

Padho aur Badho

An AROH-GAIL Initiative



From the President's Desk

Welcome to the Independence Day special issue of Padho aur Badho newsletter! Over the months, Padho aur Badho has evolved as a self made paradigm of Non-Formal Education designed for slum kids and mainstreaming of the out-of-school kids.

Initially, we commenced our Padho aur Badho journey with just three or four centres in the areas of East Delhi and adjoining localities. Since January '10 to August '10, Padho aur Badho has taken a big leap within a span of six months and today we have 50 centres dispersed in four major states such as Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. Passing over all barriers and stumbling blocks, today, Padho aur Badho stands independent touching the lives of 1500 beneficiaries under its cap. Joyously enough, the project now has found new wings under the 86th amendment of the constitution that makes education a right for kids in the age group of 6-14 years. As per the UNESCO report, Right to Education (RTE) will benefit close to 1 Crore children, aiding Padho aur Badho's mission directly now on.

I must also mention that Padho aur Badho is not just an educational program rather a mechanism that serves the purpose of holistic development and informed upbringing of impoverished kids. Besides providing elementary education, the curriculum is designed in a way that allows the kids to engage in various extra-curricular activities like dancing, painting, singing and theatre plays at several centres. Just as in May, 250 Padho aur Badho kids pledged against the inhuman exploitation and child labour on Anti Child Labour Day at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi. On the day, the little kids took solemn pledge to do away with child labour and educate themselves through our initiative. In another occasion on World Environment Day on 5th of June, 40 AROH kids planted 100 sapling in a small park of Kalyanpuri area in an opening move to save Mother Earth thereby protecting our environment.

I am extremely pleased to inform our readers that Padho aur Badho is expanding vigorously with each passing month and by now 150 Padho aur Badho kids have successfully been mainstreamed into formal education (schools) programmes. This Independence Day special issue brings you a flurry of activities and myriads of new developments that was carried in the month of June, July and August.

Happy read!

Dr. Neelam Gupta
President
AROH Foundation



From Waste Heaps to School Corridors



Padho aur Badho Stakeholders' Meeting on the Anti Child Labour Day on 12th June 2010 at India International Centre, New Delhi

Dignitaries at the Dias.

AROH Foundation, in association with GAIL, organized a stakeholder's meet on 12th June, 2010 at India International Centre, New Delhi. The stakeholder's meeting analyzed and contemplated on issues and challenges regarding abolishing child labour and protecting children living under the perils of child labour. Inaugurated by Shri S. L. Raina Director(HR), GAIL, the meeting proceeded with the lighting of lamps by the Chief Guests and Guest of Honour, subsequently followed by welcome address by Vandana Chanana (GM) CC & CSR, GAIL. A distinguished group of officials from GAIL, Department of Child Labour, MOL, NCPCR and Department of Public Enterprises graced the meeting with their presence and participation. Vandana Chanana GM (CC & CSR) GAIL, SH. Vivek Joshi ED (CSR) GAIL, Sh. B.C. Tripathi CMD, GAIL (INDIA), Mr. Sanjay Kumar Tiwari, Consultant Child Labour (NCPCR) and Sh. M.K. Jethi Deputy Secretary, Department of Child Labour, MOL, were dignitaries who attended the meeting.

The stakeholder's meeting canvassed the Padho aur Badho intervention in the form of documentary screening, inputs by the officials and presentation on the highlights of the project by Neelam Gupta, President, AROH

Foundation. The meeting also brooded upon the need of eliminating child labour, devising innovative strategies to enhance growth of slum children, providing easy access to formal and non formal education and AROH's immense contribution toward the noble cause.

