



Ankuran
Where Knowledge Germinates

ANKURAN FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024





“Tell me, and I forget, teach me, and I remember, involve me, and I learn.”

- Benjamin Franklin



Message from the Managing Trustee

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the first annual report of **Ankuran Foundation**. **Ankuran** began its journey in **August 2024**. Our **‘North Star’** is to build a widespread scientific temper and culture of scientific and technological innovation in India by providing hands-on experiences for Indian school children designed to enhance their skills and understanding of science, technology, and mathematics.



*Bimal Patwari, Managing Trustee,
Ankuran Foundation and CEO of
Pinnacle Infotech Solutions*

The youth of this country possess immense potential, but lack of practical knowledge limits their progress. To address this, we established the **Ankuran Foundation**, focusing on lab-based learning in **Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Tinkering labs**. We are also committed to empowering marginalized students by providing accessible education within their communities.

In just a few months, we have collaborated with **12 schools** in Durgapur, West Bengal, aiming to bridge the gap between theoretical and practical science education. **Ankuran Foundation** currently hosts over **1500 students** of Grades **6 to 12** monthly for lab-based science learning, emphasizing hands-on experiences in **Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Tinkering labs**.

Looking ahead, we are excited about **Ankuran's** plan to roll out science learning centres across the country. We are in active discussions with the **Tamil Nadu** government to establish multiple community science centers in the state, beginning with **Chennai, Trichy, and Madurai**. We are also working to standardize our curriculum and panel of vendors to supply our labs with equipment and models.

We look forward to your support.



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Introduction And Overview

Ankuran Foundation



Bimal Patwari

Co-founder and CEO of
Pinnacle Infotech



Ramesh Venkataraman

A private equity investor and former
partner with McKinsey & Company



Sapna Patwari

Co-founder and Director of
Pinnacle Infotech

Ankuran Foundation is a non-profit organisation founded in August 2023 by Bimal Patwari, CEO of **Pinnacle Infotech Solutions**, Sapna Patwari, Co-Founder of **Pinnacle Infotech Solutions**, and Ramesh Venkataraman, a private equity investor and former partner of McKinsey & Company.

The goal of the **Ankuran Foundation** is to establish a network of Science Learning Centres for school children across India. Through these centres, **Ankuran Foundation** seeks to cultivate a scientific temper and culture of innovation among India's youth. This is achieved by providing experiential learning opportunities that allow young minds to grasp scientific theories and technologies through hands-on experimentation, tinkering, observation, and collaboration. Each centre will be self-sustaining, community-integrated, and part of a national platform.

Pinnacle Education & Welfare Trust, an associate organisation of the **Ankuran Foundation**, piloted the concept of a community science centre in Durgapur, West Bengal, in 2021. **Ankuran Foundation** has been actively collaborating with this centre in Durgapur for the past year and has organised numerous activities there. The foundation plans to expand this model nationwide through a 'social franchise' approach involving local sponsors.



Highlights of the Past Year

- Engaged over **1,200 school students** in the Durgapur Centre through quarterly science camps, weekly activities, and multiple science clubs, fostering a vibrant culture of scientific exploration.
- Developed modules for **230+ chemistry, 300+ biology, and 200+ physics experiments** and designed concepts for an open-air science lab, tinkering lab, and computer lab to be implemented in **Ankuran's** Science Learning Centres, ensuring comprehensive hands-on learning experiences for school children.
- Supported **377 students** and **39 women** with tailored academic and literacy programs designed to ignite a passion for learning. At "**Vigyan Jyoti**" centres situated in rural villages, **126 students** from marginalised communities participated in hands-on, practical science classes that helped in developing a deeper understanding of scientific principles amongst students.
- Engaged in discussions with the State and local government authorities in Tamil Nadu to establish Science Learning Centers in **Chennai, Madurai and Trichy**.



Students Performing Experiments In The Physics Lab



OUR PROGRAMMES

“The only source of knowledge is experience”

-Albert Einstein



Ankuran Science Classes

Programme 2023-24

Ankuran Foundation in Durgapur provides a unique monthly opportunity for 1200 students in Grades 6 to 12 to engage in lab-based science learning across Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Tinkering labs.

Additionally, 25 students without computer facilities and hands-on practice at their schools attend specialized computer classes at the Ankuran Center.

These labs serve a mixed group of students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, with a strong emphasis on fun-based learning. In Chemistry, the focus is on understanding chemical reactions and their real-world applications. In Biology, the emphasis is on exploring the intricacies of life and ecosystems. In Physics, students delve into the principles of motion, energy, and the fundamental laws governing the universe.

Core Attractions:

🌱 *Bringing Theoretical Knowledge to Life:*

Science Concepts are connected to real-life applications, demonstrating their relevance in everyday activities.

