NLP Training Program Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Odisha 21st-25th January, 2014

The NLP training program in Cuttack was held from 21st to 25th of January, 2014, in the Department of Odia, Ravenshaw University. The program started with an inaugural ceremony chaired by Prof. Baishnab Charan Tripathy, Vice-Chancellor, RU and he pointed out on the difficulties of computational aspect of Odia grammar. In this session, Dr. D.P. Pattanayak, former director of CIIL, was the chief guest of the programme. He emphasized on the standardization of Odia grammar which has not yet been done. So, the progressive work on Odia grammar will not be appropriated unless we correct our own grammar. Dr. Padan Kumar Jena, Register and Prof. Smarapriya Mishra, Dean, School of Languages, R.U., commented on useful aspect of NLP works in present society. Mr. Pramod Kumar Rout, SRA, LDC-IL, gave a small account on LDC-IL and its works nature etc. At first, local coordinator Dr. Gouanga Charan Dash, HOD, Dept. of Odia, introduced the guests and Mr. Santosh Kumar Mohanty, JRP, LDC-IL, had given the vote of thanks.

There were about ninety people including faculty members from LDC-IL, RU., and other office staffs. After a Lunch break the academic sessions started with Amom Nandaraj Meetei from LDC-IL delivered a lecture on 'Artificial Intelligence' and after that Santosh Kumar Mohanty introduced the 'Corpus and Corpus Linguistics'. On the second day, Amaresh GopalKrishnan & Amom Nandaraj Meetei delivered on 'Sign Language Data Collection, Annotation' & 'Syntax' respectively. Similarly on third day, Pramod Kumar Rout, Santosh Kumar Mohanty & Prafulla Kumar Tripathy delivered lecturer on 'ASR data collection', 'Odia POS Annotation' and 'Word Formation of Odia' respectively. Likewise on fourth day, Pramod Kumar Rout, Debendra Kumar Dash and Hariram Pansari delivered lecturer on 'Odia Morphological Analizer', 'Translation & Translereration', and 'Unicode and its Utilization: Reference to Hindi and Odia' respectively. On the last day (5th day), Dr Prafulla Kumar Tripathy and Dr Girish Chandra Mishra delivered the lectures on 'Odia Spell Checker' and 'OCR in Odia language' respectively.

The second half was the valedictory session. Eminent linguist Prof. Gaganendra Nath Dash, was the chief guest and he commented on machine translation which has a great impact on present scenario. Dr. Prafulla Kumar Tripathy, chief speaker, gave stress on the descriptive part of Odia grammar. Prof. B.C. Tripathy, Vice-Chancellor of R.U. Chaired the session and announced, "We are going to open a Linguistics department in this university." Dr. Smarapriya Mishra, dean, School of Language, R.U., also gave the important of computational aspect of Odia and Hindi language. Mr. Pramod Kumar Rout summarized the all five days programme and Dr. Premananda Mohapatra had given the vote of thanks.

In this session, the participants were given the chance to express their feedback about the program. Indeed, it was very persevering for LDC-IL. The participants expressed their interest on NLP and said that, this kind of more programs should be conducted in the future. After that certificates were distributed.