



Kuppam i Community  
Andhra Pradesh, India

accelerating economic growth  
and access to new markets





The goal of the i-Community is to turn the region into a thriving, self-sustaining economic community where technology helps improve literacy, job creation, income, access to government services, education and healthcare.

**Kuppam, a rural community in the state of Andhra Pradesh in southern India, is a test bed for technology-based socio-economic development. The state's Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is a key proponent in India for using technology and a people-centered approach to modernizing rural communities. The area has been a pilot site for educational, agricultural, health care and telecommunications projects.**

The latest initiative is a three-year alliance between Hewlett-Packard and the state of Andhra Pradesh to build an HP i-Community in Kuppam, a community of 320,000 people in four rural villages. An HP i-community is a region where information and communication technology is strategically deployed to help improve literacy, job creation, income, access to government services, education, and healthcare.

Under the alliance, Andhra Pradesh will help establish the necessary IT infrastructure in Kuppam and will make the area a priority for information and communication technology investments. HP will work with the community to develop scalable, replicable and self-sustaining IT solutions and will lead in establishing teamwork among the participants.

#### **HP's vision for Kuppam**

HP's vision for the i-community is to turn Kuppam into a thriving self-sustaining economic community where information and communications technology solutions are strategically deployed to drive economic and social development and improve the lives of its citizens.

To reach this vision, the plan is to create a partnership between HP, the government of Andhra Pradesh, and an ecosystem of local and international partners to:

- increase technology access
- expand educational opportunities
- develop employment and job skills
- build community and civic involvement
- drive economic development.

Some specific services the HP i-Community expects to provide include automated e-government services for land records, birth and death registration, and bill payments; connectivity to local schools, colleges, and hospitals; youth educational services and vocational training through direct and distance learning; and health and agriculture services.

#### **Creating a sustainable model**

The i-Community project was kicked off in February 2002 with the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the government of Andhra Pradesh and HP and is progressing rapidly. The goal is to build leadership and information technology capabilities within the community and to establish a sustainable and replicable model for economic growth.

"This alliance will accelerate our mission to reap the immense opportunities of the information age," said Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. "We hope to replicate the HP i-Community project across several districts in Andhra Pradesh."



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