🌱 *Boosting Creativity:*

The interactive nature of the sessions stimulates students' creativity.

🌱 *Encouraging Interactive Learning:*

Engaging and participatory sessions promote healthy competition and collaboration among students.

🌱 *Learning in a Natural Environment:*

The learning environment is designed to be close to nature, enhancing the overall educational experience.



Key Outcomes Of the Event:

Enhanced Hands-on Learning Experience:

Students engage in active participation, which fosters practical proficiency and deeper understanding.

Improved Understanding of Scientific Concepts:

The practical approach leads to a better grasp of fundamental scientific principles.

Increased Curiosity and Self-Driven Innovation:

The experiential learning environment ignites independent inquiry and fosters inventive thinking.

Tailored Theoretical Guidance:

Personalized support is provided to meet individual learning needs and interests.



Students Assembling a Conveyor Machine



Separation of Immiscible Liquids



Demonstration Of Force Experiment In Physics Lab



Theory Class In Biology Lab



Remedial Classes For Classes I to IV (*Chetna*)

Ankuran supports first-generation learners and upper primary students through its "*Chetna*" programme, offering tailored remedial classes for Classes I to IV, benefiting 377 students. These classes prioritise joyful learning experiences using **Teaching Learning Materials (TLM)** such as visual aids and interactive games. Local community teachers are selected, fostering ownership and cultural relevance. Additionally, Ankuran provides stationery and nutritional support, like Sattu, enhancing education and nutrition at *Chetna and Vigyan Jyoti Centres*.



*Remedial class for Grade 4 students in
'Gosaidanga Centre'*



*Remedial class for Grade 3 students in
'Dhoadanga Centre'*

Significant Outcomes of Chetna Remedial Classes:

- Students show significant progress in core subjects due to personalized attention.
- Joyful learning experiences foster a love for learning.
- Visual aids and interactive games improve understanding and retention.
- Involving local teachers enhances cultural relevance and community support.



Science Remedial Classes For Students of V to X (*Vigyan Jyoti*)

Ankuran supports community children in understanding science by offering practical demonstrative classes. These sessions, conducted twice every week at *Vigyan Jyoti* centres, cater to students from Class V to Class X in rural areas. Around **127 children** from marginalised communities attend these classes in 2023-24.

Key Outcomes Of the Event:

- Reduced fear and increased interest in science among students.
- Enhanced understanding of scientific concepts through hands-on learning.
- Improved retention of knowledge due to practical application.
- Empowerment of marginalised students through accessible education in their own communities.



Observe Plant Cell Through Microscope At Dhoadanga Centre



Exploring The Science Of Blood Pressure At Dda Market



Ankuran Science Talent Quest

Special Event 2023-24

The **Ankuran Science Talent Quest**, held on January 6th 2024, was inaugurated by Bimal Patwari and the Principal of Army Public School, Panagarh. It provided a platform for young minds to engage in scientific exploration. A total of **125 students** from **15 different schools** participated, showcasing a diverse array of science models and demonstrations. Eminent scientists, Prof. Hirak Chaudhuri and Professor Arunabha Banerjee judged the exhibits.

Key Outcomes Of the Event:

- Priority was given to hands-on learning approach over theoretical textbook methods.
- Promotion of creativity and critical thinking skills through project-based learning.
- Enhanced engagement and interest in science subjects among students.
- Provided opportunities for parents to actively participate in their children's scientific projects, fostering a supportive learning environment.
- Encouraged curiosity and analytical thinking in scientific exploration.
- The exhibition served as a platform for showcasing innovations and discoveries in science, inspiring further learning and exploration.



Students Of DAV Model School Showcasing Their Scientific Innovations And Discoveries



Nari Vigyanik Shakti - Empowering Girls in Science Education

Special Event 2023-24

On March 6th, 2024, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, in collaboration with **Ankuran**, organised the "**Nari Vigyanik Shakti**" programme aimed at empowering girls in science education. Around **43 girls** from various schools participated in this programme.

Featuring physical demonstrations of experiments in physics, chemistry, and biology by dedicated faculty, the programme provided practical insights into scientific concepts, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for science among the students. The programme marked a significant step towards inspiring scientific curiosity, critical thinking, and interest among female students.

Key Outcomes Of the Event:

- Inspired and empowered girls in the field of science education.
- Provided hands-on experience and exposure to various branches of science.
- Fostered curiosity, critical thinking, and interest in scientific exploration among female students.



Physics Teachers Presenting an Engaging Session on Static Electricity



Demonstrating Experiments on Adulteration in Packaged Food



STRATEGY & FINANCE

“Science is a source of **endless possibilities**; it all depends on our willingness to **explore and experiment**”

- *C. V. Raman*



Our Partnerships

Academic collaboration

Ankuran Foundation has academic collaboration with **12 government and private schools** in Durgapur, West Bengal, to enhance science education and community engagement.

