



Quarterly Programmatic Report
NVDA & eSpeak

June 2014
to
August 2014

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Progress in the past Quarter

e-Speak Section

In previous quarter the e-Speak team reached some milestones. The team completed work on basic support for three Indian languages Gujarati, Bengali and Punjabi. The languages were thoroughly tested by the language testers from blind organizations from their native states where they are spoken the most. We closed the languages after receiving confirmation from the language testers and marked the confirmation emails as our records.

Work is in progress in other Indian languages as well.

Marathi

The basic framework for Marathi language was prepared in the previous quarter. The test build was given the tester from Maharashtra to give his feedback. He will send the audio recordings and improvements will be made based on the feedback.

Telugu

The ordinal numbers up to 9000 were added in Telugu. A decision was taken on not to work further on ordinal numbers as they are not in use in usual practice. The work will be done on cardinal numbers. The cardinal numbers from 18 to 36 were improved and given to the tester. The work was done on pronunciations related to *visarg*. We are waiting for feedback from the testers.

Sindhi Devanagari

The tester in Sindhi Devanagari has submitted his test report in Sindhi. The technical team is reviewing it.

Oriya

The tester and technical team have come together in multiple tele-conferences this month to understand the problems in Odiya. At present the numbers in Odiya are being corrected with the help of the tester from Orissa. The numbers from 1 to 100 are being corrected in their pronunciations.

The tester had sent the audio recordings and then the technical team worked with those audio recordings and in direct teleconferences with the tester.

Now, further work will be taken in Odiya alphabets and words.

Assamese

The technical team and the Assamese tester are working together in teleconferences to work on issues related to Assamese. In July, the tester for Assamese language had sent the audio recordings of numbers 1 to 100 to the technical team. The technical team has implemented those numbers and now further work on the modifications and corrections in pronunciations of these numbers is being carried out with the help of the tester.

Malayalam

The tester in Malayalam had given test report on mispronunciations of certain words. The developer is analysing those issues. The target was kept for August to make the corrections on the test report sent by the tester in July.

Marathi

The basic rules were sent to the tester. The tester from Maharashtra is working on sending the audio recordings on numbers and alphabets in Marathi by listening to the test build sent to him.

Hindi

Visarga issue has been resolved, e-speak will now announce *visarga*.

Punctuation:

Hindi full stop has been modified to *puran-viram*. Earlier it was *dand*. e-speak will now recognize *deerg-viram* sign.

To differentiate certain characters the name of those characters have been changed on experimental basis.

To differentiate between the last nasal sound of *ka* and *cha*, the character name of the *ka* line has been changed to *anga*.

To differentiate between the last nasal sound of *tt* and *t*, the character name of the *tt* line has been changed to *aanna*.

To differentiate between *n* sound and long *n* sound which is formed by adding *nukta* with *n* has been changed to (n+nukta) sound. The character name of this has been modified to *n nukta*.

Symbols

These will now be pronounced correctly instead of *akshar* followed by some number.

◌̣ Chandr-bindu

◌̣̣ Anuswar

◌̣̣̣ Nukta

◌̣̣̣̣ Halant

New symbols are inter-fused while reading Sanskrit and old text they can be used, so it is good to have them in e-speak.

◌̣̣̣̣̣ Avagrah

◌̣̣̣̣̣̣ Udaat

◌̣̣̣̣̣̣̣ Anudaat

Gujarati

Number 18 has been remodified according to the feedback.

Bengali

Few exceptional words have been added

দশটা

ত্রিশটা

চল্লিশটা

পঞ্চাশটা

ষাটটা

সত্তরটা

করবে
বলবে
চলবে
শুনবে
শুনব
মানকচু
ওলকপি
ফটকিরি
চরণপদ্ম

Download link for test build of e-speak

You can download the eSpeak 1.14 for Indian languages from the link below:

http://www.maheshinder.com/eSpeak_for_Indian_languages-1.14.exe

NVDA development section

- 4126 outlook calendar - location field in new or existing appointment is not read properly with ARROWS. In this bug there was a problem that the typed characters could not be read with LEFT/RIGHT ARROW and the list that drops down in the edit combo could not be read with UP/DOWN ARROW.

The problem is fixed and now the ARROW KEYS do read the characters and the items in the drop down combo box.

Excel charts accessibility with NVDA

A major issue of inaccessibility of Excel charts has been sorted out this month. Now one can read and understand charts with the help of NVDA. All the important parts of an Excel chart are read. The values can be reached with the LEFT/RIGHT ARROW one by one and analysed with the help of screen reader. It is an excellent functionality which is not yet available even with one of the most popular screen readers available in the market. One can shift between chart and excel sheet easily.

For advanced testing, this functionality will be given for beta testing. The ticket number is #1987.

Tally and NVDA

Last month, many rounds of telephonic discussions took place between the Tally core development team and NVDA team. The purpose of the tele-conversations was to make Tally accessible. Various accessibility related aspects were put in front of the Tally team. The Tally team has begun studying accessibility and is working to build an accessible Tally.