Welcome Address for Waste Heaps to School Corridors

Delivering the welcome address Vandana Chanana said, "Padho aur Badho Stakeholder's meeting is an event with a difference, and emotions involved. It is an event that is more symbolic in nature ... with AROH as an executing arm Padho aur Badho

has opened 50 centres across the slum clusters of East Delhi, and has touched the lives of some 1500 street children". She dwelled, "What has been the most heartening aspect of this program is that it has generated support from many quarters, some expected and some not so expected, and it has provided platforms to many socially conscious organizations and individuals to partner in some way or the other as a part of the joy of giving experience". Smt. Vandana Chanana also appreciated AROH's attempt to fortify the future of the young kids with the help of education. Speaking on the occasion Sh. S.L. Raina Director, GAIL,



Mr. B. C. Tripathi, CMD, GAIL lighting the lamp along with Mr. Bhaskar Chatterjee, Secretary, DPE.

emphasized, “GAIL and AROH association will prove instrumental in enlightening the lives of children from poor strata of the society”. Addressing the meeting Sh. B.C. Tripathi, CMD, GAIL, significantly suggested for the counselling and education of the parents of the slum children which would trigger awareness acclivity among them. Taking the meeting

further, Sh. Bhaskar Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, DPE, high spotted the coming together of Public Enterprises to support the noble cause and their responsibility toward the society we live in. He also complimented AROH for its target achievement of 1500 children and 50 centres across various states.

Padho aur Badho Highlights

Taking stock of the Padho aur Badho intervention, Dr. Neelam Gupta, President, AROH Foundation, accentuated the project as a smart project with “specific and tangible outcome”. Speaking on the accomplishments of Padho aur Badho, Dr. Neelam also said that AROH has centre in four states, namely Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, New Delhi and Rajasthan as well as in the areas of Delhi NCR, and has promoted 1000 beneficiaries in a span of 6 months. She also stated that Padho aur Badho is a project simple in approach and execution. As highlighted by her, this educational project provides opportunity at the doorsteps and all its centers are located in an easily accessible proximity of slum areas. Designed and developed as a multi-pronged strategy, the program equally focuses on capacity building sessions and mobilization between preparatory school and children. Highlighting on the different aspects of the project, Dr. Neelam also riveted on the barriers, strengths, achievements, challenges and the ways and means related to Padho aur Badho project.



Mrs. Vandana Chanana, GM (CSR), GAIL delivering the welcome speech.



Dr. Neelam Gupta, President, AROH Foundation presenting the highlights of the project.



Padho aur Badho beneficiaries presenting a play on menaces of child labour.

The meeting continued with a presentation by H.K. Jethi, Deputy Secretary Department of Child and Labour, and a thought provoking play on menaces of child labour, organized by Asmita Theatre Group and enacted by the Padho aur Badho kids. Gifts were distributed among children by the dais members. Another eye-opening and educating presentation by Sanjay Kumar Tiwari, Consultant Child Labour, NCPCR, provided recent statistics and national data on the receding numbers of child labour population in India. The meeting was concluded by Sh. Vivek Joshi, ED (CSR), GAIL, who presented the vote of thanks with commendable words- the society today is ruled by three Ps: People, Profit and Planet.

Celebrating World Environment Day: For a greener tomorrow....

In an endeavor to save Mother Earth and transform the planet green, 40 underprivileged students enrolled with Padho and Badho planted 100 saplings in Central Market Park, Kalyanpuri, on 5th June, 2010, on the World Environment Day. The kids, dressed up in formal AROH dress, assembled to plant saplings in order to encourage growth of indigenous trees and trees that are appropriate to the local environment. The tree plantation campaign, a part of "AROH Foundation's Saaf Aur Hara Bhara Programme" strongly encourages planting of indigenous trees to protect our city and earth from falling prey to further environmental degradation. The "Saaf Aur Hara Bhara Program" abides by the motto that a little effort from every individual can help making a huge difference.

Kids who participated in the tree-planting campaign were also educated and informed about the role of trees in our day to day life. Children displayed great enthusiasm in planting of trees that they knew would recharge ground water and prevent soil erosion. AROH also ensured that the plants would be taken care of and nurtured on a regular basis after the event. Before the commencement of plantation activity, the kids were informed/ taught about the significance of trees and their impact on the environment and many other facts about nature and plants. AROH functionaries, who work as their educators, had also taught them that the trees would not only look beautiful, but they would recharge ground water, prevent soil erosion and provide shade too. Their educators had highlighted the uses of trees with the help of illustrations.

