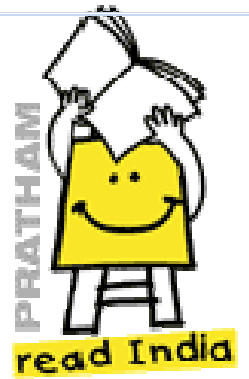


PRATHAM MYSORE

Read India Launch



Karnataka joined the “Read India” campaign during the last week of July 2010 when a group of young volunteers from remote villages around T. Narasipura, one of the educationally backward blocks of Mysore, came together and pledged to make every child read, write, and do basic math. Read India launched outside Karnataka as back as 2007 has created the largest



nationwide impact and is already producing impressive results. In 2008-09, the campaign reached 33 million children across 19 states. It covered 305,000 out of the 600,000 villages of India and mobilized 450,000 volunteers. Over 600,000



teachers/ officials/ government workers have been trained. In most states, out of the children who were a part of the intervention, the proportion of those not able to read alphabets is down to zero. Likewise, the proportion of children able to

read simple sentences is up by almost 20%.

The volunteers who attended training sessions in T. Narasipura for five days in order to become familiarized with the model and the Teaching Learning materials will carry out the campaign in a block of 100 villages without any monetary compensation. Dr. T. Padmini and her team of Master Resource Persons oriented the volunteers to handle the well tested Reading and Math packages of Pratham Mysore. The volunteers will



engage in the Campaign at their respective villages by working either inside or outside the school for two hours every day. While the Reading programme (Kannada Vachana Karyakrama -KVK) will aim at building language skills in children of grade 1-7 to correct the graded difficulties at different levels of reading and pronunciation, the math programme (Nagu Nagutha Ganitha – NNG) marks a significant shift from the conventional teaching methods towards a child led model of learning which focuses on fostering thinking strategies among children so that they explore different ways of arriving at mathematical solutions. The campaign will reach out to nearly 10000 children in the block.

In villages with low learning levels, focus will be to ensure that there are no children lagging behind and villages with high level learning will start focusing immediately on grade specific learning. Efforts will be made to promote the concept of Education for Education, a skill building training to add value to the volunteer so that he can face the competition in the job market with better confidence.