

`./fosstr.org`

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# # whoami

- Swapneel Patnekar
- geek
- Teenage Cyclist
- Founder of FOSSTR
- Co-Organizer of Docker-Belgaum, Ansible-Belgaum meetups
- Co-Organizer of DjangoGirls with @pooja\_patnekar
- @digen\_
- <http://blog.brainattic.in>



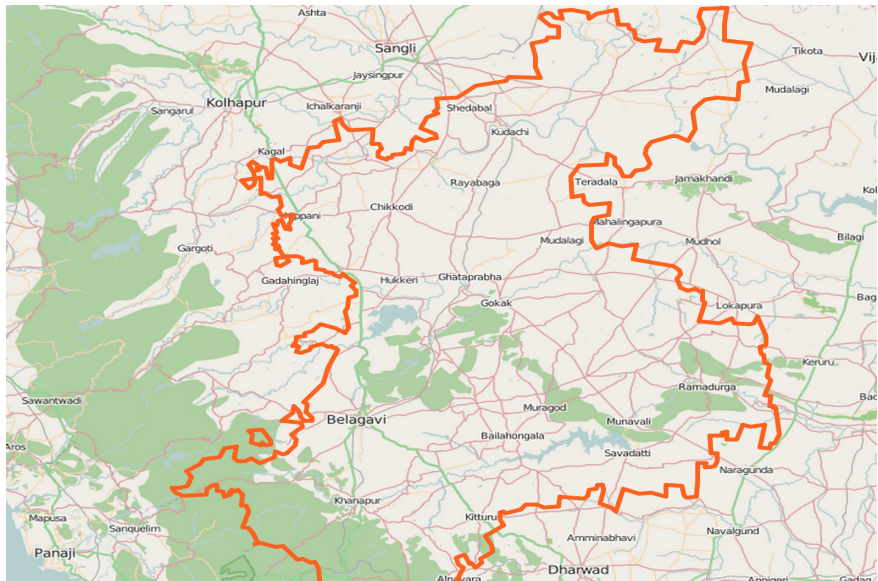
Why do you want to climb Mount Everest?

Because it's there

– George Mallory

Why FOSSTR ?

# Map of Belgaum/Belgavi District



# *Search/Find FOSS in Belgaum/Belgavi*

```
cd belgaum && cd belgavi  
find . -iname foss
```





# Why does it not exist already?

- Void of an IT Ecosystem
- Lack of awareness/preference in local establishments
- Lack of FOSS advocates/enthusiasts
- Absence of a group focussing on all-things-foss
- Initiative/volunteer to start

*Got an itch, scratch.*



What is FOSSTR ? ( a perception )

# *DNA of fosstr - A vision, a goal*

- Group with a common goal - Share, Promote and Contribute. (Objectives)
- Culture - The Hacker Way ( IRC, Mailing list, github )
- Education - Changing the system in our own way
- Social - Contribution to society
- Volunteer driven and Selfless

# Bootstrap

- 1st meetup on 10th January 2015 at Ramkrishna Mission Ashrama
- Plain Email and then Nabble for communication
- Server - VPS with DO
- Name of the group & domain name - FOSSTR and fosstr.org
- Website - <https://fosstr.org>
- Github - Source code of website & RSVP app, Issues, Wiki for documenting Meetup topics and planning
- IRC + logs : #fosstr on Freenode

- Meetups - 18
- Document Freedom Day
- Member headcount - 14
- Active - 30-40% in attendance as well as on the mailing list
- Mailing list primarily active during topic of meetup discussion(vote)
- IRC - Passive.

# Challenges

- Broad focus
- Few volunteers
- Same set of speakers
- Diversity ?

Invert, always invert

– Carl Gustav Jacob Jacobi



./fosstr.org ( version 1.0 )

- Narrow razor sharp focus - Focus only on student community (atleast till a sizeable ecosystem exists)
- Build community around students - 7 Engineering Colleges + n(?) BCA + n(?) BSc Computer Science
- Extensively reach out to all colleges - Catch them early
- Monthly mini-event - For example. Linux InstallFest, Hackathons on Open Source projects at colleges
- Reach out to other GLUG's/Open Source communities & speakers based in India. Speakers can share knowledge remotely via video conferencing etc
- Create platform for students to present on topics, demo etc

## *Credits - On the journey so far*

- Ramkrishna Mission Ashrama, Belgavi for graciously providing with the venue, computer, electricity
- Venu Kolathur for his eureka moment w.r.t group name FOSSTR (fosstr.org)
- Vivek and Gautam for graciously lending the projector
- All members for contributing to the website, RSVP app, logo and discussions on the mailing list + offline, speaking on a topic
- Credits for images used in the presentation can be found by clicking on the respective image

## Q&A

# References

- Website : <https://fosstr.org>
- Mailing List : <https://mail.fosstr.org/mailman/listinfo/fosstr>
- RSVP App : <http://rsvp.fosstr.org/rsvp/events/>
- Meetup Topics:  
<https://github.com/fosstr/website/wiki/Meetup-Topics>
- Presentation Source(LaTeX) :  
<https://github.com/digen/talks>

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Thank you