All students present were asked to conduct follow-up activities along with their educator to see how the saplings they had planted were doing. The tree plantation activity also acted to be an awareness building exercise about the greener environment. The plantation drive brought a sense of responsibility towards the surroundings in the slum kids and they felt that they have



Children gathered at Central Market Park, Kalyanpuri to celebrate World Environment Day.



Kids in an attempt to transform Mother Earth green.

ushered in a big change. The children also promised that in the coming years, they would not only plant more and more trees, but also take care of them fully.

Besides building awareness and consciousness about the greener environment, the plantation drive brought a sense of responsibility towards the surroundings in the slum kids and they felt that they have ushered in a big change. The children also promised that in the coming years, they would not only plant more and more trees, but also take care of them fully. Speaking on the occasion Mrs. Neelam Gupta, Founder & President of AROH Foundation said,

"We want to show how easy it is to plant a tree in the hope that each one of us would make a commitment to grow at least one tree somewhere and thus participate in rebuilding a greener Earth."

To mark this event, Ms. Vidya Devi, Counsellor (Nagar Nigam Parshad) and Secretary Mr. Shaukat Rana, Kalyanpuri, participated in the programme and encouraged the kids. There was some media gathering as well to motivate the kids. The programme was conducted for one hour and children seemed very happy to be part of this initiative for the first time and watered the plants with great enthusiasm.

Centre Focus - Johar Mohalla, Patparganj, Shashi Garden

Comes dawn and there is a rush for livelihood, henceforth life! There is an abundance of population domiciliating amidst heaps of scraps, garbage, gloom and despair. A number of small kids who live in the area are the worst sufferer of the grime situation prevalent here. But, there are many who live with unanswered dreams in their eyes. There are faces, with hope in their eyes, to be found between stacks of unwanted waste, slush and dirtiness. The whole area is marked with a long stretch of slum clusters and communities that engage in scrap dealing and garbage business. This is the sight that of Johar Mohalla, Patparganj, New Delhi. Children putting up in these localities have no future besides being an earning help to their families. A Ray of Hope (AROH) realizes these dreams and strives to materialize them through setting up NFE centre in these localities. Two Padho aur Badho Centre at Shashi Garden area established by AROH is a step toward advancement of these kids and locality.

Patparganj area of East Delhi is mostly inhabited by the rag pickers and *kabariwalas* who house here in *jhuggies* all around. Bereft of basal facilities like sanitation, electricity, sewage system, food and water, the living conditions are tough to survive for the poor occupiers. But with two new small study centres in the locality, there is a new light of education lighting up the innocent lives. An AROH -GAIL initiative Padho aur Badho is an easy, accessible discipline to provide basic education to the deprived kids of our society. Shashi Garden is one out of 50 operational Padho aur Badho centers that caters to educational needs of kids from poor strata of the society. At these centers kids in the age group of 6-14 years are enrolled in batches at convenient timings. Beginning with some obstacles and hitches, Johar Mohalla's Padho aur Badho Centre has strength of 30 odd children who



Wasting their childhood in the garbage.

involve themselves in educational pursuits.

At Padho aur Badho enrollment is just not just a meager formality rather a disciplined approach to impart education in a way that these kids get main streamed into schools and institutions after a year. Admitting these tiny tots to study centre involves a lot of hardships and immense efforts from the teachers and coordinators who go door to door in order to counsel the parents and kids to bring them to the center. A few counseling and awareness sessions have helped the educators bringing children to school. A number of rising student beneficiaries and parent's readiness to send their wards off to study evidences the fact that a dream fulfillment is on its toes. In a span of 3 months, the centre at Shashi Garden has established a strong hold in the area and abutting localities where prevails a similar situations.

