Dear Friends,

The last year has seen Agastya move from strength to strength in every sphere of its operation. From a number of successful collaborations with leading organisations to support our mission of sparking curiosity through hands-on science education across India, to projects that continue to expand and impact millions of disadvantaged rural students and teachers – the year 2009-2010 has earned us a great deal of recognition on this wonderful and fulfilling journey.

As always, I’d like to share with you a few events of note during 2009-2010.

Agastya’s flagship Mobile Labs continued their path-breaking efforts this year, covering the breadth of seven Indian states - Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, New Delhi and Rajasthan.

We are proud to have signed an MOU with the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme in Karnataka, to significantly expand our Mobile Lab and Science Centre operations in the State’s rural areas.

Another proud moment for us was when Agastya Young Instructor Leaders (YILs) from the Kuppam campus won 8 National awards, 6 Subject category awards and 12 won Special awards at the IRIS National Science Fair held at Ahmedabad in November 2009.

We continued to build and invest in the YIL programme, which we plan to spread to all the districts in which Agastya operates.

A large number of new scientific models was created, adding to Agastya’s formidable repertoire of hands-on experiments.

The Discovery Centre on Agastya’s Kuppam campus continued to attract large numbers of children and teachers, and has become an important feature of the ‘Agastya experience’.

We continued to make progress in documenting our science experiments by creating detailed new manuals, as well as initiating a project to film over 250 science experiments.

Reflecting these exciting developments, Agastya’s Mobile Lab fleet expanded from 30 to 46, the number of Science Centres increased from 15 to 28, and the number of Agastya staff increased to 410 members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2007-08</th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Exposures</td>
<td>665,274</td>
<td>1,200,865</td>
<td>1,754,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Children</td>
<td>617,936</td>
<td>1,043,608</td>
<td>1,438,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Teachers</td>
<td>25,658</td>
<td>38,729</td>
<td>48,322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Community</td>
<td>21,680</td>
<td>118,528</td>
<td>267,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Science Fairs</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Young Instructors</td>
<td>1,011</td>
<td>26,259</td>
<td>18,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Mobile Labs</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Science Centres</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Time Staff</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I would like to thank all our stakeholders and most of all our students from various communities, for supporting and encouraging us in our endeavour ‘to spark curiosity and creativity’ among the children and teachers of India.

Warm regards,

Ramji Raghavan  
CHAIRMAN
AGASTYA CORE PRINCIPLES

**TEAMWORK**
Look for ways for everybody to win

**DISCIPLINE**
Plan and execute consistently

**QUALITY**
Exceed stakeholder expectations

**COMMITMENT**
Grow and scale up the Agastya model

**CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION**
Enterprise discover, experiment without fear

**CARE**
Love
Nurture
Support
Empathise
Connect

shiksha . samskara . sansara
We kicked off 2009-2010 with the Agastya Instructors’ Meet, for Science Instructors across all of Agastya’s Science Centres. The objective was to review the past year's developments and better equip our Instructors to deal with the challenges of the coming year. Agastya Resource Persons conducted workshops to improve teaching methodologies, and organized games and competitions to encourage innovation, creativity, team building and time management skills amongst the Agastya Instructors.

Science Fairs, an important part of Agastya's educational outreach programme, continued to make Agastya’s presence felt across the Southern states. A total of 3,39,386 children from towns and villages across Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Delhi, and Himachal Pradesh attended Agastya's Science Fairs.

On the occasion of the centenary of the illustrious Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, a special Science Fair was conducted on the IISc campus on July 31, 2009 for students from local schools.

Young Instructor Leaders (YILs) represent some of rural India's best and brightest – children who have shown the energy, enthusiasm and initiative to be trained beyond traditional academic boundaries in leadership and communication skills. Agastya YILs continued to receive exposure to some of the finest minds in science, through a workshop at the Indian Institute of Science, in May 2009, to improve the content and delivery of their peer-to-peer teaching skills.
Agastya interventions aim to ‘spark curiosity and creativity’ through experiential, hands-on learning. We believe that our interventions will help to bring about vital behavioural shifts essential to fostering creativity and leadership at all levels in a community.

