# Aarushi Bal Vatika

"Towards Sustainable Development through Education"

# Activity Report (October 2008 to September 2009)

Activity Sponsored by: Aarushi Charitable Trust for Children (ACT).

## Submitted to:-

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#### Introduction:

Bal Vikas Dhara (BVD) strives for sustainable development of children and women. The organisation works for the upliftment of underprivileged children and is a nonprofit community based, voluntary organization established under section 21 of society registration act 1860 in 1993. BVD's envisions a prosperous society based on social justice and equal rights for all. It started work from the Kusumpur and Masood pur area in Delhi. Singhia, Saperas (nomadic tribes) and rag pickers inhabit these two areas. These people are not in sync with the mainstream society. Their socio-economic condition is very poor. There is no regard for their identity and rights. Bal Vikas Dhara makes effort for a more cooperative and sustainable community.

Bal Vikas Dhara along with Aarushi Charitable Trust (Act) has been implementing an educational program for the marginalized children of Shankar Camp and Israil camp. People are living here have no basic facilities in comparison of other main area of the national capital. The major aim of the project is to prepare children for main streaming in the government and private schools. Identification of the children and motivation towards education were the key points for this program as we also had to convince parents for their children's education because at the initial stage they were not agreed. The whole process completes step by step, which starts from Balwadi and NFE.

The entire initiatives for achieving this objective during the last year is describing below.

## 1. Education Centers

A. "Aarushi Bal Vatika" (Bal Vadi): Being a great success in last few years, Aarushi Bal Vatika is continuously serving the children of a weaker section who unfortunately got diverted from the way of education by several reasons. It's a unique initiative being supported by Aarushi Charitable Trust in order to streamline these tender brains of children for creating an interest towards educational activities and also to prepare them for a formal schooling. The prime strategy was again to imbibe in them the basic skills of learning by games and play way methods of teaching. Various co-curricular activities were undertaken in order to develop creativity among children. Major focus were given to develop in them communication skill as well as retention skills.

Aarushi Charitable Trust supports two 'Bal Vadi' centers that are functional in Shankar Camp and Israil camp. The functioning timings of centers are 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Shankar Camp and 3:00 to 5:00 pm at Israil Camp.

The enrollment status details of each center were as under during the period:-

## Bal Vatika Shankar Camp

Timings: - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Educator: - Ms. Neelam

Quarter	Total children Enrolled.	Boys	Girls
Oct-Nov-Dec (2008)	26-30-30	9-14-16	17-16-14
Jan-Feb-Mar (2009)	30-30-31	16-17-16	14-13-15
Apr-May-Jun (2009)	31-30-30	16-12-11	15-17-18
Jul-Aug-Sept (2009)	31-30-30	13-12-11	18-18-19

\*26-30-30 stands for respective monthly data

#### Bal Vatika Israil Camp

Timings:- 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Educator: - Ms. Neelam

Quarter	Total children Enrolled.	Boys	Girls
Oct-Nov-Dec (2008)	31-29-30	14-13-13	17-15-17
Jan-Feb-Mar (2009)	28-30-30	10-8-9	20-22-21
Apr-May-Jun (2009)	30-25-29	9-11-11	21-14-18
Jul-Aug-Sept (2009)	30-30-30	9-10-10	21-20-20

\*31-29-30 stands for respective monthly data

The basic aim of Balwadi center is to nurture their fresh minds in a perspective of education in their lives. Along with it, Balwadi also takes care that children should acquire some basic education; identifying skills and can also develop their other communication skills so that they could easily be able to join Formal Education. During the period, The Balwadi center helped them in studying Alphabets of Hindi and English, counting numbers up to 100, drawing, general poems, various children plays and dance etc. The children also undergone health check-ups provided by Bal Vikas Dhara at the centers. For their better development, the monthly Parents meeting and House visits were also planned and implemented successfully. During the house visits and Parents meeting, The BVD mobilizers had tried to sensitize the parents about importance of Education and health in shaping children's future.

