

Padho aur Badho

A GAIL-AROH Initiative



From the President's Desk

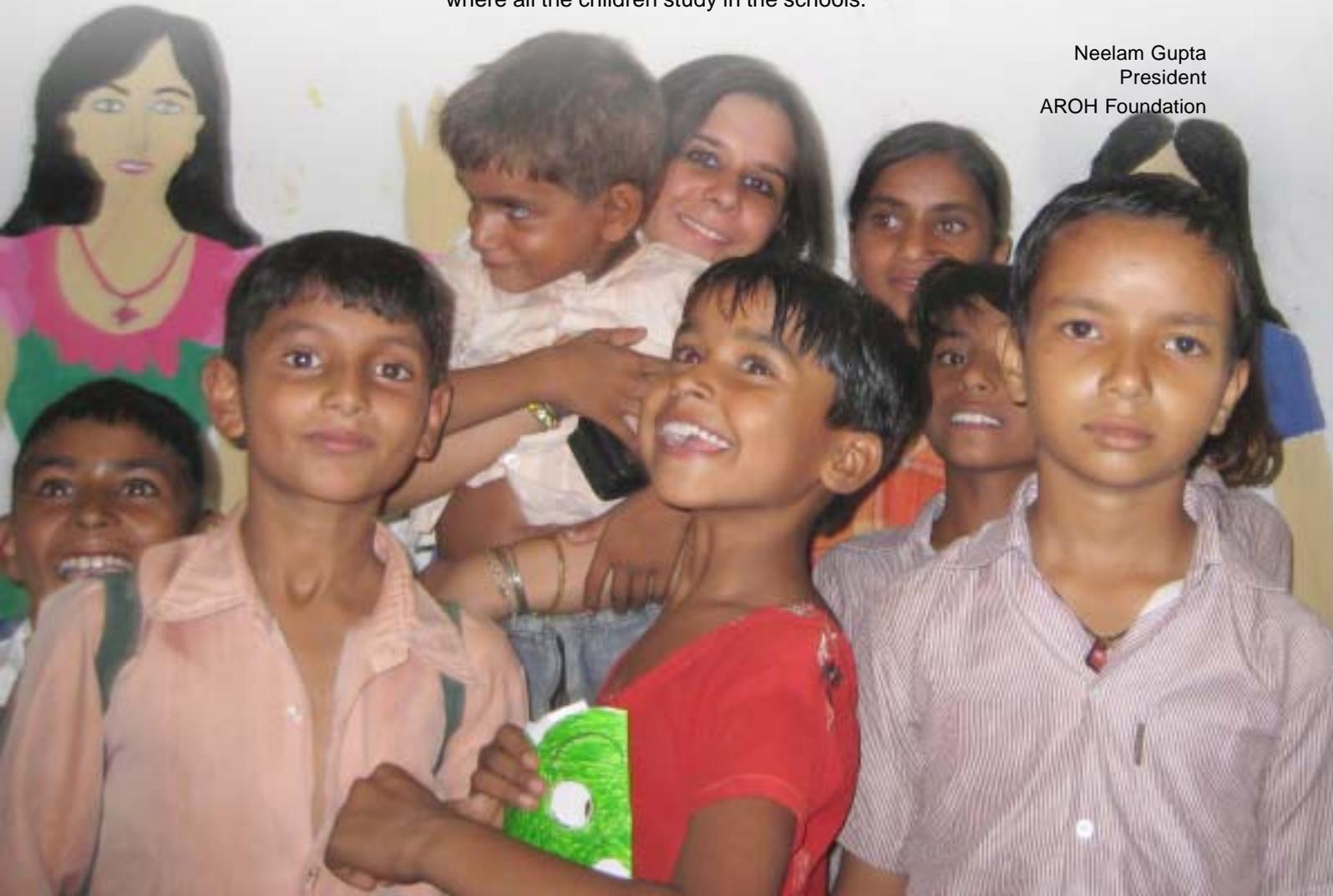
Padho & Badho, a non formal education program initiated by AROH Foundation has certainly proven to be a ray of hope for over 1500 children. These are the children inhabiting the slums of the National Capital Region. For most of these poverty struck children, education is nothing better than a distant dream and through this program, we wish to bring a significant change in their lives. The Foundation has over 50 Centres running all over the city and around.

Delhi itself has a fair share of the children who have dropped out or were never able to manage going to school, finally the out of school children and the majority of them inhabits the slums in East, North-East & South-West Delhi in furtherance to the villages in and around NOIDA.

