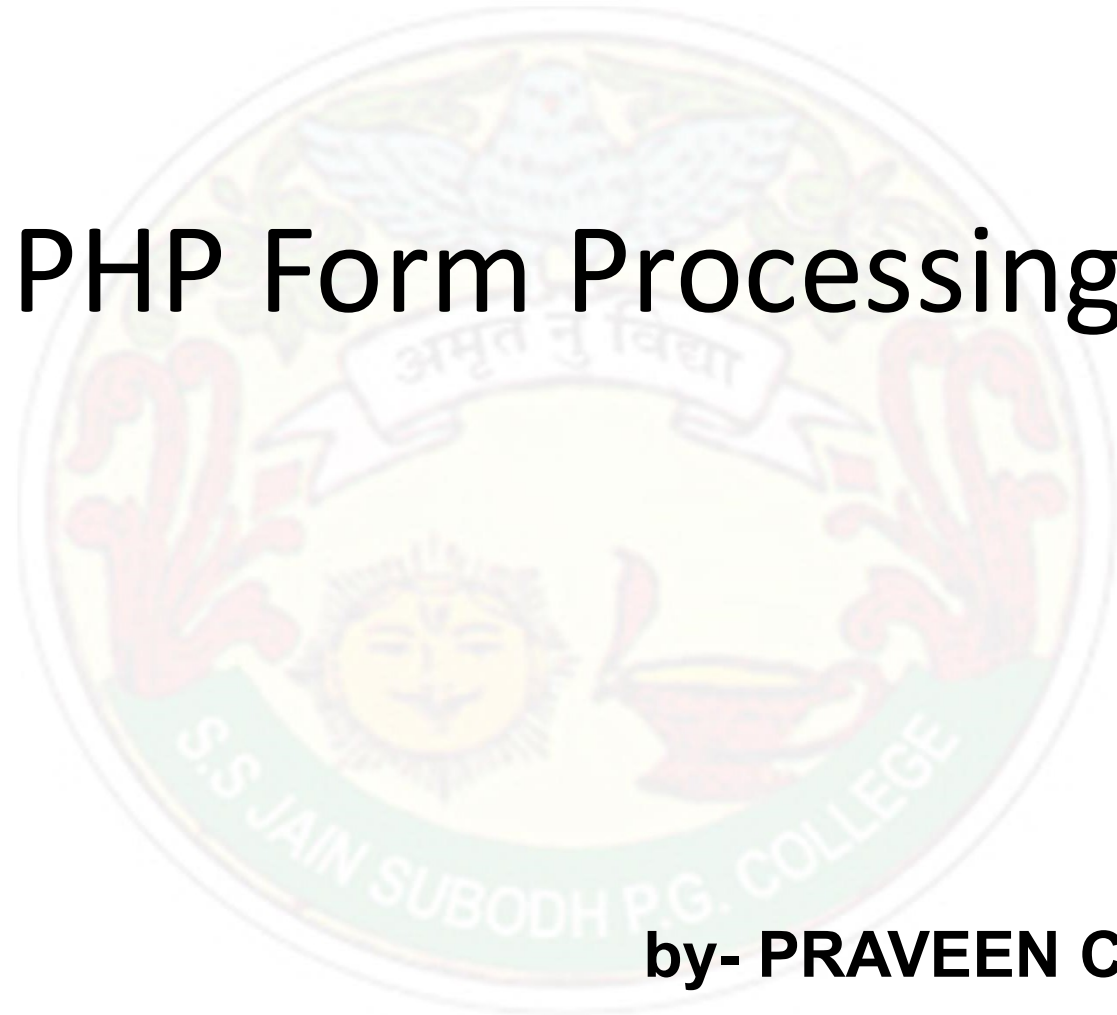




# PHP Form Processing



by- PRAVEEN CHOUDHARY



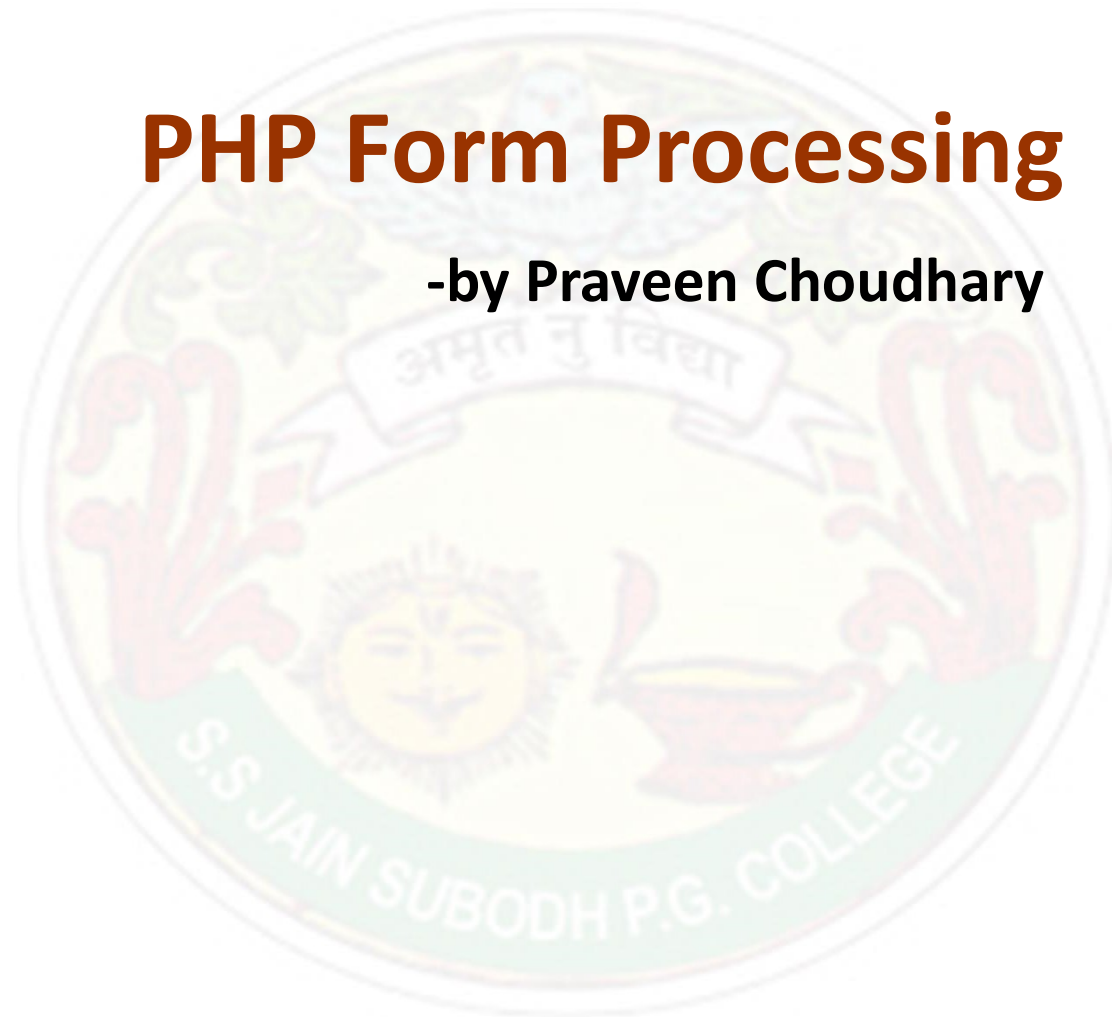
**S. S Jain Subodh P.G. (Autonomous) College**