#### B. Aarushi Bal Vatika (Non Formal Education Centre):

Bal Vikas Dhara is facilitating two NFE (Non Formal Education) centers for Aarushi Charitable Trust in Shankar Camp and Israil Camp with one center in each. The main objective is to prepare and motivate children for regular schooling. The functional timings of centers are 9:00 am to 12:00pm and 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm respectively. The details of enrollment status of beneficiaries of each centers is given below:

## NFE- Israil Camp

Functioning Time:- 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Educator: - Mrs. Reeta Singh

Quarter	Total children Enrolled.	Boys	Girls
Oct-Nov-Dec (2008)	30-30-30	16-14-12	14-16-17
Jan-Feb-Mar (2009)	30-30-30	12-12-11	18-18-19
Apr-May-Jun (2009)	28-27-28	10-8-8	18-20-20
Jul-Aug-Sept (2009)	28-30-28	12-15-14	16-15-14

\*30-30-30 stands for respective monthly data

#### NFE- Shankar Camp

Functioning Time: - 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm Educator: - Mrs. Reeta Singh

Quarter	Total children Enrolled.	Boys	Girls
Oct-Nov-Dec (2008)	30-30-31	8-8-14	22-22-17
Jan-Feb-Mar (2009)	30-27-29	14-14-15	16-13-14
Apr-May-Jun (2009)	30-27-23	15-14-15	15-13-13
Jul-Aug-Sept (2009)	29-25-28	15-11-13	14-13-15

\*30-30-31 stands for respective monthly data

Being a bridge to formal Education, NFE has been playing a significant role in the development of the children in the project area. The NFE center at Shankar Camp has mobilized an average of 35 children to the center and provided them basic education in view to their mainstreaming. The teaching material is mainly focused on the primary level syllabus. It includes simple operations of mathematics, writing sentences in Hindi and words in English. The programme also includes drawing, children plays, storytelling, general poems and other subjects of primary education. It has been designed in such way, so that each child could participate in each and every programme easily. The center is also providing regular medical check-ups. The frequent monitoring includes their house visits and meeting with their parents.

#### C. Aarushi Remedial Bal Vatika (Remedial Education Centre):

After the great success of Aarushi Bal Vatika (Balwadi) and NFE centers, Bal Vikas Dhara introduced a new initiative under this banner. Aarushi Charitable Trust was again a supporter of this initiative. While serving in this area, it was noticed that some children despite of mainstreaming by Aarushi Bal Vatika or by its NFE Center were again faced with the same environment to which they earlier belonged. The reasons were anonymous. Some children left schooling just because of their family conditions and some couldn't match the pace of regular schooling. We felt that the existing methods needed an impetus to help the children continue with their studies. In conviction to our motto and vision, two Aarushi Remedial Bal Vatika's have been established in Shankar Camp and Israil Camp. The details of enrollment status of beneficiaries of each center are given below:

#### Remedial Classes- Shankar Camp:-

Quarter	Total children Enrolled.	Boys	Girls
Oct-Nov-Dec (2008)	28-32-23	10-14-9	18-18-14
Jan-Feb-Mar (2009)	10-16-16	3-1-5	7-15-11
Apr-May-Jun (2009)	20-20-20	5-5-5	15-15-15
Jul-Aug-Sept (2009)	28-26-29	12-13-12	16-13-17

Functioning Time: - 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Educator: - Shri Ram Rai

\*28-32-23 stands for respective monthly data

## Remedial Classes- Israil Camp:-

Functioning Time: - 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm Educator:- Shri Ram Rai

Quarter	Total children Enrolled.	Boys	Girls
Oct-Nov-Dec (2008)	16-19-9	8-8-4	8-11-5
Jan-Feb-Mar (2009)	13-16-13	4-11-7	9-5-6
Apr-May-Jun (2009)	15-16-16	5-5-6	10-11-10
Jul-Aug-Sept (2009)	18-16-16	8-5-6	10-11-10

\*16-29-9 stands for respective monthly data

Basic aim of Remedial Centers is to provide extra support to students who have joined regular schooling but due to certain reasons are not able to pick up pace in class. Most of these students either became drop-outs or failed in their classes. Some students are mentally weak, some are distracted and some face family problems. In remedial classes, we identify these particular children and try to reinstate their academic interest and opportunity to be in a regular school. To the weaker students, we provide academic help and try to re-motivate those who have been diverted due to certain reasons through counseling.

