



Rural Teacher Fellowship

The Rural Teacher Fellowship (RTF) is a unique, sustainable model that seeks to select promising individuals from within the community to help improve educational practices in schools in the region. The RTF is given rigorous training support. The Teacher Fellows are gradually groomed to become change-leaders who initiate and drive community based development. Youth-based training programs in language and life-skills education promote a peer-based learning atmosphere in the region and generate trained teaching capacity in the area. The Teacher-Fellows are provided continual training sessions and skill enhancement workshops to further improve the Teacher Fellows' capacities.

The RTF programme is unique for its comprehensive approach to not only educational practices but also community based development. The RTF seeks to include stakeholders such as parents, local administrators, government officials, private sector entities so as to solicit their cooperation in encouraging greater school enrolment and reduction the dropout rates.

Ignis' Rural Fellowship model is based on a tried and tested strategy that is being implemented for the last 5 years in the government primary and high school in the Banapuram village of Mudigonda mandal of Khammam district, Telangana.

In 2015, the Rural Fellowship model was expanded to primary and high schools in five more villages in Mudigonda mandal and four villages in the neighbouring in the neighbouring Nelakondapally mandal. The settlements in which the schools are situated are



predominantly rural and also include tribal thandas.

1. Curriculum based on the lived experience of the community

2. In-School implementation of the program

3. Teacher Fellows recruited from the community

4. Intense training and Weekly support training for Fellows

5. Mobile app based monitoring and admin support

6. ICT based learning support

7. Pre-Assessment and Post-Assessment

8. 3rd party assessments along with in-house assessments

9. Awareness programs for the community

10. Training support for the youth during vacations

11. Additional reading materials and simple libraries in school

12. Community connect; cultural and sports meets

Within two years of Ignis' early interventions in Banapuram, the enrolments in the primary and high school in the village improved and over the last 5 years it has reached 30% despite the presence of private English medium schools nearby.