

CHAPTER IV

FEATURES OF PHPIDE

4.1 Editor

4.1.1 Editing

Although PHPIDE is an IDE that mainly targeted for PHP and HTML development it has common text editing features even some text editor does not have. The followings are the features of editing;

- Standard editing functions. Writing, deleting, scrolling and much more.
- Two different editing modes. Normal and Overwrite modes.
- Multiple opened documents support.
- Cut, Copy and Paste Support.
- Search and Replace Support.
- Selection support with three (3) different selection modes, which are normal, line-by-line and columnar selection modes.
- Infinite number of Undo and Redo Support.
- Find matching parenthesis support. So user can easily find the scope whether is closed or not.
- Convert selected text to upper or to lower case letters.
- Go to (move cursor) line support.

- Write Selected Block to a file (as shown in Figure 4.1.1a).
- Export Code to HTML (with this feature user can easily export the code in HTML format instead of raw text).
- Lock file for changes (make it Read Only)

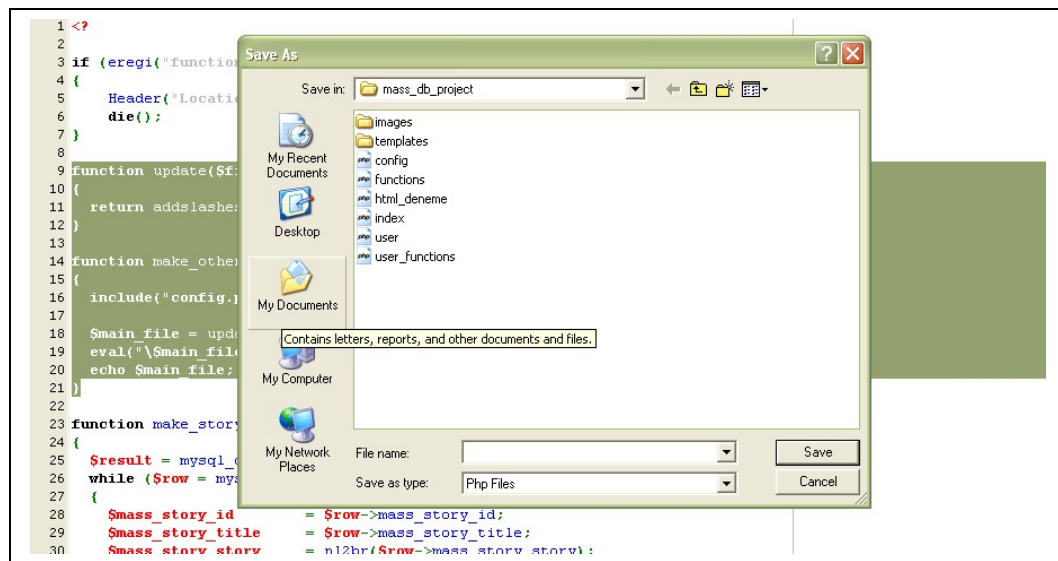


Figure 4.1.1a – Write Selected Block to File

4.1.2 Highlighting

As shown in figure 4.1.2a, 4.1.2b, and 4.1.2c, PHP IDE can highlight PHP and HTML language's syntax by different colors and styles of a font. Also PHP IDE highlights the current line in different color to make life easier.

```
23 function make_story()  
24 {  
25     $result = mysql_query("SELECT * FROM mass_story ORDER BY mass_story_id ASC L  
26     while ($row = mysql_fetch_object($result))  
27     {  
28         $mass_story_id      = $row->mass_story_id;  
29         $mass_story_title    = $row->mass_story_title;  
30         $mass_story_story    = nl2br($row->mass_story_story);  
31         $mass_story_submit   = $row->mass_story_submit;  
32  
33         list ($mass_story_year, $mass_story_month, $mass_story_day) = split (' [/.-  
34         $mass_story_date     = " on $mass_story day-" . date("F",mktime(0,0,0,$ma
```

