

Local Language Computing Policy Initiatives

Bangladesh

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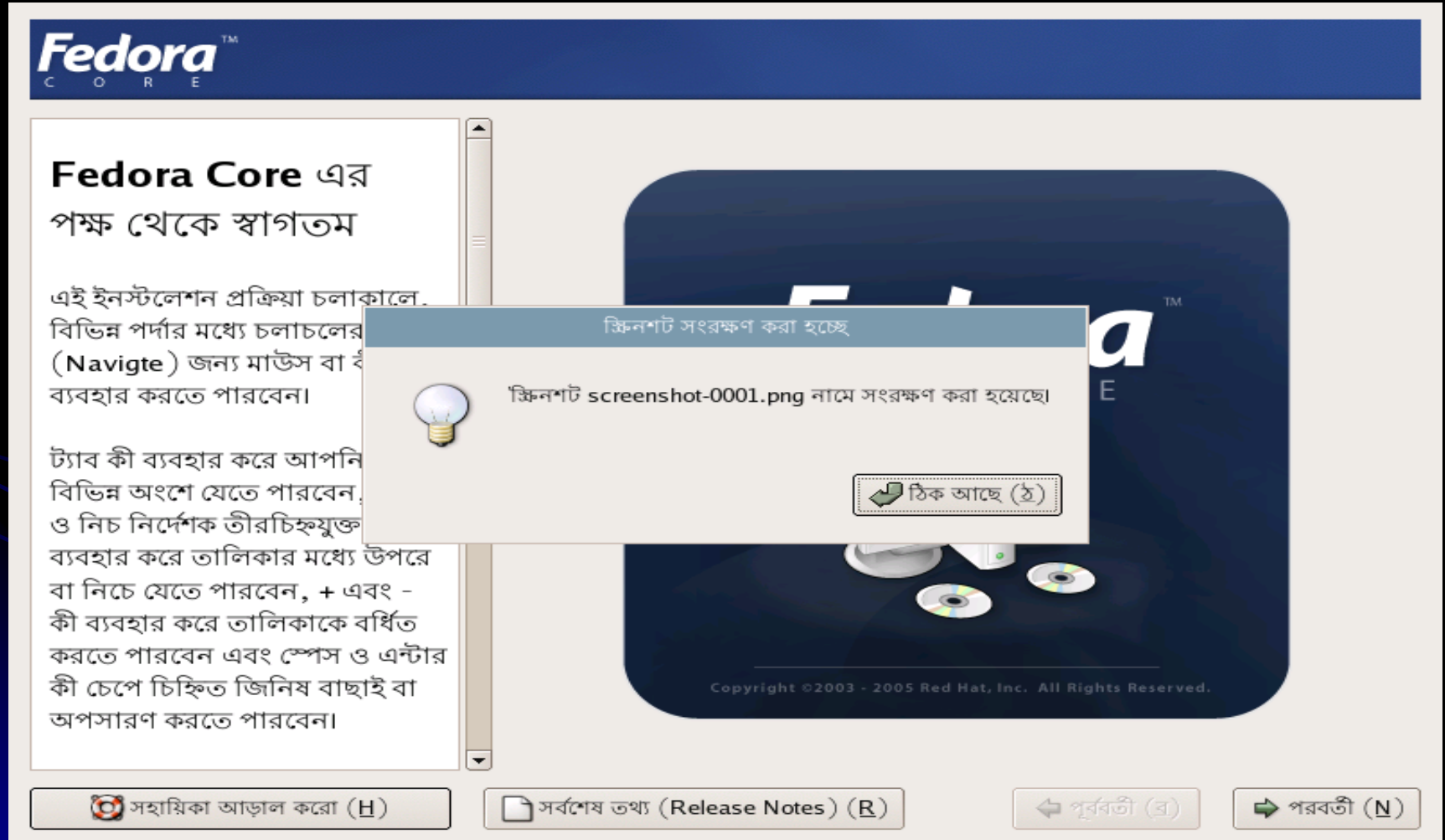
PMO

Bangladesh

With some success...



More ...



The image shows a screenshot of the Fedora Core installation interface. At the top, the "Fedora CORE" logo is visible. The main content area contains text in Bengali, including the heading "Fedora Core এর পক্ষ থেকে স্বাগতম" (Welcome from the Fedora Core side). A dialog box is overlaid on the screen, titled "স্ক্রিনশট সংরক্ষণ করা হচ্ছে" (Saving screenshot), with a lightbulb icon and the message "স্ক্রিনশট screenshot-0001.png নামে সংরক্ষণ করা হয়েছে" (Screenshot saved as screenshot-0001.png). The dialog box has a button labeled "ঠিক আছে (H)" (OK). At the bottom of the screen, there are navigation buttons: "সহায়িকা আড়াল করো (H)" (Hide help), "সর্বশেষ তথ্য (Release Notes) (R)" (Latest information (Release Notes) (R)), "পূর্ববর্তী (প্র)" (Previous (Pr)), and "পরবর্তী (N)" (Next (N)).

And the credit goes to...

- A group of volunteers
- Institutional Efforts
 - The Center for Research on Bangla Language Processing (CRBLP) of BRAC
 - D-Net Bangladesh
 - BCC (A GoB agency)
- Private entrepreneur

Bangladesh : At a Glance

● Total population	-	138.22 million
● National language(s)	-	Bangla
● Other languages	-	Assamese, Chakma, Garo, Khasia, etc.
● Literacy Rate	-	56%
● Literacy in English	-	< 5%
● Teledensities (Cell Inc.)	-	12.03
● Int' bandwidth	-	112 Mbps (Sat.)
	-	10 Gbps (Ins.)
	-	465 mbps (Use)

Bangla Computing

- Coding Scheme - Unicode
- Keyboard Mapping - Solved
- Fonts - Solved
- Collation seq. - Solved
- (Mobile) Key Pad - Developed but not standardized

Natural Language Processing

- Bangla Information retrieval (e.g. Bangla spell checking, Bangla search engine)
- Morphological analysis
- Developing a Bangla digital lexicon
- An online dictionary
- Building an annotated Bangla corpus
- Bangla computational syntax
- Bangla optical character recognition
- Bangla speech processing

Bangla Content in Internet

- More than 500+ website in Bangla (but only few of them use .bd domain)
 - Major Dailies
 - Most GoB agency
 - NGO/CSO
 - Educational Institutions
 - Research Organizations
- Bangla Wikipedia

Local Language Computing Policy

- Government of Bangladesh (GoB) Circular,
- National ICT Policy, and
- Broadband Policy (proposed, awaiting Cabinet approval).

Challenges

- Local Language Computing and Localization Policy
- Coordination between Govt., Academia, Research Institution, NGO/CSO, Volunteers
- Awareness building

Thank You