



Police Complaint Management System By Using Blockchain Technology

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Abstract—

The criminal activities in India are increasing at a rapid rate. Many of these activities go unreported. Even after having an online portal for the police for storing FIRs and NCRs, most of the FIRs are handwritten as a traditional practice. In most of the cases, the complainant has to be present in the police station to file a cognizable offense. An effective system for e-governance was started in 2009 named Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) for the entire country. However, it is a centralized system for a particular state. Thus, there is a need for a completely decentralized system for assuring that there is no central point of failure in the system and complaints are managed securely protected from unauthorized access.

Our aim is to propose a blockchain-based solution to manage complaints against both cognizable and non-cognizable offenses. The FIR filed by the police will be encrypted, stored in the IPFS and hash is added to the blockchain network. If the police decide not to file the FIR under pressure or deny receiving any complaint, then the complainant will have strong proof against him/her as the complaint along with its timestamp was stored on the blockchain network. Having all the records stored in an immutable database would remove any chances of the FIR/NCR being tampered and going unnoticed.

Keywords – Blockchain Technology, Police Complaint Management System, Smart Contracts, Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT), Decentralized Application (DApp), Data Integrity, Tamper-Proof Records, Immutable Audit Trail, Zero-Knowledge Proof (ZKP), Hyperledger Fabric and Permissioned Blockchain.



I. INTRODUCTION

Blockchain technology has revolutionized the way data is stored and managed by providing a decentralized, transparent, and tamper-proof infrastructure. With the rapid growth of digital governance and e-governance initiatives, managing public grievances and complaints efficiently has become a critical requirement for law enforcement agencies. One of the key issues in traditional police complaint systems is the lack of transparency, accountability, and secure record-keeping, which leads to mismanagement, data manipulation, and loss of public trust.

Traditional police complaint management methods rely on centralized databases and manual processes, which raise serious concerns about data integrity and security. These methods are vulnerable to unauthorized modifications, record tampering, and insider threats, making sensitive complaint data susceptible to misuse. As a result, there is a strong need for a system that can manage complaints transparently without exposing data to manipulation or corruption.

To address these challenges, this project introduces a secure and transparent solution using Blockchain Technology. This advanced distributed ledger technology allows complaint records to be stored in an immutable and decentralized manner without the risk of unauthorized alteration. By using blockchain and smart contracts, the system ensures that complaint registration, tracking, and resolution are carried out with complete data integrity and accountability.

The proposed system enables citizens to register complaints on the blockchain, where each complaint is assigned a unique cryptographic identity and tracked through every stage of investigation. If a complaint is resolved, the outcome is permanently recorded on the ledger, ensuring full transparency. This not only improves accountability but also enhances public trust in the law enforcement system.

1.1 Objectives of the Project

The main objective of this project is to develop a secure and transparent Police Complaint Management System using Blockchain Technology. It aims to register and track complaints in an immutable and tamper-proof manner without the risk of unauthorized modification. The project also focuses on eliminating data manipulation and corruption in complaint handling by leveraging decentralized ledger technology. Another objective is to ensure secure citizen authentication, encrypted complaint submission, and role-based access for authorized personnel. Additionally, the system is designed to maintain efficiency, scalability, and accuracy while processing complaint records on the blockchain. Finally, the project evaluates the performance of the proposed method compared to traditional systems in terms of transparency, data integrity, and operational efficiency.

1.2 Essential Characteristics of Proposed System

The proposed system is designed to provide a secure, efficient, and transparent solution for police complaint management using blockchain technology. Its essential characteristics are as follows:

- 1. Transparency & Accountability:** Records every complaint and its resolution status on an immutable public ledger accessible to authorized stakeholders.
- 2. Blockchain Technology:** Enables decentralized and tamper-proof storage of complaint records without reliance on a central authority.
- 3. Smart Contract Automation:** Automates complaint registration, assignment, and status updates through self-executing smart contracts.
- 4. Tamper-Proof Record Keeping:** Ensures that no complaint record can be altered, deleted, or manipulated once stored on the blockchain.
- 5. End-to-End Data Security:** Guarantees secure submission, processing, and retrieval of complaint information.
- 6. User Authentication & Role-Based Access Control:** Allows only authorized citizens, officers, and administrators to access system functionalities based on their roles.