Figure 4.1.2a – Highlighting of PHP

```
1 <html>  
2 <head>  
3 <title>Example</title>  
4 <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=windows-1254">  
5 <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-9">  
6 <meta name="author" content="S.Çağlar Onur(caglar.onur@tubitak.gov.tr)">  
7 <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css" type="text/css">  
8 </head>  
9 <body bgcolor="#FFFFFF" text="#000000">  
10 <a href="index.html">Link</a>  
11 </body>  
12 </html>
```

Figure 4.1.2b – Highlighting of HTML

```
1 <html>
2 <head>
3 <title>Example</title>
4 <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=windows-1254">
5 <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-9">
6 <meta name="author" content="S.Çağlar Onur(caglar.onur@tubitak.gov.tr)">
7 <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css" type="text/css">
8 </head>
9 <body bgcolor="#FFFFFF" text="#000000">
10 <?
11     include_once("config.php");
12     include_once("functions.php");
13
14     make_other("html");
15
16     if($header_part == TRUE)
17         make_other("header");
18
19     $block = isset($_GET[mass_story_id]) ? main_menu() : make_block();
20     $story = isset($_GET[mass_story_id]) ? display_all_story($_GET[mass_story_id]
21
```

Figure 4.1.2c – Highlighting of HTML and PHP together

4.1.3 Gutter

PHP IDE offers extra features that others don't offer. PHP IDE allows drop up to 10 bookmarks per document (see figure 4.1.3a). Bookmarks allow users to move from one location to another quickly. A number from 0 to 9 identifies each bookmark. Bookmarks can be easily dropped using PHP IDE's menu or pressing **Shift+Ctrl+ Bookmark Number** keys at same time. PHP IDE also offers fast jumping to bookmarks. This operation can be easily done using PHP IDE's menu or pressing **Ctrl+ Bookmark Number** keys at same time.



Figure 4.1.3a – Dropping Bookmarks

PHP IDE offers three different **mark this line** images for marking lines as **bug**, **warn** and **question** (see figure 4.1.3b).

```

22
23 function make_story()
24 {
25     $result = mysql_query("SELECT * FROM mass_story ORDER BY mass_story_id ASC LIMIT 1");
26     while ($row = mysql_fetch_object($result))
27     {
28         $mass_story_id = $row->mass_story_id;
29         $mass_story_title = $row->mass_story_title;
30         $mass_story_story = nl2br($row->mass_story_story);
31         $mass_story_submit = $row->mass_story_submit;
32
33         list ($mass_story_year, $mass_story_month, $mass_story_day) = split (["/"], $mass_story_date);
34         $mass_story_date = " on $mass_story_day-" . date("F",mktime(0,0,0,$mass_story_month,$mass_story_year));
35
36         $story_update = update("templates/story.php");
37         eval("\$story .= \"$story_update\";");
38     }
39
40     mysql_free_result($result);
41
42     return $story;
43 }
44

```

Figure 4.1.3b – Dropping Reminders

4.1.4 Code Templates

PHP IDE has a code template feature for preventing users from always re-writing the same code. PHP IDE offers an alias feature for these situations. If the same code be used again and again in a project, then user may create a template for this code and use its alias in projects. PHP IDE will change the aliases with the real code that is assigned for. Code Template feature can be requested simply pressing **Shift+Space** at same time.

In an example session, we have assigned an alias “conndb” for the two lines of codes which connects to MySQL server and selects a database. After writing the alias, we pressed on “Shift+Space”, and PhpIDE replaced this alias with the assigned code. This operation is shown in figure 4.1.4a and figure 4.1.4b.

