



on Community Awareness Toolkits. This is an ongoing activity.

With the support of BRSP staff, the LSO leaders made loudspeaker announcements in 10 main villages and market places and requested both the shopkeepers and the buyers to observe government recommended SOPs to control the spread of the virus.

## Establishment of English language Centre

Goni is one of the most backward Union Councils in Tehsil Naal. In addition to the lack of other facilities in life, the area also has a dearth of educational facilities. Moreover, there are serious problems of law and order in the Union Council, which have particularly affected educational activities. Teachers travelling into the UC from other areas and cities refuse to carry out their duties under the pretext of poor law and order situation.

The leaders of LSO Ruzhan, Goni held a meeting to discuss and seek out practical solutions to improve the state of education of girls and boys in the UC. Their brainstorming session landed them on the mutually agreed upon idea of establishing an English Language Centre to improve the English literacy of the students. The idea was approved by all and the centre by the name of "Shashan English Language Centre" was established in December 2020. It was also decided to provide free of cost books to orphans and poor children. Three literate individuals volunteered to teach at the centre. The language

centre has been operational since last December. The number of students are increasing with time, and at the moment 55 students including 25 girls and 30 boys are attending sessions at the language centre.



Shashan English Language Centre

## Enrolment of Girls and Boys in Government Schools

The leaders of LSO Ruzhan realised that a large number of school aged girls and boys are out of school. This was mainly because the parents of these children were unaware of the benefits of education. To remedy this, the LSO leaders decided to launch village-wise enrolment campaigns for children of school going age, with close coordination and support of VO leaders. This campaign resulted in a steady increase in the enrolment ratio. So far, a total of 45 children including 20 girls and 25 boys have been enrolled in schools. The enrolment work is ongoing and the LSO leaders are determined to enrol all out of school children in schools.

## Coordination with Government Agencies for Development Work

Before the formation of the LSO Ruzhan, a 35 km Link Road project connecting UC Goni with the highway was tendered.



Shashan English Language Centre



LSO Leaders meeting to develop action plans to resume work on the Link Road Project



LSO leaders and general public protesting against the obstruction of the Link Road Project.

A few months later, the contractor started work. However, he abruptly stopped construction work on the project after completing only 5% of the work. When asked the reason for suspension of further work, he made a lame excuse of law and order situation.

After the establishment of LSO Ruzhan, the LSO leaders convened a meeting in which all notables of the Union Council were invited. The agenda of the meeting was to liaise with government agencies to resume work on the road; the participants decided that a delegation of LSO members should meet the Deputy Commissioner.

On 6th March 2021 a delegation from LSO Ruzhan met with the Deputy Commissioner of Khuzdar and briefed him on the unnecessary suspension of work on their development project. The Deputy Commissioner assured the representatives of LSO Ruzhan that work on Link Road Goni would be resumed as soon as possible. However, his promises did not result in action. The LSO also contacted and met with other concerned Government Departments to seek their help in resuming work on the Link Road project, but this too resulted in inaction. Consequently, LSO Ruzhan held a press conference at Khuzdar Press Club to amplify their voice and speak about the challenges they faced. As a result of this press conference, the Commissioner held a meeting with LSO and assured them a solution to the obstruction of road work.

The LSO though happy with their progress has decided to file a complaint against the contractor in the National Accountability Bureau if the Commissioner fails to fulfil his promise. This resolve bore fruit; due to the persistent policy advocacy of the LSO leaders, the work on the project was resumed and around 35% of the project has been completed so far. The quality of the work has also improved significantly.



LSO leaders making a press conference in the local Press Club





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This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

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