**Agastya YILs win national science awards**

The Intel IRIS project continued for the second successive year, with Agastya students consistently proving their mettle and winning 8 National awards, 6 Subject category awards and 12 won Special awards at the IRIS National Science fair held at Ahmedabad in November 2009. Of the 800 entries Intel IRIS received from schools across the country, all 5 projects submitted by Agastya were accepted. ‘The Best Oil and The Best Lamp’ project won a Special Award while ‘Conservation of Energy through Dry Leaf Pads’ won a Special Mention Award for Agastya students.
In Mumbai, students of the prestigious JP Petit, Ecole Mondial and GD Somani Schools got a glimpse of Agastya's vision, by participating in Science Fairs conducted on their premises.

Agastya's flagship **Mobile Lab Programme** now proudly boasts of a fleet of 46 Mobile Labs to continue our drive towards hands-on learning.

**BHARAT YATRA**
This year, our Mobile Labs also embarked upon a Bharat Yatra, taking the magical world of science to 55,000 children and government schoolteachers in Mumbai, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi.

In Mumbai, students of the prestigious JP Petit, Ecole Mondial and GD Somani Schools got a glimpse of Agastya's vision, by participating in Science Fairs conducted on their premises.
“What really impressed me is the fact that the teaching is done by the children themselves! The Agastya staff train the students of the school - whom they call ‘Young Instructors’ - to actually perform the experiment themselves. Once they have understood the science behind the model land can demonstrate it themselves, the Agastya staff then allows the students to become teachers. Not only does this allow the children to become confident; it also encourages the other students to ask “stupid” questions (which they are often reluctant to do in class).”

Dr. Aniruddha Malpani
IVF Specialist, Mumbai, India

Agastya’s Mobile Labs made their mark on students and teachers alike, even impressing Former President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam as a part of its tour in Gujarat in October 2009. The visit was inspirational for the students as well as Agastya personnel, who were truly excited and motivated by their meeting with Dr. Kalam.

Through Operation Vasantha, Agastya is also attempting to reach out to rural students who may volunteer with Agastya. Under this programme, a chosen student is specially trained by Agastya so he/she may in turn conduct classes for students and members of their own community. Special focus is given to mainstreaming school dropouts, who also periodically visit the Agastya Campus for training.

An Operation Vasantha student explains the benefits of medicinal plants through the Ecology on Wheels programme.
A core focus of Agastya’s efforts has also been to ignite the creative spark in rural children, through the performing arts. April 2009 saw a Dance Workshop conducted for Agastya staff and students residing around the Kuppam campus. Smt. Padmaja Suresh of Bangalore introduced them to the art of Bharatanatyam, an initiative that was received enthusiastically by the children, who reported greater awareness of Indian culture, better body posture and an improvement in memory, concentration and social skills. Agastya personnel trained by Smt. Padmaja Suresh continued these efforts further by training students across several Agastya Centres.

Students and Instructors at Agastya also shared time in extracurricular sport and cultural events, encouraging teamwork and fair play, in their goal of promoting holistic learning and development.

Reaching out to students across the urban-rural divide has continued to be of prime focus in Agastya’s efforts this year. In September 2009, students of Bangalore’s Mallya Aditi International School visited Agastya’s Kuppam campus and joined hands with rural students to create vibrant and colourful murals on the walls of the new Discovery Centre building.

Urban and rural students collaborate to paint the Discovery Wall mural at Agastya’s Discovery Centre, Kuppam campus
An exciting event for young students was the visit of four scholars of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) who spent two months at Agastya’s Hubli Centre creating and staging a fascinating puppet show, with the active participation of local children. The objective of the play was to illustrate the importance of traditional ecological practices and the dangers of irresponsible environmental destruction in the name of progress and development. Sponsored by the Deshpande Foundation, Hubli, two shows of this production were staged at the Deshpande Auditorium in the BVB College of Engineering, Hubli - one for students and teachers and the other for the general public. A third show was also staged for staff and students of the Kuppam campus.
Agastya was also fortunate to have a Workshop in Digital Photography conducted in January 2010 at the Kuppam Campus by Vasant Nayak, a media professional and entrepreneur from the United States.