**SUBJECT - PHP**

**TITLE - PHP Form Processing**

# **PHP Form Processing**

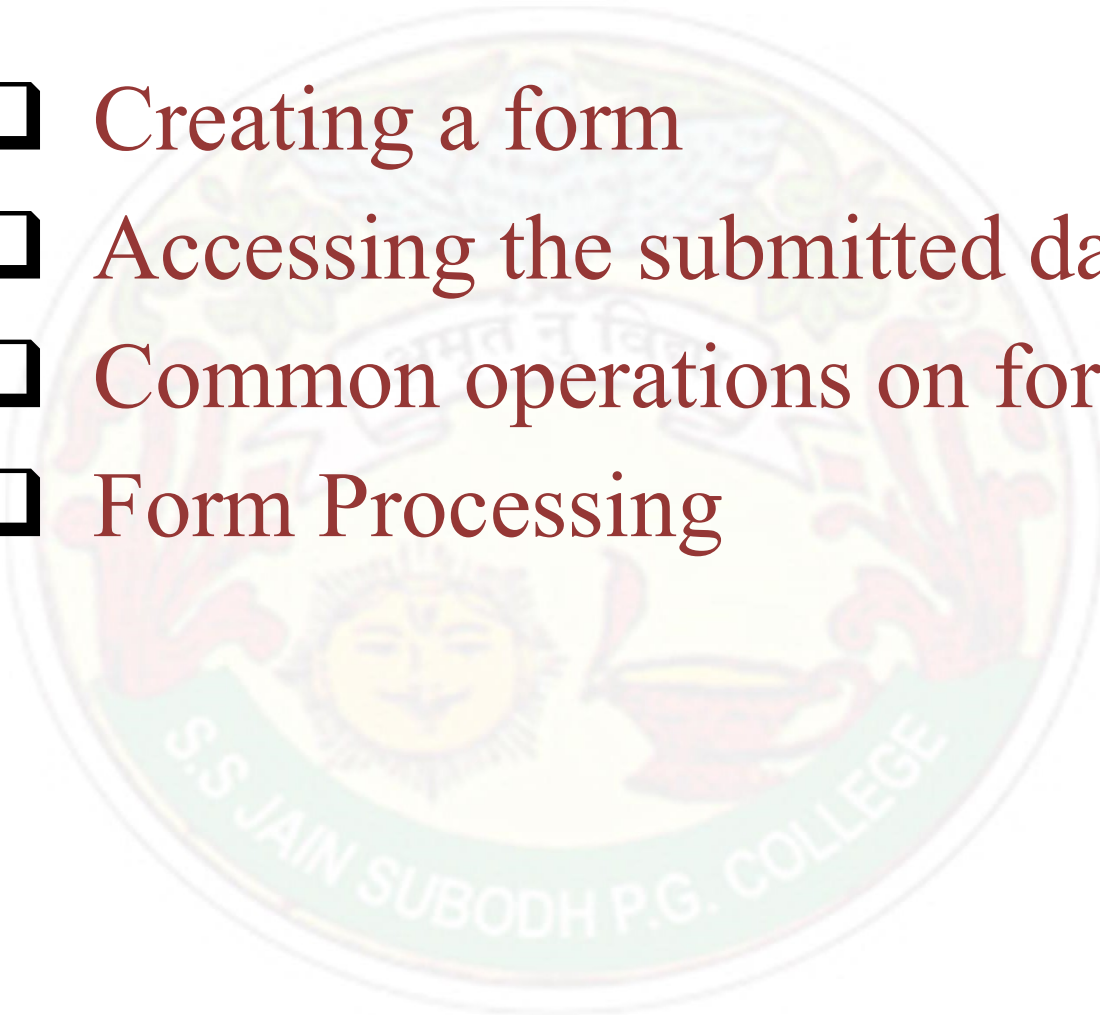
**-by Praveen Choudhary**





# Working with Forms in PHP

- Creating a form
- Accessing the submitted data
- Common operations on forms
- Form Processing





# 1 - Creating a form





# Form creation - <form> Tag

```
<form action = "..."  
      method = "...">  
  ...  
