of these people with purportedly strong business backgrounds," he says.
</font></strong></p>

</font></strong></p>

</html>
```
<html>
<head>
<meta name="category" content="HTN ">
<meta name="author" content="Ram Kumar Matoria ">
<meta name="mydate" content="06/11/2002">
<meta name="page" content="12 ">
<meta name="keyword" content="NIC;MCIT ">
<meta name="webpath" content="http://library.nic.in/fullTextJournals/save.html ">
<meta name="usercode" content="RKM ">
<meta name="libcode" content="NICLIB ">
<title>TITLE: Cybercops keep an eye on hackers</title>
</head>
<body bgcolor="#FFFFFF" text="#000000">
<p>
<font face="Arial" size="2" color="#000000">
<strong>AUTHOR: Gary Silverman </strong></font>
</p>
<p>
<font face="Arial" size="2" color="#000000">
<strong>TITLE: Cybercops keep an eye on hackers </strong></font>
</p>
<p>
<font face="Arial" size="2" color="#000000">
<strong>NEWSITEMS CONTENT
"We have been hired to investigate some of these people with purportedly strong business backgrounds," he says.
</strong></font>
</p>
</body>
</html>
3.6. Generate HTML Files Module

On clicking the “Generate HTML Files Module” you will get the following screen which shows the utility to generate News items file in HTML format just by cut and paste method.

Functions of the Module

1. To generate News Files in HTML format just by pasting the various data elements from news items in the appropriate text boxes.
2. To save the HTML files so generated in the appropriate folder for compression and uploading
3. To view the files generated
How to Generate HTML Files for News Items selected

1. Open the Module by Clicking the button on the main menu
2. Select Newspapers from Drop Down menu
3. Copy the various data elements (e.g. Author(s), Title, Web Path, News Body, etc. either from web version of the newspaper or from scanning/OCR of the individual news item) over corresponding text boxes
4. In case, news item selected is having any photo/image, then save this image in the same folder where you are going to save all the HTML files of the News items. Also type the name of the image/photo along with its dimensions in the appropriate text boxes. The dimensions of any image can be get by right clicking the image and by reading the PROPERTIES tab.
5. Select the saving location from the bottom directory utility and save the file by pressing the “Generate News HTML File” button.
6. While saving the News file, please remember to follow the “Nomenclature” scheme given here and use file extension as “htm” or “html”
File Nomenclature Scheme

You may need to follow the following nomenclature scheme for html/image files:-

1. News files will be saved as HTML files with the extension “htm” or “html”
2. File name contains 4 parts
   a. First 2 digits of numeric represent file no. in a given date e.g. 01, 02,…n..
   b. Followed by “-“ (hyphen)
   c. 3 digits representing the paper code e.g. bln,htn,ien,etn….. 
   d. Followed by “-“ (hyphen) 
   e. 6 digits numeric in nature representing current date of the day e.g.250504 – means 25th May 2004 
   f. followed by “.”
   g. File extension i.e. “htm” or “html” (for News items) and “jpg”, “gif” for Image/photo files. See below image
   h. In case of image / photo, if any, with the news items selected, please follow the same nomenclature and give the same name as of its parent HTML file name, with difference in file extension.
Data Validation Rules and Check Points

1. While generating News Items by using this module, please use the Indian style of the Date e.g. “dd/mm/yyyy”
2. In case more than one keywords, use “;” between these
3. URL Path can be copies from web version of the news items from Location Bar of the Internet browser
4. In Image Name Text box, please give name of the image/photo with its extension e.g. “jpg”, “gif”....
5. Select a separate folder to save the files of one date. Name of the folder can be assigned by following the file nomenclature scheme e.g. MAY –parent folder, sub folder under this will be as – 010504, 020504…310504
6. Do not remove any HTML tags from News Body text box
3.7. Compress HTML Files Module

On clicking the “Compress HTML Files” you will get the following screen which shows the utility to compress HTML Files of the News items generated for database.

![Compress HTML Files Module](image)

**Functions of the Module**

1. To compress the HTML files (of the News items generated) in order to save the space used by line breaks and white space in the HTML tags.
2. In fact, these news items (HTML files) will be uploaded direct to corresponding fields in the Database at back end. In MS-SQL Server, the upper limit of a field with VARCHAR data type is 8KB. The files below this limit will be stored in the DETAILS field of the database which will be used for full-text searching. This avoids the necessity of providing KEYWORDS for each news items which is a cumbersome and time consuming job. On the other hand, files bigger than this 8kb limit will be uploaded in a folder under web interface. Therefore, we compress the HTML files in order to bring it below 8kb limit so that it can be stored directly in the corresponding filed of the database.
