SNIPPETS OF INFORMATION IN GEOLOGICAL SCIENCE
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ABSTRACT
Getting access to information has become the need for everybody. One needs to keep abreast with the happenings as and when it has happened. Gone are the days when we used to depend on print materials to simplify the process of our understanding. Now, with the click of a mouse, even in smart devices information is readily available. So, in view of the above mentioned facts, a specific area of study is chosen so that the learners of all stages may be brought under a common platform so that research activities associated with developing concepts can go hand in hand. Geology, as we all know, is the study of the Earth taking into account the internal and external features. Various processes are associated with the study of geology. Those processes that operate within the earth are known as endogenous processes while the processes that operate within the earth are known as exogenous processes. The geological study of an area is concerned with some features that are often associated with some events. Therefore, to pave the way for continued upgradation of the existing resources, a site may of help in disseminating the ideas for all-round growth and development.

Key Words: Information, Geology, Exogenous processes, Endogenous processes, Fertilizer

INTRODUCTION
Geology is the study of the Earth - our only home. It is a fascinating and important subject because nearly all the materials that our society needs (oil, gas, metals, building materials, agricultural fertilizers, etc.) have to be discovered by geologists. All of the history of life, continental drift and past climate and environmental change comes from the geologic record. The site of every building, road or home that is built has to be evaluated for geologic stability and potential hazards. Environmental protection, remediation and preservation of clean water supplies are all geologic issues. The idea of using computers to search for relevant pieces of information was popularized in the article - As We May Think by Vannevar Bush in 1945. The first automated information retrieval systems were introduced in the 1950s and 1960s.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
The purpose of developing this site is to create awareness among the students in the field of Geology. The various features that are associated with the study of Geology are depicted in the form of pictorial illustrations. Rocks and minerals are portrayed pictorially along with their characteristics, so that it grips the interest of the viewers and propels them to dive deeper into the subject.

MATERIAL AND METHODS
In order to develop the site, the following materials were used:
a. WAMP
b. Text Editor
WAMP stands for Windows Apache MySQL PHP. Windows is the Operating System that supports the software. Apache Web server is a web server application. Web server application helps to deliver web content to be accessed through the Internet. Development of Apache began in early 1995. The Apache software is written in C language. A MySQL database, like all other databases, is used to keep track of a website or software’s data. The technical term for MySQL is a ‘Relational Database Management System or RDBMS’. MySQL is a software program that runs at all times on a
server and gives other programs access to the information it maintains. PHP is a Server side programming language. It is used to develop dynamic websites and we can use it as an interface to connect to a database. Scripting language facilitate a disciplined approach to design computer programs that enhance the functionality and appearance of web pages. Scripting languages are specialized programming languages that are inserted on the web page to control different elements of the page including elements, frames and the browser interface. Notepad is a commonly available text editor for Windows. Codes were written in Notepad and subsequently saved with proper extension. For example .html, .css, .php denotes the different types of files that are used for designing the website.

For designing the webpage, CSS was used. CSS stands for ‘Cascading Style Sheets’. A style sheet describes the appearance and presentation of an HTML document. Instead of defining the style of each table and each block of text within a page's HTML, commonly used styles needs to be defined only once in a CSS document. Once, the style is defined in cascading style sheet, it can be used by any page that references the CSS file. Plus, CSS makes it easy to change styles across several pages at once. Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) are used to define the layout and design of each element that is included in the HTML page. In some of the pages, JavaScript was used for displaying the contents dynamically. Java Script is a scripting language. It enhances the functionality of a website.

Stages of design and development
In order to enhance the look of the pages, CSS were used. Thereafter, pages were created according to the selected topics. Graphics were inserted whenever required to provide a better understanding for the viewers. In addition, provisions were also made for interaction between the database and the user interface. As such, various features were incorporated in a particular menu option. The graphical part of the web application was accomplished by the use of some renowned software packages such as photoshop, Illustrator and CorelDraw. Of course the normal Paint program cannot be neglected as it enables us to establish a bridge while working in different applications.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
The files that are required to design the site are shown in Fig. 1. WebPages are displayed using files having ‘.html’ extension. Files having extension ‘.php’ are regarded as server – side scripting files. Database files are characterized by the files having extension ‘.sql’.

Database : The storehouse of information
In order to store the records, MySQL application is used for this purpose. Accordingly, a database is created that is followed by constructing a few tables. In each tables, field names are given so that the
records can be easily stored. The advantage of using MySQL is that records can easily be stored and at the same time fetched as per specified criteria. The language that is used for this purpose is popularly known as ‘Structured Query Language’. Statements are to be made to the database in order to search the records. MySQL screen is shown in Fig. 2. The various tables that are used for developing the site are shown in Fig. 3. The home page / index page of the site is shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 2: MySQL localhost screen

Fig. 3: MySQL table view screen

Fig. 4: Home page of the site
Special controls displayed in PHP page – drop down menus
These are the customized tools that are required to display a number of items from a table defined in the database. Viewers can select an item and then click on the submit button in order to get the records. Instantly, the characters are displayed along with the related picture. The whole description is provided in a tabular form and as such enables the viewer to grip the salient feature very easily. Efforts have been made to incorporate the concepts of environmental geology, geophysics, geochemistry, optical mineralogy, properties of rocks, etc. so that it becomes easier to grasp the basic information about the concerned topic.

CONCLUSION
Creativity is the driving force that pushes the world forward. Geology as practiced a hundred or even fifty years ago is different from what it is today. The scope of geological science is vast. As knowledge and experience grow, the traditional and historical perspectives of geological sciences have tended to change, requiring new tools for study. Therefore, I hope that this site will be instrumental for providing some of the basic facts to those who are ready to be a part of change.

REFERENCES