



**Standing United for a Safe and Dignified Childhood**

### From Support to Self-Reliance

In April, a significant milestone was achieved as 286 children from 153 families graduated from our Child Development Program across the districts of Kulgam, Anantnag, Shopian, Pulwama, Srinagar, Baramulla, and Budgam.

Over the course of the program, families received holistic support through interventions focused on child development, education, healthcare, and sustainable livelihoods. Through community-based support, most families have now achieved self-reliance, enabling them to independently support their households. These families will move forward with strengthened capacities, improved access to opportunities, and renewed confidence to build a better future for themselves and their communities.



### Opening Doors to Higher Education

Our Youth Development team, under its HECSF initiative, carried out an outreach initiative to guide students toward higher education opportunities and raise awareness about available sponsorship support. Nine counselling sessions were conducted across multiple districts, reaching 301 students.

In Anantnag, two sessions at Government Higher Secondary School Khanbal and Government Girls Higher Secondary School Bijbehara saw a combined participation of 90 students. In Baramulla, 55 students attended sessions at Jehlum Academy and School of Computers, Pattan. In Srinagar, two sessions in Guzarbal and Mir Behri Dal reached 51 students. Similarly, in Budgam, sessions in Hakinpura and at the Toppers Institute were attended by 65 students, while a session in Manzgam, Kulgam, saw participation of 40 students.



Anantnag



Baramulla

### Empowering Communities to Prevent Child Abuse



Baramulla



Srinagar

In observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a series of Child Abuse Awareness sessions were conducted across Srinagar, Shopian, Anantnag, Kulgam, and Baramulla, in collaboration with partners including SOS Children's Village Srinagar, District Child Protection Units, and HWVO\*. The sessions witnessed strong participation from students, teachers, and community members, reaching a total of 552 participants across all locations. The initiative aimed to raise awareness about child rights, personal safety, and the importance of reporting abuse.

Resource persons explained various forms of child abuse and neglect in an age-appropriate manner. Participants were guided on recognizing unsafe situations, seeking help from trusted adults, and using available protection mechanisms such as Child Helpline 1098, along with systems like the CWC\* and JJB\*. The sessions were well received by the participants, reinforcing the importance of continued awareness efforts.

### CLC Students Take Charge of Learning

The Quality Education team has introduced Student-Led Learning at Community Learning Centers to shift students from passive recipients to active participants in their education. This approach encourages peer learning, leadership, and confidence building. Students with a stronger grasp of concepts support their peers by explaining ideas, leading activities, and facilitating group discussions across subjects.



A meeting was held with SIDBI officials to review the ongoing Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) initiative, including its progress, achievements, and key challenges. The discussion also focused on strengthening activities, improving outreach, and enhancing impact for beneficiaries. Plans for the next phase were explored, with emphasis on expansion, sustainability, and improved support systems.

### OUR MISSION

EMPOWERMENT OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN, MARGINALIZED YOUTH AND DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES THROUGH QUALITY EDUCATION AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRAMS USING SCIENTIFIC APPROACH



### Field Visits to Assess Impact



The Child Development team conducted a series of field visits across Anantnag, Pulwama, and Shopian to assess the impact of ongoing interventions. A total of 34 families were visited, covering 57 children enrolled in the program. The visits focused on reviewing progress in education, health, livelihoods, and overall child development. Discussions with families highlighted key aspects such as school attendance, learning outcomes, nutrition, and parental involvement. These interactions helped identify gaps, gather feedback, and explore ways to strengthen ongoing efforts.

### Building Digital Skills for Youth

As part of its Community Capacity Building, CHINAR International initiated a new collaboration with SBS Infosystems Centre, Srinagar to enhance youth skills and employability. Under this initiative, 10 youths from Palpora have been enrolled in a six-month free professional course focused on digital literacy, technical competencies, and career readiness, including MS Excel, HTML, NIELIT modules, and Skill India programmes. Upon completion, participants will receive recognised certification from the Government Skill India Digital Hub, strengthening their qualifications and improving employment prospects.



### Monitoring Learning Outcomes

Our Quality Education team conducted field visits across Handwara, Baramulla, and Budgam to monitor implementation and strengthen learning outcomes. Visits to CLCs\* and schools focused on attendance, enrolment, progress, and learning environments. Classroom observations and discussions with facilitators, teachers, and school authorities identified strengths and areas for improvement.



### Reviving Red Potato Farming



As part of our Red Potato Revival Project, CHINAR International successfully distributed 80 kg of red potato seeds among four selected farmers in Heerpora, Shopian. Each farmer received 20 kg of seeds and was guided on proper usage, contract terms, and sustainable farming practices. Formal agreements were signed to ensure accountability and better outcomes. This initiative marks a meaningful step toward improving agricultural productivity and strengthening livelihoods in the local community.

### Promoting Community Engagement

The Community Development Program organized a series of stakeholder meetings across Srinagar, Baramulla, Kulgam, and Shopian. Attended by 111 stakeholders, the meetings aimed to strengthen community ownership, enhance coordination with locals, and encourage active involvement in development initiatives. Participants included community members, beneficiaries, and local representatives, who engaged in open discussions on key issues, priorities, and future plans. Key discussions focused on improving education support, community welfare, local infrastructure, and creating a supportive environment for children. Emphasis was placed on promoting community ownership and strengthening village-level committees.



### When Grandmother Leads Learning

At the Community Learning Center in Astanmohalla, Palhalan, learning came alive when Mrs. Nabla Begum, grandmother of one of our students, Afzan Tariq, led a kitchen gardening session. She guided students through planting, soil care, and the role of sunlight, making the session interactive and engaging. This reflects the co-teaching approach introduced by the Quality Education team, where parents join the facilitators in leading classroom activities. Such efforts are strengthening connections between home and classroom, building trust, and encouraging shared responsibility for children's learning.



### BMS Training for CHINAR Staff

A training session on the Beneficiary Management System (BMS), facilitated by our MIS Officer, was conducted for field and office staff. The session focused on strengthening data management practices, enabling efficient tracking of beneficiaries, generating accurate reports, and ensuring proper documentation of all support provided. The training also highlighted the role of the BMS in enhancing transparency, improving data accuracy, and strengthening overall program monitoring and evaluation.



### POSHEWAER Capacity Building

CHINAR International, in collaboration with Kashmir Life Line, conducted a Capacity Building Training for POSHWAER members in Baramulla to promote education and mental well-being. Experts shared practical guidance, encouraging students to set daily goals, stay consistent, and manage stress through breaks, positive thinking, and seeking support. The program boosted confidence, awareness, and a safer environment.



### Menstrual Health Matters

Three Menstrual Hygiene Awareness Sessions were conducted in Srinagar and Baramulla under the Community Development Program, reaching a total of 60 adolescent girls and women. These sessions aimed to promote awareness of menstrual health, encourage hygienic practices, and address common myths and misconceptions surrounding menstruation. Key discussions focused on menstrual hygiene practices, use of sanitary products, safe disposal methods, nutrition, and self-care during menstruation. The sessions created a supportive platform for dialogue, helping to break stigma and build confidence.