A student of the Digital Photography Workshop captures the feet of the statue of Sage Agastya

Besides, Vasant also captured Agastya’s Kuppam campus in a series of stunning aerial photographs which document the many positive ways in which Agastya has impacted the area’s ecology, even as it expands facilities to support local communities.

Aerial photographs of Agastya’s Kuppam campus, courtesy Vasant Nayak

Vasant Nayak has produced a detailed and colourful book cataloguing the many varieties of flora found on Agastya’s Kuppam Campus.

Flowers of Agastya – A full-colour book detailing the flora at the Kuppam campus
Agastya continued to make significant progress in enhancing its biodiversity and water resources at the Kuppam campus. In January 2009, Agastya initiated a comprehensive ecological project with Dr. Harish Bhat of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Dr. Bhat has since begun the development and execution of a series of interactive ecological models that explain some aspects of marine life and the maintenance of marine eco-systems, rivers and their effect on coastal ecology, as well as coastal erosion and the preservation of coastal vegetation.

Set in a vast expanse in the hills of the campus, the ‘Balavana’ - based on the spiritual significance of flowers as elaborated upon by the great philosopher Sri Aurobindo - was conceived of and initiated by Dr. Yellappa Reddy. The objective of the Balavana is to create a pure and refreshing natural environment as a manifestation of the divine nature of the souls of three great children in Indian mythology – Dhruva, Prahlada and Nachiketa. The natural processes of birth, life and death as embodied by the stories of these children are reflected in the plant life that is being nurtured in the Balavana, which aims to give its visitors a glimpse of Earth in her most resplendent form.
The Mulikavana on the Kuppam campus also continues to thrive and attract busloads of children daily, who visit to learn about the medicinal plants in the maturing garden and enjoy its serenity. Shaped in the figures of a man, woman and child, the Mulikavana consists of medicinal plants grown specifically to heal particular parts of the human body.

A reaffirming development at Agastya this past year has been the budding of life in the stumps of several banyan trees that were axed down on the State highway and transplanted onto the Agastya campus several months ago.
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

The We-Heal Project conducted in conjunction with Agilent Technologies and Bangalore University in May 2009, selected promising undergraduate students from Vellore University’s Department of Biotechnology and exposed them to professional tools and techniques used in their field. These students then conducted detailed analyses of food, water, soil and plant samples in villages around Agastya’s Kunigal and Kuppam Centres, and presented their findings to the communities they worked with.

The urban students were accompanied on their research by two teams of videographers who helped them document the project and its findings, as well as the ways in which the project helped them understand the needs of the rural communities they visited. The edited video was presented as part of a research report by the students to Agilent Technologies, who helped make the We-Heal project a resounding success.

As a part of its expanding environment outreach programme, Agastya’s various Science Centres also conduct Summer and Winter Camps throughout the year, to teach children new and interactive, hands-on teaching-learning methods that aim to spark curiosity among children during the summer and winter vacation period.
An open-air Botany Lab was also launched on the Agastya campus, under the guidance of Prof. N.S. Leela. Aimed at exciting the thinking and imagination of children through exposure to live botanical specimens, it encourages children to take ownership of the nurturing process, supports project-based learning and instils an appreciation for the beauty and complexity of the natural environment.

