

3. TDIL @ ELITEX 2005

The Elitex-2005 was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Communications & Information Technology, Shri Dayanidhi Maran on April 25, 2005. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. He emphasized that the role of close association between Academia, R&D institutions and industries has clearly emerged and was emphasized. Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia appreciated the efforts made by DIT in organizing ELITEX'2005 and showcasing their achievements in terms of products and services for commercialization and advised if the scope can be enlarged to all the IT companies.

Shri. Brijesh Kumar , Secretary to the Govt. Of India, Department of IT delivered the welcome address and stressed that "India has one of the largest set of field experiments for grass-root applications using ICT. Many countries are looking towards India for sustainable and replicable models of ICT for development. In the above context, the theme of the present Elitex - 2005 has been chosen as "Grass-root

applications using ICT".

The Hon'ble Minister stressed that - The need of the hour is to take IT to the masses - to rural India , to the millions of countrymen residing in our hinterland. I have announced a 10-point Agenda to maintain India as world's preferred provider of IT services, encourage the growth of the domestic IT market, with the legitimate social goal of bridging the "Digital Divide". The Hon'ble Minister also inaugurated the exhibition and appreciated the efforts in showcasing technologies developed under the support from DIT. He desired the continuation of ELITEX as annual feature of DIT.

The scope of the ELITEX' 2005 has been enlarged to include official participation's from European Countries besides the Central and West Asia, Gulf and Latin American and SAARC Countries. The member countries of Asia Electronics Info-Communications Union (AEIU) were also invited. Official delegations from 18 countries including the USA , the UK , Japan , China , Thailand, Pakistan,



Spain, Egypt and Israel participated in ELITEX '2005

The official delegations of these countries were expected to focus on the opportunities and tie-up possibilities with India.

The Language Technology Resource Centers and COIL-Net Centers setup under the TDIL programme showcased the technologies, products and content developed by them during the Elitex 2005. The Hon'ble Minister Thiru Dayanidhi Maran visited TDIL stall and appreciated the good work done under TDIL Programme. The following Indian Language Technology Developing organizations showcased their products and technologies at the TDIL stall :

- **Banasthali Vidyapith:**

- **Various Content and applications** developed in Hindi such as Ayurveda, Vedic Literature etc.
- **Aakanksha**, a visual computing environment in Hindi for young children.
- **Online Bilingual Hindi-English dictionary:** It displays different meanings and pronounce a given word in a single screen. And also it displays the tense of that given word (i.e. noun, verb etc.). It is useful to the students and translators.

- **IIT Kanpur:**

- **AnglaBharti-II:** A English to Hindi machine translation system. It is an improvement over Angla Bharti-I architecture.
- **AnuBharti-II:** This is a machine translation system designed for translating Hindi to English .

- **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts:**

- **Kalasampada: Digital Library- Resource for Indian Cultural Heritage (DL-RICH):** This product is for adding value to the digitized resources through digital technology and enhancement with multimedia effects. They also displayed other various contents and tools developed for Digital Libraries.

- **C-DAC Thiruvanthapuram:**

- **Aksharamaala:** It is a Malayalam Font Package and Script Manager
- **Anweshanam:** It is a Malayalam Web-based Search Engine.
- **Sandesam:** It is a Malayalam Web-based Mail Server
- **Subhashini :** A TTS system
- **Malayalam OCR**

The COIL-Tech (Indian Languages Industry Consortium), apart from handling technical issues such as standardisation, is also actively involved in market development for the Local Language Applications Industry. COIL-Tech coordinated display of Language Technology and Products at the TDIL stall at the ELITEX 2005. The display was executed in a highly professional manner, highlighting the product details and technological competence of COIL-Tech members. Four leading companies, including those in the products space, participated in the event. A significant number of business queries were generated. COIL-Tech members displayed the following products:

- **Prologix Software Solutions Private Limited:**

- **Vaachak:** A high quality fully indigenous Indian Language Text to Speech Synthesizer for Hindi.

- **Modular InfoTech Private Limited:**

- **Ankur Office:** A multilingual Office Suite. It includes -
 - Patrika: Multilingual Word Processing Software.
 - Talika: Multilingual Spreadsheet Software.
 - Sadarika: The Presentation Software.

- **Expert Software Consultants Limited:**

- **Bharati:** Developed for exchanging electronics messages in all the ten scripts of Indian Languages.

- **Summit Information Technologies Private Limited:**

- **Online Hindi Spell Checker:** It provides spell check facility in Word, Quark and PageMaker for Hindi.
- **Indica 2000:** It allows users, organizations to do text and data processing with indexing, searching and sorting capabilities - with a multilingual advantage.

Visitors also showed a keen interest in the TDIL newsletter VishwaBharat@tdil and lapped it and desired that they be put on the mailing list of this journal.

The Seminar Sessions were held on the theme of ELITEX'2005 "Grassroot Applications using ICT" on April 25-26,2005 including Grassroots Applications, Next Generation Broadband Communication Technologies & Systems, ICT for Medical & Disability Applications, Grassroot Deployment, e-Governance Applications, Trends in Internet Technologies & Application, Human Computer Interface, Tele-medicine and its Applications, Emerging Technologies and e-Education. Besides creating awareness about DIT technologies, ELITEX'2005 promoted R&D industry linkages essential for the absorption of indigenous technology by the industry and for stimulating innovations. All the sessions attracted large participants. Dr. Om Vikas Senior Director and Head, Human Centred Computing Division chaired the session titled "Human Computer Interface". The session details are as follows :

Session : Human Computer Interface

- Chairman : Dr.Om Vikas, Sr.Director, DIT
- Speakers : Shri M.D.Kulkarni, CDAC, Pune
- : Shri Vinamra Agarwal, VP, Prologix Software Solutions Pvt.Ltd, Lucknow

: Prof.P.N.Jha, IGNC

: Shri Ashish Verma, Indian Research Lab, IBM, Delhi

Coordinator : Shri Pradeep Chopra., AD, DIT
Highlights of the Session and issues raised:-

- Need for development of multi-modal input and output technologies for intelligent Human Computer Interface
- Need for development of technologies so that people with disabilities are able to interact on the web.
- Issue of limited availability of linguistic resources was highlighted.
- Urgent need for smart/expert inputting mechanism for predictive multi-tap entry for Indian languages.
- Need for development and deployment of touch and texture based input systems
- Election Commission invited researchers to work with them for deployment of text-to-speech systems in Indian languages for electoral rolls and election results.
- Need for adoption of text-to-speech technology for successful deployment of e-governance applications for the rural masses was highlighted, so that, majority of Indians get access to the benefits of e-governance projects in India.

Courtesy:

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