

मानक नेपाली
मौलिक टेक्स्ट कर्पस

*A Gold Standard
Nepali Raw Text
Corpus*

Nepali Raw Text Corpus

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Annotated, quality language data (both-text & speech) and tools in Indian Languages to Individuals, Institutions and Industry for Research & Development - Created in-house, through outsourcing and acquisition.

**Linguistic Data Consortium for Indian Languages,
Central Institute of Indian Language,
Mysore, India-570006**

Nepali Raw Text Corpus

This Documentation is a part of LDC-IL's "A Gold Standard Nepali Raw Text Corpus".

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1 LDC-IL RAW TEXT CORPORA; AN OVERVIEW

This is a generic documentation of the LDC-IL raw text corpus which applies to all the languages covered in LDC-IL unless otherwise specified. However, this does not give the specifics of a language dataset.

The objective of language technology is to utilize the facilities of computer, to scientifically analyze language for retrieving verifiable proofs about properties of a language that enable the understanding of multi-dimensional nature of a language. Corpus of a language reflects the nature of the language. The larger and the more representative a corpus, the better it shows its nature.

A corpus is a large collection of language manifestation duly representing its aspects, mainly in text or spoken form. In case of sign language it is the collection of signs in visual form. The electronic text corpus is a collection of pieces of language text in electronic form, selected in accordance with the external criteria to represent, as far as possible, a language or language variety as a source of data for linguistic research. Corpora are one of the major resources for language technology. Computers offer advantages like searching, selecting, sorting and formatting, which eases the language studies. Computers can avoid human bias in an analysis, thus making the result more reliable. Corpus serves as the basis for a number of research tasks within the field of Corpus Linguistics. It is the main resource for many modules of various applications like grammar checkers, spell checkers used in word editors etc. Indian languages often pose difficult challenges for developer community in Natural Language Processing/Artificial Intelligence. The technology developers building mass-application tools/products have for long been calling for availability of linguistic data on a large scale. However, the data should be collected, organized and stored in a manner that suits different groups of technology developers.

Over the years, a lot of efforts have been made to develop text corpora in Indian languages and several agencies have made contributed towards this including the government organizations, academic institutions as well as private bodies. However, the constant greed of more and more electronic data as required by the contemporary machine learning oriented technology models have proved that the data is still not sufficient for all the scheduled languages of India.

Linguistic Data Consortium for Indian Languages (LDC-IL) is one of the Government of India initiatives to develop linguistic corpora in Indian languages. Approved as a scheme in 2007 by the Ministry of Human Resource & Development, Government of India, LDC-IL started functioning at Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore from April 15, 2008 when human resources got recruited for this scheme. The mission statement for this project is to develop ***“Annotated, quality language data (both-text & speech) and tools in Indian***

Languages to Individuals, Institutions and Industry for Research & Development - Created in-house, through outsourcing and acquisition¹.”

The text datasets created under the LDC-IL ambit strives to fill the gap and provide more and more of electronic data for the NLP and language technology community such that the Indian languages get a boost and more of IT applications are available in these languages.

¹ Extract from the *Detailed Project Report* of LDC-IL.

2 LDC-IL APPROACH OF SAMPLING

Developing a written text corpus involves various factors like size of corpus, representativeness, quality of the text, determination of target users, selection of time-span, selection of documents etc. The data for the LDC-IL corpus are collected from books of general interest, textbooks, magazines, newspapers and Government documents of the contemporary text. The data is collected in accordance with prior set of criteria and with the convenience of material such as availability, proper format etc.

As a corpus is supposed to be representative of the language, there is no need to collect all the text from a given book. The representativeness of the corpus depends on a range of different kinds of text categories included in the corpus. LDC-IL corpora try to cover a wide range of text categories that could be representative of the language or language variety under consideration. Corpus representativeness and balance is closely associated with sampling.

LDC-IL collected text corpus from different sources. They are mainly books, magazines, and newspapers. The books are from literature and knowledge text books, magazines and newspapers are web crawled, or keyed in text or both. The newspaper and magazines are great resource of words which are hard to find in books because of the scarcity of those domain specific books in Indian languages.

LDC-IL has different Sampling approach over while extracting text from these three sources.

2.1 SAMPLING APPROACH FOR BOOKS

The books were identified so that the representation of different domains can be catered. After identifying the books, the next step is to extract typically 10 pages of text from it. LDC-IL follows a sampling method to collect the pages from a book. For example, if the book has 100+ pages we collect every 10th page and if the book has 200+ pages we collect every 20th page of the book. If the selected page contains pictures, tables etc, then its next or previous page, which may have the text content, will be chosen for the corpus. Even though one may find rare cases where partial or whole book is selected for the corpus, since the total corpus is going to be very large, such rare cases may not have an impact on balance of corpus. While selecting the book, the LDC-IL's motive is to select from wide variety of domains so that corpus can cover large part of vocabulary and should not miss out certain domain specific words.

Other generic principles that have been normally followed in the sampling tasks across languages are as follows:

- Contents containing obnoxious or vulgar texts have been avoided.
- New editions of the old books having a writing style prior to 1990 were not preferred. Rarely we may have text extracts from such books published prior to 1990 to ensure that the writing style is contemporary.