Dr. N.S. Leela also undertook a field exposure trip to Karwar, conducted for the benefit of 25 Agastya Instructors from various fields. The team explored marine fauna, through shells and fossils, and also undertook an ecological study of coastal mangroves. The excursion included a visit to the renowned Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute and a local factory to witness the process of fish oil extraction.
Continuing to extend its considerable support to our efforts, the Government of Karnataka decided to expand Agastya’s proven model in 9 districts to the remaining 20 districts of the State through the ground-breaking Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) scheme. This has enabled us to expand our outreach by increasing the number of Mobile Labs from 16 to 31, as well as nearly tripling the number of Agastya Science Centres within the State from 7 to 20. The benefits of this decision will reach an additional 3 million children. Several organisations have come forward to participate in the expansion.

Meanwhile, several millions of children in neighbouring Tamil Nadu have also benefited from the launching of 17 mobile science labs by their State Government.

One of the proud highlights of this past year has been the inauguration of our new Centre for Science and Engineering in Bangalore, under an MOU between Agastya, SSA and the Institution of Engineers, Bangalore. We are grateful to the Institution of Engineers and SSA for partnering us in this expansion of our services to Government School students in the Bangalore area.

Inauguration of the new Centre for Science & Engineering by Prof. C.N.R. Rao, Former Director, IISc
The year 2009-2010 also saw Agastya gift a bust of the mathematical genius Srinivasa Ramanujan to his alma mater, Cambridge University and to the Tata Institute of Fundamental research, Centre for Applicable Mathematics, Bangalore, where it was unveiled in the library on December 22, 2009, Ramanujan’s one hundred and twenty third birth anniversary, by the Ramanujan scholar Dr. Ramachandra Rao. Speakers on the occasion included Prof. Srikanth, Centre Director and Dr. V.K. Aatre, former adviser to the Minister of Defence, Government of India.

Dr. Ramachandra Rao, renowned Ramanujan scholar at the unveiling of the Ramanujan bust at TIFR

Mobile Math Lab

An Agastya Mobile Math Lab was launched in Ramanujan’s memory by Dr. V.S. Ramamurthy, Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies. We deeply appreciate the guidance of Mr. Vanchinathan of the Chennai Mathematical Institute in helping us design and develop many of the fascinating tools and modules that the Mobile Math Lab shares with Agastya students.
The key to Agastya's success in reaching millions of rural students across India lies in the hands of its committed teaching staff and government schoolteachers. As an organization exemplifying innovation and creativity, Agastya invests the very best of its resources in opportunities and facilities. The Centre for Creative Teaching is a critical milestone in this continued investment, and is based in the organisation's unshakeable faith in the 'force-multiplier effect'.

Partially funded by the Paris-based Schlumberger Foundation, the CCT is the hub for teacher-training programmes aimed at enhancing the performance of schoolteachers, raising the quality of child-teacher interaction and sparking curiosity and creativity.

Through Astronomy Week (December 15-21, 2009), Agastya staff participated in an initiative of the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education, Mumbai to stress the importance of Astronomy in science education, and its relationship to other scientific disciplines.

With new guest room facilities on the Kuppam campus, students, staff and visitors at Agastya can now be accommodated on the campus itself. The guest block can accommodate up to 38 persons in twin-bed and dormitory-style rooms, and was inaugurated by Founder Trustee Sri. K.V. Raghavan this past year.
Agastya's vivid, hands-on experiments and models are the core of the learning experience for its students, and are constructed after detailed research and meticulous design by its highly experienced design and model-making team.

As a part of its philosophy to take experiential learning to the next level, Agastya is promoting model-making as a critical component of its curriculum. The Model Making Centre on the Kuppam campus continues to make good progress in turning out well-finished tools and models, with Agastya staff trained by Prakash of SVSM Industries, Bangalore, under the guidance of M. Shivakumar.

The objective of this Centre is not just to create new models for Agastya programmes, but also to ensure their proper maintenance and repair. Agastya also hopes to encourage basic mechanical and model-making skills among Agastya students and Government school teachers, to encourage them to develop low-cost labs and activity-based learning centres on their own. We are, therefore, excited about the new Model Making Centre, expected to be completed by mid 2011.
Close to 300 models form the basis for Agastya’s teaching, and in the past year, a team led by Dr. R Krishnan, Prof. S.V.S. Subramanyam, S.R.S. Rao and Hanumadas undertook the documentation of these experiments in print and video, to facilitate in-house instructor and external teacher training and more effective dissemination of knowledge and information.

