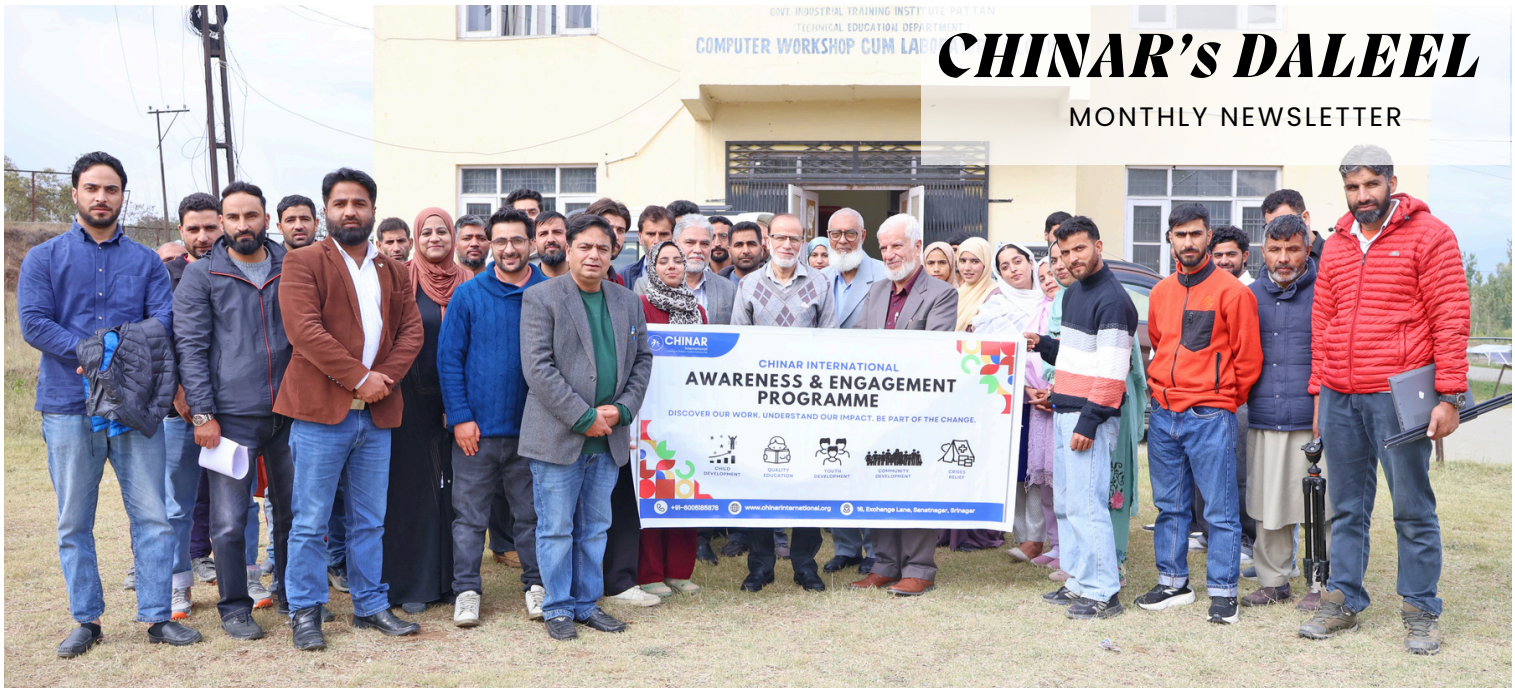


CHINAR's DALEEL

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

United by a Shared Purpose, Driven by Collective Action

Warwan Stakeholders Join Hands for Education

The Quality Education team held four Community Stakeholder Meetings across Sukhnai, Inshan, Batta, and Mulwarwan villages in Warwan, Kishtwar, bringing together 74 community members, including 33 Village Level Committee members and 41 others, comprising parents, masjid imams, Auqaf representatives, government teachers, and other local stakeholders. Discussions focused on improving student attendance at CLCs*, encouraging parental involvement in home-based learning, and nurturing children's academic aspirations and positive behavior.

Participants highlighted declining CLC attendance during the harvesting season and explored locally driven solutions to sustain learning. The group also addressed declining student retention after Grade 8 and the need for continued community support to help children pursue education beyond middle school.





Breaking Stigma Around Mental Health

Under the Community Development Program, CHINAR International, in collaboration with IMHANS*, conducted Mental Health Awareness Sessions in Harinara, Baramulla, and Rakhi Arath, Srinagar, reaching a total of 115 participants, including children, adolescents, youth, parents, and other community members. The sessions addressed mental health concerns such as autism, ADHD*, learning difficulties, intellectual disabilities, stress, anxiety, and behavioral issues, with a focus on early identification, parental support, and avoiding negative labeling.

One-on-one interactions provided participants with an opportunity to discuss individual concerns and receive guidance. Participants were also informed about the Tele-MANAS helpline (14416) for mental health support and counselling.





Strengthening Partnerships, Expanding Impact





CHINAR International organized an Awareness and Engagement Program at Industrial Training Institute (ITI), Baramulla, bringing together government representatives, community leaders, business groups, social activists, board members, and staff to strengthen partnerships and explore opportunities for collective action in support of vulnerable communities.