- For all texts containing short stories, sampling has been made by considering the short stories as a single entity and not based on the whole book containing all the short stories i.e. each page starting with a new short story have been sampled instead of the usual sampling method based on page numbers of the book.
- The data sampling personnel carried the category and sub-category list for ready reference in the field.
- Text extracts containing poems and formulae have been avoided.
- Pages containing diagrams, tables or figures have been avoided.
- Books containing less than 50 pages are not part of sampling.
- Texts having very small font have been enlarged during photocopying to make it look like 10 to 12 font size.
- If the text contains content other than the intended language, those texts have been avoided if the other language content is longer than one sentence.

2.2 SAMPLING APPROACH FOR MAGAZINES

In case of magazine texts are small and from different domains so the whole magazine is to be considered to be included in corpus discarding advertisements, image captions, and tables etc. Magazine corpus usually includes different types of texts like cookery, health, cinema, stories, contemporary articles, etc.

2.3 SAMPLING APPROACH FOR NEWSPAPER

The newspaper corpus is contemporary text in nature. The text may contain political news, editorials, sports news etc. The news data does not have literary flourish. The news stories are on many unfamiliar domains, religious ideas, scientific principles etc. that have to be conveyed to the common people. So, it is expected that the writers would have captured these domains in a simple and meaningful way. Such write-ups have proper usage of vocabulary, correct language structure and effective phraseology. The newspaper articles may use colloquial, non-standard terms or jargons to attract the readers. The words used need to be expressive and represents the feeling and attitude towards the events. To cover such nuance of the language the newspaper are sampled to be part of the text corpus.

The News items of the paper is sampled based on the domains, classifieds, very small news snippets were avoided. Usually much of the newspaper is keyed.

3 LDC-IL TEXT CORPUS CATEGORIZATION

The LDC-IL corpus shows how people naturally use the language and it does not give imaginary, idealized examples. To satisfy this requirements we needed large amount of data otherwise the frequent items will be from some specific vocabulary or a particular style. Quantitative data gives somewhat accurate results of what occurs frequently and what occurs rarely in the language.

Each text source of corpus is different from others in form, function, content and features. This gives room to classify corpora into different categories. LDC-IL maintains a standard list of categories for which the text is to be collected. LDC-IL Identifies six major categories namely ‘Aesthetics’, ‘Commerce’, ‘Mass Media’, ‘Official Document’, ‘Science and Technology’, ‘Social Sciences’. These categories are further classified into 128 minor categories or sub-categories to cover various domains.

3.1 AESTHETICS

The Aesthetics category is one of the largest contributors to the LDC-IL corpus. This category contains sub-domains from Literature and Fine-arts. The text extracts are from literary sources. It is used to capture literature terms. Aesthetics text is collected from books. The text is probably any standard text which is descriptive in nature. It exhibits the language style of a particular period from which the text is taken. It is an extract of creative writing. It is made up of stories based on fiction, essays on various topics etc. These write-ups are mostly self-expressions of the writer. It captures the flow of language of the writer of the literary text.

The subdomains that are identified for mark-up in corpus under the Aesthetics are given below:

Aesthetics				
Fine Arts-Dance	Literary Texts	Literature-Novels	Autobiographies	Folk Tales
Fine Arts-Drawing	Literature-Criticism	Literature-Plays	Biographies	Folklore
Fine Arts-Hobbies	Literature-Diaries	Literature-Poetry	Cinema	Mythology
Fine Arts-Music	Literature-Essays	Literature-Epics	Culture	Photography
Fine Arts-Sculpture	Literature-Letters	Literature-Speeches	Handicrafts	Humour
Fine Arts-Musical Instruments	Literature-Children’s Literature	Literature-Text Books (School)	Literature-Travelogues	Literature-Science Fiction
				Literature-Short Stories

Table 1: Subcategories of the Category Aesthetics

3.2 COMMERCE

The trade is a part of the society. It exists and operates in association with various groups in society such as customer, suppliers, competitors, banks and financial institutions, Government agencies, trade unions. The trade domain has many domain specific words which need to be part of the corpus. The trade related books will bring such texts to the corpus.

The Subdomains that are identified for mark-up in corpus under the Commerce is given below:

Commerce					
Industry	Accountancy	Share Market	Banking	Business	Career and Employment
Management	Finance	Tourism			

Table 2: Subcategories of the Category Commerce

3.3 MASS MEDIA

Media is an integral part of everyday life for many people all over the world, at work and in the home. The text from this domain is contemporary in nature. The text may contain political news, editorials, or sports news. The major source of the Mass Media text category is newspaper; it contains words which are used in day-to-day life. Structurally, the language of mass media contains exposition, argument, description and narration. It includes different types of write up; consists of structures with different patterns, words and styles. All this is written in a language in which everyone can relate and understand. Some of the media prints are in the form of conversation or question answers. This data usually contains an interviewer and an interviewee. They usually consist dialogues. The interviewee may be a celebrity or a renowned personality from cinema, politics etc. The words used in such text are usually more personal and simple.

