



Ankuran
Where Knowledge Germinates

Ankuran *Foundation*

Igniting Young Minds
with Experiential Science Education



ankuran.org

About Us

Ankuran Foundation is a not-for-profit institution committed to transforming the Science education landscape in India. It aims to spark a culture of scientific innovation among school students from Classes 6 to 12.

Ankuran Foundation aims to establish a network of Science Centres across the country to provide school children with experience-based learning opportunities. Our Science Centres bridge the gap between traditional textbook-based education and practical experience-driven learning by fostering an



Students experimenting at Ankuran lab

environment where children can experiment, tinker, observe, and collaborate. This initiative is in line with UNESCO's 4th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), which ensures inclusive, equitable quality education and lifelong learning among children.

The Importance of Experiential Learning

Experiential learning is essential for a complete and impactful education. Without hands-on experience, students cannot fully grasp complex concepts, ignite their creativity, or stretch the boundaries of innovation. This gap is especially concerning in India, where the lack of access to basic resources like labs and science kits leaves many children unable to apply scientific principles in real-world contexts. Consequently, India struggles to produce groundbreaking research and technology products due to limited early exposure to practical science.

Ankuran Foundation is on a mission to change this. True to its name, which means "to sprout" in Sanskrit, **Ankuran** (अंकुरण) is cultivating scientific understanding and creativity through its Science Centres. These centres emphasize practical experimentation and critical thinking, nurturing a culture where innovation flourishes. While **Ankuran** prepares schoolchildren for STEM jobs which are growing rapidly in India, it aims to go beyond mere employability to drive the next wave of breakthrough ideas, ensuring that education fuels progress, creativity, and leadership for the future.



Ankuran Campus - Durgapur



Objective

Ankuran Foundation's objective is to revolutionise science education in India by introducing modern teaching methods, fostering hands-on and experiential learning, and nurturing a culture of innovation and

critical thinking. The goal is to build a community of '*young innovators*' across India and empower them to explore science-inspired passions and rewarding careers.



Ankuran Model



National Reach

Ankuran Foundation is committed to setting up at least one Science Centre in each of India's 800+ districts by 2030.



Structure and Operational Independence

- Operate as standalone 'social franchises,' forming a network of autonomous **Ankuran Science Centres** spread across India.
- Each Science Centre (Hub and its associated Spokes) is sponsored by local entrepreneurs, businesses, or non-profit institutions for financial stability and integration into the community.
- Each Centre operates with complete independence to foster innovation and a localized approach to community engagement.



Foundation Support

- Fundraising support to supplement local funding for each centre 'franchisee.'
- National, state, and local government relationship support, along with branding and communication.
- Design and construction assistance.
- Pedagogical guidance, kits, techniques, and staffing norms.
- Incorporate global best practices for stimulating learning, creativity, and innovation.
- Training support for staff to create enriching educational experiences.
- Raising national awareness.



Collaboration with Government and Non-Profits

- Collaborate with top educational non-profits in the country.
- Connect educational institutes and teachers to **Ankuran Science Centers**.



Scalable 'Social Franchise' Model

- Designed for rapid scalability across the country.
- Common specifications and standards.
- Leveraging a shared national platform for branding, fundraising, and pedagogical approaches.
- Allows for on-ground engagement, tailoring to community needs, and local ownership.

Becoming an Sponsor

- Potential sponsors include companies, local businesses, schools, NGOs, charities, and individuals.
- Sponsors will receive naming rights as recognition for their support.
- They will be part of the executive committee of each Centre, which includes government representatives, donors, and **Ankuran** team members, to ensure smooth governance.
- Sponsoring bodies can help by volunteering, organizing activities at the Science Centre, and connecting with local schools to support students.
- Sponsors commit for three years, covering setup and running costs, and can also offer internships to students to prepare them for future jobs.

Tax Benefits

80G Donation

- **Ankuran Foundation** is registered under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act, enabling individual and corporate donors to claim tax benefits on their contributions.

Bank Details for Donations —

Beneficiary Name: Ankuran Foundation
Account No: 271505000543
IFSC: ICIC0002715
Bank Address: ICICI Bank, Bidhannagar,
Durgapur-12

CSR Donation

- **Pinnacle Education & Welfare Trust** will provide a utilization certificate for all funds disbursed within the financial year.
- Assets created through these funds will initially belong to **Pinnacle Trust** and will later be transferred to **Ankuran Foundation**.

Bank Details for Donations —

Account Name: Pinnacle Education And
Welfare Trust
Account No: 018805007167
IFSC: ICIC0000188
Bank Address: ICICI Bank, Shahid Khudiram Sarani,
Central Library, City Centre, Durgapur- 712316

Ankuran Science Center - Structure and Role

The Hub and Spoke Format

Hubs

Dynamic science centres in tier-I and tier-II cities (e.g., Madurai) with labs, exhibits, and educators offer a full spectrum of facilities for science exploration. The planned formats for 'hub' include infrastructure with labs, classrooms, libraries, and study areas, spanning 5000 sq. ft. to 10,000 sq. ft.

