

Neranja Chinthaka

Email: jmneranja@gmail.com

Location: Sri Lanka (Remote/Onsite Ready)

Professional Summary

Innovative Technical Lead – PHP with over 7 years of experience designing, developing, and scaling enterprise web applications. Proven success leading full-stack teams in PHP-based systems with Laravel, RESTful APIs, MySQL performance tuning, and cloud deployment (AWS). Strong foundation in software architecture, QA automation, and secure coding practices (OWASP). Passionate about building high-performance, SEO-optimized, and user-centric solutions while mentoring cross-functional teams toward engineering excellence.

Core Technical Skills

- Backend: PHP 8+, Laravel, Lumen, Node.js, Express
- Frontend: React, HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, Bootstrap, jQuery
- Architecture & Design: MVC, Service Layer, Repository Pattern, SOLID, Dependency Injection
- Database: MySQL (query optimization, indexing, schema design), MongoDB, SQL Server
- DevOps & Cloud: Docker, Jenkins, CI/CD pipelines, AWS EC2/S3, Nginx
- Testing & QA: Playwright, Katalon, PHPUnit, Selenium, Postman
- Performance Optimization: Caching (Redis, OPCache), PageSpeed Insights, Lighthouse tuning
- Security: OWASP Top 10, CSRF/XSS prevention, secure authentication
- Analytics & SEO: Google Analytics, schema markup, technical SEO optimization
- Collaboration Tools: Git, JIRA, Confluence

Professional Experience

Tech Lead – Full Stack (PHP / QA Automation) — Freelance Consultant (2023 – Present)

- Designed and implemented custom PHP/Laravel architectures for finance and collection management systems.
- Directed a cross-functional team of 5 developers and QA engineers to deliver scalable, secure products.
- Applied SOLID principles and Repository pattern for maintainable codebases.
- Led MySQL query optimization, achieving a 30% reduction in load time through indexing and caching (Redis).
- Implemented CI/CD pipelines on AWS using Docker and Jenkins.
- Integrated Google Analytics and implemented SEO best practices to improve client visibility.
- Mentored junior engineers in clean coding, test automation, and secure web development.

Senior QA Engineer / PHP Developer — Tech Solutions Pvt Ltd (2018 – 2023)

- Built and tested PHP-based CRM systems using Laravel and RESTful APIs.
- Designed optimized database schemas and improved query performance by 25%.
- Automated regression tests using Playwright and Katalon to improve release confidence.
- Conducted code reviews and ensured adherence to OWASP and internal coding standards.
- Collaborated with UI/UX teams to convert HTML/CSS prototypes into dynamic, responsive UIs.
- Enhanced application PageSpeed to 95+ through lazy loading, compression, and asset optimization.

Key Projects

Financial Collection Management Platform (Laravel, React, MySQL, Firebase)

- Led backend design with modular service architecture and JWT-based authentication.
- Integrated Firebase for real-time updates and push notifications.
- Implemented caching (Redis) and query optimization for improved scalability.

E-Commerce Portal Modernization (PHP 8, Laravel, Vue.js, MySQL)

- Migrated legacy PHP code to Laravel 10 with improved modularity and maintainability.
- Introduced SEO-friendly routing and Google Analytics dashboards.
- Improved page performance from 68 to 94 on Google Lighthouse.

Education

- BCS Postgraduate Diploma in IT (Ongoing) — British Computer Society (UK)
- Diploma in Software Engineering — National Institute of Business Management (Sri Lanka)
- Certifications: Advanced PHP Programming (Udemy), QA Automation with Playwright, Full-Stack Web Development (MERN)

Leadership & Achievements

- Spearheaded automation framework integration reducing regression cycles by 40%.
- Successfully led migration of two production PHP applications to AWS cloud.
- Mentored junior engineers transitioning from manual QA to full-stack development.
- Recognized for excellence in team leadership and technical architecture design.