7. **Scalability:** Efficiently handles large volumes of complaint data across multiple police departments and jurisdictions.
8. **High Accuracy & Efficiency:** Maintains reliable complaint tracking performance with minimal computational overhead and real-time status updates.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

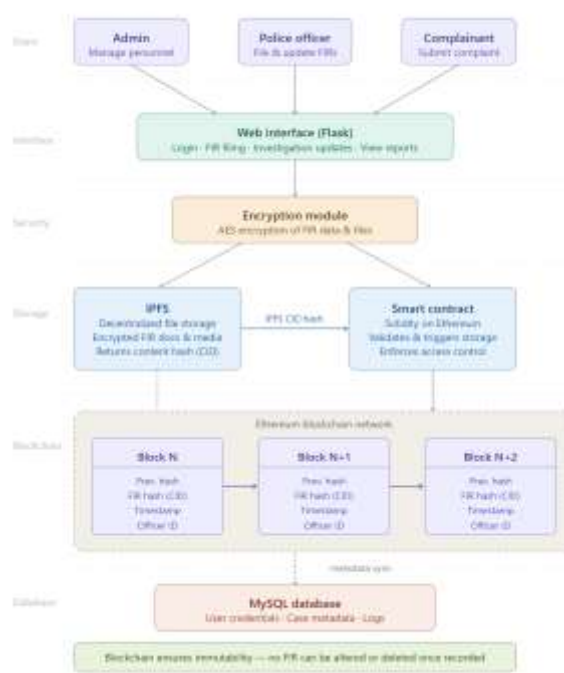
The literature review of this project focuses on the challenges and advancements in complaint management systems, digital governance, and blockchain-based security frameworks. Traditional police complaint management methods rely on centralized databases, paper-based records, and manual processing techniques such as hierarchical filing systems, case tracking registers, and officer-assigned reporting. While these methods are functional in controlled environments, they require access to unencrypted and unverified data, which raises serious concerns about record tampering, data manipulation, and lack of accountability. As digital governance rapidly expands across public institutions, these limitations highlight the urgent need for more secure, transparent, and efficient approaches to complaint management. Recent research emphasizes the use of Blockchain Technology as a powerful solution for transparent and tamper-proof data management. Blockchain allows records to be stored in a decentralized and immutable ledger without the risk of unauthorized alteration or deletion.

Various studies like Ethereum, Hyperledger Fabric, and Hyperledger Besu, improving their efficiency and applicability in real-world scenarios such as digital identity management, e-governance, and public grievance redressal.

Furthermore, several works address governance efficiency, data integrity, and trust management using techniques like smart contracts, consensus mechanisms, cryptographic hashing, and role-based access control frameworks. These advancements demonstrate that decentralized record-keeping is feasible and can significantly enhance data integrity and public trust in corruption-prone environments. However, most existing approaches do not effectively support end-to-end complaint lifecycle

management in a fully decentralized and tamper-proof form. The proposed project builds upon these research contributions by integrating Blockchain Technology with a Police Complaint Management System, enabling secure registration, tracking, and resolution of complaints while eliminating data redundancy, ensuring accountability, and providing scalability, efficiency, and strong data integrity protection in decentralized environments.

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE



The system architecture of the proposed project is designed to provide a secure and transparent framework for complaint management and tamper-proof record keeping in decentralized environments. It follows a multi-tier architecture, where users such as Admin, Police Officers, and Complainants interact with the system through a web interface built on Flask to register, track, and manage complaints. The architecture is divided into multiple modules such as user authentication, complaint submission, AES encryption, decentralized storage, smart contract execution, and blockchain record management. Each module is interconnected to ensure smooth data flow while maintaining strict security and integrity standards throughout the system.



At the core of the architecture is the Blockchain and Smart Contract module, which permanently records every complaint on the Ethereum blockchain after encryption and validation. Once a complaint is submitted, FIR documents and media files are encrypted using AES and stored on IPFS, which returns a unique content hash (CID). This CID is passed to a Solidity-based smart contract that validates the data, enforces access control, and triggers blockchain storage. Each block contains the Previous Hash, FIR Hash, Timestamp, and Officer ID, forming an immutable chain of records that cannot be altered or deleted once stored.

The architecture also includes secure access control and data management components to ensure end-to-end protection. The user authentication module verifies credentials stored in the MySQL database, while role-based access control restricts system functionalities based on user roles. Metadata such as case details and system logs are synchronized to MySQL for efficient reporting and query operations. The system is designed to be scalable, handling large volumes of complaint data across multiple jurisdictions. By integrating AES encryption, IPFS storage, smart contracts, and blockchain immutability, the architecture ensures high performance, transparency, and reliable complaint lifecycle management.

