

Alternate India Time Zone Meeting - Minutes cum Summary of discussions

When:

Date: 14th August 2015

Time: IST 14:30-15:30 OR GMT 9:00-10:00

Attended by:

Mr. Avneesh Singh Daisy Consortium

Mr. Rajesh Ranjan Individual

Mr. Shwetank Dixit Opera Software

Mr. Satya Pal Wolters Kluwer

Mr. Chandrakant D. C-DAC GIST

Mr. Dipendra Manocha Daisy Consortium

Mr. Karunakar Avaya Indlinux

Mr. Ravi Ratlami Individual

Mr. Akshat Joshi C-DAC GIST

Mr. Nishit Jain C-DAC GIST

Ms. Neha Gupta C-DAC GIST

Mr. Asok Bandyopadhyaya C-DAC Kolkata

Ms. Barnali Pal C-DAC Kolkata

Mr. Abhijeet Chatterjee C-DAC Kolkata

Mr. Ravi Kant CSDS

Ms. Aditi Maheshwari Vani Prakashan

Summary of discussions:

The first face-to-face call of the "Alternate India Time Zone" group took place on 14th Aug. 2015. The call had participation from a many different organizations involved in the entire Digital Publishing ecosystem, in different roles. There were participants on the call from Daisy Consortium, Opera Inc, C-DAC Pune, C-DAC Kolkata and of course publishing houses.

The meeting began with the address by Mr. Mahesh Kulkarni (W3C India - Country Manager and HoD GIST, C-DAC). He welcomed all the participants and explained the background behind formation of this group. The main motive being, creating a platform for Digital Publishing community in Indian subcontinental region for discussing various nuances and needs of the region from the evolving global standard. This was followed by a round of introductions by all the participants.

After the round of introductions, Mr. Kulkarni introduced Mr. Rajesh Ranjan as the convener of the group. Mr. Kulkarni, also informed the participants that Mr. Ranjan would be the nodal person who will be acting as the bridge between the Global DPuB group and this group. He said that from next meetings onwards, one of the agenda points would be a briefing from Mr. Ranjan about the current discussions at the Global DPuB group. Mr. Kulkarni also thanked W3C for formation of this particular group. He also asked participants to communicate their concerns and opinions freely on this forum.

Mr. Ranjan then addressed the participants. Mr. Ranjan brought the attention of the participants to the Documents earlier shared on the mailing list, talking about the "Requirements for the latin text layout" and the "E-PUB WEB", to act as the base documents on which we can base our discussions.

The floor was then open for discussions. Mr. Avneesh Singh (Daisy Consortium) stressed on the need of focus on HTML 5, and CSS 3 specifications as well along-with the Digital Publishing when we are looking from the point of view of Indian languages. He also talked about the need for E-pub to be adopted by the publishers as opposed to traditional "PDF Publishing". He also talked about Accessibility being much more than Text to Speech systems as it also includes formatting the documents in the right perspective for enabling various reading systems to handle them from Accessibility point of view. Mr. Shwetank (Opera Inc) pointed that when we look at the lack of support about Indian languages on browsers, sometimes it depends on the flaw in the Standard itself instead of a particular implementation. He also expressed his support for E-Pub. Mr. Dipendra Manocha (Daisy Consortium) also expressed the need for compliance with the standards. He also brought to the notice of the group, the "Epub-check" mechanism. In the discussion about compliance testing, he also mentioned about epubtest.org.

The future call timing and frequency were then discussed. It was decided to have a doodle poll for the same.