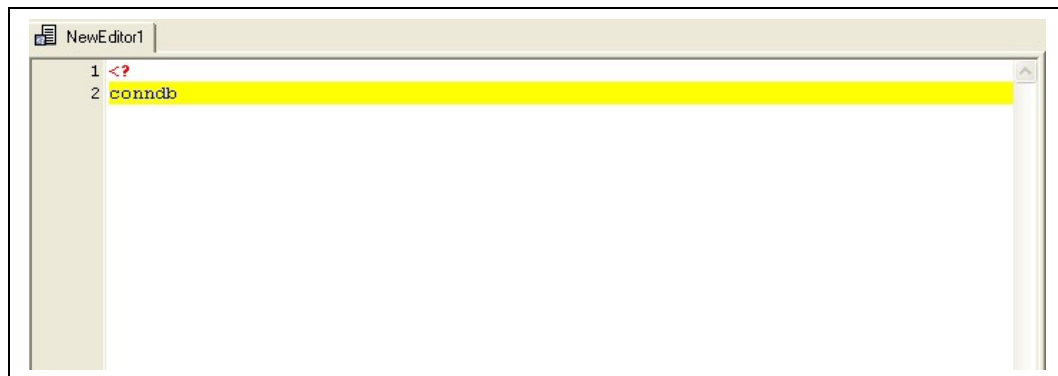


Figure 4.1.4a – Code Template

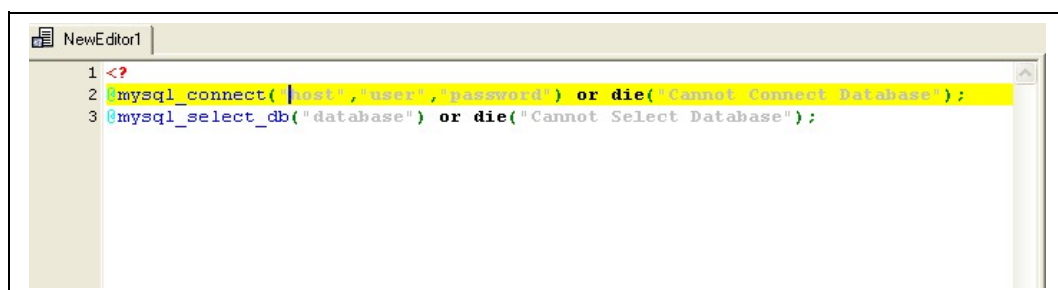


Figure 4.1.4b – Using Code Templates (After Shift+ Space Pressed)

4.1.5 Code Completion

PHP IDE has a great feature for all PHP developers called Code Completion. With this feature all internal PHP function names can be completed automatically. PHP IDE can also complete the current project functions names. So that, user don't have to remember all those functions names. Code Completion feature can be requested at any time, simply by pressing **Ctrl+Space**. If user presses Ctrl+Space after write some letters, then PHP IDE will show only the matching names. This is shown in figure 4.1.5a, and figure 4.1.5b.