The year 2009-2010 also saw Agastya continuing our efforts to recognize and document the contributions of many scientists, scholars and educators who helped shaped the Agastya vision. We conducted several oral and video interviews across the country with founder trustees K.V. Raghavan, Dr. P.K. Iyengar, Dr. S. Balasundaram and scientists such as Dr. V.K. Aatre, John Coates, Dr. Yellappa Reddy, Dr. R. Krishnan and leaders and entrepreneurs such as Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, Gururaj Deshpande and Venkatesh Valluri. We hope to be able to share their ideas and philosophies on education in India, through an insightful and thought-provoking book currently in writing.
OUTDOOR SCIENCE PARK

An exciting feature for children visiting the Agastya campus will soon be the Outdoor Science Park, the design and construction for which was begun this past year with the support of Ms Vandita Sharma, graduate student at the National Institute of Design. Promoting the idea of kinaesthetic learning, the Outdoor Science Park will encourage children to explore the world of science with all their senses, combining play with experiential learning.

BUILDING ‘TEAM AGASTYA’

Agastya continues to invest in training and development and has strengthened the training team with the addition of experienced instructors. To effectively manage the organisation’s growing scale and complexity, Agastya continued to invest in hiring able and proven senior management talent. Mr. K. Thiagarajan, a former corporate CEO (BTech, IIT-Madras and MBA, IIM Ahmedabad) joined as Chief Operating Officer and Dr. Shibu Shankaran, an experienced manager, joined as Kuppm campus in-charge. We believe these appointments will increase management depth and breadth and position Agastya for long-term success. Besides these appointments, new and expanded positions and opportunities were offered to high performing staff, and several staff additions were made at different levels to strengthen the organisation’s overall service delivery and performance.

CO-OPTING SUPPORT FROM EMINENT SCIENTISTS

Over the years, Agastya has had the privilege of welcoming several distinguished scientists, educators and administrators from across India and the world, to its campus and its Science Fairs. Their encouragement, support and guidance has helped us implement the most path-breaking science education outreach projects in pursuit of our vision of quality science education for every child in the country. Some of our visitors and supporters include:

- President Dr. Abdul Kalam
- Dr. M. S. Swaminathan
- Prof. C.N.R. Rao
- Dr. Kasturirangan
- Dr. Aatre & Prof. Balaram
- Dr. V.S. Ramamurthy
- Sujatha Ramdorai & John Coates
Starting in 2006, Agastya became a participant in a unique development initiative called the ‘Social Innovation Sandbox’. Sponsored by the Deshpande Foundation, the ‘ Sandbox’, promotes three principles – innovation, entrepreneurship, and scale – in its pursuit of economic development. Through the Social Innovation Sandbox Initiatives, Deshpande Foundation “carefully selects entrepreneurs, ideas, and strategies and in turn connects these to resources, networks, and opportunities for further engagement and growth.” Annually the Deshpande Foundation conducts the Development Dialogue where NGOs, funders, investors and others from across the globe come to network and learn about new and exciting ideas and innovations.

Agastya operates its main Science Centre from the HDMC Park in Hubli located next to the Indira Gandhi Glass House, where Agastya conducts Mega Science Fairs. The Science Centre trains Young Instructor Leaders (YILs) selected from local schools. It has pioneered many Agastya programmes, including the Monitoring and Evaluation study. The Science Centre is the hub for an extensive network of smaller science centers located in, Dharwad, Kundagol, Navalgund and, Kalaghatgi each of them supported by a mobile lab. An additional Mobile Lab funded by the Hubli Dharwad Municipal Corporation (HDMC) operates for the benefit of disadvantage children in Hubli. The ‘saturation model’ adopted by Agastya was presented to the National Knowledge Commission in 2008 as a model worthy of nationwide replication. We are proud and delighted to be a member of the Sandbox and to be engaged as a Platinum Partner of the Deshpande Foundation.
Other visitors to Agastya included the Google team in their bright Google bus, who arrived in Kuppam on September 01, 2009 to partake of the Agastya experience, and left Agastya staff and students with a great deal of insight into the very innovative and entrepreneurial spirit of this technology giant.