These children have been out of school due to the paucity of economic resources at home and thus are engaged in domestic work, rag-picking, child labourers and prove to be an earning hand to the financially underprivileged family. In addition to this, the fear of punishments and examinations works as catalyst in keeping him out of school.

Thus GAIL- AROH initiative in the name of Padho & Badho is a step towards our aim of cent-percent enrolment with the schools. We envisage a society where all the children study in the schools.

Neelam Gupta
President
AROH Foundation



Reaching out....

Padho aur Badho is a distinctively designed program to make provision of non-formal education to the underprivileged section of the society. The aim is to set up 50 centres for children who are out of school in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. The project started on 1st February 2010 and has marked good progress in the short span of time with 30 centres already in action.

The 30 centres initiated have enrolled over 30 children each. The centres are well spread in Delhi and NOIDA and are very well received by the communities these have found their places such as Noida, Jhundpura, Morna Gaon, Dallopura, Khora Colony, Khichripur, Trilokpuri, Mayur Vihar, Aghapur, Baroli, Harola to name a few. We proudly announce that a total of 900 students have already enrolled through these centres.

The program has been implemented in a planned manner so as to bring out the holistic development of the children enrolled with these centres which is one of the basic aim of the project. Padho aur Badho through its 30 centres have been able to touch upon communities from varied strata of society. The beneficiaries include a wide spectra of underprivileged citizens who have migrated from Bihar, UP, Rajasthan and other neighbouring states and have been socially and economically deprived. Majority of the beneficiaries are from the socially and economically deprived section which includes Muslims, SC/STs etc. One of the major focus is on inducting more girls into the program.

Most of the children enrolled have been working as ragpickers, domestic help, helping labourers with their parents. A healthy percentage of this have been working at small restaurants and



Children at Morna Centre on the day of opening



Educator taking care of the kids

tending stalls. One thing which is common amongst all the beneficiaries is that the education has been a distant dream and through this Padho aur Badho, AROH Foundation strives to make them realise this dream of theirs.

Educators- the Guides and Mentors

The major aim of the project is the overall and holistic development of the children enrolled with us through these centers and as a result also brings in development in the community they belong to. Thus the implementation of the project has been planned in a manner so that the educator at a centre develops personal interaction with the families of the kids enrolled and also the

important stakeholders of the community.

The educators have been trained so as to create an atmosphere for the children who could be comforting and can instill among them a sense of belonging to these informal schools. The educators are more of elder brother or sister to these kids than being a teacher. The environment created ensures of being safe and full of dignity for them. It provides them with a friendly aura which makes them feel comfortable at school and hence motivate to come to the school regularly.

The educator also plays and demonstrates the positive techniques to resolve the matters of domestic between the parents

and the children. The teaching aids used by the teachers like slate, books, colours ensure provision of quality education to the kids from the marginalised section of the society. The aim is to ensure a better life to all the kids associated with the project. Creative activities are a part of the curriculum at these centers thus an overall personality development of these kids could be materialized.

Any kind of corporal punishment or physical mishandling of the kids is strictly prohibited. Rather any kind of violence among the kids is also prevented by all means. Another focus of the teacher during the sessions is that the children should maintain a basic level of personal hygiene.



Children in Khichripur Centre displaying their I-Cards.



The teachers are responsible for the smooth functioning of the centers. In addition to this, we at AROH Foundation designs various activities which could build in an interest of the kids enrolled towards the school. These activities form part of the co-curricular at the school and majorly include of activities in the likes of drawing, story telling, bal sabhas, recreation, screening of educative documentary films to name a few.

The educators are also responsible for maintaining the following records for each center:

- Attendance records and progress report of each child

- Learner's Achievement register which contains status of each child, assessed at the time of admission, progress in the tests and status at evaluation test at the end of the program.
- Lesson plan register which contains the daily plan of action of the educator is also maintained.
- Each child's profile has to be maintained and updated regularly.
- Parent Teacher Assessment Meeting Records have to be maintained mentioning the agenda of the meeting and also the future course of action.
- Follow up/mainstreaming register which contains the name of the school in which the child has been mainstreamed.



Developing Linkages to Enhance the Programme

JOY OF GIVING

The beneficiaries of these centers belong to the marginalised section of the society and are deprived of the basic necessities in the life. This includes toys, books, stationary, books, notebooks, games etc. Through this program, we wish to create a link between the people from well to do families and these kids enrolled with our centers.

Now this program was designed in order to ensure participation from the children of well to do families in the form of an interaction with the kids enrolled with our centers. The kids can share and donate their things which they do not use anymore but are still usable so that their less fortunate brothers and sisters can also enjoy with the items and make them a part of their own lives. In addition this, the kids from well to do families also learn to value for things.



