

**Title:** Fostering Wikipedia using technology, opportunities and challenges

**Date:** 14 Nov 2018 (Wednesday), 530pm

**Venue:** KD101, CSE Department

**ABSTRACT:**

This talk will focus on different technologies used in Wikipedia and sister projects and explains the opportunities and challenges to participate in technology development. The non-profit Wikimedia Foundation provides the essential infrastructure for free knowledge. Wikipedia, the free online encyclopedia, created and edited by volunteers around the world, Every month Wikimedia projects has 200,000+ edits, 1+ billion unique devices access, 47+ million media. Having 6,000 views per second it has 99.97% uptime delivered during 2017 which proves the strength of the technology behind it. I will present overview of some of the technologies like ORES the machine learning service, Wikidata, Wikipedia mobile technology, Wiki API, MediaWiki and offline Wikipedia etc. followed by few case studies and demonstration based on our technology work focused towards Indic language Wikipedia essentials. Finally, I will talk about how one can participate in the technology development, the opportunities available, infrastructure, support and guidance we can provide.

**Speaker :**

Rahul Deshmukh from IIT Bombay, Mumbai, is President of Wikimedia India. He is an active editor of Wikipedia and ranked among the top 10 contributors on Marathi Wikipedia and also an admin since 2011. He is founder admin of Marathi Wikisource. Being an engineer by profession, Rahul's focus is to apply technological solutions to Wikimedia projects for better utilization contributor's time for intellectual and creative work, and minimizing the labour work by use of automation. He is an advisor to Encyclopaedia Board, Government of Maharashtra. He is also a member of Government of Maharashtra's Language Advisory Board (Bhasha Sallagar Samiti). He was actively involved in making the Marathi Vishvakosh copyright free for public use. Some of his major contributions include porting an offline version of Wikipedia on Android Tablet (Aakash), development of web font for Marathi Wikipedia, Wikipedia Arm based solution for Net-book, pre-installed on Government of India's Netbooks distributed to youth in rural India under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. He is member of international group for "strategy planning for wiki technology 2030". He is architect of framework presented in global chairperson's council Cape Town South Africa. He is founder member of international offline wiki user group to promote offline content. Currently he is working on technology solution of Wikipedia for blinds and promoting offline Wikipedia in schools. He is the mastermind behind the Wikipedia Hackathon IIT Bombay, conducted annually