In 2009, a revolutionary social leadership development initiative, Tata Jagriti, was launched with approximately 400 promising young leaders and entrepreneurs in the social sector, who undertook an 18-day journey to meet and interact with 11 transformative NGOs across India. Agastya is very privileged to have been selected as one of these organizations, and we were happy to share our experiences with the Tata Jagriti team when they arrived at the Kuppam campus in December 2009.

In February 2010, Agastya Chairman Ramji Raghavan was invited to participate in a panel discussion on Innovations in Science Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Education at Tech4Society, a platform that brought together pioneers and thought leaders in technology and invention working together to bring about systemic social change. The conference was hosted at the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad. With the help of the Agastya Mobile Science Lab schoolchildren from Vani English School demonstrated science experiments to visitors from across the globe.

The visit of Kimberly Karlshoej of the TK Foundation in October 2009 was an eventful one. Warmly welcomed on the Kuppam campus by Young Instructors and students of local schools, Kimberly enjoyed the opportunity to meet and interact with students presenting a large number of scientific experiments, case studies and Discovery Centre models, all of which she found fascinating and impressive. In remembrance of her visit, she planted a sapling of red sandalwood in front of the new Guest House.
Agastya Chairman Ramji Raghavan was elected a Senior Fellow by Ashoka: Innovators for the Public (www.ashoka.org). Based in Washington, DC, Ashoka recognizes individuals every year, who have already created widespread impact for their innovative, system-changing solutions to society’s most urgent problems. On September 08, 2009, 35 young social entrepreneurs from Ashoka’s Youth Venture, Mumbai called the Ashoka Change Makers, descended on Agastya’s Kuppam Campus for a 3-day brainstorming session with Rakesh Pandey of Boston, USA. The participants generated a significant number of useful ideas to take forward their plans and aspirations for social change in Mumbai’s slums.

Agastya was also happy to receive Sudha Murty of the Infosys Foundation as well as Desh and Jayashree Deshpande at our Bangalore office, to review a presentation on Agastya’s progress and plans for the future.

Student volunteer Manasi Hukku from Babson College, USA also conducted a highly interactive Entrepreneurship Training programme on the Agastya campus for two weeks, helping children develop ideas and methodologies to generate a business plan and implementing their new-found theoretical knowledge at village shops in their own communities.

January 2010 saw Sanjli and Vinay Gidwaney from Boston, USA visiting Young Instructor Leaders at Agastya’s Kuppam campus to conduct an unusual Electronic Textiles Workshop for students there. Sanjli and Vinay collaborate with research groups at MIT’s Media Lab, industrial design firms and various NGOs to deploy innovative learning tools in developing communities around the world. Their creative techniques helped YILs grasp basic concepts in Electricity; for example, how to design a simple circuit using fabric, batteries and LEDs. Agastya’s YILs were greatly enthused by the unusual learning experience and participated actively throughout the Workshop.

Agastya was also happy to receive Sudha Murty of the Infosys Foundation as well as Desh and Jayashree Deshpande at our Bangalore office, to review a presentation on Agastya’s progress and plans for the future.
Agastya continues to enjoy the support of highly invested and experienced trustees and advisers from around the world. They include educators, teachers, scientists, CEOs, bankers, entrepreneurs and philanthropists with significant knowledge, expertise and experience in education, as well as leading and managing Indian and global organisations.

**SUSTAINING PARTNERSHIPS**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Board of Trustees provides overall governance and guidance. It is both a source of, and sounding board for, major strategies and decisions, and provides invaluable connectivity to the outside world.