Although multiple counseling sessions help disseminating right amount of awareness in the locality, coordinators face a tough time retaining kids at the school. The reason is simple: the number of earning hands implies better income for daily meals. A class

of 20-22 students of varied age group is not at all a cake walk for the educators to manage here. Teachers start their day at 8:00 in morning and begin their task by collecting these children and assembling them at the centers after which commences the daily curriculum.

Gladly enough, both the centre at Shashi Garden ensure adequate participation from girl child beneficiaries too. All children in the age group of 4-17 residing in the locality are part of Padho aur Badho Campaign and it is ensured that those remaining will be soon enrolled. AROH's pedagogical approach is



...with a petition for help in their eyes.

formulated in a manner which involves fun and learning hand in hand. The entire curriculum is devised in a way that students enjoy learning alongside syllabus they are taught. This implies embedding extra-curricular activities like dancing, singing, painting competition, plays, games et al., in the course design. All beneficiaries coming to the centers are told and taught about hygiene, cleanliness, prayers, manners and eating habits too. Also, Grading and Awarding system instills a sense of competitiveness among the students which helps them perform better. A timely parent teacher session is regularly held in order to invite maximum participation from the localities and in the process benefits mental stimulation of the BPL population.

It is heartwarming to announce that five beneficiaries have recently been placed in formal education systems i.e. schools. With strength of 50



A new light of education: kids displaying their report card at the center.

students in two centers, 5 in schools and a bunch of dedicated staff, Shashi

Garden stands exemplary of its small success it has achieved till now.

Rakhi Celebrations – 24 August 2010

Little Aakash was overjoyed to watch his new-found sister tying the sacred thread of love on his hands on the Rakhi day. Aakash doesn't have a sister but has found one at his centre. This was the scene that of Padho aur BadhoCentre at Dallopura. The rakhi Celebrations at AROH NFE centre was an occasion that transgressed beyond the Rakhi making competitions to a moment of love and commitment. The festival of Rakshabandhan was celebrated amidst much fanfare and gaiety at all the Padho aur Badhocentre on 23rd August 2010. All children to participated in Rakhi making competition that was conducted at every centre. All children participated with great zeal and zest in the creative competition of Rakhi making. Interestingly, the kids created beautiful rakhis using waste materials along with decoration items. The three-hour-long exercise indulged the kids into drawing, painting and creating new designs out of silks, waste papers, sequins, beads, pearls, foils, cray and drawing sheets. The rakhi competition marked the

celebrations in full swing where kids were seen deeply mired in their exercise. At the end, all girls tied their

self-made rakhis on the hands of boys, thus immortalizing the festival forever.



Training of Teachers

Two workshops on Non Formal Education were held on 7th of June and July at AROH Head Office, Sector 8, Noida. NFE Educator's Meet, falling under Padho aur Badho Project, was attended by 40 Non Formal Educators coordinating for Delhi and NCR Centers of Padho aur Badho intervention. The principal agenda of the workshop focuses on enduing the educators with tools and strategies that would better empower them for Non Formal Education (NFE) program under the Padho aur Badho program.

The workshop was conducted with the aim of empowering and fortifying the educators and coordinators who would be better informed to function at the centers after participating in the workshop. The fundamental purpose of the workshop was to go beyond the regular concerns such as classes, mobilization and explore ways and means as how to weave effective management techniques, practices and methods into all aspects of NFE Programs. The following report summarizes the observations and recommendations of 42 workshop participations.

A Report

The third and fourth NFE Educator's Meet, at AROH Headquarter, combinedly offered a common ground for educators, centre in charge and the managers to exchange views, ideas, problems and their solutions faced by them at the respective centers. Jyoti Srivastava, Manager, Padho Aur Badho, commenced the Meet by welcoming all and inaugural session which provided a quick overview of AROH's journey and a presentation on its 12 principal interventions.

