



PICTURED: Heena Khanna alongside CHINAR community facilitators and TWC Fellows at the two-day training program

Building Stronger Classrooms Through Training

A two-day capacity-building workshop was organized to strengthen the instructional and leadership capacities of Community Learning Center (CLC) facilitators and Teach with CHINAR Fellows. Facilitated by Heena Khanna, a TWCF alumni partner, the workshop focused on enhancing classroom practices, increasing student engagement, and embedding Social Emotional Learning (SEL) into everyday teaching.

Participants were introduced to effective strategies from *Teach Like a Champion*, which they practiced through role plays tailored to diverse classroom contexts. The workshop concluded with practical strategies to integrate SEL into daily routines, supporting holistic development of students.



Training for Self-Reliance: Tailoring and Sozni

Two batches, comprising a total of 40 trainees, successfully completed a three-month cutting and tailoring course in Wangam, Shopian. The training equipped participants with essential skills for self-reliance and livelihood generation. Sewing machines were awarded to the top three trainees from each batch.

A first-of-its-kind Skill Development Centre (SDC) for *Sozni Arts*—a traditional Kashmiri embroidery craft—was launched in Zachaldara, Kupwara, enrolling 20 trainees. The center will create opportunities for youth to preserve and earn from heritage-based skills.

Awareness Session on Adolescent Health



In collaboration with the Family Planning Association of India (FPAI), CHINAR International conducted the first capacity-building session on adolescent health with the POSHEWAER group at CHINAR office, Srinagar. Facilitated by FPAI resource person, the session covered key concepts such as the difference between gender and sex, gender equality, identifying discrimination, breaking stereotypes, the importance of consent, and building respectful, empathetic relationships.

Participants engaged actively, gaining a clear understanding of sensitive topics through relatable examples. Three more sessions are in the pipeline.



OUR MISSION

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



Teach with CHINAR: A New Chapter Begins

On 9th April 2025, CHINAR International proudly celebrated the successful completion of the first cohort of the Teach with CHINAR Fellowship (TWCF). This milestone event marked two years of dedication, innovation, and impact in some of the most underserved classrooms in the region.

Our eight outgoing fellows delivered powerful presentations capturing their transformative journeys. From leading innovative teaching-learning practices to improving student learning outcomes and building vibrant classroom cultures, the fellows reflected on their growth in leadership, problem-solving, and community engagement. They also shared how they built trust with key stakeholders—parents, school staff, and community members—making education a shared priority.

As we celebrated the achievements of Cohort 1, we warmly welcomed eight new fellows into Cohort 2. By attending the event, they gained firsthand insights from their predecessors and a clearer vision of the journey ahead. This event served not only as a celebration but also as a symbolic passing of the torch—ensuring continuity, peer learning and a renewed collective commitment to transforming education through the TWCF program.

*This month, a team from **Tata Incube Foundation (TIF)**—CHINAR*

International's knowledge partner—visited the Head Office to review the progress of the Small Business Support (SBS) Program.

The visit centered on evaluating the performance of the existing business units, discussing implementation outcomes, and charting future directions for the next cohort. Engaging discussions with the core team covered capacity building, growth opportunities, and long-term impact.

From Struggle to Start Up

Ulfat Ali Waloo, a 22-year-old from Nowgam village in Bandipora, has lived with his parents and four younger siblings in a makeshift tin shed since the devastating floods of 2014. His father, a skilled carpet weaver, struggled to support the family on a meager income, yet Ulfat persevered to complete his graduation and is now in the final semester of a Diploma in Electronics and Electrical Engineering from ITI Srinagar. While studying, he offered door-to-door appliance repair services, building skills and a strong local reputation. Seeing a service gap in his flood-affected community, he envisioned starting a small electronics sales and repair unit. With CHINAR's assistance, he launched his unit to improve both his family's livelihood and local services.



Shafiya's Journey: A Dream to Teach and Inspire

Shafiya, an 11-year-old from Rabitar in Ganderbal, is a bright and hardworking student with big dreams, despite growing up in difficult circumstances. Her family lives in a small wooden house that serves as both a kitchen and sleeping space. Her father earns a modest income as a sand extractor, while her uneducated yet supportive mother manages the household and cares for a sibling battling health issues.

In a community where education—especially for girls—is not a priority, Shafiya's pursuit of learning stands out. She was enrolled in CHINAR International's Child Development Program in 2023 while studying in Class 2. Since then, she has shown remarkable progress, recently passing her Class 3 exams with top marks. Shafiya dreams of becoming a teacher, hoping to inspire and uplift others in her community through education.



POSHEWAER leads Cyber Safety Session

CHINAR International, under its PARVAAZ program, organized a Cyber Safety Awareness session at Government Middle School, Pamposh Colony, for students of Classes 6 to 8. Facilitated by three members of the POSHEWAER group, the session focused on key aspects of online safety including cyberbullying, online gaming risks, privacy protection, and cyber grooming. The two-hour session was interactive and engaging, with students actively participating, asking questions, and showing keen interest in learning how to stay safe online.

Digital Shift in the Field: CHINAR Introduces Q-Forms



A one-day training was held at CHINAR's Srinagar office to introduce the Q-Forms application to 23 field staff members, including Coordinators, Field Officers, and Monitors. Led by the MIS Coordinator, the session focused on streamlining data collection through the digital platform. Participants received a detailed walkthrough of the baseline data form and practiced filling it out individually. They were also introduced to the Enrolment and Support forms. The session concluded with role-play exercises simulating real-life data collection, reinforcing hands-on learning.