How to Compress the files

The News files (HTML Files) so generated and saved in a folder are compressed by selecting the folder from Drive and by pressing the “Compress Files” button, rest of the job is done by program itself. In case, there are image/photo files, these files will not be compressed. During compression, programs shows the old size, new size and compression percentage, as given in the below folder.

After compression, all files (HTML / IGF/JPG, etc.) are copied to new folder with the “.Compressed” extension, this is also reported during compression. This new “compressed folder” will contain the compressed files while original folder contains original files without compression. The Compressed folder will be used by uploading module to upload these files in the database/web folder depending on the size of the files.

Data Validation Rules and Check Points

It is better to use different folder name daily to store the news files/image/photo files. You may follow the file nomenclature scheme to name the folder also. You can also delete compressed folder daily after news are uploaded.
3.8. Upload HTML Files Module

On clicking the “Upload HTML Files” you will get the following screen which shows the utility to UPLOAD HTML Files of the News items generated into the database at back end.

Functions of the Module

1. This module is used to VALIDATE the data elements from News items to be uploaded to the corresponding fields of the database. These elements are TITLE, AUTHOR / CORRESPONDENT NAME, DATE, PAPER CODE, URL, NEWS BODY, etc.
2. During validation of the data elements, if some mistakes are there (such as Date is not in proper format, Paper code is not valid, etc.), then system will report to you by flashing a message.
3. After validation of the data elements, latter are uploaded to the corresponding fields in the database.
4. As it is said earlier that if the file is below 8KB then news file is uploaded in HTML format directly to the one field of the database i.e. DETAILS. While the file is bigger than 8KB, this file is uploaded to the Web Folder, simultaneously, updating the META fields in the database.
### Data Elements and Database Fields

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Elements</th>
<th>Fields</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. NewsID</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>System generated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Title</td>
<td>TITLE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Author/Correspondent</td>
<td>AUTHOR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Full News Body (HTML File)</td>
<td>DETAILS</td>
<td>Full-text searching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Page No.</td>
<td>PAGE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Paper Code</td>
<td>PAPER CODE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. News Date</td>
<td>DATE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. News URL</td>
<td>WEB PATH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. File Path (uploaded to web folder)</td>
<td>FILE PATH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Keywords</td>
<td>KEYWORD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Data Validation Rules and Check Points

In case, system reports any invalidity in the data elements while running this module, you may correct this problem by editing the HTML file in FrontPage 2000 editor.
3.9. Server Information Module

On clicking the “Server Info” you will get the following screen which shows the utility to provide Server related Information in order to work this software in Client / Server mode.

Functions of the Module

1. As this software works in client/server mode, it means that the NewsNIC software is installed on clients while the database is resides in a Server. The “Web Interface” is also resides in the server in a publishing directory so that data can be published over internet.
2. It is obvious that while you are using NewsNIC software from a client PC it should be connected to the server to manipulate the data from database. For this purpose, after installation of the software at client ODBC connection is set.
3. While uploading the news files to the database/web folder (both at server PC), it is essential to connect to the server PC.
4. To connect the Client to Server PC, either logon your client to the server by providing the SAME Domain Name OR connect the Server manually.
5. In the Server PC where your Web folder exists (C:\Inetpub\wwwroot\NewsNIC\*.* files), following folders should exist and shared also:-

a). HTML File Folder
b). PHOTO Folder

c. These web folders mentioned above can be entered under this module and these folder should be shared for local network/LAN.

Data Validation Rules and Check Points

1. Following server info required for this module:-
   a. Server IP, e.g. 10.1.12.143
   b. Web Root Directory (where Web Interface will be installed for publishing news over Internet. e.g. “NewsNIC”. No full path is required, only the name of folder is enough
   c. HTML Files folder – This folder should be a sub-folder of Web Root Directory mentioned above. This folder will be used to store HTML Files bigger than 8KB. This folder should be shared for client PC
   d. PHOTO Folder should also be a sub-folder of Web Root Directory. It should be shared for client PC. This folder is used to store the Photo/images come along with news items
   e. URL Address: This is the http address of the NewsNIC web site e.g. http://10.12.1.143/newsnic/newsnic.htm
   f. Upload URL is the web Uploading interface.
   g. While using the software from Client PC, it is essential to connect the Server PC. This can be done either by connecting the server PC manually or by Logon the client to Server through specifying the same DOMAIN NAME as of Server Domain. For details, you may contact Server Administrator.
3.10. Web Edition

On Clicking the “Web Edition” button, you will launch web browser where NewsNIC web site will be opened. It will take the URL Address from server Information you just entered in Server Module.