# 2. Parents-Teacher-Meeting:

Parents-Teacher-Meeting (PTM) is one of the biggest approaches towards ensuring participation of parents and developing mutual understanding between parents and teachers. It is also very important in order to attain common goal of child development as well as sensitizing community of their roles & responsibilities, accountability with institutions in order to shape the future of children.

It is conducted at each center on a monthly basis. The major objectives were to create awareness, ensure participation and sensitization regarding their roles and responsibilities towards their wards. Parents were equipped with monitoring and assessment tools of their wards' academic performances. Parents were encouraged to take initiatives in order to mainstream their children for formal schooling. They were imbibed with value based education keeping in view their confrontation with day-to-day interaction with the society. Parents were sensitized with techniquines, tactics, and tools of caring for health and hygiene of children as well other family members. Nutritional aspects of children in maintaining and sustaining health of children were given greater emphasis in all meetings.

This year, 12 meetings have been organized at Shankar Camp which has witnessed a remarkable turnout of 248 parents. In them, 110 were male participants and 138 were women. The issues discussed in these meetings were as follows:

- General Health and hygiene
- Delhi Governments 'Ladli' scheme (A scheme for promoting girl child)
- School admissions
- Birth registrations
- Timings of Center and children performance
- Other Current/Local issues

Similarly, Israil Camp has also hosted 12 meeting with a participation of 227 parents in total, out of which 107 were male participants and 120 were females. The issues discussed in these meetings were as follows:

- General Health and hygiene
- Delhi Governments 'Ladli' scheme (A scheme for promoting girl child)
- School admissions
- Birth registrations
- Timings of Center and children performance
- Other Current/Local issues

## 3. <u>School Chalo Abhiyan (Schooling Campaign)</u>

Earlier, School Chalo Abhiyan was only running during the admission time of schools. But this year, it has been divided into four different phases. The main purpose of this program was to make the community aware about the education and main streaming of their children in Government and Private Schools. So, the phases of this year's campaign are given below:

- o Awareness Campaign
- o Children Identification
- Interaction with school authorities
- Mainstreaming of Children

Awareness Campaign was similar to our previous year's campaign in which area slum dwellers were made aware about their Right to education and importance of education in each one's life. For this, all children and their parents had been personally contacted by our mobilizers.

**Children Identification Campaign** was specially designed to identify those who have been diverted from the path or are not on the right track. In this, children were in the age group of 6 to 14 years, with special focus on the girl child. After identifying the child, we tried to get them admitted in nearby government school for regular schooling. Our NFE center students get preference in this campaign but if some other children get noticed, they get equivalent attention.

Interaction with school authorities is an innovative campaign initiated by us. In the last few years, it was noticed that several students who were interested in schooling didn't get a chance due to some technical reasons. In this campaign, we tried to fill that gap by interacting directly with the school teachers and made this process a little smoother both, for the children and their parents by our awareness campaigns.

**Mainstreaming Campaign** is again a great success this year too. Our teachers have admitted at least 47 students to the regular schooling this year in nearby available schools. In the admitted students, there are around 25 per cent of students who were drop-outs from schools. They have been identified first, then motivated and trained in Bal Vatika Remedial Classes followed by admission in regular schools. The detailed list of the admitted students is as follows:

Following students have been admitted to various classes in nearby schools.

