

Tamil Internet Conference 2009 Communiqué

Cologne 25th October 2009: After a successful TIC 2009 conferences in Germany, Europe the INFITT General Body and TIC 2009 participants recommend the following proposals.

1. Realizing the need to conduct a Tamil IT conference in Tamil Nadu, INFITT resolves to request the Government of Tamil Nadu and other non-profit and educational /private institutes to approach INFITT, if they are interested in hosting TIC 2010 at Tamil Nadu.
2. Recognizing that Unicode is now de-facto standard used in most of the commercial products, mobile applications and in all web browsers, and after due deliberations with expert members of Unicode-Tamil who have participated in the development of Unicode standards, INFITT recommends to the Governments of Tamil Nadu, India, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Malaysia and Mauritius declare Unicode as current standard for Tamil encoding.
3. INFITT has identified the vacuum in documenting and dissemination of high level research in Tamil computing due to the non-availability of a Tamil IT Tech Journal in the Tamil IT Space. Based on an encouraging response from the technical community and the conference participants, INFITT is proposing to start a technical journal dedicated to Tamil IT. This will be a Peer-reviewed journal of highest technical excellence, modelled on IEEE Journals. The participants request Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Malaysia and Mauritius to contribute to seed capital and to build a corpus to help promoting this cause.
4. The physical secretariat support provided to INFITT by the Singapore Government ended in 2004. INFITT realises the need for a physical office in Tamil Nadu, due to geographical proximity to most of the Tamil speaking population and hence request the Government of Tamil Nadu to provide secretarial assistance to INFITT. A dedicated office and secretarial support will help INFITT's grass root growth around the world and Tamil Nadu in particular. Secretariat will follow the Singapore secretariat model and will function under the directions of Executive Director of INFITT.
5. Realizing the need for an award dedicated to Tamil IT and honour the pioneers in the Tamil IT field, INFITT and the participants request the Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Malaysia and Mauritius to provide for a corpus to institute a World level award to be given annually to renowned Tamil IT leader.
6. Conference participants request INFITT to constitute and revitalize working groups to cater to ongoing work on Tamil IT research. The four working groups will be Transliteration Standards, IDN Working Group, Tamil Teaching Standardization & Morphological research. Recognizing the need for global exchange of ideas and connecting people working on the same area, INFITT accepts the proposal and will constitute the working groups.