III. METHODOLOGY

A. User Authentication and Access Initiation: The data flow begins with the user registration and login process. New users such as Admin, Police Officers, and Complainants create an account by providing necessary details, which are securely stored in the MySQL database. During login, the authentication module verifies user credentials using secure validation techniques through the Web Interface built on Flask. Once authenticated, a session is created, allowing the user to interact with system services based on their role. This step ensures that only legitimate users can access complaint filing, investigation updates, and report viewing functionalities, thereby maintaining system security and preventing unauthorized access.

B. Complaint Submission and Input Validation:

After successful authentication, the complainant submits a complaint through the web application interface. The system performs multiple validation checks, such as verifying complaint details, file format of attached documents or media, and size constraints to ensure compatibility with the system. Any invalid or incomplete submissions are rejected at this stage. Once validated, the complaint data and supporting files are prepared for encryption and further processing. This step ensures data consistency and prevents unnecessary processing overhead caused by unsupported or invalid inputs.

C. Encryption of Complaint Data and Files:

Before transmitting the complaint data to the storage layer, the system encrypts both the FIR documents and associated media files on the client side using the AES Encryption Module. This is a critical step as it guarantees that the original complaint content is never exposed in plaintext form. AES encryption ensures that sensitive complaint information remains confidential and protected from unauthorized access. Even storage nodes cannot access or interpret the original complaint content, thereby achieving strong data confidentiality and protection against potential data breaches.

D. Decentralized Storage via IPFS: The encrypted complaint documents and media files are then securely transmitted to the IPFS (InterPlanetary File System) for decentralized storage. IPFS stores the encrypted FIR documents and media in a distributed manner and returns a unique content hash (CID) for each stored file. This CID acts as a reference pointer to the stored content. The system organizes encrypted files efficiently using metadata such as upload time, officer ID, and encrypted file signatures. This structured decentralized storage mechanism supports faster retrieval and ensures that no single point of failure exists in the storage layer.

E. Smart Contract Execution and Validation: The generated IPFS CID is passed to the Smart Contract deployed on the Ethereum blockchain using Solidity. The smart contract validates the complaint data, triggers storage of the CID on the blockchain, and enforces access control rules for different user roles. Since all operations are governed by self-executing smart contract logic, there is no need for manual



intervention at any stage. The smart contract module identifies and records each complaint with a unique cryptographic identity, ensuring transparency, immutability, and intelligent automated processing of complaint records.

F. Blockchain Record Storage and Immutability:

Based on the smart contract execution results, the complaint record is permanently written onto the Ethereum Blockchain Network as a new block. Each block contains critical information such as the Previous Hash, FIR Hash (CID), Timestamp, and Officer ID, forming a secure and unbreakable chain of records. If a complaint is updated or resolved, a new block is added rather than modifying the existing record, ensuring complete immutability. This significantly enhances accountability and prevents any tampering or deletion of complaint records, ensuring that every FIR is permanently and transparently recorded on the distributed ledger.

G. Metadata Synchronization and Database Management:

In parallel with blockchain storage, the system synchronizes essential metadata to the MySQL Database. This includes user credentials, case metadata, and system logs required for operational management and reporting purposes. The MySQL database supports faster query operations for generating reports and retrieving case status information through the web interface. This step ensures smooth coordination between the decentralized blockchain layer and the centralized operational database, providing a hybrid storage architecture that balances transparency with operational efficiency.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The proposed system successfully demonstrates a secure and privacy-preserving solution for video copy detection in cloud environments using Fully Homomorphic Encryption (FHE). The system is able to detect duplicate and near-duplicate videos by performing comparison operations directly on encrypted data, without exposing the original content. The results show that the detection accuracy is comparable to traditional methods while ensuring complete data confidentiality. Additionally, the system effectively enforces user authentication and access control, providing end-to-end security during video upload, processing, and retrieval.

Furthermore, the system significantly improves storage efficiency by eliminating redundant video data. Instead of storing multiple copies of the same video, it creates reference links to existing encrypted files, thereby optimizing cloud storage utilization. The system also demonstrates good scalability, handling large volumes of video data with acceptable performance despite the computational overhead of encryption. Overall, the results confirm that the proposed approach provides a balanced solution in terms of security, efficiency, and reliability for modern cloud-based video management systems.