The Subdomains that are identified for mark-up in corpus under the Mass Media is given below:

Mass Media					
Article	Classifieds	General News	Obituary	SMS	Religious/Spiritual News
Business News	Discussions	Interviews	Political	Social	Sports News
Cinema News	Editorial	Letters	Speeches	Weather	Health

Table 3: Subcategories of the Category Mass Media

3.4 OFFICIAL DOCUMENT

The usage of language in official documents is highly standard, unambiguous, straight forward and structurally modified. The communication intended in official documents are intended about some action, or some enquiry or proceedings of some assemblies. This text usually is to get the due representation of such domain specific terminologies of administration, official document category is included.

The Subdomains that are identified for mark-up in corpus under the Official Document is given below:

Official Document			
Administration	Legislature	Parliamentary/Assembly Debates	Police Documents

Table 4: Subcategories of the Category Official Documents

3.5 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The science and technology domain contains text extracts from various scientific books, articles of magazines, journals etc. These texts are also called as knowledge texts. The language structure and usage of words are different from the language of day-to-day life. The terminologies that are from this domain will have highest number of loan words because the subject in the text is usually global. To get the due representation of such domain specific terminologies, the Science and Technology category is included.

The Subdomains that are identified for mark-up in corpus under the Science and Technology is given below:

Science and Technology					
Agriculture	Biotechnology	Engineering-Civil	Forestry	Medicine	Statistics
Architecture	Botany	Engineering-Electrical	Geology	Micro Biology	Astrology
Textile Technology	Educational Psychology	Engineering-Electronics Communication	Text Book (Science)	Computer Sciences	Language Technology
Chemistry	Naturopathy	Engineering-Mechanical	Horticulture	Oceanology	Veterinary
Ayurveda	Criminology	Engineering-Others	Astronomy	Physics	Film Technology
Bio Chemistry	Homeopathy	Environmental Science	Logic	Psychology	
Biology	Yoga	Engineering-Chemical	Mathematics	Sexology	Zoology

Table 5: Subcategories of the Category Science and Technology

3.6 SOCIAL SCIENCES

Language is a medium for creation and maintenance of human society so language in social sciences category correlates the linguistic features of the dynamic society. Human development and reformation happening in different communal context hence all the social knowledge and reality could be reflected in this text category.

The Subdomains that are identified for mark-up in corpus under the Social Sciences is given below:

Social Sciences					
Anthropology	Food and Wellness	Personality Development	Physical Education	Text Book (Social Science)	Philosophy
Archaeology					Journalism
Demography	Fisheries	Library Science	Law	Sports	Geography
Economics					Religion / Spiritual
Education	Home Science	Political Science	Public Administration	Health and Family Welfare	Sociology
Epigraphy					Linguistics

Table 6: Subcategories of the Category Social Sciences

4 LDC-IL TEXT DATA ENCODING AND FORMAT

The collected data should be encoded in a machine readable form for further analysis. While storing the data one has to keep some standards so that the data is easy to store and retrieve in long term. The encoding being used in LDC-IL Text corpus is Unicode and stored in XML format. Large scale language resource depends on the metadata. Metadata is an authentic source to prove the quality of the data. Metadata should have the subject information, source information and encoding information.

The selected text along with metadata information is indexed with a five digit unique number to get keyed-in. Each text fragment of selected book is typed as corpus file with xml extension. The given unique Index number gets prefixed with the LDC-IL notations which make the filename of the XML file. Sometimes the XML file names carry small case alphabets enclosed in braces. This is done if the book title carries different type of textual topics, so that each chapter, in the selected book title which may be related to different topics, chapters etc., can be differentiated. This helps the text content get categories based on the context.

5 LDC-IL TEXT CORPUS METADATA

It is imperative to maintain metadata of the entire data collection for linguistic analysis. The collected data are arranged with its metadata information such as its category, subcategory, title of the text, author name, source, publisher name, year of publication, page numbers etc. This information helps the users to retrieve the data easily from the database/repository. Metadata gives authenticity to the text by way of providing the details of how the data was created in the first instance and what is its content about. The following table shows the legend used in the metadata and provides description of them.

#	Legend	Description
1	Filename	Represented by "docID" tag in the XML files. This is a unique file number across the datasets.
2	Project Description	This gives a brief of the project under which the file was generated. As CIIL has been involved into corpus creation over a long period time, including before the inception of LDC-IL scheme, there might be some data for a few languages which might have come from different projects e.g. the CIIL Corpus or CIIL-KHS corpus. This field indicates the source of the project.
3	Sampling Description	This information is a verifiable proof for the corpus. It will have the information of selected page numbers of the book for corpus.
4	Category	Specifies the domain of the text.
5	Subcategory	Specifies the sub-domain of the text.
6	Text	Specifies the type of the source text i.e. whether its origin is a book, a magazine or a newspaper.
7	Title	Specifies the title of the source text. It contains mostly books but if magazines or newspapers occur, their respective are provided here.
8	Volume	Specifies volume number the title, if any.
9	Issue	Specifies issue number the title, if any.
10	Text Type	Is mostly blank however sometimes it is used to provide the broad topic of the news items e.g. whether it is a political news or editorial or sports news etc.
11	Headline	This information is a verifiable proof for the corpus. This is normally the heading of the chapter of the selected sample. Gives the fine tuned information of the topic present in particular file.
12	Author	Specifies the name of the author.
13	Editor	Specifies the name of the editor.
14	Translator	Specifies the name of the translator.
15	Words	Specifies the total number of words in the file.
16	Letters	Specifies the total number of UTF8 characters in the file.
17	Publishing Place	Specifies the place where the title was published.
18	Publisher	Specifies the name of the publisher.
19	Published Year	Specifies the publishing year.
20	Index	Is the index number or ID of the file. It is noted inside the XML file. It is mostly the same as the file name.
21	Date	Date when the file was digitized/inputted.
22	Input	Name of the Data Inputter, if the file has been typed.
23	Proof	Name of the Proof reader.
24	Language	Name of the language.
25	Script	Name of the script the text is written in.