By collaborating with these schools, the **Foundation** aims to standardise and elevate the quality of science education, ensuring consistent and effective teaching methodologies and learning outcomes across all collaborating schools.

These collaborations foster a supportive network for knowledge sharing, where best practices and innovative ideas are exchanged and implemented to benefit all students involved.



Principal Meet



Principal Meet

Programmes to support this Initiative:

Principal Meets:

These gatherings bring together school leaders to discuss strategies, share best practices, and collaborate on initiatives to enhance science education across the network.

Regular School Visits:

Our team regularly visits schools to ensure ongoing support, monitor progress, and provide tailored guidance to improve teaching methodologies and student outcomes.

Enrolling New Schools:

The **Foundation** continuously expands its network by integrating new schools, broadening the reach and impact of its educational initiatives to benefit more students in the region.



Our Future Roadmap

Future Roadmap of Ankuran Foundation:

Setting Up of Ankuran Centers Across Tamil Nadu in Collaboration with Government

Ankuran Foundation, in partnership with the Tamil Nadu government, is preparing to roll out community science centres across the State. Following a successful visit by Sudhan R (IAS), Commissioner of School Education, and Uma Sankari (Policy and Advocacy Manager of the Department of School Education, Government of Tamil Nadu), **Ankuran** has been engaged with the education department to establish **Ankuran Science Centres** in the State, starting with Chennai, Trichy, and Madurai.

Trichy:

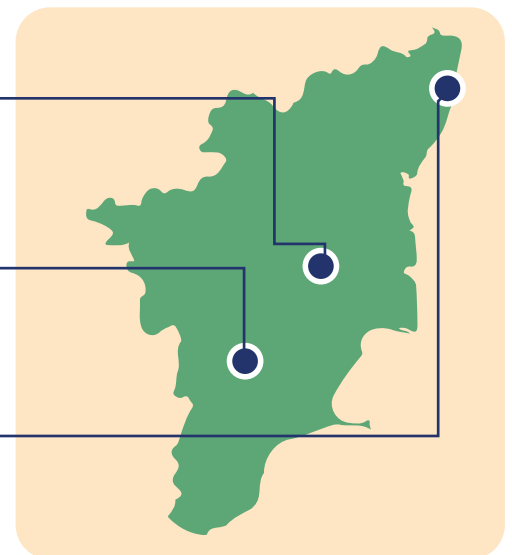
Ankuran has received preliminary permission for a site where the science centre's design has been finalised.

Madurai:

Ankuran is in discussions with the city corporation about a site in the central business district.

Chennai:

Ankuran has been given preliminary permission to build a site adjacent to a model school.



Interactive Session with Students in the Biology Lab with Sudhan R



Students of Bidhannagar Girls with Bimal Patwari, Sudhan R, Jaganath Bhattacharjee and Uma Sankari



Our Financials

Particulars	Amount For Current Year
Source Of Funds	
Donation received from the founder trustees	3,60,000
Utilization Of Funds	
Expenses	
Expenses for various programmes / events	1,06,310
Teachers Salary	94,200
Consultancy Charges	64,000
Professional Fees	11,800
Bank Charges	118
Total	2,76,428
Expenses Disbursed	76,918
Current Payable	1,99,510
Bank And Cash Balance	2,83,082
Net Assets	83,572



Visit website



Note To Financials

Sources of Funds

🌱 *Donation Received from the Founder Trustees:*

This represents the amount of money donated by the founding trustees of the organization.

🌱 *Current Payables:*

This represents the payable amount that the organization will settle within the current financial year for expenses incurred in the previous financial year FY23-24.

Utilization of Funds

🌱 *Expenses for Various Programmes/Events:*

Amount spent on different programs or events organized by Ankuran Foundation like Ankuran Science Classes, Chetna Classes, Vigyan Jyoti Classes, Ankuran Science Talent Quest and Nari Vigyanik Shakti Workshop.

🌱 *Teachers Salary:*

Remuneration for teachers' for teaching students at villages.

🌱 *Consultancy Charges:*

Remuneration of Consultants working with Ankuran.

🌱 *Professional Fees:*

Professional fees related to legal, accounting, and other professional services.

Balances

🌱 *Bank and Cash Balance*

After accounting for disbursed expenses, the remaining amount is ₹2,83,082.



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ANKURAN FOUNDATION

Powered By:

Ankuran is an initiative of **Pinnacle Infotech**, the global BIM leader. With over 30 years of expertise, **Pinnacle** has transformed skylines across 43+ countries, engaging 3400+ professionals and completing 15,000+ projects worldwide. The company optimises construction for superior design, ROI, and reduced waste.



A NOT-FOR-PROFIT INITIATIVE OF PINNACLE INFOTECH SOLUTIONS

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