

Welcome to
Thagavalagam Theme
DHAN Foundation

*Thagavalagam Tele Center : Experiences
of DHAN Foundation*



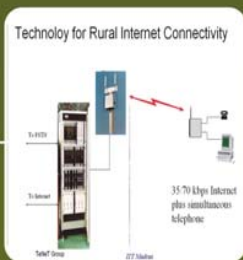
About DHAN Foundation

DHAN Foundation is a professional development organization working in India for the upliftment of the poor communities.

About Thagavalagam Theme

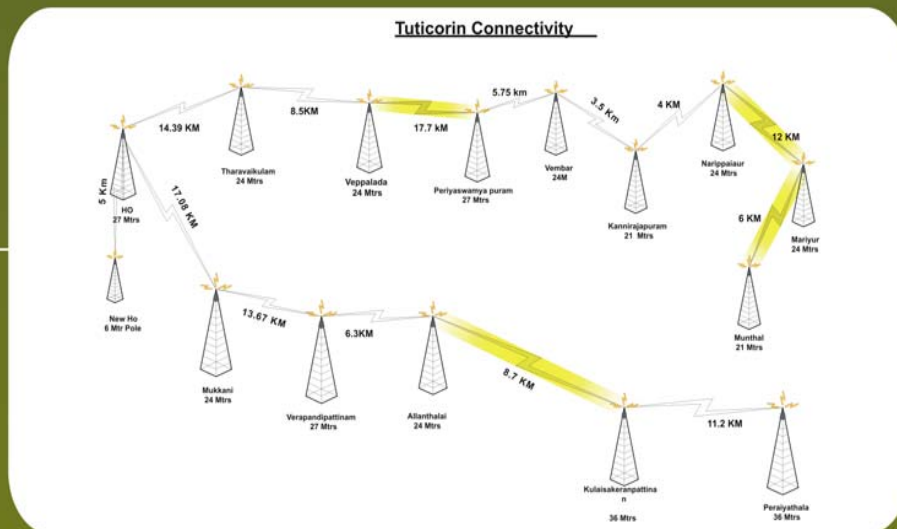
- Thagavalagam (Information House in Tamil) one of the Themes of DHAN Foundation.
- Initiated during 2001 as an experiment Theme(5 Years).
- A Thagavalagam Tele Center Model.
- Total 172 Tele Centers + 10 Tele Centers
- Spread over 10 Districts of Tamil Nadu & 4 Districts of Andhra Pradesh
- Thagavalagam Tele Centers are clustered under 15 Hubs.
- Supported by DHAN Foundation, ISRO, CAPART.

Networking of Thagavalagam - Village Information Centers through Wireless Technology



Different Wireless Technology to connect the Tele Centers

- CorDECT Technology
- 802.16 Pre WiMax Technology



Network Diagram of Tuticorin Thagavalagam - Village Information Centers

Offline Services

- Computer Education
- e- School
- Job works
- Digital Photography, Photo 2 CD
- Infotainment

Functional Literacy

- ✓ Agriculture
- ✓ Animal Husbandry
- ✓ Health
- ✓ Women
- ✓ Microfinance
- ✓ Insurance
- ✓ Adult Literacy
- ✓ Fisheries

Through 300 Offline Content Cds

Way of Extension

- Rural Digital Theatre
- Soil & Water Testing
- Agriculture Camps
- Farmers Field School
- Veterinary Camps
- Health Awareness Camps
- GPS & PFZ Information
- BMI Database in Tele Centers
- Library with 450 Books
- Scheduled PAS Usage
- Model Examinations
- Free Tree Plantation with FED
- Information Boards in all Villages
- Content Development

Video Conference

- Agriculture
- Animal Husbandry
- Education
- General Health
- Others
- Local News

Internet based Services

- e-Mailing, Free e-Mail id for above 10th Students
- Browsing
- e-Commerce through free SMS
- Examination Results
- **Passport Status Checking**
- Web Chatting
- **e- Library (Tamilnadu Virtual University)**
- Renewing employment exchange registration
- Job Searching
- e- Greetings
- **e- Post**
- **e- Talk**
- **Mobile Recharging**
- **Ticket Booking**

Thagavalagam Tele Center Operation

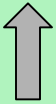
Thagavalagam Theme



Thagavalagam Region -District



Thagavalagam Hub Centers (15)



Thagavalagam Tele Centers (182)

Thagavalagam People Institution Structure

Thagavalagam Federation – District Level



Thagavalagam Development Associations



Users Groups

Farmers User Groups

Women User Groups

Fishermen User Groups

Students

The Thagavalagam Tele Center model Key Factors : Learnings

1. Community Contribution & ownership

80% of the Tele Centers at community contributed building, boards
Free spaces for Towers
Partial contribution for electricity cost
Partial infrastructure support
Thagavalagam People Institutions

2. Continuous Capacity Building Support

Separate HRD for the telecenter activity.
Induction programme & 9 modules of training programme .
Exposure visits (Average, Good and Excellent centers)
Structured training programme - Users Association Members .
Annual self appraisal process

3. Continuous Technical support

The Hub Centers provides technical trainings
A separate hardware & software support person.

4. Continuous financial support

The Phases and standards for each Tele Centers
The Services are classified as paid and free services.
The Thagavalagam theme mobilizes the rest of the fund
Training for TDA Members

5. Handing over the responsibilities to the community

Every Month – Community participated awareness camps.

During the second year – Promotion of Users Groups

The Association members meet once in a month and review the telecenter performance

6. Connectivity & Cost of Connectivity

Identifying Suitable Technology

Low Recurring Cost

7. Local language Content

A separate content development team among the selected telecenter operators

Regular Need assessment workshops.

Regular Training programme.

Periodical review of the content by the community

8. Proper business plan & Actual projection

Planning Process at the Induction Programme.

Exposure visits for operators - Average, Good & Excellent Telecenters.

Continuous monthly review.

9. Socio & marketing approach

Participatory Rural Appraisal by the Operator.

Training for Door to Door canvassing.

Different monthly awareness camps.

Video Conference among the Villagers(C2C)

10. Financial Viability

Phases and Standards are defined for the telecenters.

Increasing demand & Paid services.

Reducing the recurring cost

Thank You

Your Valuable suggestions & Feedback will
improve our Development Initiatives

e- Mail to :dhanhoict@gmail.com