**Board of Trustees***
- Late S. Balasundaram, Ex-Principal of Rishi Valley School
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- K.V. Raghavan, Ex-Chairman, Engineers India Limited
- Ramji Raghavan, Chairman
- P. Rao, Entrepreneur
- H.N. Srihari, Former General Manager, ICI Group

**ADVISERS AND RESOURCE PERSONS**

**Advisers and Resource Persons*** provide ideas, content and advice for Agastya programmes. They form a valuable source of intellectual capital for Agastya, and many of them have dedicated their time as volunteers. They include, among others:

- V.K. Aatre, Former Scientific Adviser to the Minister of Defence
- Ayachit, BVB College of Engineering
- Balakrishnan, Mallya Aditi International School
- D.R. Baluragi, Ex-Professor of Physics in LVR College Raichur
- Harish Bhat, Indian Institute of Science
- John Coates, Cambridge University
- Mrs. Girija, Former lecturer
- Joel, Mallya Aditi International School
- H. Khosrowpanah, UK
- V. Krishnakumar, Singapore
- R. Krishnan, Former Director, GTRE
- Ms. N.S. Leela, Former Professor, MES College
- S. P. Loonker, Catalyst India
- K.G. Narayanan, Former head of ADE
- N. Panchal, Model Maker
- S. Parthan, Ex-Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
- Prakash, SV Swami Industries
- V. Raman, V. Sankar Aiyar
- M.A. Ramaswamy, Ex-Indian Institute of Science
- Ms. Sujatha Ramdorai, TIFR
- S.R.S. Rao, Shisu Griha School
- Yellappa Reddy, Former Environment Secretary, Karnataka
- Regunathan, Ex-Chief Secretary, Delhi
- Shastri, Math Resource Person
- M. Shivkumar, Former Chief Designer of HMT
- D. Singh, Ex-Union Home Secretary
- S.V. Subramanyam Ex-Indian Institute of Science
- Ms. Padmaja Suresh
- P. Talwar, Titanium Capital
- T. Tokieda, Cambridge University
- Ms. L. Venkatachalam, Bangalore
- Venkatshamaiah

*In alphabetical order
Donors, Foundations and Social Investors provide funding and resources for various Agastya programmes. Organisations that have supported Agastya in the past and or continue to do so in the present:

**DONORS, FOUNDATIONS AND SOCIAL INVESTORS**

- R. Jhunjhunwala Foundation
- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (Public-Private Partnership)
- Oberoi Family Foundation
- Deshpande Foundation
- T.K. Foundation
- Agilent Technologies
- Synopsys
- Schlumberger Foundation
- MurthyNayak Foundation
- Tungare Manohar Foundation
- Ravi and Pratibha Reddy Foundation
- ENAM Securities Pvt. Ltd
- Global Fund for Children
- United Way Delhi
- i-flex solutions
- Honeywell Technology Labs
- Jain Irrigation Systems Limited
- USAID-REACH India
- Dr. K. Anji Reddy
- Art Venture
- Bharti Airtel
- Give2Asia
- Indian Oil Corporation
- Asima Pratishthana
- Kothari Foundation

*in alphabetical order*

**GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION PARTNERS**

Government and other education partners are vital to Agastya’s mission to propagate creative learning. Government departments at various levels have been instrumental in providing Agastya programmes access to schools, teachers and local communities. Agastya’s partnership with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is an example of successful Public-Private Partnership. Besides SSA, Agastya worked collaboratively with the following organisations:

**Government/Public:**
- Defence Research Development Organisation
- Government of Andhra Pradesh
- Government of Karnataka
- Hubli/Dharwad Municipal Corporation
- Institution of Engineers
- Karnataka Science and Technology Academy
- Prime Minister’s National Knowledge Commission

*in alphabetical order*
**Education partners:**
- Bangalore University
- Cambridge University
- Chennai Mathematical Institute
- Exploratorium, SFO
- Indian Association of Physics Teachers
- Indian Institute of Science
- Institute of Physics, London
- Institute of Social and Economic Change
- Mallya Aditi International School
- TIFR/Homi Bhabha Center for Science Education
- Vellore Institute of Technology

