TUGIndia

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Founded January 1998

How It Got Started

The long felt need of a User Group in India coupled with the goading of Sebastian Rahtz were the driving factors that resulted in the formation of Indian TeX Users Group. Indeed he came all the way from England to inaugurate TUGIndia and help us to organize the group.

First Workshop

Sebastian Rahtz also did a workshop on:

- LaTeX to SGML conversion
- Metapost and graphics in TeX
- pdfTeX
- hyperref
- hyperlinking using pdfTeX

The workshop was well received and had a good participation from the text processing industry and academia as well.

Membership Then and Now

- The first general body meeting had roughly 20 people from in and around Trivandrum.

- The inaugural meeting was attended by around 100 persons of which nearly 80 signed up immediately.

- Current membership ia 473

Aspirations and goals

- propagate TeX among users in all walks of life

- introduce TeX as part of school curriculum

- open up as many chapters as possible around India

- help the text processing industry to migrate to TeX

Aspirations and goals

- help people to start their own micro enterprises based on TeX

- write good documentation on various aspects of Tex and disseminate in various forms for free usage and distribution

- conduct tutorials and seminars wherever possible

Projects and Plans

- font development projects in all the Indic scripts

- integrate TeX and databases to make it easier for database publication

- multilingual typesetting

- resurrect the TUGIndia Journal

Accomplishments

- Opened up three more chapters in India at Delhi, Pune, Goa and Karnataka

- Conducted seminars at:
  - Cochin University, Cochin;
  - Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore;
  - Linux Users Group, Goa;
  - St Joseph's College, Trichy;
  - Pune, Maharashtra;
  - Center for Earth Science Studies, Trivandrum.

Accomplishments

- Organized TUG 2002, the international conference of TeX Users Group

- Produced the online tutorial on LaTeX which is going to be reprinted and republished by Free Software Foundation

- The second part of online tutorial on LaTeX graphics is an ongoing project of which four chapters have been released

Accomplishments

- a portal similar to sourceforge.net to host TeX development projects has been launched at: http://sarovar.org where people can register their projects and avail all the sourceforge like facilities

- funded two font development projects:

  - malayalam metafont project -- AJ Alex

  - kannada metafont project   -- CS Yogananda

Accomplishments

- trained the first batch of 12 young people for three months to start their own TeX based text processing micro enterprises

- the first school textbook in math in Malayalam has been typeset in TeX and students of our schools have received typographically good quality math textbook this year from this year onwards

Accomplishments

- for the first time, telephone directory of Trivandrum Telecom was typeset using TeX with technical assistance from TUGIndia

- this would be followed by the Bangalore telecom directory which would be undertaken by the karnataka chapter of TUGIndia

- helped Trivandrum Telephones to use pdfTeX for the dynamic generation of telephone bills in their online bill payment system

Thanks for Your Time