Quarterly Programmatic Report
(November, 2013 to February, 2014)

Contents

Highlights

- During this quarter (November to February), the complete team was reorganised and tasks for the coming year were decided and responsibilities allocated.

- Excel support to NVDA was enhanced.

- Broken issues were detected and were assigned.

- Power work started to enhance the NVDA support to Power Point.

- Support to Sindhi Arabic, Sindhi Devanagari, Assamese, Manipuri, Malayalam and Oriya were added.

- Support to Gujarati, Bengali and Telugu were improved.

Summary
At present NVDA provides support to MSWord amongst the most used Office applications. Excel and Power Point have to be improved with NVDA. The Indian Development team has started providing this support to NVDA. This will help screen reader users to start using NVDA. Basic support to totally unsupported languages was given and improvements are being made.

NVDA
- 3288: Word 2010-sentence reading commands ALT+UP/DOWN ARROW are not available. A new keystroke NVDA+CTRL+UP/DOWN ARROW was introduced to read the sentences. But the core team wanted to support the sentence reading in other apps as well. So this command is now introduced universally and where ever sentence reading support can be done inherently, this keystroke reads the sentence. For example, this command works in MSWord and MS Outlook.

This command is now available for other rich text editors as well.
- 1475: Dot spoken with symbol level some at the end of a sentence
- 3680: read all formula in excel sheet (nvda+f7)
- 3681: read all comments in excel sheet (nvda+f7)
- Finished implementation. Lot of 'viewing modes' supported, like Cells-Flat, Row-Cells, Column-Cells, etc.

Also, with these fixes, it is now easier to edit and detect comments in MS Excel sheets. The above fixes are good enhancements in Excel that improve support of NVDA in Excel.

- 3231: In Power Point, NVDA incorrectly speaks previously entered but later deleted characters when the space bar is pressed
- Issue: Beeps in snapshot build

Solution: Version number has to start with numeral, to disable the test mode. Version format changed to 'yyyymmmdd_in_next'

ESpeak
To provide support to Indian languages, eSpeak test builds were released in regular intervals. These test builds were sent to the language testers to various persons across the nation. The improvements were made on the basis of the feedback received from all the language testers. Following is a chronological status on eSpeak:

Gujarati: The Character name of the character [anna] has been modified according to the feedback.

Hindi: The Hindi file sent on Third January 2014 has been updated in the version. In exception list, 71 joint words have been included with their pronunciation rules.

Bengali: The Bengali files sent on 20th December and Third January have been updated in the version. About 71 Bengali Exception words have been included with their pronunciation rules - where inherent vowel even being between two consonant is not pronounced as (o) mostly in case of two words pronounced and used as a single word.

Creating a National Resource Kit of Laws, Policies and Programmes for Persons with Disabilities: Quarterly Report

Oriya: The Oriya files sent on 20th December and Third January have been updated in the version. Modification for Oriya numbers 1 to 30 and 31 to 100.

eSpeak 1.06
Gujarati: Problems with half characters are fixed where the half characters come before the same full character. eSpeak could not join sounds of these two characters.

- ga [ગા]
- chha [છછ]
- half cha with chha [ચછ]
- ja [જજ]
- tha [ઠ]
- half ta with tha [ઠ]
- da [ડ]
- ddha [ઢ]
- tha [થથ]
- half ta with tha [ત્થ]
- da [દ]
- ddha [ધધ]
- half da with ddha [દ્ધ]
- pa [પ્પ]

Assamese: The Assamese file sent on 13th December has been updated in the version.

Pronunciation rule changes for:
- 40 - 49
- 52 - 56
- 57 - 59
- 61 - 64
- 66 - 69
- 72 - 75
- 78 - 80
- 82 - 86
- 88 - 89
- 92 - 99
Pronunciation rule for Hundreds 0C rule
- eSpeak 1.05

Gujarati: Separate new phonemes are created for the vowels (aI) and (aU). Problems with half characters are fixed where the half characters come before the same full character. eSpeak could not join sounds of these two characters. ka, ch, tta, ta.

Other Languages
The files sent on 29th November have been updated in the version and the language names are Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Malayalam, Manipuri, Oriya, Sindhi, and Telugu.

eSpeak 1.04
Gujarati:
- Fixed the R sound which was sounding inappropriate when at the end of a word.
- Fixed the number sound 200 according to the feedback.

Oriya: Oriya files have been included which were sent to me.

eSpeak 1.03
Gujarati: Gujarati numbers have been introduced and have been set according to the feedbacks received.

Several other changes made.

Beta testing
A group of beta testers has been formed. The NVDA snapshots are sent to this group. The feedback from these beta testers is very useful in improving NVDA.