Table 7: Metadata Legends for LDC-IL Text Data

Typical Metadata Mark-ups in a text corpus file structure is given below.

<?xml version="1.0" ?>			
<?xml-stylesheet type="text/css" href="home.css"?>			
<Doc id="mal-w-media-		ML00172	"
			lang="Malayalam">
<Header type="text">			
<encodingDesc>			
<projectDesc>		CIIL-Malayalam Corpora, Monolingual Written Text	
<projectDesc>		</projectDesc>	
<samplingDesc>		Simple written text only has been transcribed. Diagrams, pictures and tables have been omitted. Samples taken from page 30-31,50-51,70-71,94-95,114-115,132-133,152-153,172-173,192-193,210-211	
<samplingDesc>		</samplingDesc>	
</encodingDesc>			
<sourceDesc>			
<biblStruct>			
<source>			
		<category>	Aesthetics
		</category>	</category>
		<subcategory>	Literature-Novel
		</subcategory>	</subcategory>
		<text>	Book
		</text>	</text>
		<title>	Kalapam
		</title>	</title>
		<vol>	
		</vol>	</vol>
		<issue>	
		</issue>	</issue>
</source>			
<textDes>			
		<type>	
		</type>	</type>
		<headline>	
		</headline>	</headline>
		<author>	ShashiTharoor
		</author>	</author>
		<editor>	
		</editor>	</editor>
		<translator>	Thomas George
		</translator>	</translator>
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		</words>	</words>
</textDes>			
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		</pubPlace>	</pubPlace>
		<publisher>	DC Books
		</publisher>	</publisher>
		<pubDate>	2006
		</pubDate>	</pubDate>
</imprint>			
<idno type="CIIL code">		Kerala University Campus Library- 13535	
<idno>		</idno>	
<index>		ML00172	
</index>		</index>	
</biblStruct>		</sourceDesc>	
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		</date>	</date>
		<inputter>	Remya K
		</inputter>	</inputter>
		<proof>	
		</proof>	</proof>
</creation>			
<langUsage>		Malayalam	
</langUsage>		</langUsage>	
<ScriptUsage>		Malayalam	
</ScriptUsage>		</ScriptUsage>	
<wsdUsage>			
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</wsdUsage>			
<textClass>			
<channel mode="w">		Print	
</channel>		</channel>	
<domain type="public">			
</domain>		</domain>	
</textClass> </profileDesc> </Header>			
<text> <body>			
<p>			
</p>		</p>	
<p>			
</p>		</p>	
</text> </body> </Doc>			

6 LDC-IL TEXT CORPUS AND NAMING CONVENTIONS

The selected hardcopies were marked for sampling and given to typists by concerned language experts. LDC-IL has built an in-house corpus developing application and stores it in a repository database. The samples get typed in xml format through a software application built for it in LDC-IL. Each sampling is a corpus file and gets typed and saved in Unicode standards. Each corpus file has unique filename. One can say the corpus is indexed through filenames. Typically each corpus file is an extract of a book of a particular title. The LDC-IL corpus file name follows certain naming convention. The naming convention is based on language and source of text. Every scheduled language has a notation for each kind of source of corpus. The notation is prefixed to a five digit number to create a unique corpus filename.

The LDC-IL notations for Indian Scheduled languages are given below.

#	Language	ISO 639 Language Code	Script	Notation as per Source of Corpus			
				Book	Magazine	News Paper	News Web
1	Assamese	asm	Assamese	AS	ASM	ASN	ASNW
2	Bengali	ben	Bengali	BE	BEM	BEN	BENW
3	Bodo	brx	Devanagari	BD	BDM	BDN	BDNW
4	Dogri	doi	Devanagari	DG	DGM	DGN	DGNW
5	Gujarati	guj	Gujarati	GJ	GJM	GJN	GJNW
6	Hindi	hin	Devanagari	HN	HNM	HNN	HNNW
7	Kannada	kan	Kannada	KA	KAM	KAN	KANW
8	Kashmiri	kas	Persio-Arabic	KS	KSM	KSN	KSNW
9	Konkani	kok	Devanagari	KO	KOM	KON	KONW
10	Maithili	mai	Devanagari	MT	MTM	MTN	MTNW
11	Malayalam	mal	Malayalam	ML	MLM	MLN	MLNW
12	Manipuri	mni	Bengali	MN	MNM	MNN	MNNW
13	Marathi	mar	Devanagari	MA	MAM	MAN	MANW
14	Nepali	nep	Devanagari	NP	NPM	NPN	NPNW
15	Odia	ori	Odia	OD	ODM	ODN	ODNW
16	Punjabi	pan	Gurmukhi	PN	PNM	PNN	PNNW
17	Sanskrit	san	Any Script	SA	SAM	SAN	SANW
18	Santali	sat	OlChiki	SN	SNM	SNN	SNNW
19	Sindhi	snd	Persio-Arabic	SI	SIM	SIN	SINW
20	Tamil	tam	Tamil	TA	TAM	TAN	TANW
21	Telugu	tel	Telugu	TE	TEM	TEN	TENW
22	Urdu	urd	Persio-Arabic	UR	URM	URN	URNW