  ...  
</form>
```

- action = URL
- method = GET/POST





## Text field - <input> Tag

For single line text input:

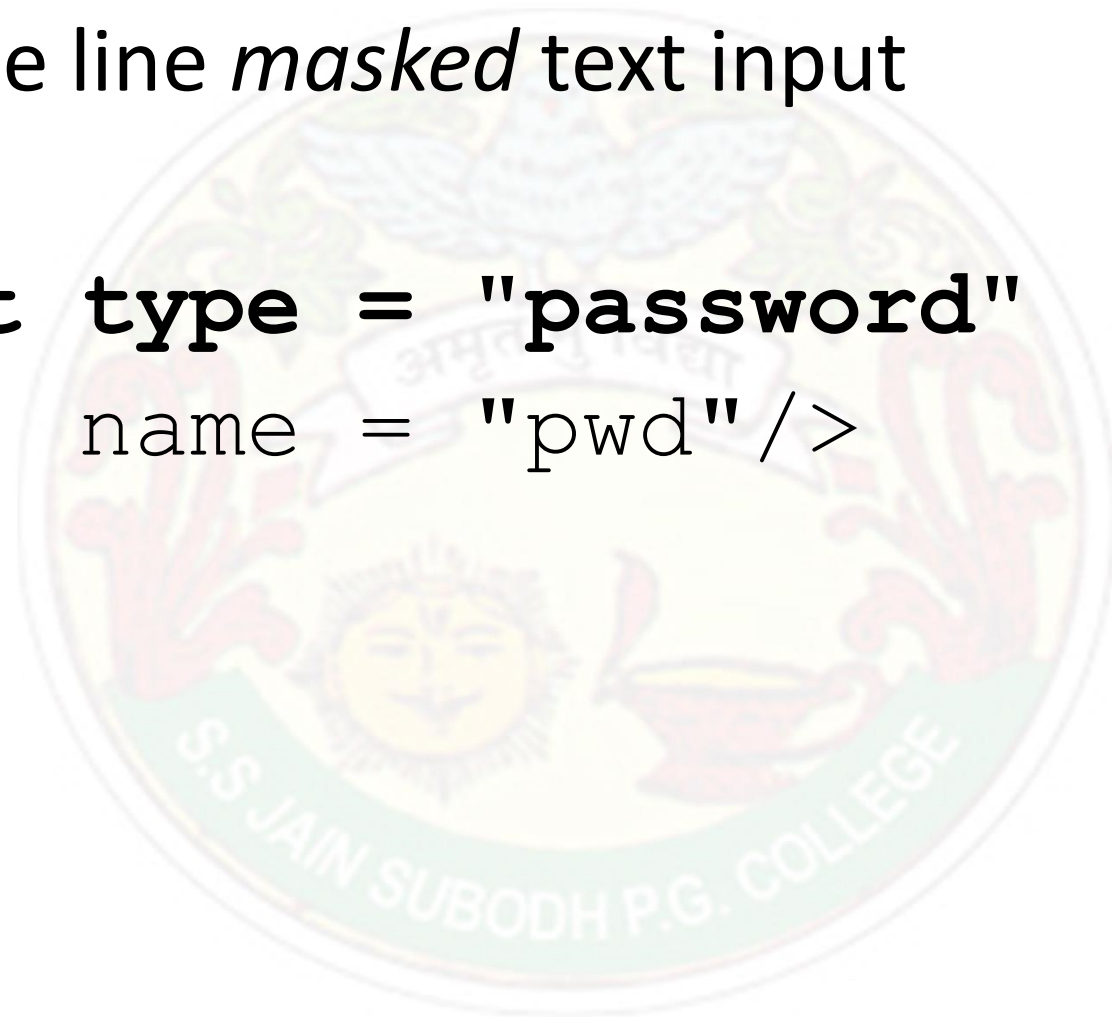
```
<input type = "text"  
name = "mytextfield"  
value = "initial value"  
size = "50"  
maxlength = "50" />
```



# Password - <input>

For single line *masked* text input

```
<input type = "password"  
name = "pwd" />
```





