

# FOSS GN09

## Report

28-31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2009

LUG Bikaner ECB



# FOSS GN-09

Conclusion

# Events' summary

The FOSS GN09 Event took place parallel to [Boksham Engineering College Bikaner's](#) annual technical festival. We had a vast variety of students coming from all across the country, mostly undergrad engineering students.

## Planning

We began a fortnight before the event. Sure it was quick planning our schedules, talks, sponsorship brochures, shirts, goodies from Google, Fedora, OSS Camp, Linux for You and convincing [Niyam Bhushan](#) a prolific speaker which would later act as icing on the cake. We had to coordinate the event within short span of 15 days and put best efforts to reach out as people as possible. Thanks and thumbs up to [Ellen](#) from the Google Open Source office who mail mailed us enough swag that we could distribute among the participants. Special thanks to [Kinshuk Sun](#) for helping us manage the event in a short span. We also thank [Rahul Sundaram](#) and [Sankarshan](#) from RedHat India for sending the Fedora Goodies (Tees, DVDs, CDs).

To pump up the spirit, three of the GSoC students pooled in some funds and got around 130 T-shirts to be distributed to the coordinators and participants. The Front of the tee had a cool tagcloud, and back- **"All Rights Reversed"**



For talks we had three GSoC students and [Niyam Bhushan](#), [Anirudh Sharma](#) (NUI Group), [Shreekanth Bohra](#) (Sahaaja), [Abhinav Chittora](#) (Xiph), [Manu Dixit](#) and [Paras Kuhad](#) for Drupal and [Jaideep Khandelwal](#), a RHCE professional and FOSS enthusiast, [SUN SPOT](#) and FOSS [Alok Mishra](#).

We obtained permissions to use labs at night, decorated labs, invited [Niyam](#) to check Internet Connections and setup Wi-Fi. Being it was the first of its kind event held in Rajasthan it attracted a large number of students from throughout the state. We scheduled talks in the day and hack fests at night.



*3D tux prepared by our art team*



*computer labs with custom light effects for midnight hackfests*



*skbohral23 with sahana sunflower*



*one of the posters at the talks venue*





*FOSS team involved in some discussions*



*Team members with the POP tux prepared by the art team*

For the Hack Fests and Talks we installed Fedora 11 over 90 machines in the labs. To add a fun factor wellio of hackers and coders we depended on our “Creative Art” Team: Rahul Motiyar, TePrakash Jangik, Kavita Singh Panwar, Ritu Choudhary Priyanka Soni. Their effort added the all important ambia to work upon and showed us how creativity can set up tempo for coding and hacking.



*The artwork, the fedora installation, hanging banners for the event*

## Day 1 – 12:30 PM – 5:00PM

The event received around 250 registrations and around 150 people turned up to the event. Eagerness to know about Source gathered huge crowds waiting before the scheduled kick off time.



*Registrations for the FOSS hackfest and talks. “We shortlisted the participants for hackfests due to our limited capacity of 100 at a time.”*

Finally the event started with an introductory talk about Open Source and the spirit of Open Source by An Sharma (touchaddict) with people volley there questions to him and team. The other talks on Sahana, Drupal followed. Amid the talks we had Srishti Sethi asking questions and distributing the goodies we received from Google, Fedora, OSSCube up with a questionnaire round and for the Bing answers t-shirts and goodies from Google, Fedora, LF, OSS GN'09 were