Table 8: LDC-IL notations for Indian Scheduled languages

Consider the example of Malayalam, The text taken from Malayalam book for LDC-IL Malayalam Text Corpus always starts with ‘ML’ followed by 5 digit numbers which is continuous, where as text collected from Malayalam Magazine starts with ‘MLM’ followed by 5 digit numbers. If the source is from Newspaper then ‘MLN’ notation will be followed where as if the News is taken from Web source ‘MLNW’ will be used as notation.

In certain cases, if the book is chaptered, the headline of each chapter changes, to capture the change of the topic. If the language experts wish to break the sampling of a book into different smaller files, then the filename will get attached with roman small letter suffixed and enclosed in braces.

Such filenames could be ‘ML00001 (a)’, ‘ML00001 (b)’, ‘ML00001 (c)’, ‘ML00001 (d)’ etc.

7 PROOF READING

Once it is in digital form, the same is proofread so that it is free from any kind of typographical errors. Proofing is the next process of corpus building. Since the typed corpus may carry errors because of various reasons like speed of the typist and typist not belonging to the language community, the proofing is done by the language experts.

While proofing of a corpus file is done in LDC-IL, the following things are taken care of

1. Removing the poetic text, if any poem or poetic structure occurs within the running text
2. If there are incomplete sentences typed (generally at the end of the paragraph) the sentence is removed up to the logical ending of the previous sentence.
3. Verifying the difference between the visargaha and colon ‘ : ’ symbol, and to ensure that the correct symbol/punctuation is used in the correct place.
4. During Content cleaning focus stays on the corrections of typographical errors and spacing. If there is a space preceding a punctuation mark, space is removed, unless it is there in the actual text itself (i.e. hard copy of the text).
5. If there is any mismatch between the hard copy and the input corpus file, it is ensured that the corpus file should be faithful to hard copy.
6. It is ensured that the Title, Author, Headline fields of the XML files is written in Roman using the LDC-IL transliteration scheme. The LDC-IL Transliteration scheme can be referred on the LDC-IL website. Also, the LDC-IL transliteration tool from Roman to Indian Scripts and vice versa is available for download on the LDC-IL website.

Link to download LDC-IL Transliteration Scheme:

<http://ldcil.org/Tools/CorporaToolsPackage/LDC-IL%20Transliteration%20Scheme.pdf>

Link to download the LDC-IL Transliteration Tool (.exe file):

<http://ldcil.org/Tools/LDC-IL%20Transliterator.zip>

Proof reading is used to correct clear cases of spelling mistakes, splitting sentences or words, removing unnecessary repeated paragraphs, sentences, phrases, words. Moreover, it includes removing unwanted texts from the corpus such as foreign script sentences and incorrect use of ungrammatical sentences.

8 COPYRIGHT

Anyone intending to put together a corpus for commercial purposes must always obtain the permission from the publishers of the source texts. Many commercially available corpora contain texts from a large number of sources and obtaining permission to use these can be a very cumbersome and financially costly process. However, LDC-IL took up the task and managed to get the consent of most of the copyright holders or has at least communicated to them that the text extracts from their sources are being used in the language sampling task which may also be used commercially.

Considering LDC-IL is a government initiative taken up in the larger public interest and the corpus is used for the development of language, most of the publishers and authors generously agreed to archive the samples of their text materials in corpus. Some of the authors even suggested and offered their other content which are not yet part of the LDC-IL corpus. Government publishers too expressed no objections regarding since LDC-IL itself is an initiative of Govt. of India. Private publishers also gave permission considering that LDC-IL is only using a part of a text, and it will not harm their business anyway. LDC-IL thanks all of them for the co-operation.

For some of the content where we have not yet got the explicit consent of the copyright holders, we have sent them the letters asking for the same. If any of the copyright holders disagree to consent, they may write so to us and their respective text will be removed from the sampling corpus and the same will be intimated to all the license holders of the respective dataset and they will have to abide by it.

9 NEPALI RAW TEXT CORPUS

9.1 INTRODUCTION

Nepali is one of the official language of West Bengal and Sikkim state. It is one of the 22 schedule languages of India. It is spoken in most of North-Eastern states of India and also other states, similarly Delhi, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand etc. Nepali is also an official language of Nepal. About a quarter of the population in Bhutan speaks Nepali. Nepali is written in Devanagari Script. It is written from left to right direction. It also called Nagari. Nagari script has roots in the ancient Brāhmī script family, It has long been used traditionally by religiously educated people in South Asia. The Devanagari script is used for over 120 languages, and those are Nepali, Hindi, Marathi, Bhojpuri, Maithili etc. It is closely related to the Nandinagari script commonly found in numerous ancient manuscripts of South India. The script is also used to write several minority languages of Nepali community such as Gurung, Magar, Bhujel, Thami etc.