The program provided an overview of CHINAR's vision, mission, and key interventions, highlighting its impact through presentations and beneficiary stories. Addressing the gathering, board members Dr. Mushtaq Margoob, Mr. Altaf Hussain, and Dr. Farooq Ahmad Kaloo emphasized the importance of shared responsibility and active community participation in driving social change.

Beneficiaries, including Shahid Ali, a Sozni entrepreneur, and Naseema Akhter, a parent, shared how CHINAR's support had helped create opportunities for them. The event reaffirmed CHINAR's commitment to building local partnerships.

YD Team Attends SKUAST Start-Up Seminar

The Youth Development team attended a seminar at SKUAST* focusing on Small Business Support, exploring challenges faced by emerging start-ups and institutional support available to aspiring entrepreneurs. The seminar offered insights into the start-up ecosystem, available support mechanisms, and opportunities for collaboration. An interactive session facilitated the exchange of experiences supporting emerging businesses.





Under the HECSP initiative, the Youth Development team visited Budgam to identify deserving students for higher education opportunities outside Kashmir. Three students were selected, gaining access to wider academic exposure, new learning environments, and opportunities for future growth.

Education Monitoring Visits





The Quality Education team conducted monitoring visits across Budgam, Handwara, and Shopian to review ongoing interventions. The visits included assessing teaching practices and documentation at CLCs and Tuition Centers, interacting with students, educators, and school staff, and reviewing program implementation in schools. The team also explored the feasibility of establishing a new CLC in Surasyar, Budgam, in response to community demand, and met families in Shopian to encourage children with prolonged absences to resume learning.

Cleaner Community Together

Under the Community Development Program, a cleanliness drive was held in Heerpora, Shopian, in collaboration with the Block Development Officer, Shopian, and Keegam Youth Trust. The drive brought together 22 community members, youth volunteers, and POSHEWAER members to promote responsible waste disposal and community ownership of public spaces. Shopkeepers, residents, and children were made aware of the importance of avoiding littering and keeping their surroundings clean. The drive promoted collective responsibility toward a cleaner community.





Nurturing Young Enterprises

The Youth Development team visited Baramulla and Bandipora districts to review the progress of Small Business Support (SBS) units. The visits focused on understanding business operations, identifying challenges, and assessing the sustainability of the supported units. The team also interacted with unit holders to learn about their experiences, track their progress, and identify areas requiring further guidance and support.





Opening Doors to Digital Careers





CHINAR International's collaboration with the Wadhwani Foundation and Skills Development Network (SDN) became operational this month, marking a step towards strengthening youth employability and digital competencies. Through industry-relevant courses, the initiative aims to strengthen trainees' communication, professional, and digital skills. Saqib Rehman became the first graduate of the Wadhwani JobReady Program, successfully completing the Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence micro-certificate. So far, 24 youth have registered for the program, with more expected to join in the coming months.

Championing Child Protection

A Child Protection Awareness Session on the POCSO* and POSH* Acts was held under the Community Development Program at Government Girls Middle School, Pamposh Colony, Palpora, reaching 50 students. Representatives from the Child Welfare Committee and Social Welfare Department sensitised students on child abuse, personal boundaries, unsafe behaviour, and reporting mechanisms.Through practical examples and interactive discussions, students learned about their rights, personal safety, and the importance of seeking help from trusted adults, reinforcing the need for a safe and protective environment.





Aabiroo's Rise Against the Odds

Eight-year-old Aabiroo Showkat from Hanjan Payeen, Pulwama, lost her father to cardiac arrest when she was in Class 2, leaving her mother struggling to support her education. Enrolled in CHINAR International's Child Development Program in 2024, she received educational, nutritional, and academic support. Today, she maintains 90% school attendance, has scored 80.8% in her most recent examinations, and has completed Class 5. Once hesitant, she now confidently hosts her school's morning assembly, finding her voice and realizing her potential.



Community Meetings Held

Community Stakeholder Meetings were held in Waltangoo Nard and Gundipora, in Kulgam, and Pamposh Colony, in Srinagar, engaging 49 community members. Discussions covered child safety, alternative care, parental responsibility, drug abuse and government welfare schemes. Participants also highlighted the need for greater parental awareness and acknowledged improvements in children's educational performance through the program.





Building Confident Leaders

Two Intellectual, Social and Personality Development (ISPD) training sessions , facilitated by Hakeem Javeed Association were held for 7 & 8 graders at Rehmania School, Palpora. The sessions focused on personality development, self-confidence, communication, leadership, goal setting, and positive decision-making. Through interactive activities and practical exercises, students learnt teamwork, goal setting, and responsible decision-making.





Through the Field Lens

The Media and Communications team launched a new initiative, ***'Photo of the Month,'*** to highlight people, emotions, and meaningful moments captured during field visits that reflect the organization's work and impact. The monthly series will feature one photograph selected for its ability to tell a compelling story beyond the activity itself, capturing moments of change and impact.



Through pictures contributed by team members, the initiative aims to bring lesser-seen stories from the field to light and offer a glimpse into the lives of the people CHINAR works with.

*CLC – Community Learning Center; *ADHD– Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder.; *IMHANS – Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences; *SKUAST – Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology; *POSCO - Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 ; *POSH -Prevention of Sexual Harassment (at Workplace) Act, 2013.