National Workshop on

"Computational Linguistics and Machine Translation from English to Indian Languages"

15th to 19th October, 2012

Organized by Centre for Excellence in Computational Engineering and Networking Amrita University, Coimbatore 641 112 Tamilnadu. India

Advances in information technology have changed the way we read books, listen to music, watch movies, go shopping, search for information, and communicate with friends and family. It had its impact on all business and professional sectors, from healthcare to energy, agriculture, transportation, education, law, engineering, science, and the humanities. However, in our country, this impact is mostly felt only by educated sector of our society.

To make the impact trickle down to major section of the society, we need to make the IT services available in vernacular languages. Also we need to make sure that all information on developments in any technology is readily available to common man in their own language. This can happen only if our academics and industry give adequate importance to computational linguistics of Indian languages.

Most Indian universities where computational linguistics is offered, teach only linguistics of English, because teaching material and linguistic resources are not freely available for Indian Languages.

Understanding this grave situation, Centre for Excellence in Computational Engineering and Networking (CEN) of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (Amrita University), Coimbatore and LDC-IL Unit of Central Institute of Indian languages, Mysore are taking a step towards disseminating their knowledge regarding how to make prototype linguistic tools and translating system with required resources created by the institution and the university.

The workshop will be held at Centre for Excellence in Computational Engineering and Networking (CEN) for five days from 15th to 19th October, 2012. The workshop is supported by TCS, CIIL-Mysore, DIT, MHRD & CDAC-Pune. There is no registration fee for participants from language and linguistics department (They are supported by CIIL-Mysore).

Speakers for the Workshop

Dr. L Ramamoorthy (Head LDC - IL, CIIL, Mysore)

Dr. S.V. Ramanan (Former Professor, IIIT-Hyderabad)

Dr. K.P. Soman (Head CEN Department, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham)

Dr. Rajendran S (Adjunct Professor, CEN, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham)

Mr. Govind D (Assistant Professor, CEN, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham)

Dr. Rajendran N (Emeritus Professor, University of Kerala)

Mr. Vijay (Assistant Professor, IT Department, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham)

Mr. Sharavanan (Assistant Professor, CEN, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham)

Mr M.Anand Kumar (Assistant Professor, CIET, Tamil Nadu) 00

Mr. Antony P J (Associate Professor, SJEC, Mangalore) 00

Ms. Vidya (Assistant Professor, Vidya Academy of Science and Technology, Thrissur)

Some more eminent speakers will be joining the workshop.

Key features of the workshop

- Lectures on basics of computational linguistics and machine learning tools
- Hands on training in creating some of the linguistic tools like POS Tagger, Morph Analyzer and Generator and transliteration
- Installing and running Translation Memories
- Installing and running Rule-based and statistical Machine Translation System
- Free annotated data sets
- Open Source Prototype engine for translating from English to Hindi and all the four Dravidian languages (Developed in-house)
- Training to port linguistic tools in Mobile platform
- Training in Text to speech synthesizer for Indian Languages
- Teaching material for teachers for introducing the course in their respective institutes/universities

For updated details, please visit the workshop website http://nlp.amrita.edu:8080/NLP4U/