Nepali text corpus is collected from various libraries of Darjeeling, Sikkim, Assam, Uttaranchal. Mostly from Kurseong, Mirik, Kalimpong, Silgadhi, Gangtok, Guwahati, Almora and Mussoorie. The greater part of the text has been taken from Desbandhu District Library Darjeeling, Sonada Library, Sarbajanik Sammelan Rural Library Mirik, Sub Divisional Library, Kalimpong, NERLC(North-East Regional Language Centre, Guwahati) Library. LDC-IL tried to cover the entire category in its standard list. Some categories like novel, short stories have huge amount of books but some categories like Physics, Chemistry, Economics, Agriculture, Photography have very less amount of books. Literary texts are easily available in Nepali but getting scientific, Technical text is very difficult. Some categories like Epigraphy, Finance, Oceanology text are too rare in Nepali.

9.2 PECULIARITIES OF NEPALI TEXT

The Corpus of Nepali text can be broadly classified into two: literary text and non-literary text. These two explicitly show their differences in terms of frequency of word usage and variety that it brings into corpus. Literary texts are texts that are narrative and it contains elements of fiction. Novels, short stories, plays are examples of literary text. Non-literary texts are texts whose primary purpose is to convey information. Examples of non-literary texts are text about various scientific or technical subjects, legal documents, articles in academic journals. In literary text, language has emotional elements, cultural information, dialectical variations, ambiguity etc. But technical or scientific terms, foreign words etc. have widely appeared in non-literary texts.

9.2.1 Orthographic variation and eyelash ‘ra’ in Nepali

A glyph has no intrinsic meaning, it conveys distinctions in form. Time to time the user or developers made small variation in Devanagari script and same changes come into Nepali. These were in अ, झ, ण, श. It was not unique feature of Nepali, but it made small changes in use of Nepali orthography system. We faced problem while inputting data from many text.

Besides that, Nepali has its typical orthography, which is called ‘Shaja’ [A publisher from Lalitpur Kathmandu, Nepal] /dz/ ‘jha’, no other Devanagari script users having the same.

Nepali has *eyelash* /r/ ‘ra’. This is ‘ra’ with *halanta*(र), or half ‘ra’(ऱ). It has its single Unicode value. There are more than three ways to type eyelash ‘ra’.

9.3 PRINCIPLES OF DATA SAMPLING

Nepali text data sampling strictly followed the generic guidelines of LDC-IL text corpus collection which are noted in the generic LDC-IL corpus documentation.

9.4 FIELD WORKS UNDERTAKEN

Nepali text corpus is collected from various libraries of Darjeeling, Sikkim, Assam and Uttaranchal. The text materials were collected by conducting five field works undertaken in the period from 2009 to 2012. The greater part of the text has been taken from Khappandas Memorial Library, Soureni Busty Mirik, Sub Divisional Library Kalimpong, North Bengal University Library Darjeeling, and various public library.

Overall, the following libraries served as the source of the Nepali text corpus:

- Mirik Sarbajanik Sammelan Rural Library, Mirik
- Garidhura Public Library, Kurseong
- Sub Divisional Library, Kalimpong
- Nava Yowak Sangha Rural Library, Rungbull
- Gorkha Jana Pustakalaya, Kurseong
- Khappandas Memorial Library, Soureni Busty, Mirik
- Pankhabari Public Library, Pankhabari
- North Bengal University Library, Darjeeling
- Kurseong College Library, Kurseong
- Desbandhu District Library, Darjeeling
- Devkota Sangh Pustakalaya, Silgadhi
- NERLC Library, Assam
- Central Institute of Indian Language Library, Mysore
- Personal Collections.

Collected text materials have been published at various places within Darjeeling and other states of India such as Sikkim, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka as well as other countries such as Nepal, Russia, Denmark etc.

An attempt has been made to cover the entire category in its standard list. Some categories like novel, short stories have huge amount of books but some categories like physics, chemistry, economics have very less amount of books. Literary texts are easily available in Nepali but getting scientific text is very difficult. Some categories like epigraphy, finance, oceanology text are too rare in Nepali.

Collecting text data from the field is a difficult job. Most of the libraries do not allow to take huge amount of text from their shelves at a time because it is against their rules and principles. For a particular period, they issue a maximum three or four books. Even if the librarian allowed to take many books at a time, the photocopy kiosk had issues as there was a long queue.

Some time Xerox attendants refused to photocopy randomly selected pages because of the long queue waiting and it takes up more time for them to turn the pages compared to continuous page photocopying they are accustomed to. It was another issue that the field worker/linguist had to carry a huge list of photocopy bundles with them which was many a times cumbersome to travel with.

Despite all the issues as above, the linguists working on the data collection had to deal with and get going.

9.5 DATA INPUTTING

All the text has been typed in Unicode using the In Script Keyboard directly onto the XML files. The data has been inputted by Ms. Srilakshmi M P, Sithalakshmi M L, Vanamala B H, Rajeshwari R, Vidhyashree M, Padmashree H R, Radhika M, Mamatha, all native speakers of Kannada and Tamil but familiar enough with the scripts of Devanagari.