**In Karnataka, Agastya works/has worked with the following institutions:**
- Bangalore Little Theatre Group
- Bhageerath
- Bharatha Gyana Vidyana Samithi
- Children’s Movement for Civic Awareness
- Hath Mein Sehat
- Institution of Engineers
- Kalker Sangeetha Vidhyalaya
- Karnataka Rajya Vidyana Parishad
- Karnataka Science and Technology Academy
- MEARDS
- National Institute of Advanced Studies
- Prerana Parivartha
- Samuha
- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
- Shikshana
- ShishuGriha School
- Sree Siddaganga Mutt
- Suttur Mutt
- Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement
- Vishala
- Vision Group
- Vivekananda Girijana Kalyana Kendra

*in alphabetical order*
"...the Govt. School Teachers…enjoyed the ambience of your lovely campus and were motivated to go back to school and share their experiences with their students. We visited the Discovery Centre along with the teachers and also saw the Science and Art Labs. We were very glad to have got this wonderful opportunity to visit your campus."

-Madhumati Valluri, President, Lions Club of Bangalore

"The rural and poorer areas have vast untapped potential and it is important we reach out to them. Another urgent task is to create content and resources at all levels in the local languages and disseminate them widely for the benefit of students and teachers. A tremendous task lies ahead of us and the media has to play a role in science dissemination and popularization. 

“(Agastya Foundation is actively addressing the areas mentioned above).

-Sujatha Ramdorai, National Knowledge Commission

"Agastya is a place of convergence. This hot, windy, dusty spot of rural, southern India draws to it flora and fauna that have not been found here for many years. It draws to it people from many places, many backgrounds, and with diverse ways of seeing the world. While the burgeoning lower class generally is seen as holding India back from the greatness she might otherwise achieve, Agastya taps the potential that exists here. By educating the children and dispelling many of the myths and superstitions that have dominated the decision-making process in rural India, Agastya is tapping the potential of a powerful resource that is still considered by some to be India’s weakness”.

-Shay Taylor, Site2Sight Productions, Baltimore, USA

"The Vignan Mela not only evoked good response among the students and the teachers but also created scientific temperament, rational thinking and application of science in day-to-day life. The Mela was successful, to some extent, in addressing the much prevalent superstitions amongst the villagers, in general, and the Lambada (ST) community in particular’.

-Dr. Kota Harinarayana, Board of Trustees, Viksit Bharat Foundation, Hyderabad, A.P.

"The Agastya science fair I saw in Hubli was one of the most wonderful things I have witnessed in the field of children’s education! The enthusiasm I saw in the children’s faces and the sparkle in their eyes was an incredible experience for me. They wanted to learn, and they wanted to teach. I would love to see Agastya light up all of rural India, urban India and then the rest of the world!”

-Sheela Murthy, Murthy-Nayak Foundation Baltimore, USA.
LOSS OF A FRIEND, GUIDE AND PHILOSOPHER

Agastya’s Founder Trustee Dr. S. Balasundaram passed away on September 17, 2009. Dr. Balasundaram was an eminent educationist. He received a doctorate in Organic Chemistry from the Indian Institute of Science, following which he joined Rishi Valley School, where he retired as the Principal (Agastya Chairman Ramji Raghavan and Managing Trustee Mahavir Kumar were his students at Rishi Valley). He also served for many years as the Secretary, Krishnamurti Foundation of India. He was a member of the International Committee of UNESCO, Paris on Equivalence of Degrees and Diplomas. Dr. Balasundaram was instrumental in helping conceive many of Agastya’s formative plans and played an important role on the Board of Trustees as a senior statesman and advisor. All of us at Agastya would like to place on record our profound gratitude and appreciation for his advice and guidance throughout our journey, and shall deeply miss his sagely advice.