# Radio button - <input>

Single choice

Male: `<input type = "radio"  
name = "gender" value="Male"/>`

Female: `<input type = "radio"  
name = "gender"  
value="Female"/>`

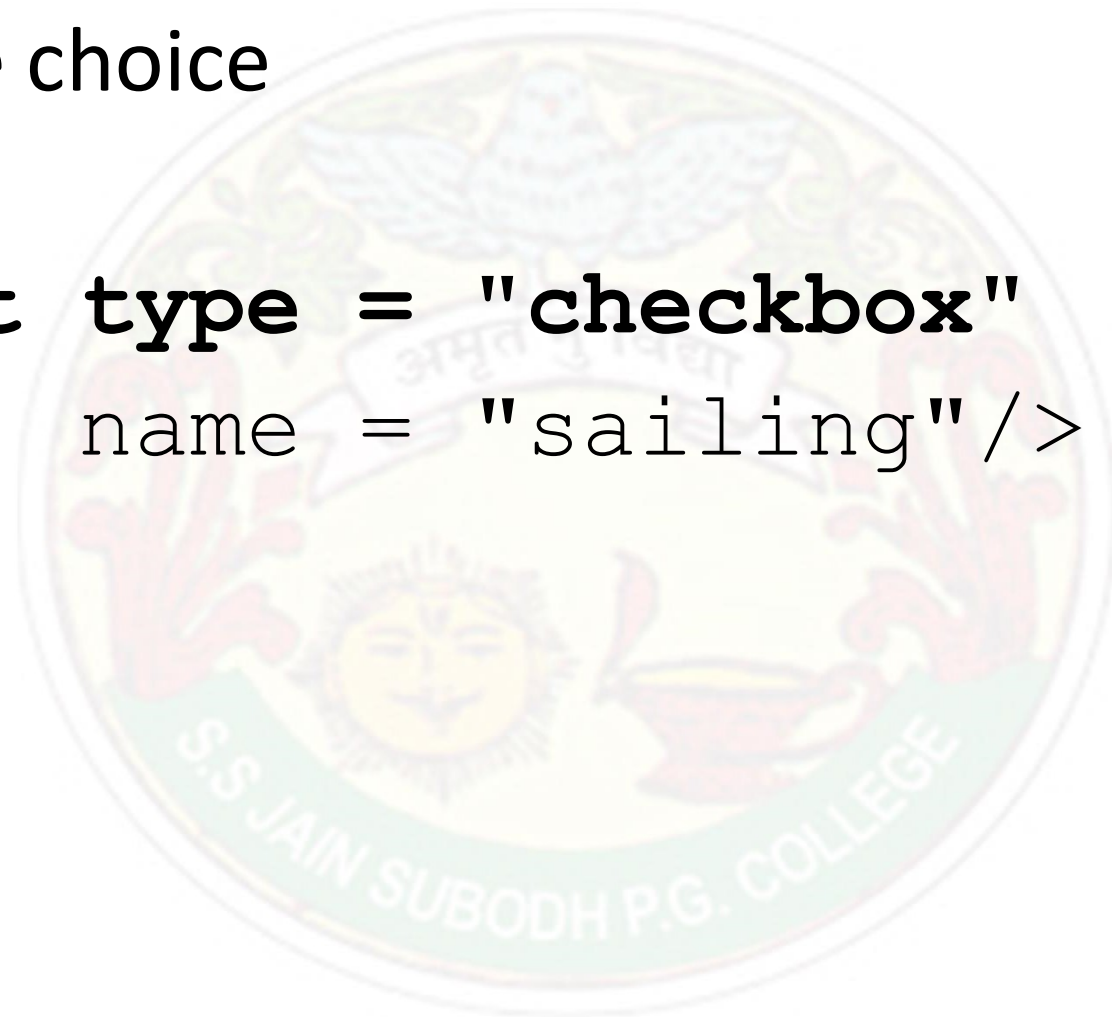




# Checkbox - <input>

Multiple choice

```
<input type = "checkbox"  
name = "sailing" />
```





## Drop-down list <select><option>

Single choice

```
<select name="country" size="1">  
  <option value="UK">United Kingdom</option>  
  <option value="USA">United States of  
  America</option>  
  <option value="NK">North Korea</option>  
  <option value="BE">Belgium</option>  
</select>
```



## (multiple) selection list <select><option>

Multiple choice

```
<select name="country[]" size="3"
  multiple="multiple">
  <option value="UK">United
  Kingdom</option>
  <option value="USA">United States of
  America</option>
  <option value="NK">North
  Korea</option>
  <option value="BE">Belgium</option>
</select>
```