Spokes

Customized, smaller learning centres in tier-III and tier-IV cities, with potential mobile units reaching rural areas.

Role of Ankuran Science Centres

- Encourage curiosity by providing practical learning experiences through experiments, exhibits, and simulations.
- Ignite scientific temperament and promote rational thinking.
- Serve as local hubs for experiential science education.
- Provide a standardised learning template to enhance Indian school curricular.
- Reimagine community libraries, inspiring students to pursue careers in science and technology.
- Every centre engages local schools and students to utilise its facilities and activities.

Role of Spoke

- Spokes provide a selective set of resources catering to local needs.
- Spokes are matched up with hubs to create 'hub-and-spoke' arrangements.
- Sub-spokes represent smaller centres using existing facilities in local schools and learning institutions.
- Mobile spokes on four-wheelers and two-wheelers reach out to the interiors.

Connected Learning

- Collaborative model with "spokes" strategically linked to "hubs." Rural students access resources through virtual workshops, teacher exchanges, and mobile labs.
- Partner with regional NGOs to ensure immersive science education for all.

Amenities and Facilities at Ankuran



Labs for physics, chemistry, biology, microbiology, and computer science



High-speed internet for e-journals, digital books, and innovation-centric resources.



Robotics Labs for cutting-edge experiential learning



Global Science Hub library for comprehensive study materials



Safety measures like gloves, eye masks, aprons, and first aid boxes



Dedicated science exhibit display area



Learning Environment at Ankuran

Ankuran centres provide a dynamic learning environment and coursework that align seamlessly with the school curriculum while sparking curiosity and innovation in students. With hands-on activities using models and kits, students delve into Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Computer Science, Micro Biology,

Robotics, Space Science, and more — bridging theoretical concepts with practical applications. Beyond academics, Ankuran fosters creativity through different Science clubs, competitions, and interactive workshops, shaping a generation of young thinkers who will redefine the boundaries of science and technology.



Ankuran Science Centre Network



Ankuran - Durgapur, WB

(Serving as the model for the fundamental concept)

The first **Ankuran Science Centre**, launched in Durgapur, West Bengal, in 2021, successfully piloted the concept.

Ankuran now plans a nationwide expansion through a 'social franchise' model with local sponsors, ensuring unified support for continuous improvement and growth.



Ankuran- Trichy, Tamil Nadu

Mr. Udhayanidhi Stalin, Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Tamil Nadu, laid the foundation stone of the **Ankuran Science Centre** in Trichy on July 31st, 2024. The centre's design has been completed, and construction is set to be completed by August 2025.



Upcoming Centres

Ankuran- Madurai, Tamil Nadu

Ankuran has signed an MoU on 18th Dec, 2024 for setting up a Science Centre in the central business district. Construction for the Madurai Centre began in January 2025 and is expected to be completed in August 2025.

Ankuran- Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Ankuran has received preliminary permission to build a Science Centre on the site of one of the Chennai Corporation schools.

Ankuran - Jaipur, Rajasthan

Ankuran Foundation is in talks with the Rajasthan government to establish Science Centres in several cities and districts of the State, starting with Jaipur.



Ankuran Campus Under Nature's Refuge



Classroom session at Ankuran

Founders



Mr. Bimal Kumar Patwari

Co-founder and CEO of
Pinnacle Infotech



Mr. Ramesh Venkataraman

Private equity investor and former
partner with McKinsey & Company



Mrs. Sapna Patwari

Co-founder and Director of
Pinnacle Infotech

Glimpses



1 Udhayanidhi Stalin, Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Govt. of TN, laid the Foundation for the **Ankuran Science Centre** in Trichy on July 31, 2024.

2 A warm welcome to Mr. Udhayanidhi Stalin from Mr. Bimal Patwari, during the grand inauguration

3 The rendered image of the upcoming state-of-the-art Ankuran Science Centre at Trichy





“The only source of knowledge is experience”

Albert Einstein



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Visit ankuran.org to know more.

A not-for-profit initiative powered by Pinnacle Infotech



Ankuran Foundation is an initiative by Pinnacle Infotech, a global leader in BIM, Design Engineering, and Digital Construction solutions. Backed by 30+ years of Pinnacle has shaped skylines in 43+ countries. With a team of 4,500+ professionals, the company has successfully delivered 15,000+ projects worldwide. Pinnacle Infotech is dedicated to optimizing construction processes, delivering superior designs, enhancing ROI, and minimising construction waste.



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