The Meet proceeded with a comprehensive discussion on the implementation of monthly report submission and development of Management Information System. As a part of the team building workshop, the teachers were divided into a group of ten and each group was allocated the task of making an art work with a set of chart papers



Educators absorbed in workshop



Educators in the mid of their discussion

provided to them. The purpose of the activity was to highlight the discussion on the strategies of the project held during summer vacations. The educator's workshop emphasized on the need of motivating students at their centres in every possible way and to prepare them to engage them in recreational activities. Those kids, falling in the age group of 6-14 years, are armed with the basic educational programmed before they are admitted into the formal schooling system. Report filing and monitoring to evaluate the progress and mark the pitfalls of the ongoing project was the principal theme that triggered the meeting further.

7th August, 2010

A workshop on Plan of Action for imbedding extra-curricular activities in NFE curriculum.

A one day workshop was conducted for Padho aur Badho teachers at the Noida Head Office in order to devise an effective plan for retaining the longevity of beneficiaries under the Non Formal Education (NFE) campaign.

The meet was attended by 40 centre educators in charge of East Delhi and Noida centre. The principal agenda of the workshop dwelled on



embedding activities beyond studies to keep the students engaged for one complete session and promote them to another level. The following report analyses and summarizes the proceedings of 3-hour educator meet.

Report

The fifth educator's meet entails on formulating policies and time-bound plans to experience a lesser dropout rates and henceforth retain all beneficiaries for one complete session. Retaining of beneficiaries at the centre is one of the major obstacles faced in the Padho aur Badho project. The workshop discussed in depth the policies and means to hold back the beneficiaries at the centres for one complete year.

The workshop proceeded with an agenda of report filling formats given out to the educators at the previous session. Educators provided with their inputs and came out on loopholes and gaps in the report format. The much discussed problem was of the

language barrier faced by the educators who felt troubled filling the report in English. Next, the workshop hashed out on regular organising of events by the management at the Padho aur Badho centers. It was decided to organise regular activities like painting, singing and paper art workshop and dance competitions for children to participate. All these activities would trigger intellectual stimulation of the kids and would double up as a tool to retain students. The workshop concluded with rounds of discussion on agenda and targets for next meeting. At the end painting competition prizes were announced and handed to the educators of the respective sections.

A better supervision of Padho aur BadhoNFE Centre is only possible through enhancement and modification of reporting format and development of MIS, and through the execution of aforementioned changes in NFE. The workshop realized this underlying motive closely and hashed out on the need of following a

standard timetable and curriculum at the centers. These changes also put responsibilities on Centre Heads and Educators to ensure that these possibilities are realized within the ambit of time.



Educators in the mid of their discussion

Buddy Bus

June and July

Buddy Bus – Yum Time for Kids

It's time again for Padho aur Badhokids for a yummy treat at Nirulas! The mouth-watering aroma of burgers, French Fries and ice-cream once again floated in the air and the kids had a great time enjoying the meal. Children beneficiaries of Dallopura, Khichdipur, and sector 8, 9 enjoyed the Nirulas excursion in the month of June and July.

Every two weeks the disadvantaged kids, enrolled at NFE (Non Formal Education) centres of AROH, are taken out on a small excursion to the Nirulas joint, located at sector 1, Noida, to be educated about the ice-cream production process. There these kids are also treated with delicious Nirulas meal constituting of burgers, pizzas, ice creams etc. Alongside the delectable meal that these kids are provided with, the trip is an insight into a world which is so new for the tiny ones. All kids are imparted knowledge on the preparation and making of the ice creams besides the sumptuous brunch that is provided as a part of Nirulas noble mission and charitable venture.

Back home the kids are asked to narrate their toothsome trip to Nirulas and the experience they had there. A sated stomach and twinkle in the eyes speaks volume for the experience these kids have every time.

August 2010

Yippie ... I'm in a Yumland!