## Text area - <textarea>

For multiple line text input

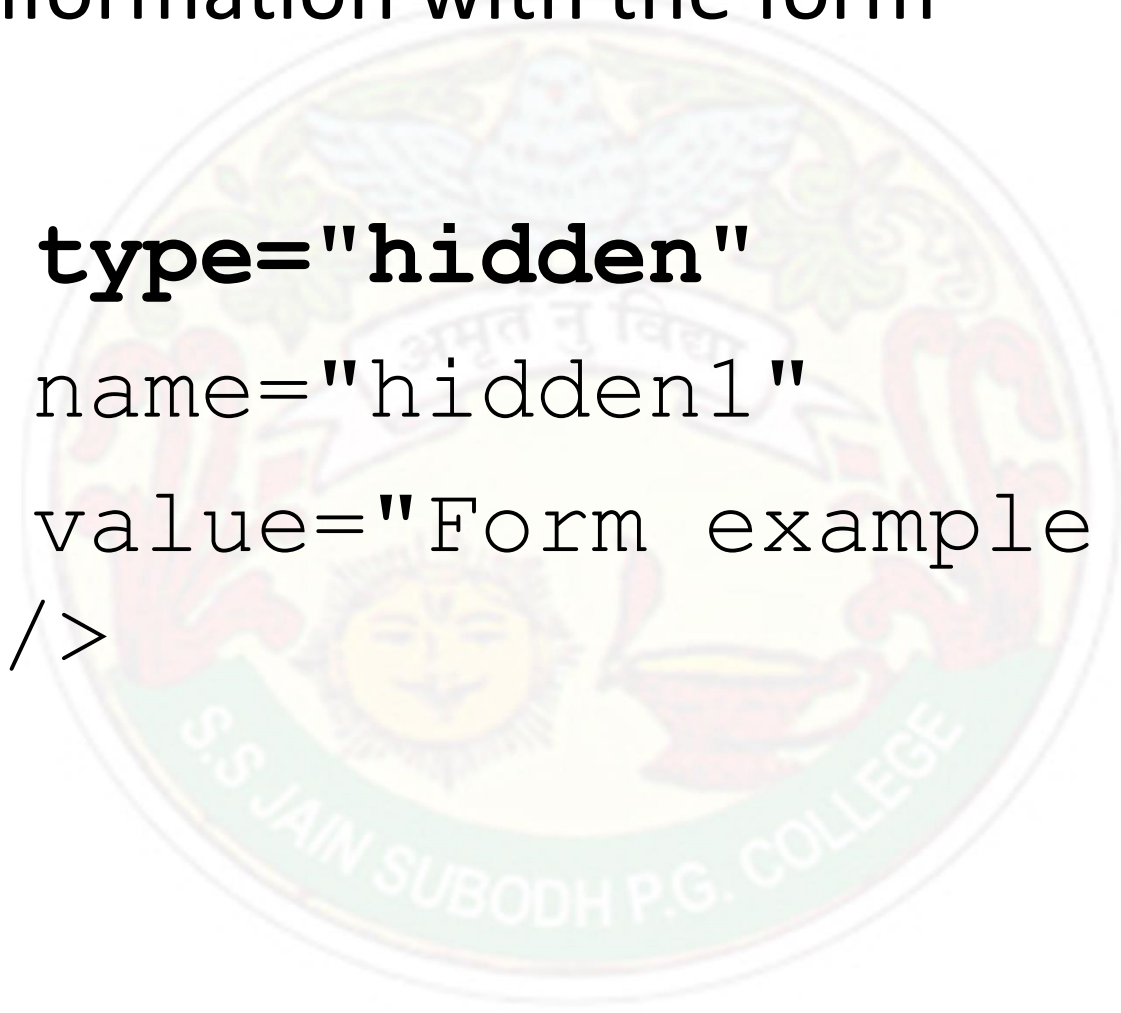
```
<textarea name="myTextArea"  
  cols="30"  
  rows="5">  
</textarea>
```



# Hidden fields - <input>

To send information with the form

```
<input type="hidden"  
      name="hidden1"  
      value="Form example for  
demo" />
```







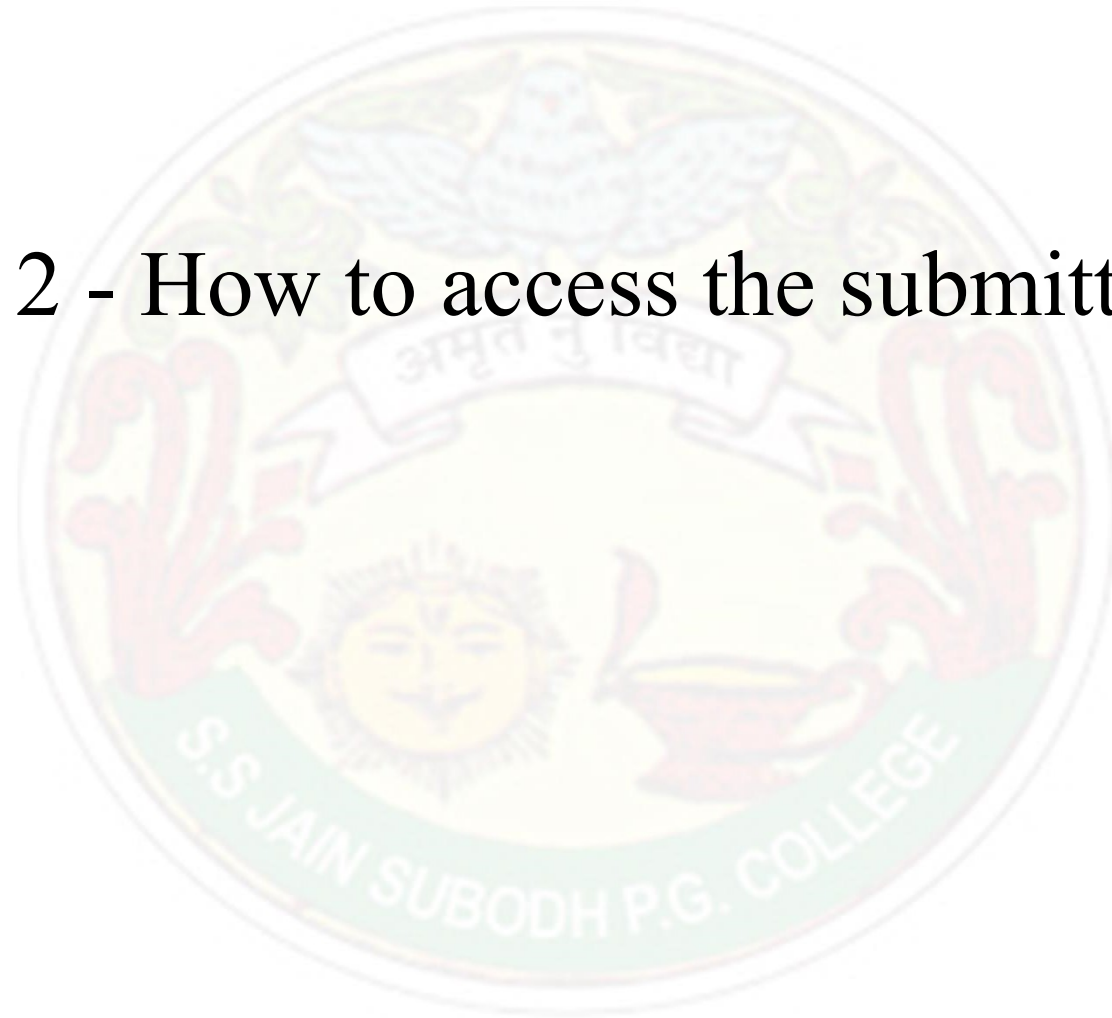
## Button - <input> or <button>

```
<input type="submit"  
      name="submitButton"  
      value="Submit Form"/>
```

```
<button type="submit"  
      name="submitButton">  
  SubmitForm  
</button>
```



