

## \* Chap:-5 System Configuration from the Graphical \*

### \* Learning objectives \*

→ By the end of this chapter, you should be able to:

- Apply system, display and date and time setting using the system settings Panel.
- Track the network setting and manage connection using Network manager in Linux.
- Install and update software in Linux from a graphical interface.

### \* System Settings

→ The system settings Panel allows you to control most of the basic configuration option and desktop settings

→ Such as specifying the screen resolution, managing network connection or changing the date and time of the system.

→ For the GNOME Desktop manager one click on the upper right hand corner and then select the tools image (screwdriver crossed with wrench or gear).

→ Depending on your distribution, you may find other ways to get into the settings configuration as well.

→ you will also find variation in the menu layout between linux distribution and versions so you may have to hunt for the settings you need to examine or modify.

### \* System settings menu

→ To get deeper into device configuration, one can click on the appropriate items on the previous menu in order to configure items like display, the keyboard, the printers etc.

→ clicking on Application lets you configure the option relevant to many installed programs.

→ one can also click on the users icon (which may be under details) to save set values for system users, such as their login picture, Password etc.



## \* gnome-tweaks

- A lot of Personalized configuration settings do not appear on the settings menus.
- Instead you have to launch a tool called either gnome-tweaks [or gnome-tweaks tool on older linux distributions]
- you can always launch a Program such as this by doing Alt-F2 and typing in the command.
- some distributions have a link to the tweaks menus in the settings but for some mysterious reasons, many obscure this tool's existence and it becomes hard to discover how to modify even rather basic desktop attributes and behavior.
- Important things you can do with this include selecting a theme, configuring extensions which you can get from your distribution or download ~~th~~ from the internet, control fonts, modify the keyboard layout and set which Program starts when you log in.
- The most recent GNOME versions have removed a lot of functionality of gnome-tweaks

- Extensions now have to be configured using a new app called `gnome-extensions-app`.
- The reasoning for this is obscure.

## \* Display settings

- on system utilizing the X windows system, the server which actually provides the GUI, uses `/etc/X11/Xorg.conf` as its configuration file if it exists
- In modern Linux distributions, this file is usually present only in less common graphic drivers are in use.
- changing this configuration file is usually for more advanced users.



## \* Setting the Resolution and configuring multiple screens.

→ While your system will usually figure out the best resolution for your screen automatically, it may get this wrong in some cases or you might want to change the resolution to meet your needs.

→ You can accomplish this using the Displays Panel.

→ The switch to new resolution will be effective when you click to Apply, and then confirm that the resolution is working.

→ In case the selected resolution fails to work or you are just not happy with the appearance, the system will switch back to original resolution after short time out.

→ In most cases, the configuration for multiple display is set up automatically as one big screen spanning all monitors, using a reasonable guess for screen layout.

→ If the screen layout is not as desired, a check box can turn on mirrored mode where the same display is seen on all monitors.

→ clicking on a Particular monitor image lets you configure the resolution of each one and whether they make one big screen, or mirror the same video etc.

## \* Date and Time settings

→ By default, Linux always uses coordinated universal Time (UTC) for its own internal time keeping.

→ Displayed or stored times value rely on system time zone setting to get proper time.

→ UTC is similar to but more accurate than, Greenwich mean Time (GMT).

→ If you click on the time displayed on the top panel, you can adjust the format with which the date and time is shown: on some distribution, you can also alter the value.

→ The more detailed date and time settings can be selected from the Date & Time window in the system settings menu.

→ The "automatic" settings are referring to the use of Network Time Protocol (NTP).