BENGALURU, DHNS: Eleven private sector professionals have been selected for the state government’s Indian Administrative Fellowship (IAF) programme. Karnataka is the first state to accept the IAF, being anchored by nonprofit The/Nudge Foundation.

The fellows will spend 18 months rubbing shoulders with senior bureaucrats to work on projects in the areas of sustainable development goals, agriculture, e-governance and so on. It starts July 1. The fellowship offers a stipend of up to Rs 20 lakh per annum.

“The fellows have held leadership positions in some of the world’s most admired organizations and have academic credentials from Stanford, Harvard, IIMs and Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and more,” Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa said in a note.

The fellows and their assignments are: venture capitalist Ravi Trivedi (agriculture), consumer neuroscientist Dr Gayathri Swahar (horticulture & sericulture), quizmaster Giri Balasubramaniam (education), Fidelity Investments CFO R Balasubramanya (Karnataka Administrative Reforms Committee - II), former Jubilant Motorworks CEO Rohit Malhotra (rural development), technologist Vani Narayan (e-governance), IT evangelist Sreenivasa Madenhally (planning, programme monitoring & statistics), entrepreneur Ramachandran Narayanaswamy (woman & child development), entrepreneur Aruna Sampige (skill development, entrepreneurship & livelihood), Bosch finance head Sunil Kumar Vaya (State Planning Commission) and environmental economist Shobha Ananda Reddy (panchayat raj).