S.No	Name of Child	Age	Class	Guardian's Name	School	Address
1	Laxmi	6	1 <sup>st</sup>	Pinki	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
2	Sonu Kumar	7	1 <sup>st</sup>	Parwati	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
3	Sayeen	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Rubina	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
4	Rahul	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Asha	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
5	Anurag	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Chandra	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
6	Sabir	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Kaini	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
7	Lokesh	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Seema	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
8	Lado	6	1 <sup>st</sup>	Raveena	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
9	Sajo	6	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mehroon	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
10	Pankaj	6	1 <sup>st</sup>	Saraswati	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
11	Gufrana	6	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sahani	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
12	Ayesha	6	1 <sup>st</sup>	Tabassum	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
13	Mohd Zakir		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rubeda	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
14	Meenu		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jawahar Chaudhary	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
15	Vijay		2 <sup>nd</sup>	Parvati	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
16	Nasreen		2 <sup>nd</sup>	Roshan	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
17	Afroz		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kaini	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
18	Safre Alam		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jahangir	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri	Shankar Camp
19	Mohd Ashraf		2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mohd Anwar	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
20	Ramu		1 <sup>st</sup>	Geeta	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
21	Raju		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Geeta	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Shankar Camp
22	Jahangir		4 <sup>th</sup>	Shakeela	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Israil Camp
23	Roshni		1 <sup>st</sup>	Suman	MCD Primary School, Rangpuri Pahari	Israil Camp

24	Aavid		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sadakali	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
					Rangpuri Pahari	
25	Arjun		2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rajni	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
				5	Rangpuri Pahari	
26	Komal		1 <sup>st</sup>	Rajni	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
					Rangpuri Pahari	
27	Vinod		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kusum	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
21	Viniou		Ŭ	Rusum	Rangpuri Pahari	
28	Archana		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Vinita	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
20	Archana		5	VIIIICA	Rangpuri Pahari	isian camp
20	Tarannum		1 <sup>st</sup>	Taalaam	0.	loroil Comp
29	Tarannum		Tac	Tasleem	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
			1 at		Rangpuri Pahari	
30	Nazeer		1 <sup>st</sup>	Tasleem	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
					Rangpuri Pahari	
31	Pinki		1 <sup>st</sup>	Bobby	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
					Rangpuri Pahari	
32	Mamata		1 <sup>st</sup>	Bobby	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
					Rangpuri Pahari	
33	Sonam		1 <sup>st</sup>	Bobby	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
				-	Rangpuri Pahari	
34	Anshul		1 <sup>st</sup>	Rekha	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
_					Rangpuri Pahari	
35	Sanna Fatma		1 <sup>st</sup>	Zakir	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
				Hussain	Rangpuri Pahari	
36	Jayub		1 <sup>st</sup>	Zakir	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
			-	Hussain	Rangpuri Pahari	
37	Komal	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Anita	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
01		Ŭ	-	/ unca	Rangpuri Pahari	
38	Irshad	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sameera	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
50	IISHdu	5	T	Sameera	Rangpuri Pahari	Islall Camp
39	Dovol	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Rani	MCD Primary School,	Joroil Comp
39	Payal	5	Tor	Кап		Israil Camp
10	Camaah	-	1 <sup>st</sup>	\/i.e.it.e	Rangpuri Pahari	
40	Sarvesh	5	Tar	Vinita	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
		-	1 at		Rangpuri Pahari	
41	Moyyas	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Samina	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
	·	L			Rangpuri Pahari	
42	Adya	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Kiswar	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
					Rangpuri Pahari	
43	Mohd Kaif	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sitara	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
					Rangpuri Pahari	
44	Savitri	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sunita	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
					Rangpuri Pahari	
45	Iryam	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Shakeela	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
					Rangpuri Pahari	
46	Rahul	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Geeta	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
-					Rangpuri Pahari	
47	Kiti	5	1 <sup>st</sup>	Rani	MCD Primary School,	Israil Camp
		<b>–</b>	-		Rangpuri Pahari	
					Nan-Sparri anan	

In these campaigns, we used different kinds of methods for motivating them. We used pamphlets, street plays and home visits and also did a survey for identifying the children who can go to school. After the identification, the motivation process began. This campaign helped us spread our message in a more systematic and clear way so that both the parents and children were able to understand the motto. Child performs a real image of private and government schools during nukkad natak.

