TUG 2002 — Proposal Document

Indian TeX Users Group
http://www.river-valley.com/tug

# 1. Indian TEX Users Group

Indian TEX Users Group (TUG*India*) was formed on December 17, 1997 and officially inaugurated on January 5, 1998. The U.K TEX Users Group's Board members, Sebastian Rahtz and Kaveh Bazargan represented the TUG and helped the early organization of the Users Group. The current headquarters of TUG*India* is at Trivandrum and has one regional chapter in northern India, housed at the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi.

The TUG*India* board members are mostly from academic institutions and a few are from the IT industry. Given below are the names of Board members:

**Chairman:**  K. S. S. Nambooripad
Center for Mathematical Sciences, Trivandrum
Email: kssn@md2.vsnl.net.in

**Secretary:**  C. V. Radhakrishnan
Focal Image (India) Pvt. Ltd., Trivandrum
Email: cvr@river-valley.com

**Treasurer:**  R. Rajendran
National Institute of Communicable Diseases
Shertallai, Kerala

**Executive:**

S. R. P. Nayar
Department of Physics, Univ. of Kerala, Trivandrum
Email: srp@md2.vsnl.net.in

E. Krishnan
University College, Trivandrum
Email: ekmath@md5.vsnl.net.in

Kaveh Bazargan
Focal Image (India) Pvt. Ltd., Trivandrum
Email: kaveh@focal.demon.co.uk

Amitabh Trehan
Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi
Email: amitabhtex@yahoo.com

C. V. Rajagopal
River Valley Technologies, Trivandrum
Email: cvr3@river-valley.com

N. A. Prakash
Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore
Email: prakash@ias.ernet.in

K. Rajkumar
Lanscape Technologies, Trivandrum
Email: raj2569@yahoo.com

**Editor:**      K. S. S. Nambooripad

## 1.1. Activities during the year

Conducted the following seminars/courses:

1. TₑX and cross-platform documents in association with the IEEE, India

2. TₑX as a document production tool in Linux in association with the Indian Linux Users Group

3. One week course in LATₑX for the University students

4. Markup schemes and higher academic content delivery – role of TₑX, two day seminar

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## 1.2. Projects in hand

- Multi-lingual typesetting with Omega, code-named TEXIla, being undertaken by the Delhi Chapter of TUG*India*

- METAFONT code generation for Malayalam scripts in association with the International Center for Kerala Studies, University of Kerala

## 1.3. Mailing lists

TUG*India* has a mailing list, `tuglist@river-valley.com`, very active, has 189 subscribers at the moment.

## 1.4. Publications

TUG*India* Journal is published once in an year, two issues have come out and the third in the production stage.

## 1.5. Membership

253 ordinary members and five corporate members.

## 1.6. Address

Indian TEX Users Group
C/o Focal Image (India) Pvt. Ltd.
SJP Buildings, Cotton Hills
Trivandrum 695014, India

Tel. +91 471 337501
Email: tugindia@river-valley.com
URL: http://www.river-valley.com/tug

# 2. TUG 2002 in India

## 2.1. The Rationale

TUG meetings have always been held either in North America, or in Europe. In the last, TeX usage and development has escalated in other areas, notably in Eastern Europe and Asia. The economics in these countries is such that most TeX users have been unable to attend past TUG meetings. Holding a TUG meeting in India will allow more attendees not using Roman scripts to attend.

Countries which could easily participate include China, Philippines and Vietnam (who already have local user groups) and Sri Lanka, where there are Omega users benefiting from the work of Yannis Haralambous on Simhala font.

## 2.2. The Program

In addition to the usual programs, we expect to have a major session on languages, for the reasons stated above. As a new concept, we also plan to have a continuous workshop, running in parallel with the main conferences sessions. Experienced staff will be available for hands-on training and problem solving. This means that participants who do not have a strong interest in a particular session can learn TeX, XML, and even graphics generation using common graphics programs.