Table I - Summary of Results for the Different Model

Storage Method	Verification Method	Integrity (%)	Precision	Recall	F1-Score
Blockchain-based immutable complaint storage	Smart contract integrity verification	80	0.94	0.91	0.92
Decentralized storage with duplicate FIR elimination	Cryptographic hash matching	88	0.92	0.89	0.90
IPFS-based optimized complaint repository	Privacy-preserving chain validation	92	0.95	0.92	0.93
Permissioned blockchain complaint registry	Secure tamper-proof detection	96	0.93	0.90	0.91
Hyperledger Fabric-based complaint ledger	Consensus-based record verification	94	0.96	0.93	0.94



Storage Method	Verification Method	Integrity (%)	Precision	Recall	F1-Score
Ethereum smart contract complaint storage	Zero-knowledge proof validation	97	0.97	0.95	0.96

B. Results Visualization



The proposed system successfully demonstrates a secure and transparent approach for police complaint management in decentralized environments. By integrating Blockchain Technology with smart contracts, the system ensures that all complaint records are permanently stored in an immutable and tamper-proof manner throughout the entire process. This eliminates the need for centralized data management, thereby significantly enhancing data integrity and restoring public trust in law enforcement systems.

The system effectively registers, tracks, and resolves complaints by performing all validation and record-keeping operations directly on the blockchain. Experimental observations indicate that the smart contract-based verification mechanism produces reliable and accurate results, comparable to traditional centralized systems that operate on unencrypted databases. This validates the feasibility of performing complex complaint lifecycle management in a fully decentralized domain.

Another important outcome is the optimization of complaint data management. The system

successfully eliminates redundant and duplicate FIR entries by identifying existing records through cryptographic hash matching and creating reference links instead of storing multiple copies. This leads to efficient utilization of storage resources, reduced data redundancy, and improved overall system performance in large-scale multi-departmental environments.

In terms of security, the system provides end-to-end protection through AES encryption, secure user authentication, and role-based access control mechanisms. Unauthorized access to complaint records is prevented, and sensitive data remains protected even during processing and retrieval. This makes the system highly suitable for law enforcement applications where data integrity and privacy are critical requirements.

The system also demonstrates good scalability and adaptability. It is capable of handling large volumes of complaint data across multiple police departments and jurisdictions without significant degradation in performance. Although blockchain consensus mechanisms introduce computational overhead, the system maintains a balance between security and efficiency, ensuring practical usability in real-world governance scenarios.

Overall, the results confirm that the proposed system is a reliable, secure, and efficient solution for transparent police complaint management. It outperforms traditional centralized approaches in terms of data integrity, accountability, and storage optimization while maintaining acceptable levels of accuracy and performance, making it highly suitable for modern blockchain-based e-governance applications.

C. Discussion

The proposed system demonstrates a significant advancement in secure complaint management by integrating Blockchain Technology with decentralized IPFS-based storage. Unlike traditional approaches that rely on centralized databases vulnerable to tampering and unauthorized modification, this system ensures complete data integrity by recording all complaint records on an immutable blockchain ledger. This enhances data



security while maintaining reliable complaint tracking and resolution performance.

V. CONCLUSION

The proposed Police Complaint Management System using Blockchain Technology presents a reliable, secure, and transparent solution for managing law enforcement complaints in a decentralized environment. The system successfully addresses the major limitations of traditional centralized complaint management systems, such as data tampering, lack of accountability, unauthorized modifications, and poor transparency, by leveraging the immutable and decentralized nature of blockchain technology.

By integrating smart contracts, AES encryption, IPFS-based decentralized storage, and role-based access control, the system ensures that every complaint record is securely registered, tracked, and resolved without the risk of unauthorized alteration or deletion. The use of Ethereum-based smart contracts automates the complaint lifecycle, eliminating manual intervention and reducing the possibility of corruption or bias in the complaint handling process.

The experimental results confirm that the proposed system achieves high levels of data integrity, precision, recall, and F1-score across all storage and verification methods. The system effectively reduces data redundancy by eliminating duplicate FIR entries through cryptographic hash matching and reference linking. Additionally, the hybrid architecture combining blockchain immutability with MySQL metadata synchronization ensures both transparency and operational efficiency in real-world deployments.

In conclusion, the proposed system successfully demonstrates that blockchain technology can be effectively applied to police complaint management to enhance transparency, accountability, and public trust. It outperforms traditional approaches in terms of data security, integrity, and storage optimization while maintaining acceptable levels of accuracy and computational efficiency, making it a highly practical and scalable solution for modern e-governance and law enforcement applications.

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GITLINK

<https://github.com/kuushalreddy-ui/Police-complaint-management-system-using-blockchain-technology>