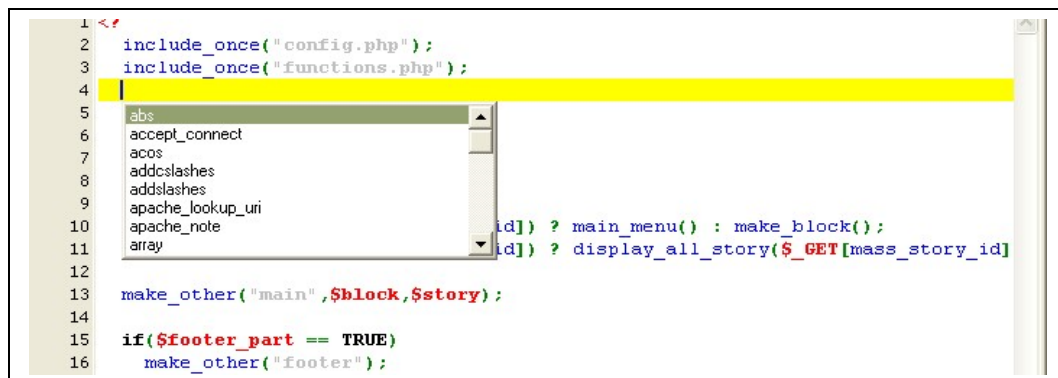


Figure 4.1.5a – Using Code Completion without initial letter

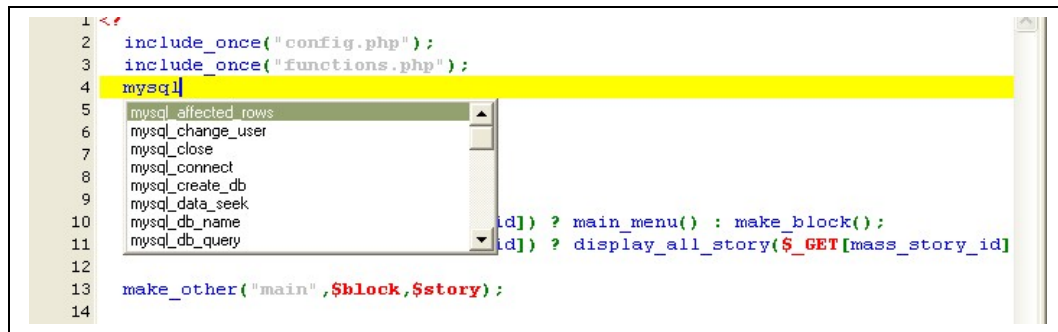
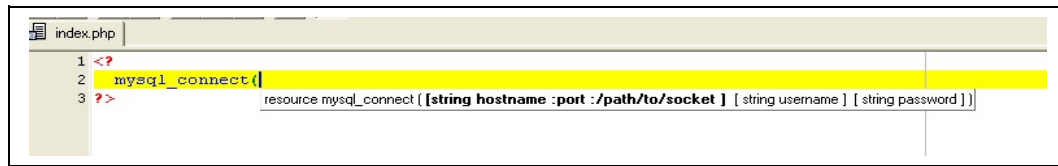


Figure 4.1.5b – Using Code Completion with initial keyword mysql

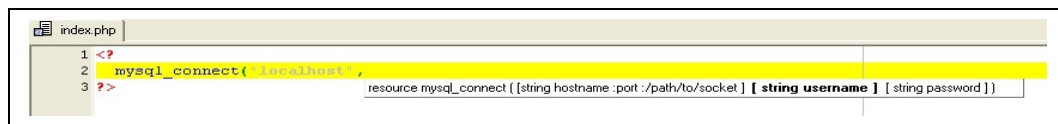
4.1.6 Parameter Completion

PHP IDE has a great feature, called Parameter Completion. With this feature, user can see all internal PHP function's parameters while writing code. So that, user does not have to remember all those functions with their parameter list and their types. Code Completion feature automatically executed when user writes a function name followed by an open parenthesis character. In PHP IDE, Parameter Completion allows user to see what parameters are needed by the current function. The current parameter is displayed in bold to be sensed easily. PHP IDE offers this feature for embedded functions also. This feature is shown in figure 4.1.6a, figure 4.1.6b, and figure 4.1.6c.



The screenshot shows an IDE window titled 'index.php' with three lines of PHP code. Line 1 is a PHP opening tag. Line 2 is `mysql_connect(`. Line 3 is a closing tag. A yellow highlight covers the text `mysql_connect(`. A tooltip is displayed below the highlight, showing the function signature: `resource mysql_connect ([string hostname :port :/path/to/socket] [string username] [string password])`. The parameter `hostname` is bolded in the tooltip.

Figure 4.1.6a – Using Parameter Completion. Current parameter displayed in bold



The screenshot shows the same IDE window. The code is now `mysql_connect('localhost',`. The tooltip is updated to show `resource mysql_connect ([string hostname :port :/path/to/socket] [string username] [string password])`. The parameter `username` is bolded in the tooltip.

Figure 4.1.6b – Using Parameter Completion. Next parameter



The screenshot shows the same IDE window. The code is now `mysql_connect('localhost', array(`. The tooltip is updated to show `array array ([mixed ...])`. The parameter `mixed` is bolded in the tooltip.

Figure 4.1.6c – Using Parameter Completion. Embedded functions

4.2 Running PHP

PHP IDE has an internal preview support. So, user does not have to install a web server to see the output. PHP IDE can use PHP.EXE directly, to make execute the current file and see the output or catch the errors.