# 3. Bal Panchayat (CBO for children):

Bal Panchayats consisted of those children who had already completed their nonformal schooling and were mainstreamed into formal school. The major thrust behind the formation of Bal Panchayats was to engage children in constructive activities during out of school time and they were used as an inspiration to mobilize other community children. They were made aware about their rights and also encouraged to address issues pertaining to children. They play a role in monitoring the children of the community.



Children participate in one of the held Bal Panchyat.

Two Bal Panchayats have been setup by Bal Vikas Dhara which are supported by Aarushi Charitable Trust in Shankar Camp and Israil Camp. Following are the details of both the panchayats.

## Shankar Camp - Bal Panchyat Member Details

S. No.	Child's name	Guardian's name	Address
1	Ejaj	Rahman	Shankar Camp
2	Meraj	Anjar khan	Shankar Camp
3	Anjali	Suresh	Shankar Camp
4	Deepa	Suresh	Shankar Camp
5	Aman	Kamal	Shankar Camp
6	Anu	Kamal	Shankar Camp
7	Soni		Shankar Camp
8	Chandni		Shankar Camp
9	Shabnam		Shankar Camp
10	Nidha	Rahman	Shankar Camp
11	Wayeeda	Rahman	Shankar Camp
12	Musrat	Salaudin	Shankar Camp
13	Rajesh	Pulkit	Shankar Camp
14	Mukesh	Pulkit	Shankar Camp
15	Ruksaar	Mohd Kayumuddin	Shankar Camp
16	Khustar	Mohd Kayumuddin	Shankar Camp
17	Khushboo	Munshi ji	Shankar Camp
18	Savita		Shankar Camp
19	Parshuram	Manu	Shankar Camp
20	Kiran	Sakal Dev	Shankar Camp

## Israil Camp - Bal Panchyat Member Details

S. No.	Child's name	Guardian's name	Address
1	Aneesh	Joginder	Israil Camp
2	Neha	Joginder	Israil Camp
3	Pooja	Ashok	Israil Camp
4	Neesha	Ashok	Israil Camp
5	Tarranum	Nasir	Israil Camp
6	Nazir	Nasir	Israil Camp
7	Jahangir	Ashakali	Israil Camp
8	Abid	Sada kali	Israil Camp
9	Aarti	Kunwar pal	Israil Camp
10	Bharti	Kunwar pal	Israil Camp
11	Manish	Dinesh	Israil Camp
12	Priyanka	Ramesh	Israil Camp
13	Sajma	Kashim Ali	Israil Camp
14	Abad	Kashim ali	Israil Camp
15	Roshni	Vijender	Israil Camp
16	Rachna	Lakhan	Israil Camp
17	Pinki	Bobby	Israil Camp
18	Mamata	Bobby	Israil Camp
19	Archana	Lakhan	Israil Camp
20	Vinod	Suresh	Israil Camp

The basic objective of these Bal Panchayat is to create a social participation with skill development as well as to make them a good citizen of future. Later, the children also got an opportunity to participate in other training programmes such as, capacity building, leadership and also street theatre workshop. The monthly meetings of this CBO could sensitize the community about child education. Meeting minutes and data register are also maintained. Child performs natak and motivates those children and parents who are either not interested in their child's education or whose family conditions make schooling unaffordable for them.

