

THEME: 4b

Automated Tool for Names Collection: Facilitating Correct Place Names Capturing in Local Vernacular and Overcoming Past Challenges

Republic of India

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30-04-2025



**United Nations Group of Experts
on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)**

COLLECTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES



Traditional Method

Collected by the field surveyors (using forms)
as per the local pronunciation

Transliterated and Authenticated by Local
official in the vernacular script.

Transliterated to Roman and Devanagari
script by SoI officials.

Validated names are published in SoI maps.

A repository of **1.4 million** ground-
verified Geographical Names

Challenges

- Non-Comprehension of the local language by the field surveyor.
- Loss of phonetics upon successive transliteration
- No consultation with the linguistic experts for transliteration

Future Roadmap

Audio files are collected using app

Leveraging the capabilities of VLE* to
identify local speakers and confirm

Automated Transliteration to Roman & Devanagari
script with Linguistic Expert Interface

Final names are fed into the National
Geographical Name Information System.

*VLE – Village Level Entrepreneurs



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