9.6 PROOFREADING

Nepali text data has been proofread by internal and external resource persons. We conducted corpus normalization workshop with external resource persons on 4th June to 15th July 2010, 3rd January to 28th February 2013, 5th August to 4th October 2013, 10th November to 7th January 2015. The text has always been kept true to the printed material and typos, if any, occurring at the time of typing have only been corrected.

The printed materials collected for the corpus are contemporary , mainly published after 1990.

9.7 DATA EXTRACTED FROM WEB SITES

Nepali News corpus data is extracted from News websites of "*Nepalsamachar Patra*" (<https://www.http://pknewspapers.com/>) , "*Gorkhapatra*" ([www.http://gorkhapatraonline.com/](http://gorkhapatraonline.com/)). The news content was categorized based on the content of the text and archived. The period of selection of the news corpus ranges from 30,Jan 2009 to 11 Sep 2009.

9.8 COPYRIGHT CONSENTS

The Nepali text corpus have been collected from various sources and the copyright for the same stays with different sources. However, for the purposes of this corpus, consents have been sought from all the stakeholders. Most of the copyrights (around 90%) belong to private parties with only 10% belonging to the government agencies, either state or the central.

10 TRANSLITERATIONS IN LDC-IL NEPALI TEXT CORPUS

For easy reference and uniformity of metadata, some entries in the metadata file, namely 'Title', 'Headline', 'Author', 'Editor', 'Translator' are transliterated from Nepali to Roman letters.

The LDC-IL transliteration scheme of Nepali to Roman is given below

LDC-IL Transliteration Schema										
Nepali-Devanagari characters to Roman										
and Nepali Numerals to Hindu-Arabic										
Vowels and Vowel Signs										
अ	आ	इ	ई	उ	ऊ	ऋ	ए	ऐ	ओ	औ
	ा	ि	ी	ु	ू	ृ	े	ै	ो	ौ
A	A	i	I	u	U	x	E	ai	O	au
Consonants								Ayogavaha		
क	ख	ग	घ	ङ				ँ	ं	ः
Ka	kha	ga	gha	ng'a				M'	M	H
च	छ	ज	झ	ञ						
Ca	cha	ja	jha	nj'a						
ट	ठ	ड	ढ	ण						
Ta	Tha	Da	Dha	Na						
त	थ	द	ध	न						
Ta	tha	da	dha	na						
प	फ	ब	भ	म						
pa	pha	ba	bha	ma						
य	र	ल	व	श	ष	स	ह			
Ya	ra	la	va	sha	Sa	sa	ha			
Numerals (Nepali-Devanagari)										
०	१	२	३	४	५	६	७	८	९	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

11 OVERVIEW OF REPRESENTED DOMAINS

LDC-IL Nepali Text Corpus size is: 70,57,524 Words with character count at 46879154 drawn from 1,347 different titles, including the extracts from newspapers. The data can be categorized into two classes of typed+cleaned and crawled. The crawled data has been crawled mainly from news websites and archived using the standard processing of LDC-IL text corpus preparation.

The following table gives a summary of the typed and crawled text of the Nepali Raw Text Corpus.

Text Type	Word Count	Keystroke/Character Count
Typed+Cleaned	6787918	45104255
Crawled	269606	1774899
Total	7057524	46879154

Table 9: Representation of the Domains in Nepali Text Corpus

The representation of the six major domains covered has been shown in the table below:

Domain	Word Count	Percentage
Aesthetics	4072977	57.71%
Commerce	30354	0.43%
Mass Media	2271064	32.18%
Official Documents	2426	0.03%
Science & Technology	80306	1.14%
Social Sciences	600397	8.51%
Total	70,57,524	100.00%

Table 10: Representation of the Domains in Nepali Text Corpus

As each domain has several sub-domains, the following table shows the representation of the several domains, both within the domain and across all the domains.

11.1 AESTHETICS

The aesthetic category of Nepali text corpus covers 27 sub-categories bearing a total of 4,07,29,77 words along with the overall percentage of 57.71%. The representational details are given in the table below.

#	Subdomain	Word Count	% (within Subdomain)	Overall Percentage
1	Autobiographies	24754	0.61%	0.35%
2	Biographies	307829	7.56%	4.36%
3	Cinema	3258	0.08%	0.05%
4	Culture	96596	2.37%	1.37%
5	Fine Arts-Dance	11002	0.27%	0.16%
6	Fine Arts-Drawing	740	0.02%	0.01%
7	Fine Arts-Music	10070	0.25%	0.14%
8	Fine Arts-Musical Instruments	6620	0.16%	0.09%
9	Fine Arts-Sculpture	10525	0.26%	0.15%
10	Folk Tales	621	0.02%	0.01%
11	Folklore	27720	0.68%	0.39%
12	Humour	35026	0.86%	0.50%
13	Literature-Children's Literature	10479	0.26%	0.15%
14	Literature-Criticism	863007	21.19%	12.23%
15	Literature-Diaries	307052	7.54%	4.35%
16	Literature-Epics	200	0.00%	0.00%
17	Literature-Essays	425981	10.46%	6.04%
18	Literature-Letters	4835	0.12%	0.07%
19	Literature-Novels	629468	15.45%	8.92%
20	Literature-Plays	233675	5.74%	3.31%
21	Literature-Science Fiction	7178	0.18%	0.10%
22	Literature-Short Stories	788433	19.36%	11.17%
23	Literature-Speeches	39681	0.97%	0.56%
24	Literature-Text Books (School)	103956	2.55%	1.47%
25	Literature-Travelogues	92892	2.28%	1.32%
26	Mythology	27922	0.69%	0.40%
27	Photography	3457	0.08%	0.05%
	Total	4072977	100.0%	57.71%