## 4. Exposure Visits:

Exposure visits have been proved as a very helpful way for creating awareness about different aspects of the society as it provides entertainment as well as inculcating new kind of knowledge among children. This year also, children were taken on various exposure visits in the city which is as follows:

- In January 2009, children visited Said-ul-Ajab Garden located in Mehrauli area of New Delhi. It was a great experience for children who have never been visited to such a big and well maintained park boasting various kinds of entertaining things for children. In this, around 30 children have taken part. During the visit, they played several games and enjoyed a lot. Later, they visited Qutub Minar (a national Monument) which was near to that place. It was a learning exposure for children as they came to know about a part of history of our nation.
- In July, children were taken to a children's programme known as 'Bal Sunwai' at India Social Institute (ISI), Lodhi Road which was also supported by Bal Vikas Dhara and it had hosted more than 300 children of different areas. In this event, around 25 children had participated from Bal Panchayat's of Shankar Camp and Israil Camp. In this event, children had got the opportunity to put their voices in front of experts and guests. Children have raised problems like constraints in getting admissions in government schools. Several street plays and dance performances by children were also organised there. In the end, children for the first time, got the chance to interact with media personnel's and were quite excited about that.

# 5. Case Studies of Children

#### 'Our Lives are changing now'



I am Roshani and I live in Shankar Camp of Vasant Kunj. I have three sisters and two brothers. My father is unemployed and my mother used to work as a domestic maid in nearby locality. In a family like ours, words like schools, education and development never existed and we could never even dream of going to a school. But in the last few years, I think 'our lives are changing now.' First, my elder sister had sailed through the hurdle of going to a school and now again with the help and guidance of Aarushi Bal Vatika, I have made my way to a regular school. Now I can conceive some dreams about future and I am definitely going to achieve them. I want to become a

teacher. I also hope that this little change will bring a big change in our lives. It was Aarushi Bal Vatika who showed my elder sister the way which inspired my mother. My admission to a regular school has made her more optimistic about life. Now she has started thinking of a better future for us. Both me and my sister now come to remedial classes held by Aarushi Remedial Bal Vatika.

#### Where there is a will, there is a way!

I am Sajo and I live in Shankar Camp of Rangpuri Pahadi, Vasant Kunj. I have two sisters and three brothers. My father works as a tailor and my mother is a house wife. Even though my parents are uneducated, they always wanted to educate us. But our financial condition did not permit them to bear these expenses. Gradually, they lost their will. But one day my mother heard about an organization which runs small schools in our area and leads children to regular government schools. It was none other than Bal Vikas Dhara's (BVD) Aarushi Bal Vatika. My mother talked to one of the teachers at



Aarushi Bal Vatika who assisted her. It was then (two years back) and now, when I am going to a regular government school where I get all facilities provided by government. I want to become a teacher in future. Now, my brother has also started going to Aarushi Bal Vatika and I hope he will also join the main stream soon. In the end, I just want to say that BVDs Aarushi Bal Vatika has shown us the way to fulfill our dreams.

#### Renaissance for me....



**Hi, I am Pooja** and I live in Shankar Camp of Vasant Kunj. I have two brothers and my mother in the family. My father left us alone six years back. So our lives have never been very smooth. I started going to school since my formative years. But due to family conditions, I couldn't continue for long. When I was in the fourth standard, I was expelled from my school due to my poor performance. It was not my fault completely. I was completely helpless and directionless. I always wanted to go to a school like other children. Then fortunately, one day I met Bal Vikas Dhara's Aarushi Bal Vatika Madam. My brothers also used to go there. She took

me back to school. And now, I have joined school again and I also go to Aarushi Remedial Bal Vatika, where I get guidance for my future. In short, I just want to say that it's like 'Renaissance' for me. Now I won't let this chance slip out of my hands and I'll put in all efforts to become police officer some day.

**Hi, I am Lado** and I live in Shankar Camp of Rangpuri Pahadi, Vasant Kunj. I have four brothers in my family and I am the only daughter. My father is a tailor. Both my parents are illiterate but my mother always wanted us to study. But due to family circumstances it seemed difficult. Other children from my neighborhood used to go to Aarushi Bal Vatika. One day my mother asked one of our neighbours about the same who took her to the Teacher ji. Teacher ji immediately suggested and inspired my mother about their services and from the next day, I started going to Bal Vatika where I got my basic education. After sometime, the teacher suggested my



mother to approach the government school for my admission. But it was not so simple. But, Bal Vatika's teacher made the whole process smooth. She not only suggested but also assisted my mother in the whole process. Now I am a regular school student and I want to become a teacher in future.