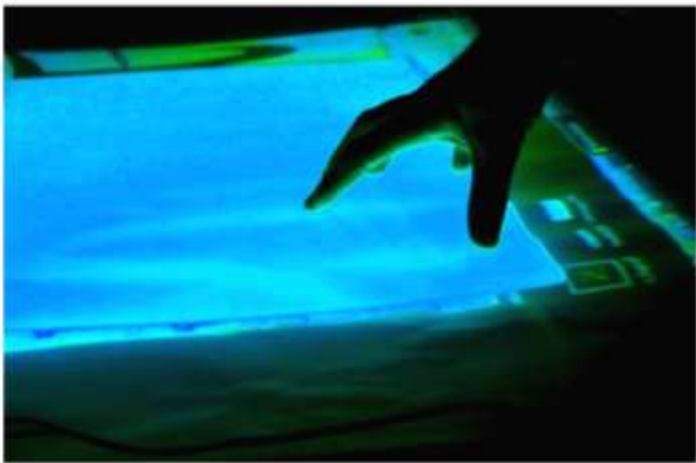
distributed. After the session of HFOSS from Shree we had an introduction from Manu and Paras about Drupal who do a mind boggling online event on riddles , puzzles , courses , giving their tips and tricks to use Drupal and, prepare a dynamic website in 10 minutes. They used everything from slides , PDFs and also video clippings too in a live demo during the talk.

Parallel to the talks Saideep an installfest- we PXEbooted to Fedora Fy laptops to make sure that newbies no more think that installing linux is rocket science. The takeaway was fedora stickers and a nice Live CD.



## Night 1 : 10:30PM- 2:30 AM

After the end of day 1 session we had hack fests for Sahana and MultiTouch/HCI simultaneously with 50 participants each on their interests. To our surprise more than 100 people turned up for the midnight hack fests. To our surprise up to ten number of girls also turned up at the hack fest :-). Don't know how our coordinators could gather so much energy and concentration after a hectic day of talks but OpenSource is the driving force which helped them in answering queries and talking with the participants. Participants were given individual PCs, were made to setup Sahana , learned how to IRC, and find answers to doubts



*Participants at the multitouch hackfest.*

Multi Touch and HCI session was being conducted by Anirudh and his team (with help from Team Zugar) who have been working over the Multi Touch Hardware as well as Software with their MT table. Although in the November month where winters start in the western part of India, the room was fully heated up with those extra lights from our art team and everyone was sitting on the edges of their seats, listening intently. We talked about FTIR, LLP, hardware hacking, blobs, calibration, iPhone as Anirudh's GsoC '09 project: Google SketchUp using Multitouch gestures.





### ***Hands on multitouch DIY***

At regular intervals Srishand Kunabame up with quickfire questions to giveaway Fedora 11 DVD's, Shirts , Google pens, pen drives , diaries to keep the adrenaline going.

About at 3 AM labs were shut and we moved for coffee and snacks. Participants then commuted back to their dormitories and they'd prepare for the talks session the coming day. Pretty Hectic! Eh.



***Left- helping students setup sahana. Right- skbohra explains sahana implementation***

## Day 2

After the successful completion of day one , the momentum was all set and almost double the number of students turned up for the talks.

Abhinav started his talk “The Firefox”. He talked about how to create your own Firefox add on explaining about XUL,JavaScript, AJAX with a hack fest scheduled on the following night.



In second talk, Jaideep talked about Unix’s evolution from the past 4 decades and finally came with the new features of Fedora12 (Constantine) and SELINUX and discussed with the participants the role of security in an Operating System. Participants were again introduced the general do's and don'ts of using IRC with some guidelines.



*Jaideep talks about fedora and selinux*



## Night 2: 10:30PM- 2:30AM

We were again back for the second mid night hack fest and we were following the same schema we had for the previous ones . Abhir began with 'How to hack a Firefox add on' and understand the architecture of Mozilla Firefox why fx, the most popular Web Browser is better than Microsoft's IE.

Come 12:30 AM and Manu and Parag began introducing Drupal at the second. They started unveiling about Drupal and how to make a dynamic web site and program small plugins for newbies, it appeared pretty cool to be able to make a website in 10 minutes.

## Day 3:

The most awaited moment when [Niyam Bhushan](#) arrived to the FOSS GN09 venue.



***Niyam talking to students/faculty about adoption of Open Source in Academia***





Niyam's first talk was **"How to avoid the Axe Effect"** (It is not about the famous deodorant). It was an eye opener to all of us who have been studying for more than 18 years of our life to get themselves hired somewhere for a software maintenance job and, then, fired very soon. Working for those software coolie companies who steal the copy rights of your brainchild is not why we should study in a college for a degree. The talk was an eye opener!