Functions of the Module

1. This is a web interface to your NewsNIC database you just created using NewsNIC software from client PC. While you entered / upload new news records to back end database, these get published instantly over Internet using this web interface.
2. Users can access / search / filter the news items as per their requirements. The web interface has been written using ASP Technology and having following components:-
   a. HTML Pages
   b. ASP Pages
   c. Scripts in VB Script / Java Script
   d. Web Server: IIS
Search Engine

A powerful search engine has been written in ASP where users can access full text news items from the database. Latest news items are displayed separately as shown in the following screen:-

News archives can be searched by date, paper name, keywords (either in Title or News Body). Boolean search has also been provided to make it more effective for users. Below are the some screen shots of web interface:-
Results screen seen as below

Date-wise search is also possible as given below:-
Full-Text News is seen when you click on any of the results:-

![Business Line](image_url)

"Mobile cos told to make tariff plans more transparent"

Our Bureau

New Delhi, May 25

IN a bid to help mobile phone users who do not understand their tariff plans, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a directive to all service providers to follow a revised format of advertising their tariffs so as to ensure greater transparency.
3.11. Web-based News Upload Interface

This interface is an additional feature of the NewsNIC to upload the news items you just prepared/generated using this program. In fact, NewsNIC software which run on client PC is having “Uploading Module” as discussed above, however, additionally, the same Upload module has been provided on Server also as an web interface for News uploading. On clicking the web-based upload interface, you will get a news web site as given below:

On providing proper authentication, you will get following menu screen:
Functions of the Module

1. This module is used to Validate the news data elements before uploading the news items to database. In case, if the data elements are not in proper format, then, such data elements are displayed in different color.
2. This web interface is used to upload the News items to database as is done by Client interface module.

How to use This Interface

1. Put your HTML files / image/photo files you just prepared / generated using NewsNIC software on client PC to a web folder named as NEWS. This folder is available under your Web Interface i.e. C:\InterPub\wwwroot\NewsNIC\~Add_data\News\*.* html, gif, jpg files.
2. run the link “News Upload Program” and below given page will be available

3. Click Validate Files to validate the Data elements, as given below
4. Click UPLOAD button, All files will be uploaded to database, just FINISH it

5. Instantly news become available on the internet
Limitations & Future Improvements

4.1. Limitations

1. Software is used to generate News Items in HTML format only because:
   a. HTML Format is the common format used to publish over internet
   b. Data elements are embedded in HTML META Tags which are not visible
   c. Data elements embedded in META Tags are uploaded direct to Database by the UPLOADING Module
   d. Full-Text News searching is possible

2. For back end database, we have used MS-SQL server because:
   a) It supports searchable field length up to 8063 characters of data which is enough to store full-text news items. It has been observed during the last few years of the NewsNIC project running successfully that 98% of the news selected are below this size limit. News items that are bigger than this are not stored in database and instead are stored in a linked web directory.
   b) It supports a full-text search facility through Microsoft search service which offers the ability to issue queries against character data stored in a field. It is based on the full-text index generated and maintained by the SQL server full-text engine. The full-text index so generated can be updated automatically by scheduling the task once with the scheduler, an in-built feature of SQL Server.

3. To run the software properly, it is essential to logon / connect server PC from Client. Otherwise database and web folders will be accessed. To connect the server PC, you may need to access shared folder manually.

4. HTML Files larger than 8kb are uploaded directly into the HTMLFILES folder under Web directory, and these files are not searchable in full-text. However, you can search other data elements/fields of these news items

5. Report generation module is not available. However, printing of search results/full-text news items is possible through web interface

6. Module-wise security is not available

7. Database backup may only be done by System/database administrator using MS-SQL Server Enterprise interface

8. Import/Export interface is not available.

9. Copy right issue of the News is the sole responsibility of the user and not of the NIC

10. One image can be displayed along with news item. In case more than one image, then use the Template.txt file to prepare news items manually by using FrontPage 2000.
4.2. Future Improvements Planned in the Next version

1. Emailing selected news items will be added
2. Module wise security will be implemented
3. Connecting server PC automatically over LAN/network will be added
4. Import/Export interface will be written

4.3. Trouble shootings

1. While creating new user (libuser) in Server PC, use Active Directory, if not installed, please install it
2. Always define “Domain” name of the Server PC
3. Use this domain name along with user Id (libuser) and password (libuser) while logon the client PC to connect later to the server. In this case, you can share the folder you just specified in Web Interface i.e. HTMLFiles and PHOTO. These folders are required to store large html files and photos of news items, if any.
4. ODBC connection can be set in client PC in “Windows Authentication” mode to connect the database. You can try with different modes and users.
5. Make small adjustments in web interface by editing them.