

## **Position of the ICT Agency of Sri Lanka on the encoding of the Grantha Script**

**2011-01-31**

The Local Language Working Group of the ICT Agency of Sri Lanka reviewed the following proposals on the encoding of the Grantha script.

- Government of India proposal by M.D. Kulkarni (L2/10-048)
- Naga Ganesan's proposal (L2/09-345)
- Shriramana Sharma (L2/09-372 and for GRANTHA LENGTH MARK, L2/09-374)
- Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology) L2/10-426

The Working Group agreed that the Grantha script is currently being used by its community, and *should* be encoded. The Group was also in agreement with the layout being generally in accordance with the Devanagari (ISCII) scheme.

Deborah Anderson, Rick McGowan, and Ken Whistler stated in L2/10-053 dated 28 January 2010 that all the proposals agree on 55 characters. ICTA Sri Lanka too agrees on the inclusion and the proposed encoding of these 55 characters.

Therefore, we recommend that UTC proceed with the encoding of these characters without any further delay.

However, we do not recommend the encoding any other characters, including the following, at the present time. These characters are contentious, and a large majority of texts written in Grantha do not contain these characters.

1. the seven Tamil/Draavidian characters
2. numerals and fractions

These characters may be encoded on a later date when a consensus has emerged.

A meeting may be arranged in India (or Sri Lanka) with the proposers and experts to come to an agreement on the issues.

Sincerely,

Gihan Dias  
for ICT Agency of Sri Lanka