### 2.2.1. Tutorials planned

- LaTeX to SGML/XML/MathML conversion
- XML and XSL transformation procedures

- Graphics inclusion, relabelling of postscript files using WARMreader methodology

- Generation of hyperlinked documents with pdfTEX and ConTEXt

- Multiple output (like HTML, XML, PDF of different types, PS) from the same TEX source

- Multilingual typesetting using Omega

## 2.3. Expected attendance

Taking India alone, there are some 50 typesetting companies, most of them using TEX in one form or another. In addition, some 400 institutions use TEX. We confidently estimate that at least 200 people will attend from the Indian subcontinent. We would expect this meeting to be the best attended in recent years, with participants from all continents.

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## 3. Facilities

The conference venue is the International Convention Centre at Technopark which is located about 14 km from the center of Trivandrum city, the capital of Kerala. The conference facilities are impressive by any standards, and benefit from air conditioning throughout. The international airport is about 8 km and railway station about 2 km from the city. Kovalam, the internationally famous beach resort is about 20 min drive from Trivandrum. For an excellent source of information on tourism and Kerala in general, see http://www.kerelatourism.org.



The Convention Center offers three conference halls (one large and two small), full audio-visual facilities, high speed satellite link, video conferencing, etc.

A dedicated 64K line will be available throughout the conference. Full internet facilities will be available to attendees, including hands-on support.



Main conference hall    Small conference hall    Open air auditorium    Convention center

## 3.1. Accommodation

There are many hotels in Trivandrum and the surrounding region. Some examples of costs are given in the table below.

| Hotels | Single | | Twin | | Suite |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | A/C | Non A/C | A/C | Non A/C | |
| **Class A** | | | | | |
| South Park | US$ 56 | | US$ 63 | | US$ 75 |
| Lucia | US$ 35 | — | US$ 48 | — | US$ 63 |
| Mascot | US$ 27 | — | US$ 32 | — | US$ 65 |
| **Class B** | | | | | |
| Pankaj | US$ 33 | — | US$ 45 | — | US$ 67 |
| Horizon | US$ 27 | — | US$ 45 | — | US$ 50 |
| Residency Towers | US$ 27 | US$ 15 | US$ 35 | US$ 17 | US$ 67 |
| **Class C** | | | | | |
| Jas | US$ 27 | US$ 15 | US$ 33 | US$ 19 | US$ 54 |
| Geeth | — | — | US$ 20 | US$ 10 | US$ 33 |
| Prasanth | US$ 23 | US$ 12 | US$ 29 | US$ 13 | — |
| **Class D** | | | | | |
| Yatri Nivas | — | — | — | US$ 5 | — |
| Salvation Army RH | — | — | US$ 16 | US$ 6 | — |

Tax @ 15% will be levied for suite and A/C, and 7% for Non-A/C

## 3.2. Language

All conference proceedings will be conducted in English.

### 3.3. Climate

The weather in Trivandrum during September is pleasant, with average daytime temperature at 28°C and nights somewhat cooler. Winter clothes are never required in Kerala!

### 3.4. Conference details

*Dates* – We propose the conference to be held during the second or third week of September. This is just before the famous 'harvest festival' of Kerala, which lasts the whole of the following week. Participants can stay on after the conference to enjoy the festival. See http://www.keralatourism.org.

*Costs* – For overseas participants, the conference registration cost will be some US$ 200. This will include all dinners, opening banquet, refreshments, etc.

Delhi

Calcutta

Bombay

Banglore    Madras

Trivandrum

Map of India

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## 4. Attractions of Kerala

Kerala's touristic attractions are well known. Here are some pictures . Find out more on http://www.keralatourism.org.



(left to right) Row 1: Sunset that can be seen anywhere in the 800 KM long seashore in Kerala; Hill station of Munnar; Pooram festival at Trichur; Traditional flower art work in the courtyard during Onam in a typical Keralan village home. Row 2: Ayurvedic massage; A trip through the backwaters; Close up of *Kathakaḷi* artiste; Vast stretches of coconut palms that earned the name Kērala (kēra means coconut); Row 3: Ayurvedic oil bath; Ayurvedic traditional therapy; Temple art; Boat race during Onam festival.
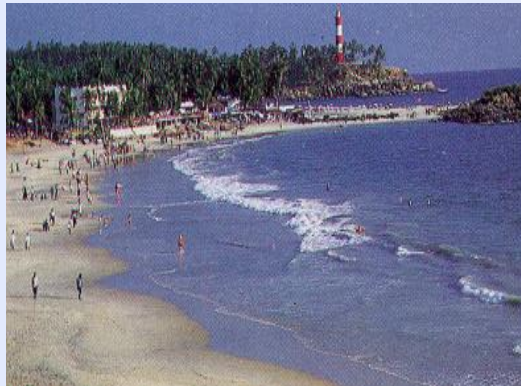
# 5. Post-conference tours