Table 11: Aesthetics Category Representation

11.2 COMMERCE

The Commerce category of Nepali text corpus covers 5 sub-categories bearing a total of 30,354 words along with the overall percentage of 0.43%. The representational details are given in the table below

#	Subdomain	Word Count	% (within Subdomain)	Overall Percentage
1	Banking	9416	31.02%	0.13%
2	Business	8391	27.64%	0.12%
3	Finance	6957	22.92%	0.10%
4	Industry	782	2.58%	0.01%
5	Tourism	4808	15.84%	0.07%
	Total	30354	100.0%	0.43%

Table 12 : Commerce Category Representation

11.3 MASS MEDIA

The Mass Media category of Kannada text corpus covers 11 sub-categories bearing a total of 22,71,064 words along with the overall percentage of 32.18%. The representational details are given in the table below.

#	Subdomain	Word Count	% (within Subdomain)	Overall Percentage
1	Article	109118	4.80%	1.55%
2	Classifieds	454	0.02%	0.01%
3	Discussions	99652	4.39%	1.41%
4	Editorial	98814	4.35%	1.40%
5	General News	1144971	50.42%	16.22%
6	Interviews	36816	1.62%	0.52%
7	Letters	26657	1.17%	0.38%
8	Obituary	28248	1.24%	0.40%
9	Political	473831	20.86%	6.71%
10	Social	3834	0.17%	0.05%
11	Sports News	248669	10.95%	3.52%
	Total	2271064	100.0%	32.18%

Table 13 : Mass Media Category Representation

11.4 OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

The Official Documents category of Nepali text corpus covers 1 sub-category bearing a total of 2,426 words along with the overall percentage of 0.03%. The representational details are given in the table below

#	Subdomain	Word Count	% (within Subdomain)	Overall Percentage
1	Police Documents	2426	100.00%	0.03%

Table 14 : Official Documents Category Representation

11.5 SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Science & Technology category of Nepali text corpus covers 21 sub-categories bearing a total of 80,306 words along with the overall percentage of 1.14%. The representational details are given in the table below

#	Subdomain	Word Count	% (within Subdomain)	Overall Percentage
1	Agriculture	11910	14.83%	0.17%
2	Architecture	282	0.35%	0.00%
3	Astronomy	239	0.30%	0.00%
4	Ayurveda	4477	5.57%	0.06%
5	Biology	3242	4.04%	0.05%
6	Botany	3653	4.55%	0.05%
7	Chemistry	550	0.68%	0.01%
8	Computer Sciences	242	0.30%	0.00%
9	Criminology	4118	5.13%	0.06%
10	Engineering-Electrical	300	0.37%	0.00%
11	Environmental Science	1722	2.14%	0.02%
12	Forestry	3822	4.76%	0.05%
13	Geology	5194	6.47%	0.07%
14	Homeopathy	3396	4.23%	0.05%
15	Horticulture	217	0.27%	0.00%
16	Logic	520	0.65%	0.01%
17	Medicine	9924	12.36%	0.14%
18	Psychology	20786	25.88%	0.29%
19	Text Book (Science)	4934	6.14%	0.07%
20	Yoga	511	0.64%	0.01%
21	Zoology	267	0.33%	0.00%
	Total	80306	100.00%	1.14%

Table 15 : Science and Technology Category Representation

11.6 SOCIAL SCIENCES

The Social Sciences category of Nepali text corpus covers 20 sub-categories bearing a total of 6,00,397 words along with the overall percentage of 8.51%. The representational details are given in the table below

#	Subdomain	Word Count	% (within Subdomain)	Overall Percentage
1	Anthropology	13856	2.31%	0.20%
2	Archaeology	696	0.12%	0.01%
3	Economics	7890	1.31%	0.11%
4	Education	61967	10.32%	0.88%
5	Fisheries	305	0.05%	0.00%
6	Geography	1475	0.25%	0.02%
7	Health and Family Welfare	16799	2.80%	0.24%
8	History	228123	38.00%	3.23%
9	Home Science	612	0.10%	0.01%
10	Journalism	12733	2.12%	0.18%
11	Law	7407	1.23%	0.10%
12	Linguistics	49593	8.26%	0.70%
13	Philosophy	12488	2.08%	0.18%
14	Physical Education	549	0.09%	0.01%
15	Political Science	68929	11.48%	0.98%
16	Public Administration	467	0.08%	0.01%
17	Religion/Spiritual	66272	11.04%	0.94%
18	Sociology	31702	5.28%	0.45%
19	Sports	12135	2.02%	0.17%
20	Text Book (Social Science)	6399	1.07%	0.09%
	Total	600397	100.00%	8.51%

Table 16 : Social Sciences Category Representation