*Niyam signs a banner after the talk "How to avoid the Axe effect"*

Then came up the Question Answer round which also could not believe that stretched more than the duration of this time. The participants came up with the questions that kept Niyam and participants mesmerized for an hour.

## Install Fest and Recreation

After having the fun filled session from 11pm we were at the last and final mid-night session. We happened to give Fedora Installation experience for those who were not having a laptop or not carrying them. Jaidev and Paras gave a quick introduction how to install Fedora 11, explaining them everything from the Mount points to extended partitions, to configuring WiFi in Linux. We installed over 100 machines with Fedora.11



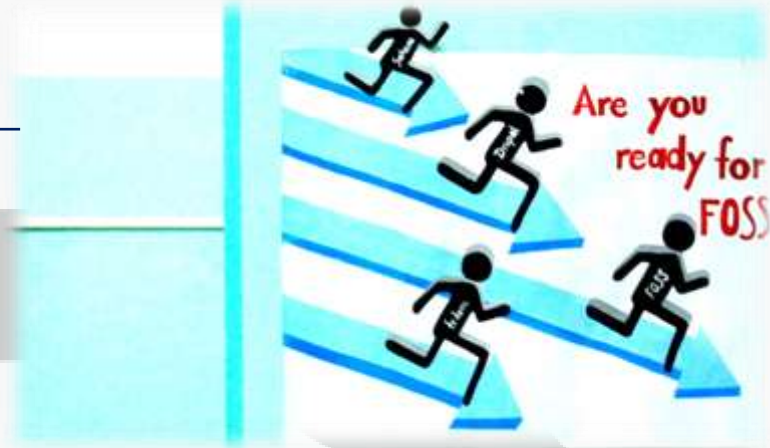
With the successful completion of install fest we moved towards FOSS movie show "Elephants Dreams and Antitrust"



## Final Day- Closing

“**How to Make a dent in the universe!** “ :-) That was the title of Niyam’s Final talk.

As Steve Jobs says “**Make a dent in the Universe**“ . Niyam and FOSS Coordinators came up with the idea of **“How to make a dent in the Universe?”** so that world remembers you for what you contributed and how your contribution can make a difference in itself. He started with the 3 Google Summer of Code Students from the campus for by doing GSoC 2009 they didn’t just earn those 4500 USD but also how following ones dream turned can stir some entropy in the universe . From Shreekant's Sahana disaster management system to Abhinav's streamer for common man and Anirudh's multitouch where the expressions of fingers and gestures can be better and more friendly then traditional mouse keyboards. Manu and Paras's video editing skill modern perspective gave us an idea of how one can broadcast his own channel without any financial backing or infrastructure. Rahul, Ritu and Kavita's interest in creativity can be a gateway to Design schools.



There were some names to mention like Larry and Sergey Brin of Google, Blake Ross the developer of Firefox , the developer of Wikipedia .



The event concluded a high note where Niyam Bhushan announced of Linux User Group Bikaner (LUGB) annual FOSS event hosted by LUGB as RAJASFOSS. is the way of transferring the torch from one hand to other and enlightening with the Free and Open Source Movement.





## Highlights



Setting up of LUG Bikaner by Niyam Bhushan and Open source enthusiasts in front of a crowd of 2000 students on-stage. We lit up candles to spread the open source fire and passed it to all FOSS team members.

- Monthly installfests at all hostels nearby institutes
- Mini FOSS conferences where students would meet up once in two months and talk about their FOSS projects
- Game Fests
- Annual Event "RajasFOSS" will be organized on-campus Rajas=Rajasthan

FOSS Team:

1. speakers: abhinav touchadict, skbohra, pkuhadjaideep manud
2. Art Team: rahulmots, tp ritu, kavita, priyanka
3. Coordinators: srishti, kunal, vivek, prateek, akshay, nitin, sahil, vaibhav, vinay, rendra

Guest: Niyam Bhushan Senior FOSS evangelist

Thanks to Google Open Source office, Fedora India, Kinshuk, Zugard Team and everyone involved :-)