## 5.1. Full day Kanyakumari—Padmanabhapuram Palace—Sucheendram Temple Tour

Padmanabhapuram Place, the seat of Travancore Rulers and Sucheendram Temple, an ancient famous temple before reaching the southernmost tip of Indian peninsula where Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea meet. At Kanyakumari (Cape Comorin) could witness a beautiful sunset and visit Vivekananda Rock memorial. US$ 25 per person, includes a guide and all entrance fee. Subject to a minimum of 15 persons.

### 5.1.1. Full day at Kovalam Ashok Beach resort

Located in Kovalam, Traditional Keralan fishing village, the Ashok beach resort sits on a small crescent shaped beach where fishermen trawl in their catch for the day.



The resort offers opportunity for people to relax, swim and sun bathe or take a

### 5.1.2. Three Day Leisure Tour-Kumarakom-Cochin

Morning Drive to Alleppey-three hours Boat cruise in the backwater to Kumarakom, check in at the Hotel and dinner at Hotel Coconut Lagoon. Second day morning drive to Cochin-Breakfast, Check in at Hotel, Lunch Afternoon visits to Cochin City, evening witnessing Kathakali Dance Show, Dinner and overnight at Hotel Renaissance. Third day breakfast and drive back to Trivandrum (US$ 192 per person using first class hotels and for single room supplement US$ 61).



Cost includes NAC 18 seated coach for all transfers and visits, all entrance fees, assistance, porterage, all presents taxes, guide charge in Cochin, ticket for Kathakali dance show, hotels sharing double rooms on room full board basis for two nights. Check in/out 12 noon. Cost does not include any airfare, airport tax, and items of personal nature. Based on a minimum of 15 persons traveling together.

### 5.1.3. Three day Periyar Wild Life Sanctuary Tour

Morning drive to Periyar (255 kms). On arrival check in at Hotel. Lunch on board and rest of the day at leisure. Dinner and overnight at Hotel Cardamom County. On day 2 breakfast and morning boat ride on the lake to see the wild animals in their natural habitat. Lunch on board. Afternoon visit of Spice plantation and spice market, dinner and overnight at the Hotel Cardamom County. On the 3rd day break fast and morning visit to Periyar, lunch and Afternoon drive back to Trivandrum.



(US$ 185 per person for using first class hotels. Single room supplement – US$ 35). Cost include NAC 18 seated coach for all transfers and visits, all Entry fees, assistance, porterage and all present taxes, boat ride in Periyar (seat in boat basis). Hotels sharing double rooms on full board basis total for 2 nights. Check in/out 12 noon. Cost does not include any airfare, airport tax and items of personal use. Based on Minimum of 15 persons traveling together.

### 5.1.4. Three day Kerala Back water Cruise

Morning drive to South Paravoor (90 kms). On arrival check in at the hotel, lunch and rest of the day leisure. Dinner and overnight at the hotel Aquaserin. On day 02 break fast, visit of village, country boat cruises on the scenic backwaters and then lunch.



Witnessing cultural program in the evening, dinner and overnight at the hotel Aquaserin. US$ 201 per person, first class hotels, single room supplement US$ 11. Cost includes 35 seated NAC coach for all transfers and visits, all entrance fee, assistance, porterage and all present taxes, Boat ride in the lake (seat in boat basis), ticket for Kathakali Dance show, hotels sharing double rooms on full board basis total for two nights. Check in/out 12 noon. Cost does not include any airfare, airport tax and items of personal nature. Based on minimum of 15 persons traveling together.

# 6. Cultural Evening





TUG*India* can arrange a cultural evening in the University Senate Hall or in the open air auditorium of Park Center, comprising of *Mōhiniyāṭṭam*, *Kathakaḷi*, *Thiruvātira* (all traditional dance forms) and *kaḷaripayattu* (martial arts of Kerala).