Manku braves the cold with the nice sweater and cap which Avinash Bhaiya brought for him

"It was an enriching experience for her son and that they came back with happy memories after interacting with the kids of AROH Foundation.

We hope to com more often in order to experieence the JOY of Giving" -- Pragya



Volunteering for the cause

Seeing our committed efforts striving towards a better future for these kids, we have been able to gather support from various enthusiastic youths who have been extending support to us in all forms. On the similar lines, on **20th February, 2010** Pragya Sinha Vice-President of Human Resource from HSBC, New Delhi came along with her family and

distributed toys and refreshments for the NFE children.

We also receive volunteer services from students of various colleges located around the center. These volunteers like to visit the center as and when they get time on a regular basis and interact with the kids enrolled therein. They are very helpful to the elder students who need remedial classes and bridge courses to be able to cope up with the equivalent level.



Khushboo volunteering to teach

Counselling Sessions– Taking it a step ahead

Volunteers from HCL and SAMSUNG along with the instructors organize a counseling session every month for the stakeholders of the project at the head office of the AROH Foundation at F-52, Sector 8, NOIDA.

A major part of it includes counseling the parents of the kids enrolled with the centers in order to elucidate them over the importance of education and other than this, on basic cleanliness, health and hygiene, sanitation and pollution control from within their communities.

Through these sessions, the kids get to interact with the professionals from MNCs and thus got inspired choosing them to be their ideals and mentors which motivate them towards working hard. This gives a healthy moral boost to the students and also leads to a holistic development of the kids.

It was interesting to note when Gauri, 10 years from Juggi, Sector 8 brought to light the domestic violence happening at her home where her father would return home drunk and beat up her mother. The father who was present there was counseled thus. This clearly marks the beginning of a change which the education is bringing to their lives where they wish to raise voice against social atrocities like domestic violence rather than keeping quiet.



BUDDY BUS & Excursions

AROH Foundation have been able to seek support towards this noble cause from the major eating chain Nirula's in the form of BUDDY BUS Program, where every fortnight a bus from Nirula's comes to one of the centers of the NFE Program and take the children to their ice cream production unit in Sector 1,

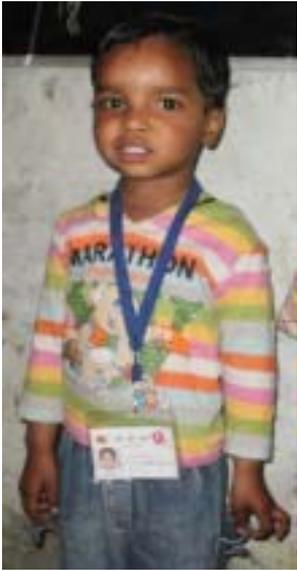


NOIDA. The kids are first oriented about the same and then they get to visit the whole unit and gather information on the production system. The trip is meant to be a fun cum learning excursion.

At the end of the trip, the children are offered with Buddy meals, which the students tend to enjoy the most. The students are asked to discuss about the visit when they are back in the center. This tends to give them a learning experience in a very different way.



Kids Speak....



My name is Ibran. I am 7 years old. I live near Masjid, Jhuggi Sector-8 of Noida. I never went to school before Padho aur Badho had started in our area as I went to work with my father Mohd. Riyasat for rag picking and collecting garbage. But now, I go to school everyday and I want to become a doctor. Teacher Shabana exclaims that Ibran is very regular and never misses his school and has full attendance.

IBRAN



I am 12 years old. I love coming to school and I can also bring my two brothers along with me to study. Before coming to Padho aur Badho, I used to look after my house and brothers when my mother went to work as a

domestic help in a sector. I am happy because now I know English and Hindi alphabets by heart and can even also teach my parents to read and write. My parents are also very happy as my mother does not worry about us when she is working. I have a problem. My father comes at night after drinking a lot. He beats my mother and me and I feel scared. Will you teach my father too?

RUBEY KHATOON



Mobiliser Prerna counselling parents in a Trilokpuri household



Educator at Khichripur centre

Upcoming Events at the Centres

- 22nd March 2010, Health Camp to be organized for the NFE centres of Kichripur, Kalyanpuri
- 22nd April 2010, Earth Day celebration by all the NFE Children through Tree Plantation Programme
- 9th May 2010, Mother's Day celebration by the kids of NFE centres through Painting Competition at the head office of AROH, F-52, sector 8, Noida
- 20th June 2010, Father's Day celebration through a cultural programme at the centres