As the cheese in the burger melts and trickles down the corner of their lips, so does the feeling of satedness and gratification takes over on the innocent faces 20 odd kids at Nirulas, Sector 38 branch. A lip-smacking meal of burgers, french fries, cookies and ice-creams, the opportunity for these kids to visit Nirulas Joint was one-of-its-kind. On the 6th of August, 2010, twenty Padho aur Badhokids from Ashok Nagar Centre visited Nirulas under the Buddy Bus initiative, a collaborative endeavor of AROH and Nirulas for the children from marginalized section of society. A fun



Children assembled at the Head Office to leave for Nirulas



Children with their Buddy Meal Boxes

and frolic filled exposure visit, the kids enjoyed the Buddy Bus ride to the hilt. The trip proved to be an exposure cum learning visit for the children who were taken out on the jaunt. A small orientation on the ice-cream making procedures was followed by a delicious Buddy meal. While waiting for the meals, the kids engaged in singing and poetry recitation that they learn in the daily curriculum. Many danced and posed for photographs while others enjoyed the eating. At the end, children were presented gift packs and a cone of ice-creams to keep their spirits soaring high.



Health Camp - 9 July 2010

AROH Foundation organized a free health camp for impoverished and marginalised residents of Morna village, sector 35, Noida, on 9th July, 2010. The health camp was organised to provide medical assistance and health facility to the underprivileged dwellers of Morna residents. More than 200 residents were diagnosed and provided medical aid at the health camp that was supported by Kailash Hospital, Sector 27, Noida.

A four member team of Gynecologist, Physician, Pediatrician and Dietician diagnosed more than 200 people out of which 80 were vocational training beneficiaries of UDAAN- an ONGC sponsored Vocational Training Centre at Morna. Free medicines were distributed at the health camp to those who do not have access to hospitals or any medical facilities available with them. Free referral cards up to three months were also distributed at the camp. Also AROH Foundation ensured as well as informed the beneficiaries about the significance

of the referral cards and how the cards can be made use of.

Maximum medical cases that the doctors examined and came across were water borne diseases and conditions occurring due to living

under improper sanitation and hygiene. Women participants were counselled on eating right diet and taking special care during the childbearing period. The residents showed great participation and interest in the health camp.



Health Camp beneficiaries with the team of doctors at the Morna.

Painting Competition – 2 August 2010

"A painting is a silent poetry." Quoted by an anon., the statement fits to be an absolute truth for the paintings sketched by underprivileged kids on the occasion of International Friendship day at their Non Formal Education (NFE) centres. Almost 1500 students participated at the all the 50 Pado Aur Badho Centres on 1st August, 2010, Sunday, exhibiting their painting skills. The motive behind organising painting competition was to educate the kids, from the impoverished section of the society, about the value of Friendship Day and to instill a feeling of friendship and brotherhood among them. The competition opened up at sharp 9:00 in the morning and was wrapped up by 12:00 in the noon. Children collected at their study centres and were handed over a white chart paper with colours, crayons to draw sketches of the theme of friendship and brotherhood. The kids were elucidated by their teachers on

theme of painting before the event begun. All kids enjoyed three hour innovative exercise which involved playing with colors and imaginativeness as well. Interestingly, all kids expressed themselves well on the white sheet with their choice of colors. With a little orientation of the niche world that these kids have, the younger and those little older kids painted differently on the theme given to them. Those little young in age

chose random colours to paint and others were selective in the choice of colours. All kids painted with great enthusiasm and zeal that could be gauged in their painting piecemeal. Teachers and instructors encouraged kids in large numbers to participate in the competition and showcase their talents. Three best selected paintings, peruse with an eye for theme and colour selection, will be awarded on the 7th August, 2010.



Independence Day Celebrations

An aura of patriotism and nationalism prevailed in the air and a feeling of joyousness spread a smile on every little kid's face on 64th I-Day of India. The rooms were adorned with balloons, cray papers, toys, photographs of India's eminent leaders of freedom, while the tri-colour unfurled in the rhythms of pledges and national anthem. A day when sapphire sky draped the shades of freedom and held high the tri-coloured flag in its bosom ... 15th August, 2010 – the 64th Independence Day of India – was celebrated in full gusto and enthusiasm by 1500 Padho aur Badho, a GAIL-AROH initiative, little children from marginalized section of society. The children beneficiaries commemorated the 63rd I-Day of India with much pomp and gaiety at all the centres.