2 - How to access the submitted data?



# Using PHP

- Data stored in a variable
- Depends on submission method:
  - GET
  - POST
- If POST, either:
  - `$varName` (requires special configuration)
  - `$_POST['varName']` (recommended)
  - `$HTTP_POST_VARS['varName']`
- If GET, use:
  - `$_GET['varName']`



# Two basic approaches

- Approach 1
  - HTML form
  - PHP script to process it
- Approach 2
  - PHP script containing the form and the processing script:

```
<form action =  
"<?php echo $_SERVER['PHP_SELF']; ?>"  
method="post">
```



# Examples

- Display content of `$_POST`
- Display value of text input field
- Display value of the hidden field
- Display content of the text area
- Display value(s) of (multiple) selection list



### 3 - Common operations





# 1. Check existence

- Has a variable been set?

**if**

```
(isset($_POST['myCheckbox2']))
```

```
echo "Option 2 was selected";
```

**else**

```
echo "Option 2 wasn't  
selected.";
```



## 2. Check which button was pressed

- Same as above

```
if (isset($_POST['button1']))  
    echo "Button 1 was pressed";  
elseif (isset($_POST['button2']))  
    echo "Button 2 was pressed";  
else  
    echo "no button pressed";
```



## 3. Email data

```
$to = "m.rutter@napier.ac.uk";  
$subject = "form data";  
$body = "Country chosen by the user:  
$_POST['country1']";  
  
mail ($to, $subject, $body);
```

Requires appropriate server configuration (this is not permitted on the school's server).



## Example 1: mandatory text field

- Check that the value of the text field contains characters and redirect the user accordingly
- Two cases:
  1. Separate form and processing script
  2. Processing is done in the form





## Example 1 : Case 1

- In processing script:

```
<?php
if ( $_POST['myTextField'] == '' ) {
    header ("location: form.html");
} ?>
```

- Problem:

