



## Dear all

According to a recently released report by UN Women, the pandemic is likely to have pushed 96 million people into extreme poverty, out of which 47 million are women and girls.

**3 out of every 4 women do not take part in any recognised economic activity and**

**Oasis India is changing that narrative by helping women learn skills for**

**employment.** Skilling is the way forward to empower our women for financial stability and

independence. Dhana's story is an important one that highlights the importance of skilling

for women from low-income families.

*Dhanalakshmi, fondly known as Dhana is part of the hairdressing and beautician training in our Kalayanpuram hub, Chennai. She is the top performer in her class and is loved by everyone as she patiently helps those who struggle with techniques and is always trying new things! Her positive attitude and smile often mask the sadness in her life. Dhana lost her mother at a very young age and did not have much of an education as she had to drop out of school. She also recently lost her father, who was the pillar of their family. Having lost both parents, Dhana was left to take care of her sisters.*



*Dhana heard about Oasis India through a friend. She made the decision to enrol in the hairdressing programme right away and learn a new skill that will help her care for her family. This served as a turning point for Dhana. She became the best performer in her group, quickly grasping concepts and techniques so well. She also makes the effort to be presentable and grooms herself well. This helped her become very confident in herself and her skills. After graduating, Dhana has started earning through hairdressing and beautician home services. She still comes to the hub to practice regularly and strives to be the best. Dhana hopes to return to school and finish her education, earning a degree that will add value to her hairdressing and beautician skills.*

**Women who join our skilling programmes across India also earn great support systems for life. Through life skill discussions and sessions conducted by our staff, women learn to navigate through life's struggles efficiently and to support each other through the process. Many who graduate, often come back to receive guidance from our team.**

*Hameeda is one such individual. Hameeda struggled with depression for many years after her marriage. She faced many hardships as her husband did not work regularly and even the little he earned was not given to the family. When she was pregnant, she did not receive proper food and was bound within the four walls of her house. She was not on speaking terms with those in her own home, and this led to her extreme depression and insomnia.*

*Hameeda's mother noticed her deteriorating health and took her to the hospital to be treated for depression. She was put on medication and has been in treatment for several years. She then joined the vocational tailoring course at the Hallegudhadhahalli hub in Bangalore. She says, "Coming from this abyss of depression, Oasis was like a beam of comfort for me." Attending the tailoring course and engaging with the other women in the class has been a breakthrough for me. It is a very good atmosphere with positive thinking friends and a team that always encourages me to do something in life. "*

*Hammeda successfully completed the 6-month vocational tailoring programme and has started taking on small orders and stitching clothes for her family and neighbours. This has been a boost to her confidence and self-esteem. She says, "Taking on orders is a great achievement for me. I could not even come out of my house, but now I am supporting my family financially, and it feels so good. "*

*Every now and then, Hammeda struggles with decisions and problems at home. She has a hard time dealing with uncertain situations, but she always reaches out to our team for guidance. Hameeda says, "Every time I am unable to make a decision, I only sit and cry, but counselling with the Oasis staff has helped me to take on problems and find solutions."*

*This positive impact on Hameeda has also improved her mental health, and her doctors have reduced the dosage of her medication too. A great milestone! Hameeda says, "I am grateful to Oasis India for treating me as an equal and for not looking down on me. I have always experienced disrespect, but at the hub, I feel respected and heard. " We are truly proud of Hameeda's progress and achievements.*

**SUPPORT TO HELP MORE WOMEN LIKE DHANA AND HAMEEDA**

**Give Today**

# OASIS ACADEMY IN ASSAM



We are elated to announce that Oasis India has recently launched a Community Empowerment Programme through Oasis Academy cum Football For Life - as a new community hub in Mairapur village, Assam. We hope to create a sustainable project and cater to the holistic education needs of children from displaced families (refugees from neighbouring countries), victims of climate change, children of war widows, sex workers, and victims of human trafficking.

# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

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## **Sustainable Farming**

*Lhingjahoi and Mangjalal are farmers who have been a part of our Farmer Produce Group and they tell us what they have learnt and implemented on their lands.*

[Read their story.](#)

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KumKum, 19, was part of our basic computer class in Nalasopara hub, Mumbai. KumKum has four siblings, and the pandemic made it difficult for her father to run the family with an unstable salary. He could not support the education of all his children and take care of the family expenses. KumKum, being the elder daughter, took on some responsibilities at home and wanted to start earning to help her family. She joined our basic computer course to learn a skill and seek employment.

At our centre, she learnt how to use a computer and to work on basic computer software like Microsoft Office, etc. Although this was completely new for KumKum, she was a very attentive student and a quick learner. Our staff saw that she was a leader in the way she helped others, encouraged them and took responsibility for getting things done. She successfully completed the course and was hoping to find a job. Our staff sent her for an interview at a consultancy. As we hoped, she aced the interview and was selected for an Admin/HR role. The consultancy also offered KumKum the opportunity to study and work. She now earns and supports her family along with her father while completing her education. A true transformation.



### **Featured in Official Humans Of Bombay**

*Being a transgender, Shyamli faced a lot of challenges in her life. Her story was shared to the world through the Humans of Bombay's social media platforms with over 3 million views.*

*Shyamli's story of growing up in the red-light area, going through abuse and bullying is heart-wrenching. We are proud of you, Shyamli, for coming out strong and pushing through life's adversities. She recently completed Oasis India's hair dressing training in Mumbai and dreams of finding a good job in a salon. We pray that her dreams of making it big in Mumbai will come true!*

[Watch her story here](#)

www.mukthibikechallenge.org

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**29th October 2022  
TO  
5th November 2022**

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*Bringing back Mukthi Bike Challenge this 2022! Raise awareness on human trafficking by going on a week-long motorcycle ride from Bangalore to Mumbai with our group of socially conscious riders from the UK and India. Along the route, the riders and the street play team will make pit stops to raise awareness on human trafficking among the public, schools, colleges and other organisations and institutions. OR You can also ride on your own, with your friends and family in the route and distance of your choice, raising awareness online and in places of your choice.*

*You can choose to step up your fight against human trafficking and ride for freedom today!*

**Bangalore To Mumbai Ride - Sign up**

## Find us online



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