

## Rozeena's Journey from Subsistence to Self-Sufficiency

Many families live their lives earning so very little, and that too is so uncertain, it makes me wonder how they make both ends meet. Yet life goes on for them with no prospects to explore and no room for complaints, after all who would listen to them? But so this is for many, thousands of families in rural Balochistan, and in order to provide opportunities to these households, interventions such as Income Generating Grants (IGGs) are being implemented as part of the BRACE Programme.

One such beneficiary is Rozeena from the village Nodaiz, district Kech where NRSP is helping and organising people through its three tier Social Mobilisation. She has a four – year- old son. Her husband, who suffered from hyperpyrexia caused his brain damage five years ago, is unable to work as he is not mentally stable. Hence she is the head of her family and her poverty score is five making it difficult to manage finances. Rozeena relied on her relatives for daily sustenance and asking for help would give her grief. Starvation for frequent occurrence and modest intake of nutritious diet for her child was a constant long shot.

Then something amazing happened, like a light turning on in a dark room. She participated as a member of a community organisation named, Delay Bazar and became eligible for the IGG with which she bought stock for a small grocery shop, this gave her power; a means to earn. She said, "I received an IGG of PKR 33,400 in August 2019; I opened a shop in my house. I chose this enterprise because I could run the shop and also look after my child and husband at the same time. I was also trained for business management where I learned about expanding the enterprise with the profits."

Rozeena further says with excitement, "Now I make around PKR 6000-8000 every month, I try hard to save and expand this business. Current value of the stock in shop is around PKR 40,000 and I have PKR 5000 cash in hand. I restock items in my shop on weekly basis. With increasing enterprise value, I have become more confident and now with the earnings it is easier for me to manage the household expenses."



Rozeena said, beaming at her son, "My only dream is to educate my son and I try to save money for my child's education." She keenly pays attention to her son's needs so that he grows into a prosperous life.