- No information regarding the error is passed back to the form

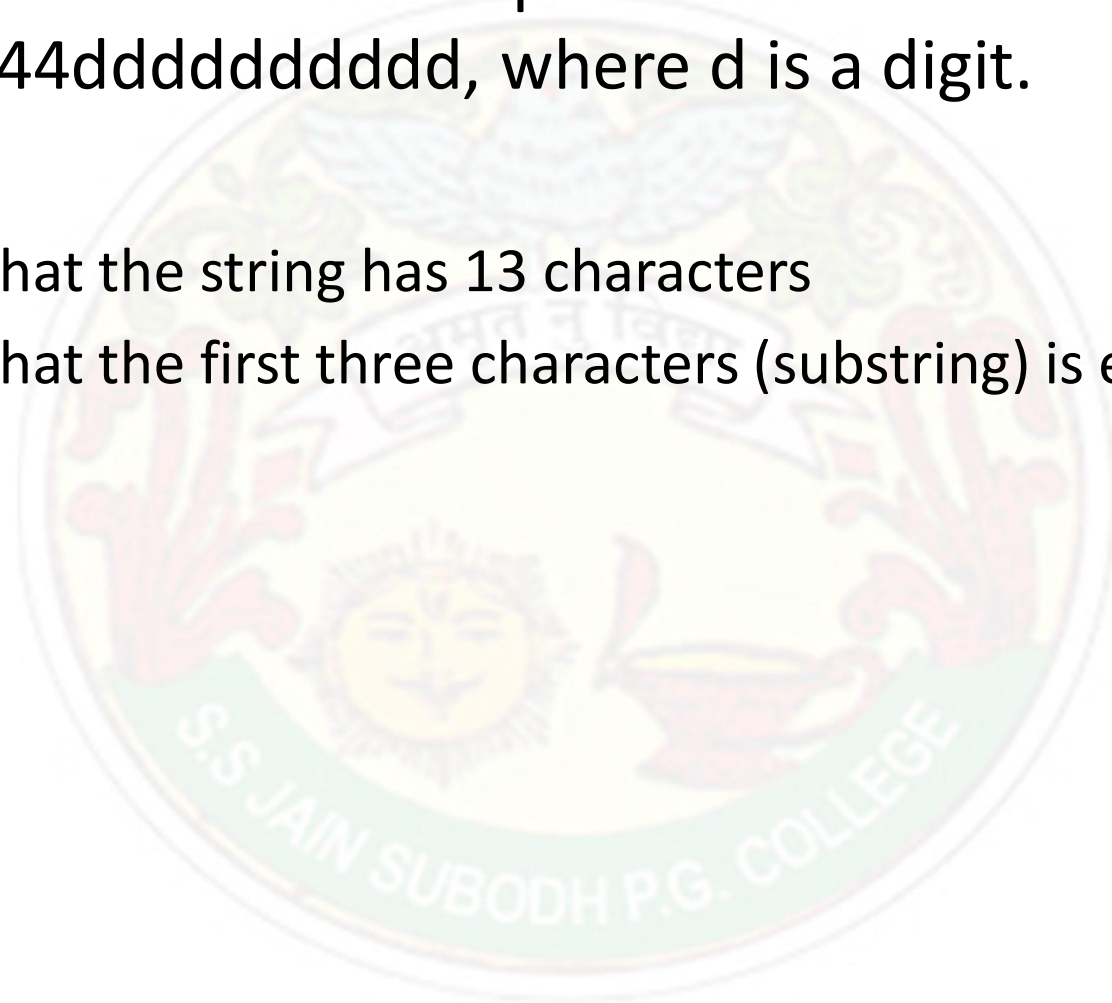
- Solution:

- Make the form a PHP script
- Send back some information about the error
- Will be done in the tutorial



## Example 2: directed study validate phone number

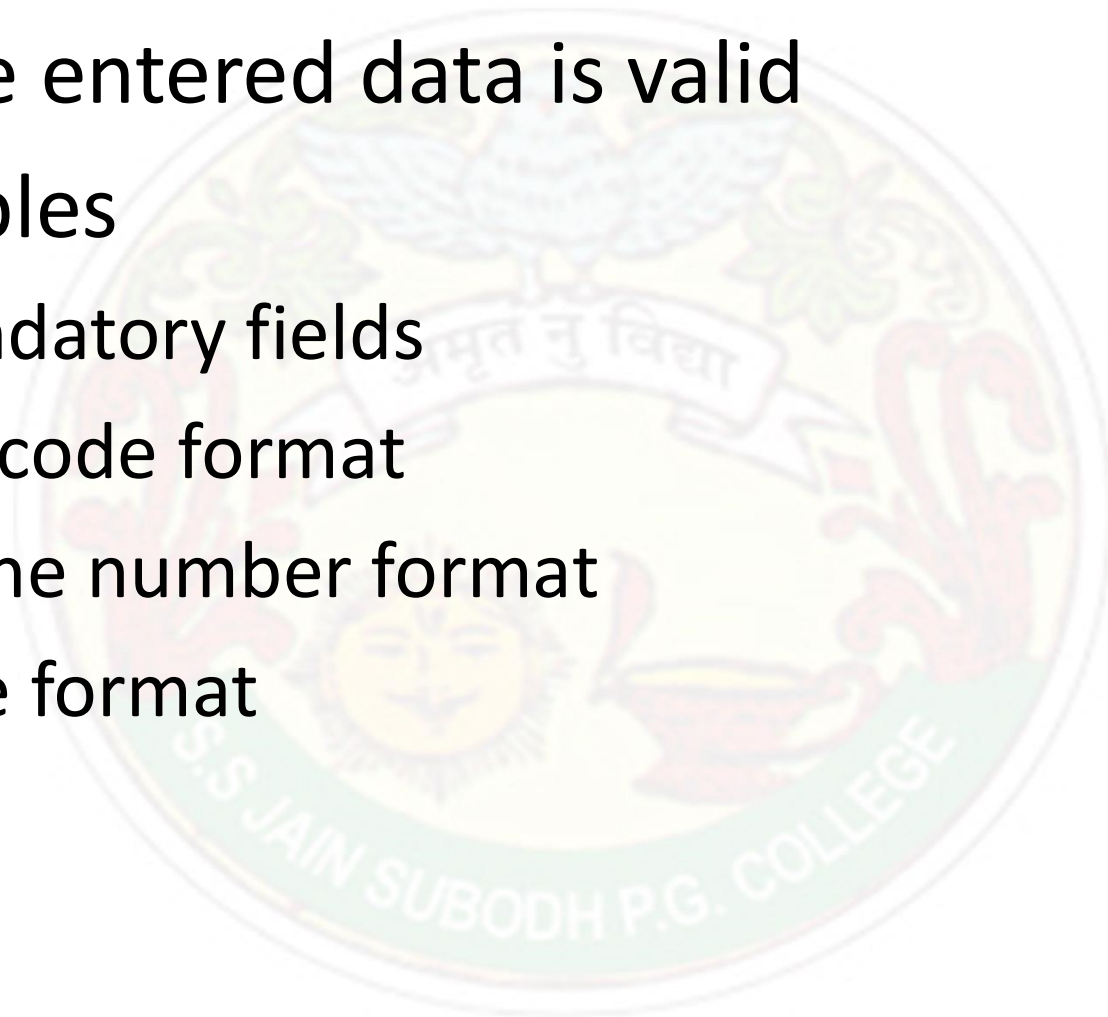
- Requirement: ensure that phone number has the following format: +44dddddddddd, where d is a digit.
- Hint:
  - Check that the string has 13 characters
  - Check that the first three characters (substring) is equal to '+44'.





