SCHOOL UNDER THE BRIDGE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LcJ1iFPKm00>

FEMALE REPORTER: 3 years ago , Rajesh Kumar Singh, set up a makeshift classroom under a metro bridge in New Delhi. He had only two students then, but now his two hours classes have over sixty pupils, six days a week. Singh has a day job as a shop keeper in the Indian Capital. He pulled out of college in his third year due to financial difficulties and says he started his school because he didn’t want other children to face a similar fate. His students come from nearby slums. Their families [being] too poor to send them to school. Students from ages of 3 to 16 sit in his open-air classes.

MALE TRANSLATOR (he translates what Singh says):  We took this place under the bridge so that when it rains, the kids have space to sit and when it’s hot, children have the shade to sit comfortably.

FEMALE REPORTER: At the school, ¼ of the students are girls, and although there’s a lack of facilities, many walk long distances barefoot to attend Singh’s classes. (…) Although there have been improvements in recent years, millions of girls stop going to school a host ofreasons, including early marriage, lack of separate toilets, and lack of safety. (…) Many parents of the students at the school under the bridge are now are now also sending their children to government schools, realizing the more education they receive, the better. But many students say they learn far more in the makeshift classroom than at government schools where each class could pack more than 80 students and teachers often don’t show up. Abhishek Kumar, aged 11, walks two kilometers every day to reach the bridge school before going to his government school. (…)

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| NUMBERS | PLACES / PROPER NAMES | KEY WORDS / KEY IDEAS |
| 3 years ago  two students  two hours classes  sixty pupils  six days a week  3 to 16  ¼ of the students  millions of girls  aged 11  two kilometers  80 students | Rajesh Kumar Singh  under a metro bridge  New Delhi  Indian Capital  nearby slums  under the bridge  At the school  government schools | pulled out of college  financial difficulties  didn’t want other children to face a similar fate  families [being] too poor  rains  the kids have space to sit  hot  children have the shade  many walk long distances barefoot to attend Singh’s classes  stop going to school  early marriage  lack of separate toilets  lack of safety  also sending  their children to  learn far more in the makeshift classroom  But crowded + lack of teachers |