**Hi, I am Irshad** and I live in Israil Camp of Vasant Kunj. I have three brothers and one sister in my family. My father works as a welder and mother is a house wife. Due to poverty, we came to Delhi and it has been two years since then. My mother always wanted us to go to school but we knew nothing about the place. Then we came to know about the Non- Formal Education (NFE) centers running in our area by Bal Vikas Dhara. Now not only me, my other two brothers also go to Aarushi Bal Vatika. It's really very helpful as well as interesting for us. Our teacher has told us that when we'll become a little capable, we will get admission in

a regular government school. I want to become a police official and will work for social welfare.

I am Aarti of Isarail Camp located near Rangpuri Pahadi of Vasant Kunj. I have two sisters and two brothers in my family. My father is a driver and my mother is a house wife. Due to poverty, none of us dreamt of going to a school and neither were we aware of educational importance. But one day, my mother heard that a small school (Aarushi Bal Vatika) is running in our area which provides education to children like us who are not able to go to schools. Some of our friends were already going there. So the day we heard about it, I was elated. Initially, I only joined ABV. After a year, the teacher suggested to my mother that I should now approach a regular school. It was a new hurdle for us. But, with the help of Aarushi Bal Vatika's teacher, it became very simple. Now all my brothers and sisters go to Aarushi Bal Vatika. It's the best thing to have happened to our area. I faced a number of problems after joining the school but Aarushi's Remedial Classes are also helping me a lot.

I am Jabid and I live in Israil Camp of Vasant Kunj. I have a brother and a sister in my family. My father works in Pune and we live here with our mother. We are poor and in search of livelihood, we have relocated several times. In between, we suffered a lot. My mother always wanted us to go to school but circumstances never permitted. But now it seems that something good is happening in our lives. One day, we met Vikas Dhara's Aarushi Bal Vatika teacher, who was surveying our area and was spreading awareness about education. My mother had no second thoughts about approaching them. My elder brother started studying in their NFE center of our area from the very next day. Their



activities attracted me also and after sometime I also joined. It's unbelievable that now we go to a regular government school. It was like a dream which came true for us eventually. I want to become a doctor and want to serve the community. I am Albaaz and I live in Shankar Camp of Vasant Kunj. I have three sisters. My father works as a labourer and my mother used to work as a domestic help in Vasant Kunj houses. I want to become a police officer in future. My elder sisters were also going to Aarushi Bal Vatika (NFE centers) before joining the regular schools. I too have also started studying there. Then one day, the teacher suggested my mother to approach a government school for my admission. When we approached, we were sent back and refused admission just because I didn't have my birth certificate. We were hurt and shattered. But then again, Bal Vatika's Teacher helped us. She suggested us the ways and talked to the school staff too. In the end, I got admission and I am now sure that I'll become a police officer one day. Now I go to Aarushi Remedial Bal Vatika. It's also helping us a lot and we consider it our second family.



**Hi, I am Sayeen** and I live in Shankar Camp of Vasant Kunj. We are only two brothers and one sister in the family. My father works as a white washer. Being illiterate and faced with a lot of problems, my mother always wanted us to go to school to make our future better. But our family conditions were not supportive. One day she heard that a small nonformal education (NFE) center was running in our area by Bal Vikas Dhara. My mother approached them and talked to the teacher. And from the next day, I started going to Aarushi Bal Vatika. It was really a great nurturing experience for me. After some time, our teacher told us to approach the local government school for a regular schooling. It was also

not easy for us. But under our teacher's guidance, I took admission in a nearby government school and now I am a regular student. Not only this, after joining the school, I am still going to Aarushi remedial classes where I get guidance for my future. It's really very helpful and fruitful for people like us. I would also like to become a teacher and serve my community.

"AAO DO-DO HATH BATAYEN, BACHHO KO ADHIKAR DILAYE" (LETS COME TOGETHER AND WORK FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS)