



# CHINAR's DALEEL

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



PICTURED: A group of doctors from health department, Kulgam during an awareness camp at Waltengu (Kulgam)



Mohammad Sadiq Katari - Sheep unit (Gatipora, Shopian)



Muzaffar Ahmad Waza - Sheep unit (Mundyari, Baramulla)

## Empowering Sahil: A path to Self-reliance

Sahil Ahmad Hajam, a 20-year-old young man, lives in a dilapidated two-story house in Gatipora, Shopian, with his parents and siblings. His father's accident rendered him the sole provider for his family. His family was enrolled in the Parvaaz program during the scale survey of the year 2022, with his two siblings, Afreena and Aman (currently in 11th and 5th grades), receiving educational support. The family's financial struggles have adversely impacted the living conditions and the well-being of his children. After reassessment, CHINAR International stepped in and provided him support to start his own barber shop. He has been doing this barbering work since 2016, earning a meager income due to the lack of barbering equipment and proper infrastructure.

**"Lack of modern equipment had a huge impact on my customer base. Now, with the help of CHINAR I am hopeful to generate sufficient income to support my family", says Sahil.**

## Three new livelihoods launched

This month, three new livelihoods were launched in Baramulla and Shopian districts under Parvaaz Program. Muzaffar Ahmad Waza from Mundyari, Baramulla, having an expertise in sheep rearing, received nine Kashmiri jersey ewes. The sheep unit will help the family earn a sustainable income to cover their essential expenditures including education. Another family from Mujpathri, Shopian received similar support to meet their basic needs. Sahil Ahmad Hajam from Gatipora, Shopian received support to expand his barber shop (see detailed story)

**Till date, nine livelihoods have been launched under Parvaaz, with five more in the pipeline**



## Training CLC facilitators

A one-day capacity-building workshop was organized for a dedicated team of 15 Community Learning Centre facilitators with the aim of promoting Early Childhood education and Functional Literacy and Numeracy (FLN). Through interactive sessions and hands-on activities, participants learned effective strategies for developing essential competencies among children at the foundational stage. From classification exercises to problem-solving challenges, facilitators explored a range of activities tailored to enhance basic competencies. The knowledge gained during the training will enhance facilitators' ability to support the holistic development of children in their communities.

### OUR MISSION

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





Session with adolescent girls in Palpora

### First Awareness session for Adolescents

As part of community transformation program – Parvaaz, CHINAR successfully organized an awareness session for 36 adolescent girls in the age group of 14 to 22 years from the Palpora community . The session focused on child rights, child abuse, domestic violence and coping mechanisms. Facilitated by Mr. Azhar Shah, a child development expert from SOS Children’s Village, the program involved open discussions, creating a platform for the girls to share their thoughts. He also explained the various threats posed by social media and shared valuable suggestions on being safe while using digital platforms.



Ice breaker activity

The session was mixed with ice-breaking activities to keep the participant’s interest going. In the end, all the participants pledged to disseminate the acquired knowledge to their families and friends, thereby contributing to the community awareness.

### Community engagement under Parvaaz

This month, a series of community stakeholder meetings were held across Srinagar, Shopian and Kulgam districts, aimed at understanding local challenges and devising effective solutions. In Gatipora, Shopian, the meeting witnessed active participation from 44 community members who provided valuable feedback regarding expansion of our interventions in the Gatipora community.

At Palpora, Srinagar, 22 community members, including the community Head, Bal Panchayat members and parents of enrolled children attended the meeting. Apart from the expansion of current programs, the community raised concerns regarding mental health of teenagers and proposed counseling sessions to address depression and negative coping mechanisms. Similarly, productive meeting was held at Zradu Khull, Kulgam, attended by 20 people, which focused on addressing increasing dropout rates and providing support to youth for livelihood opportunities.



Gatipora, Shopian



Zradokhul, Kulgam



Palpora, Srinagar



Health awareness camp - Waltengu, Kulgam

### Health Awareness in Kulgam and Shopian

In collaboration with the Block Medical Officer in Qazigund, Kulgam, a successful Health Awareness Camp was conducted at Waltengu, Kulgam. Attended by 145 people, the camp focused on critical aspects such as mental health, hygiene, nutrition, and the significance of a balanced diet and safe drinking water. The doctors also emphasized the prevalence of depression and provided insights into its causes and symptoms. Additionally, a special session focused on women’s health concerns was held separately.



Distribution of sanitary pads - Gatipora, Shopian

Similar event was conducted in Gatipora, Shopian with the participation of nearly 150 people. Both the events concluded with the distribution of sanitary pads to women and girls aged between 13 to 45, facilitating access to essential menstrual hygiene products. The health officials praised CHINAR programs and ensured full support for future events.

### Two-day workshop on ECCE

As part of capacity building, a two-day workshop was organized for 8 Teach with CHINAR fellows at Srinagar office. The workshop focused on promoting competency-based learning at the foundational stage, with a focus on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). Throughout the workshop, the fellows gained insights into the holistic development of children during their formative years and the role of educators in facilitating this process. The facilitators emphasized the significance of print-rich environments and the cultivation of basic writing skills in early childhood education. Post-workshop, ‘Teach with CHINAR’ Fellows were encouraged to apply newly acquired knowledge and skills in their classrooms for the holistic development of children.

Fellows while performing an activity during the workshop



### TISS assess Business Incubation Progress

The TISS team from Mumbai undertook a three-day visit to CHINAR International. During their visit, the CHINAR’s youth team engaged in an extensive discussion with the TISS delegation regarding the future strategies and expansion plans for their business incubation project. The TISS team, comprising four members - Mr. Satyajit Majumdar, Mr. Sujay Dixit, Mr. Amod and Ms. Nikita, had an insightful discussion with the staff, which was later enriched by the participation of Mr. Abdul Hamid Bhat, CEO of Rahim Motors.

Subsequently, the TISS team visited the business units established by the last four cohorts in Baramulla, Bandipora and Kupwara. The primary objective of this visit was to formulate plans for the upcoming cohort and assess the progress of the existing business units.

**Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai has been our knowledge partners in Business Incubation Program since 2016.**