4.3 Output Preview

With the help of direct running feature, user can see the HTML output of current file. Also user can see this output in any operating system's default web browser (see figure 4.3a).

```
<html>
<head>
<title>Mass_db Project</title>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=windows-1254">
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-9">
<meta name="author" content="S.Çağlar Onur(caglar.onur@tubitak.gov.tr)">
<link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css" type="text/css">
</head>
<body bgcolor="#C0C0C0" text="#000000">
<a name="Top" id="Top"></a>
<div align="center">
<table width="90%" border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0">
<tr bgcolor="#CCCCC">
<td width="20%" height="120" valign="top"></td>
<td width="80%" valign="top">
<div align="right"><acronym title="Mass db">rw-r--r-- root wheel</acronym>
<object classid="clsid:D27CDB6E-AE6D-11cf-96B8-444553540000" codebase="http://download.macromedia.com/pub/sh
<param name="movie" value="images/flash.swf">
<param name="quality" value="high">
<embed src="images/flash.swf" quality="high" pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer" type="ap
</object>
</div>
</td>
</tr>
</table>
</div>
<br>
<div align="center">
<table width="90%" border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0" class="linux">
<tr>
```

Figure 4.3a – Preview Tab

4.4 File Analyzer

PHP IDE can parse current file and show the function names and prototypes to user. Using this feature, user can easily see the list of functions and its parameters in an opened file. **Double clicking** on the function name moves the cursor to the line where this function is declared. Most of the times, developers needs this list to have a good documentation for their projects. PHPIDE helps programmer to export this diagram as a text file for later use in documentation of project.

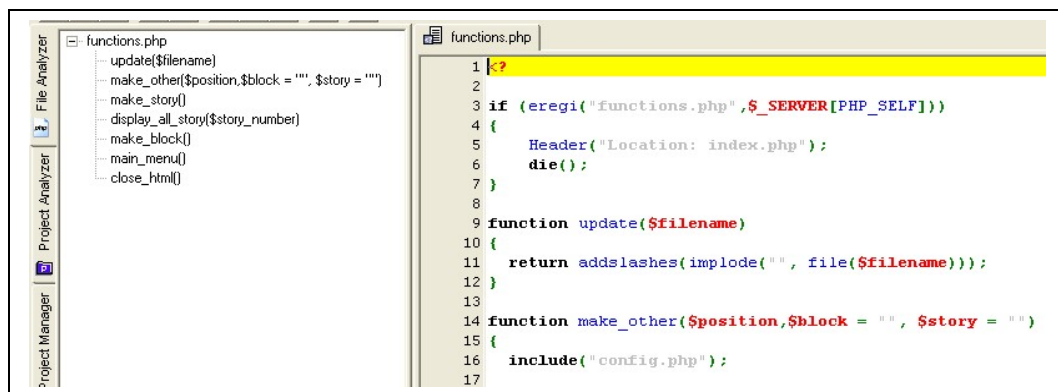


Figure 4.4a – File Analyzer

4.5 Project Analyzer

PHP IDE not only parses the file being edited, but all files in a project are also parsed and the function names and prototypes are listed. So, user can easily see the list of functions and also parameters used in the project. **Double clicking** the function name moves the cursor to declaration line. If the selected file is not opened, PHP IDE will automatically open selected file. When needed, this diagram can also be exported to a text file for later use in documentation of project. (see Figure 4.5a)

