

Agastya International Foundation

Founded: 1999

Sector: STEM Education, Rural Innovation, Teacher Training

Agastya International Foundation was established in 1999 by Ramji Raghavan in Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh to revolutionize science education for rural children through hands-on learning. It created India's largest mobile science education network, transforming government schools.

Founded by philanthropist Ramji Raghavan on a 172-acre campus, Agastya grew from a single Creativity Lab to serving 21 states via 190+ Mobile Labs, 90 Lab-on-Bikes, and 100 Science Centers. It tackled textbook-bound rural education by bringing science to doorsteps, training 30,000+ Young Instructor Leaders (peer teachers) who reach millions annually. By 2026, integrated digital STEM+ programs amid edtech expansion, reaching 17M+ children.

Service Categories:

STEM Education Access:

Mobile science labs, lab-on-bikes reaching remote government schools with 100+ hands-on experiments (Physics, Chemistry, Biology).

Teacher & Leader Development:

Trains 250,000+ teachers, creates 30,000+ peer Young Instructor Leaders for sustainable classroom transformation.



CORE PROGRAMMES:

Mobile Science Labs:

190+ vans with 100+ low-cost experiments covering NCERT syllabus (Classes 5-9); visits 2M children/year across 21 states; demonstrates concepts like electricity, optics, chemical reactions through child-led discovery.

Creativity Labs & Science Centers:

100 fixed centers including Kuppam campus hub; innovation labs teaching design thinking, robotics, art; night schools (700 villages) for working children; gifted program for high-potential rural talent.

Young Instructor Leader Program:

Trains 30,000+ students as peer teachers delivering programs; builds leadership, 21st-century skills; multiplies reach 10x through student-led teaching.

Teacher Training:

Capacity building for 250,000+ government teachers via workshops, mobile lab demos; introduces hands-on pedagogy transforming traditional rote learning.

Mobile Delivery Systems

190+ vans visiting govt schools in 21 states; 2M children/year (50% girls); 100+ experiments on electricity, optics, reactions, 90+ bicycles carrying mini-labs to ultra-remote villages; serves underserved clusters; 100k+ children annually.

Learning Centers

STEM Centers: 100 fixed hubs with 100+ NCERT-aligned experiments; daily 600+ children at Kuppam campus.

Creativity Lab: Innovation hubs with robotics, Raspberry Pi Lab, Art Studio; gifted program for rural talent.

Teacher Development

Young Instructor Leader: Trains 30,000+ students as peer teachers (YILs); multiplies reach 10x via student-led teaching.

Acti-Learn: Workshops training 250,000+ educators in hands-on pedagogy.

Competitions

Anveshana & Jignyasa: Science fairs, Mini/Mobile Innovation Labs, Innovation on Bike; 100k+ participants yearly.

Dhwani: Audio-based science content for low-literacy areas via mobile vans.

Arts & Media Programs

MediaArts Lab & Kala Kootami: Art/media workshops, performing arts; fosters creative expression and holistic development.

Digital & Campus Programs

wE-Learn virtual school, Agastya Virtual School; post-COVID self-paced STEM resources, Chemagicaa, Bio-Discovery, Ecology, Ramanujan Math Park, GuruGruha teacher training; ecological innovation hub.