## Basicolan Jasbir Kaur's NGO Matri Sudha brings gift of education to poor kids



Children from Nardan Basti on Mehrauli Badarpur Road at a Matri Sudha centre.

Fifteen-year-old Aakash Singh has recently written his class 10 board exam. He studies at a Delhi government school in Tughlaqabad which he had joined in class 6.

Now that Singh is entering the higher secondary section, he is thankful to NGO Matri Sudha—which gave him his initial education and helped him enter formal schooling.

There are many like Singh from Nardan Basti, Prem Nagar and adjoining areas of Tughlaqabad in south east Delhi who got help from Matri Sudha to get education.

Hindustan Times *Paathshala* is supporting **Matri Sudha** to help change more lives.

"When we started almost 60 pc of the children in this area were out of school. Then we started making people aware about education and also help them get admission in government schools," said Arvind Singh, (Jasbir's eldest son) research and advocacy head at Matri Sudha.

"By 2010, almost 700 children who had studied at Matri Sudha passed out of school," Singh said. HT Paathshala is a CSR initiative to support the education of under privileged children.

Over 60,000 lives have been impacted under various projects of Paathshala since its launch in April 2012. In 2010, they partnered with Child Rights and You (CRY) which is another organization which works in collaboration with HT Paathshala.

Initially Matri Sudha was sending children to government schools, now the children are studying at Kendriya Vidyalayas and Sarvodaya Vidyalayas.

Mala, who is in class 8 now, studied at Matri Sudha for two years.

Now with almost all children in schools, this Centre works as a resource centre. children come to this Centre to get help with their studies. They also receive activitybased learning.

"My mother is a housewife, she doesn't know how to go about admissions in schools. I want to study further and become a doctor," said 13-year-Mala, who lives in Prem Nagar New Delhi.