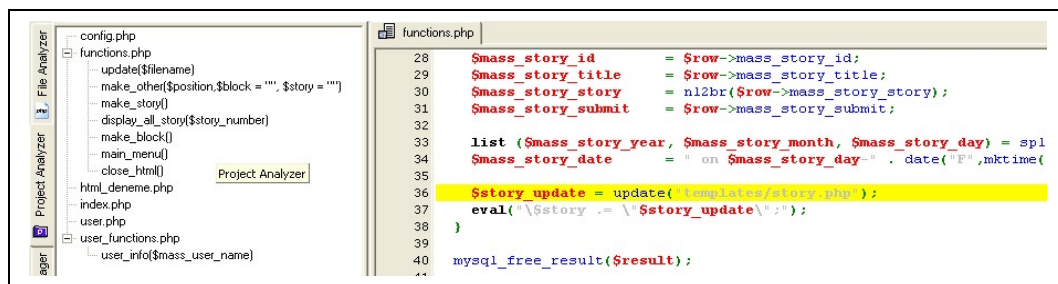


Figure 4.5a – Project Analyzer

4.6 PHP Functions & Help

All internal PHP functions are listed in PHP Functions tab, so that user can traverse these functions and get help if needed with an easy **double click**

operation. Double click operation will open the official HTML help files in the default web browser. (See Figure 4.6a)

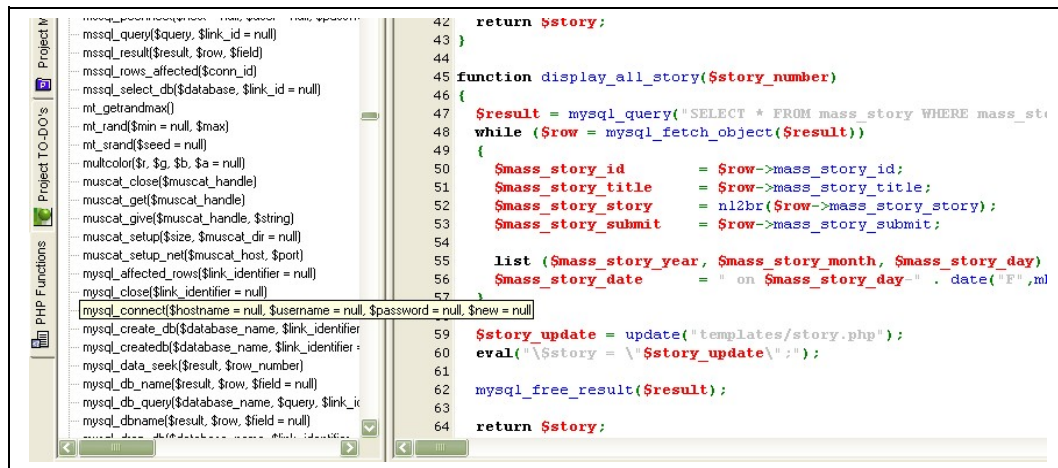


Figure 4.6a – PHP Functions

4.7 Project Management

4.7.1 Project Menu

PHP IDE can create, open or save projects with a few clicks.

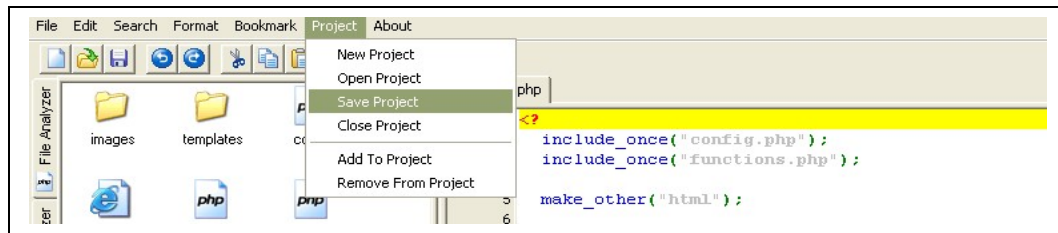


Figure 4.7.1a – Project Menu

4.7.2 Project Files

PHP IDE offers an integral file browser for project files. So, user can see the entire project files in one place.