Adorned for admiration: A view of 19 Block Kalyanpuri

Colourful cultural celebrations on the theme of National Integration and patriotism marked the day long celebrations on the eve I Day. The celebration commenced since 9:00 am in the morning and continued till 12:00 in the afternoon. Almost 1500 students hoisted the National Flag, sung National Anthem and took pledge to educate themselves to become a successful citizen of India. Flag hoisting ceremony was followed by a round of cultural events that entails dancing, singing etc. Various cultural functions in the form of monoacting, play, dance, quizz, slogan raising and singing were organized at several centres. In the end children were distributed sweets and other eatables. The Padho aur Badhoteam had roped in its various centres to chalk out a detailed plan on the celebration a week before the I Day. Instilling a sense of patriotism and nationalism amongst the underprivileged children was the main motif of the Independence Day Celebrations at Padho aur BadhoCentres. In addition to the cultural activities, the team had announced a provision for Best



Kids laughing all their way to freedom!



Decorated Centre Award on the I Day. The entire 50 centre were paid a visit by AROH Team on the day of

celebration and the best centre judged will be awarded in the next educator's meet.

In their words....

Jyoti, 14 years, Kalyanpuri Padho aur Badho Centre

What is undesirable to us is life for them. Jyoti is just one of the kids who is engaged in the rag picking business ever since she learnt to walk. A girl child aged 12 years, Jyoti dwells in a dingy, congested room with her six siblings in a small slum area of Kalyanpuri, New Delhi. Jyoti is a helping hand to her family's income as her father is an alcoholic and earns nothing. Her little legs begin the daily journey for livelihood even before dawn. She is a rag picker and earns to survive her family and self. Jyoti sees her brother going to school everyday and also desires to go school. Just a few days past, Jyoti came across Padho aur Badho center and showed her interest to join school. Since then, she has been experiencing winds of change in her life. Today, she devotes 3 hours everyday at Padho aur Badho Center after her daily work is over. A few months after her enrollment at Kalyanpuri Centre Jyoti has learnt to read, write and put her initials. Jyoti innocently nurtures a dream to emulate her instructors when she grows up. Not only does she feel empowered to read and write but also she has learnt a lot at her classes like maintaining hygiene, dressing up well, improved on her eating habits and encourages her mates from slum to join Padho aur Badho.



Aashish, 13 years, Aghapur Padho aur Badho Centre

Aashish is better off than other students at Aghapur center. This 13-year-old can read English and Hindi and is good at solving Maths problems with a high aptitude for Sanskrit. Aashish, the second amongst his siblings, has attended government school till 5th standard at Adarsh Prathamik Vidyalaya, Haraula. He could not continue his studies because of unavailability of higher classes in his schools. Recently, he was admitted in 6th standard in one of the government schools with the help of AROH Foundation. His teacher feels that Aashish is born with innate potential for studies and provided with a conducive atmosphere can excel in the same. The little child Aashish cooperates with his father to earn some extra moolah for the total family income. His sisters also are enrolled at AROH Skill Training Centre where they are learning beauty courses and cutting-tailoring programs. The teacher who takes up classes with Aashish says his 100% attendance and aptitude shows he will make big one day, provided he has a favoring atmosphere and situations with him.



Upcoming Events in the month of September

- **3 September, 2010:** Buddy Bus
- **4 September, 2010:** Teacher's Day Celebration
- **7 September, 2010:** Educator's Workshop
- **8-12 September, 2010:** Rojgar Shivir ki Taiyyari
- **9 September, 2010:** Capacity Building Workshop
- **12 September, 2010:** Concluding Event
- **17 September, 2010:** Paper Workshop