

PICTURED: TISS interns batch posing for a group picture with CHINAR team



Closing of SDC
(Baramulla)



Closing of SDC
(Shopian)

Youth graduate from skill centers

This month, three skill development centers – one each from Shopian, Baramulla and Kulgam were successfully closed, with 45 trainees graduating in a six-month tailoring course. At the closing ceremony, trainees underwent assessments based on their skill sets, attendance records and class behavior. Based on the assessment, the top three graduates from each center received sewing machines.

Tailoring skills offer females an easily monetizable opportunity, as it requires minimal setup costs and enables them to launch their ventures from the comfort of their homes.

Till date, 1497 youth have graduated in multiple skills, with 858 females in tailoring skills from our skill centers.



Happy Abid nurtures his sheep unit

Adversity turns into an opportunity

Mukhtar Ahmad Dar, a resident of Kathahallan, Shopian, shoulders the immense responsibility of providing for his sizable family, which consists of nine members. As the sole breadwinner, Mukhtar has encountered significant hurdles in meeting the diverse needs of his family, including education, healthcare, and other essential needs.

In 2022, CHINAR International enrolled his four children – Faizan, Khushboo, Yawar, and Hafsa (currently in 7th, 8th, 9th, and 6th grades) under the Parvaaz program. Following a livelihood assessment in 2023, Mukhtar Ahmad Dar was identified as eligible for additional support. Considering his experience in sheep rearing, CHINAR International provided him with a sheep unit (10 ewes). By nurturing his unit, he aims to secure a stable source of income, ultimately breaking free from the shackles of poverty.

"I will put all my effort to increase my flock and generate income by selling sheep," says Mukhtar at the launch event.



Abid's Sheep Unit thrives

Abid Manzoor hails from the outskirts of Srinagar in the picturesque Shalimar area, where he resides in a single-story house with his mother and elder brother. After his father's death, Abid had no choice but to drop out of school and support his family. He realized the potential of sheep farming within his locality and dedicated two years to learning about it from a nearby farm. However, due to financial constraints, he couldn't realize his dream.

In 2022, he got selected for CHINAR's Small Business Support and was provided with 13 ewes to kick-start his sheep unit. With his hard work, he expanded it from 13 ewes to a flock of 52 sheep in less than 2 years. With the Eid festival approaching, Abid plans to sell some rams and expects a sale of more than 1.3 lacs. Well done, Abid!

OUR MISSION

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



Deployment of reading books

Reading Corners & Digital Literacy hubs deployed at schools

With our strong commitment to provide quality education to vulnerable children, we launched two new initiatives – Digital Literacy and Reading Corners at our existing schools and community learning centers (CLCs).

As part of Digital Literacy, 29 computers were allocated to 18 low-resource government schools, along with an additional 8 computers at CLCs. Access to computers will help in providing essential digital skills to vulnerable children which is much needed for success in today's digital age.



Deployment of computers

Through Reading Corners, a collection of 310 books across different genres were delivered to 14 government schools and 7 CLCs. With regular reading sessions, storytelling events and literacy-themed activities, our goal is to improve reading fluency and instill a passion for books in these children.

Both initiatives reflect CHINAR's commitment to enhance educational opportunities, promoting holistic development among students in distressed communities and reducing the learning gap between the rich and the poor.

CHINAR is an organization with a clear vision, mission and purpose and is constantly adding new components/projects to meet these objectives. It has been an honor to be associated with the noble task that CHINAR is engaged in.

Amit Thachil
Internee, TISS, Mumbai



Eid kits distribution- Srinagar

Eid kits distributed to over 700 families

Ahead of the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, CHINAR successfully distributed Eid kits to 496 families enrolled under **Child Development** across 7 districts: Shopian, Pulwama, Srinagar, Kupwara, Budgam, Anantnag and Ganderbal. These kits were meticulously composed to ensure that the families celebrate the occasion joyfully without facing any shortage of supplies.



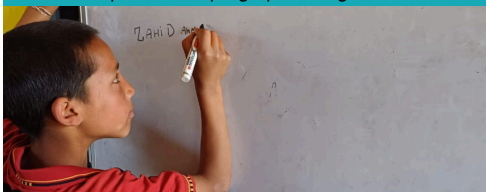
Eid kits distribution - Baramulla

Each kit contained a variety of edible items such as cakes, cookies, biscuits, macaroons, bakerkhani, kulchas, juice and snacks.

A similar distribution was held across 13 communities enrolled under **Parvaaz** in four districts: Srinagar, Baramulla, Shopian and Kulgam, catering to 242 families.

Zahid's Transformational Journey

Zahid, a 9-year-old from the village of Arizal in Budgam, was among the few children enrolled in the Child Development Program in 2020. However, after a few months, it became evident that Zahid lacked interest in his studies and struggled to maintain regular attendance at school and tuition centers. Consequently, Zahid lacked confidence and exhibited huge learning gaps, even struggling to write his own name. Despite these challenges, the team didn't lose hope and continued to collaborate with his immediate caregivers. Over time, Zahid's communication skills improved significantly, and he now engages with others confidently. This transformation reflects progress in every aspect of his development, shaping up his bright future.



Farwah's inspiring story

Farwah Lailah, a bright Grade 1 student from Shalboni, Baramulla, overcame all challenges to pursue her education. Her family, comprising five members, faces financial struggles as her father, a daily wage laborer with no specific skills, tirelessly works odd jobs to sustain them. Their living conditions are modest, with only three rooms and basic amenities, including a makeshift kitchen.

Despite financial constraints, Farwah's family prioritizes her education, ensuring she attends school daily. "The school is quite far, and I have to walk 6 kilometers daily to accompany her," says her mother, Naseema. Supported by her family, she achieved an outstanding score of 99% in her exams. Farwah dreams of becoming a gynecologist, reflecting her desire to assist women facing health issues. Farwah's story serves as a beacon of inspiration, igniting hope and motivation in others facing similar challenges.



TISS interns graduate successfully

A batch of six interns from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, recently completed a successful internship program at CHINAR. Designed with meticulous planning, the internship aimed to engage interns in a range of productive activities. Throughout the internship, interns delved into various CHINAR initiatives, engaging in research, documentation and immersive field trips. Exposure trips provided them with a comprehensive understanding of CHINAR programs. The interns lauded the seamless processes, vibrant work culture, and exemplary professionalism demonstrated by the entire team.

"CHINAR runs a robust and comprehensive internship program attracting huge rush of interns from outside and abroad every year."



Interns share their learning journey with the team