## 4. Error checking

- Ensure entered data is valid
- Examples
  - Mandatory fields
  - Postcode format
  - Phone number format
  - Date format
  - etc





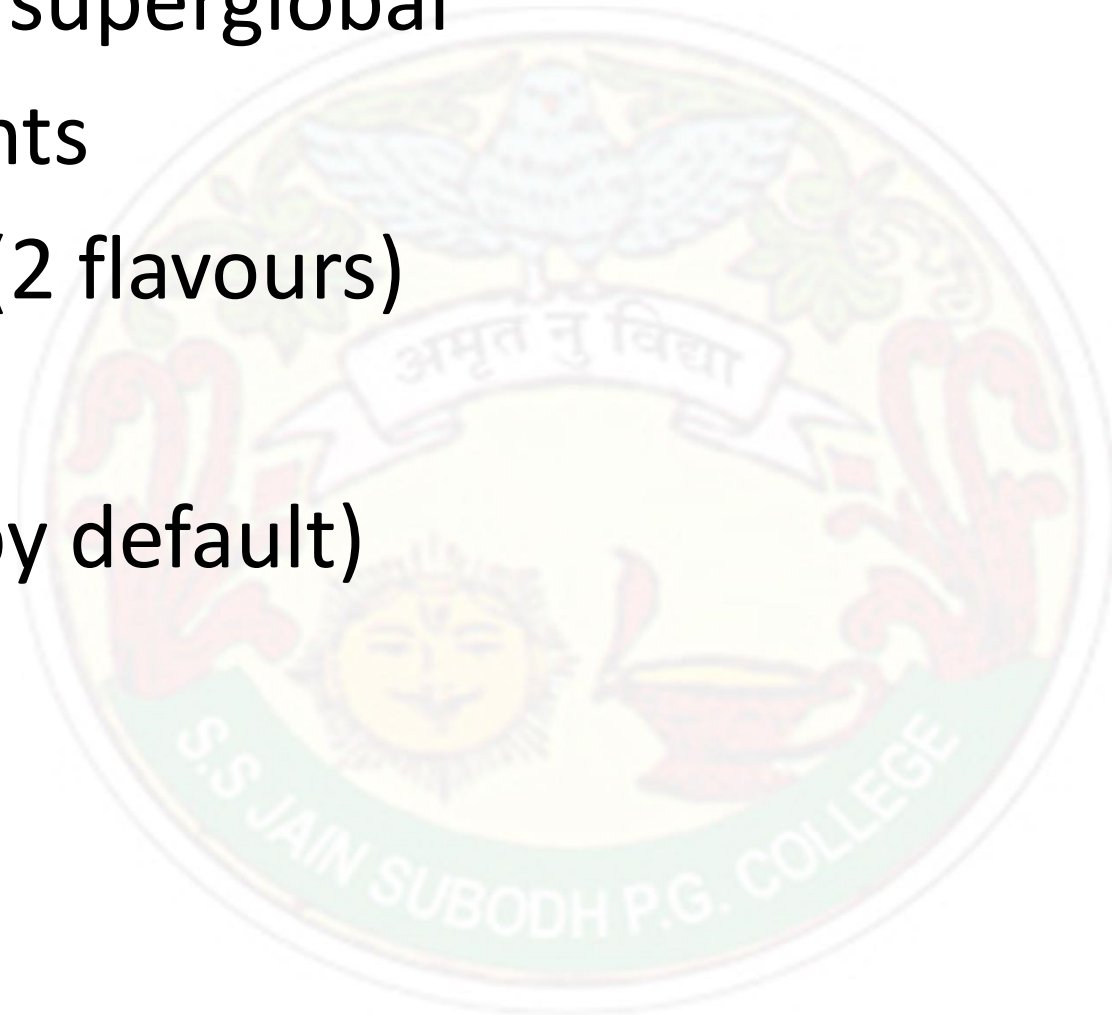
# Variable scope





## Six scope rules – directed study

- Built-in superglobal
- Constants
- Global (2 flavours)
- Static
- Local (by default)







# Super globals

- \$\_GLOBALS
- \$\_SERVER
- \$\_GET
- \$\_POST
- \$\_COOKIE
- \$\_FILES
- \$\_ENV
- \$\_REQUEST
- \$\_SESSION



# Summary

- Form creation
- Form processing
- Some common operations
- To be completed during the tutorial

