

## Income Generating Grants as a Source of Income with Dignity

Robeena from union council Solband in Kech district lives with her 68 year- old father, Tajmal, and mother in a single-room mud house. Her 4 brothers are living separately without their old father and mother.

Robeena said that her father used work at a welding station in a market in Kech. The screw fixing and welding machine broke down four years ago and her father became unemployed. The family did not have any disposable income to fix the machine. To fulfill the daily expenses, he sold the tools at the welding shop. This lasted for a few months and soon after neither did they have tools to work with, nor a functional machine. Life became a burden She said, “It was stressful and hurting to see my father helpless. It was difficult for us to ask from relatives for support.”

Robeena became a member of community organisation with the hope that her fellow villagers may support her family in the times of urgency. Soon after, she was nominated for an income generating grant as her poverty score was 17 and she was eligible for the grant. She said, “I received an Income Generating Grant of PKR 33,400 through the community organisation. With the amount, my father fixed the screw making/fixing/welding machine and also purchased basic tools for his shop. My father resumed his welding work and his business started to thrive.”

Tajmal said with a pride on his face,

“It is good to earn livelihood with dignity. Robeena supported me regain my dignity. I wake up at 6:00 am and come to my welding shop. My shop remains open till evening. My customers include bus, truck, car, bike owners who come to me to get their broken or cracked vehicle parts joined. Also, I clean and fix screws and bolts. I earn PKR 35,000 to 40,000 per month. We are no more dependent on our relatives.”