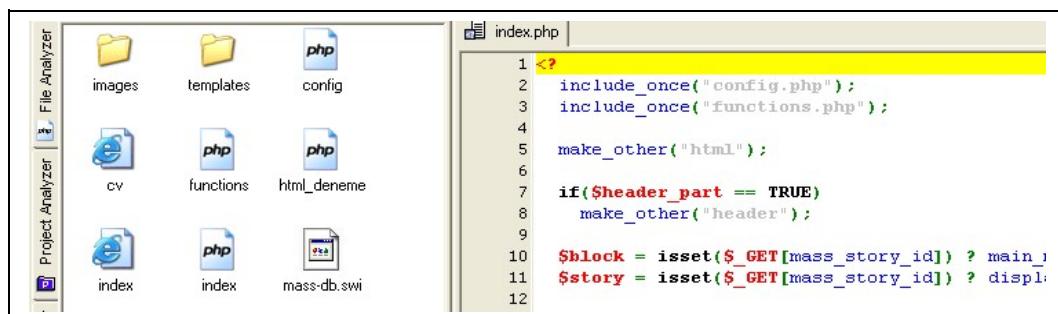


Figure 4.7.2a – Project Files

4.7.3 To-Do

PHP IDE can hold the list of future To-Do's for project. Nevertheless, user can take notes about projects with PHP IDE, without using paper-and-pencil.

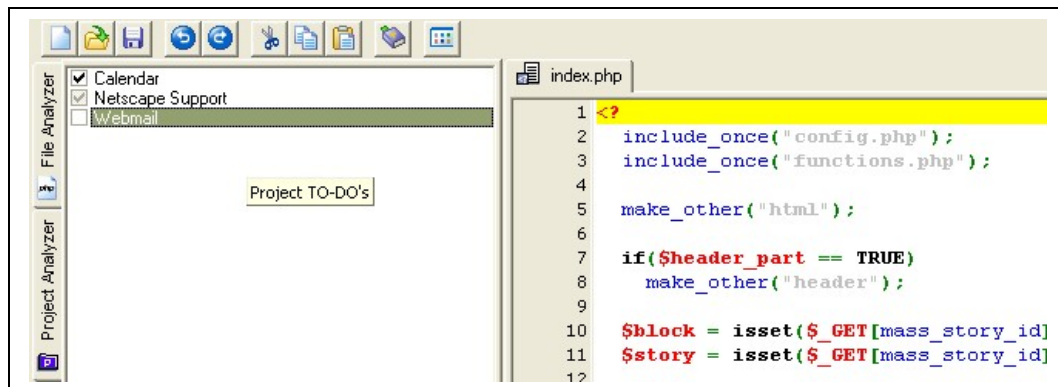


Figure 4.7.3a – TODO List

4.7.4 Compress Project

PHP IDE offers another great user-friendly feature. With the help of the Compress Project tool, user can compress whole project into a single compressed zip file at any time.

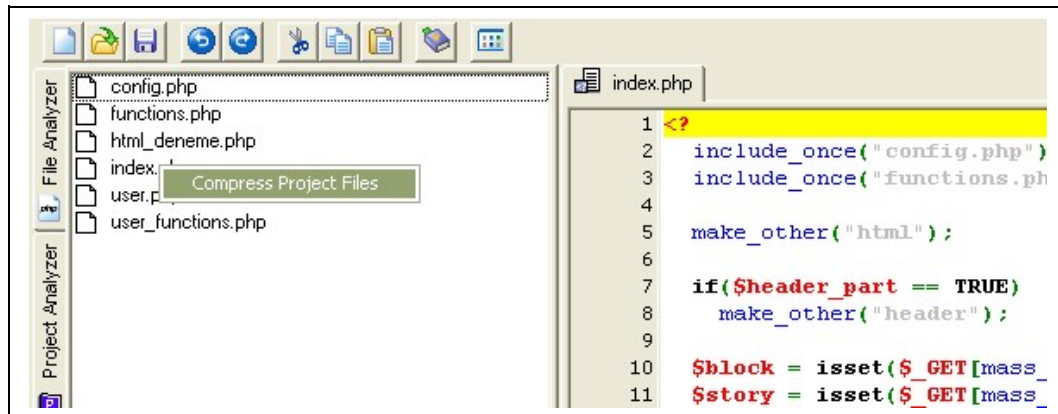


Figure 4.7.4a – Compress Project