Section VI Other Milestones

6.1 TDIL Website-Downloadables

TDIL Website contains information about various TDIL (Technology Development for Indian Languages) activities, achievements and provides access to a variety of content and downloadables in Hindi and for other Indian Languages. Following popular downloadables are available on the site :

Indian Language Keyboard Driver & Fonts

This software consists of a Keyboard Driver and fonts (three fonts for Devanagari & one each for other Indian languages). These can be used along with most MS-Windows Applications. This provides for personal, non-commercial use and includes quality ISFOC fonts. It has registered 420 hits during the last nine months.

iLeap

This software is an internet ready Multilingual Word Processor for MS-Windows. It allows you to create multilingual documents, spell-checking, on-screen keyboard, sending emails, viewing and printing of documents, importing of ISCII data files, creation of multilingual HTML pages, and many more facilities. This award winning software is brought to you from C-DAC, the leaders in Indian Language Technology and software solutions. It has registered 318 hits during the last nine months.

Desika

This Software package is a Natural Language Understanding System for Sanskrit, developed by Indian Heritage Group of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Bangalore, a Scientific Society of the Dept. of Electronics, Government of India, Ramanashree Plaza, 2/1, Brunton Road,Bangalore (Karnataka). This software incorporates language generation and analysis modules for plain and accented written Sanskrit texts. It is based on the principles of ancient Indian Sciences. DESIKA aims to process all the words of Sanskrit, includes generation and analysis (parsing), has an exhaustive database based on Amarakosha, the most popular Sanskrit lexicon, rule base using the grammar rules of Panini's Ashtadhyayi and heuristics based on Nyaya & Mimamsa sastras for semantic and contexual processing. This software can also analyse Vedic (scriptural) texts. It has registered 61 hits during the last nine months.

Gita Reader

Gita Reader is an application which, on installation, allows to be used as a reader of Gita in Sanskrit. It has an user-friendly interface to browse different parts of the Bhagwat Gita. It has registered 75 hits during the last nine months.

Akshar for Windows

Akshar for Windows (AfW) is an easy to use multi-lingual Word processor on Windows. It works as an add-on to MS-Word, so no re-learning is involved. AFW consists of two modules, Add-on to Word and the Akshar System Hook, which allows you multi-lingual capability with any Windows based application supporting fonts. AfW 2.10 comes loaded with powerful features such as

Dictionary Lookup (Get Hindi meanings, synonyms, pronunciations of English Words).

Customised KeyBoard Mapping, apart from the regular Word Processing capabilities.

Spell Check in Hindi. It has registered 251 hits during the last nine months.

Surbhi Professional

It is an keyboard interface software for Windows based application softwares like MS Word, MS Excel, Pagemaker etc.

Supports standard phonetic inscript keyboard overlay. Toggle key will also set the font. This makes the tedious font selection and keyboard selection just by toggle key. One can type the Hindi text in Hindi to find the text by Find and Replace command. Online Autocorrect feature of MS Office supported.

The common headache for the language users is while typing the file name, font name during typing of Hindi text. These names will appear as garbage. Since these names are also unreadable it is merely not possible to trace, if the user has lost its where abouts. This intelligent keyboard manager will understand the users requirement and does not allow such garbage. It has registered 95 hits during the last nine months.

Pocket Translation

The Multilingual Pocket Translator design project was undertaken by C-DAC keeping in view the foreign travellers visiting India. A foreigner visiting India finds very difficult to communicate, since we have wide variety of language across the country. There is a certain type of fixed requirement when a person is travelling. These requirements are categorized, which can help the foreigner to communicate & does not get stuck up with the initial stages. The same pocket translator is useful when a person travelling within India moves from one state to another. It has registered 126 hits during the last nine months.

Other Milestones

Punjabi Spellchecker

This s/w provides one page file of Punjabi word processing and spellchecking. It has registered 17 hits during the last nine months.

Multilingual Email Client

This software uses Windows Messaging to email others in Indian Language. It supports 10 Indian Languages. It is at the moment in beta version and will be improved after feedback is received from the clients. Send your feedback to support.gist@cdac.ernet.in. It has registered 236 hits during the last nine months.

Grammatical Category Tagged Corpora

Grammatical Category Tagged Corpora contains the raw and tagged Hindi data. This tagged data is in PC-ISCII format. It has registered 25 hits during the last nine months.
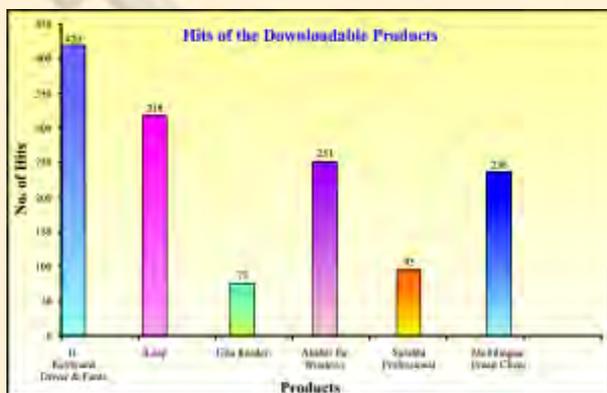
ALP-Personal

ALP-Personal Software package is designed to handle languages and not merely words, developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), a Scientific Society of the Dept. of Electronics, Government of India, Pune (Maharashtra). This software not only makes typing a script easy, but provides a common keyboard for a family of script. ALP-Personal provides language tools like spell-checkers and thesauri for some language.

ALP-Personal aims to fill in the vacuum for a language-processing system which can do justice to the languages and become the defacto standard, allowing newer application layers to be build around it, for synergizing the society. It has registered 26 hits during the last nine months.

Shabdabodha

Shabdhabodha is an interactive application built to analyse the semantic and syntactic structure of Sanskrit sentences. It has registered 33 hits during the last nine months.

Hits of the Downloadable Products

6.2 MAIT Language Technology Consortium

MAIT has formed the Language Technology Consortium to focus on the issue of Local Language Technology and has been working closely with the Ministry of Information Technology.

India is a multilingual country, 18 constitutional languages and 10 different Indian scripts are in vogue. Expertise in Indian Language is going to be a unique competitive proposition for India. Proficiency in such technology can be successfully harnessed by offering IT applications and solutions to non-English speaking nations such as the erstwhile the Eastern Block countries, African Nations and also countries in the Asia-Pacific region in their respective native languags. This will come much handy as we seek to develop newer markets.

The future of the IT Industry lies in the embedded products and support in local language will be critical, as such software would be embedded in all perceivable commonly used items by the common man. It goes without saying that these applications will be in local languages.

The implementation of Indian scripts/languages has been severely retarded by lack of standardization of various attributes of the script/language. The manufactures of the Indian language solutions have adopted their own adhoc standards, which have no commonality with each other. The unenlightened customer does not know this fact and hopes that the data/text created in package of one manufacturer should automatically work in another package. This problem becomes much more difficult if we have to design search engines for content creators.

In light of the above, MAIT had organized several meetings in New Delhi and Pune in the last few months, wherein the issue of Font Layout Standardisation (which has been pending for the last 10 years now) was discussed in great length and for the first time the consensus was achieved on the Layouts. The Consortium successfully drafted the Layout for Devnagari and Gujarati. These are draft layouts and with the MIT interface, the inputs would be sought on these drafts from the respective State Governments.

Similar Layouts for Malayalam and Punjabi will be drafted in the next meeting scheduled in the month of October. All the draft layouts will be put up on the MAIT website for sometime and would be open for comments from experts and users. Subsequent to this, the Consortium would recommend this to MAIT to announce them as the National Standard for Font Layout.