

CHINAR's DALEEL

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Cohort-6 Begins: Kashmir's Next Wave of Entrepreneurs Is Here!

CHINAR Wins Educational Leadership Award 2025

CHINAR International has been honoured with the Educational Leadership Award 2025 by the Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) at SCERT Bemina, Srinagar. The award was presented by Mr. G.N. Itoo, Director General School Education, along with other distinguished dignitaries, in acknowledgment of CHINAR's sustained efforts to enhance the quality of education in Jammu and Kashmir. Over the years, CHINAR has collaborated with government schools, strengthened Community Learning Centres, and conducted capacity-building programs for teachers. Through these initiatives, CHINAR reaffirms its vision of ensuring quality education for every child.



Youth Empowered For Disaster Emergencies

CHINAR International, in collaboration with the J&K SDRF* Headquarters, Baghat Barzulla, organized a Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) training session at its Srinagar office. Thirteen youth from Palpora and Rakhi Arath communities, along with CHINAR's Crisis Response Team and staff, participated in the session. Experts from SDRF shared critical knowledge on disaster management and safety measures during floods, earthquakes, and fires. The session included live demonstrations on first aid, CPR, Heart Revive techniques, and the proper use of fire extinguishers, making the training highly interactive and hands-on. The session helped participants gain valuable lifesaving knowledge and confidence to act effectively in emergencies.



SBS Cohort 6: Empowering Young Entrepreneurs



CHINAR International successfully concluded its three-day Small Business Support (SBS) event, selecting 25 entrepreneurs for Cohort 6 of its Small Business Support under Youth Development program. This year, the initiative received an overwhelming 450+ applications from six districts—Srinagar, Pulwama, Shopian, Bandipora, Baramulla, and Kupwara. After a rigorous multi-stage process, 50 candidates were shortlisted to pitch their business ideas before an expert panel, and 25 were finally selected for support.

The shortlisted participants underwent four months of intensive training focused on refining their business and presentation skills. On October 8 and 9, they presented their ideas before a distinguished jury comprising Prof. Satyajit Majumdar and Sujay Dixit (TISS Incube Foundation, Mumbai), Mohammad Rafiq (SIDBI), Waseem Ahad (JKEDI), Dr. Shazia Manzoor (Kashmir University) and CHINAR staff - Javeed Ahmad and Bashir Ahmad.

The event also featured inspiring talks by alumni from previous cohorts and local entrepreneurs. The closing ceremony was graced by Dr. Mushtaq Margoob and Ismet Shahmiri, who felicitated the selected entrepreneurs. Each will receive up to ₹2 lakh financial support along with mentoring in marketing, accounting, and business management.

CHINAR International provided financial assistance of ₹5,01,000 to 19 students pursuing science and technical courses across India under its Higher Education and Career Support Program (HECSP). The support aims to help students continue their studies without disruption and focus on academic and career growth.

OUR MISSION

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



Women Awareness in Action



CHINAR International, in collaboration with Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women and the Department of Social Welfare Shopian, organized an awareness camp at Ganie Mohalla, Sedow. Over 100 women and adolescent girls participated in the programme, which highlighted various government welfare schemes, including old-age, widow and disability pensions, marriage assistance, and sponsorship for orphans. Resource persons also shared details about skill training opportunities and support services for women facing domestic violence, including reporting mechanisms through the One Stop Centre.

CHINAR Builds Skilled Future

A new Skill Development Centre (SDC) for Mehandi Arts was launched at Palpora, Srinagar to empower girls through vocational training. Fifteen girls have enrolled, developing skills that enhance creativity, professionalism, and income generation. Meanwhile, two SDCs at GGHSS*, Nowhatta, concluded successfully, with 17 trainees completing the cutting and tailoring course and 17 finishing Mehandi Arts, gaining practical skills and confidence to pursue livelihoods.



Dr. Zahida Leads Health Session

Dr. Zahida Shah, Board Member of CHINAR International, conducted a women's health session for 20 adolescent girls enrolled under Child Development Program. The session covered physical and mental health challenges and practical well-being strategies. Participants also completed a questionnaire to assess their understanding, which will be reviewed in a follow-up session to reinforce learning and awareness.



Helping Families Earn With Dignity



This month, three new livelihood initiatives were launched in Budgam, Shopian, and Pulwama to support families toward self-reliance.

In Budgam's remote village of Zempora, Ghulam Nabi, who suffers from a back injury and supports his ailing family, was provided with a cow and calf to revive his dairy-based livelihood. In Pulwama, Mohammad Akram Bhat, battling diabetes and arthritis, received equipment and supplies to establish his own *Masala Roti* (stuffed flat bread) unit, enabling him to earn a dignified living. Similarly, in Shopian, Ab. Rasheed Wagay, a father of two enrolled in the Child Development Program was supported with essential baking materials to start a small bread-making business. These initiatives are empowering families to secure sustainable livelihoods and build a better future.

Mental Health Day Awareness

In collaboration with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), a Mental Health Awareness Session was held at Palpora Pamposh Colony, Srinagar, ahead of World Mental Health Day. Around 100 participants attended the event, which featured separate counselling sessions for men and women. Resource persons from MSF discussed the importance of mental well-being, early identification of symptoms, coping strategies, and the need to break stigma and encourage help-seeking behaviour.



Dignified Home for Abdul Salam

Abdul Salam, a resident of Budgam, and his family now have a safe and dignified place to call home. Unable to work due to a physical condition, Abdul Salam relied on his wife's small income from needlework. CHINAR supported the family by upgrading their home with a proper roof, doors, windows, furnishings, and a secure entrance—ensuring comfort, safety, and peace of mind for the entire family. This initiative reflects our commitment to improving living conditions and empowering vulnerable families to lead safer, more dignified lives.



Annual Health Check ups

As part of its Child Development Program, CHINAR organized three health camps in Arizal (Budgam), Anantnag, and Pulwama for children and parents. The camps provided check-ups and free medicines with support from local health authorities and specialists, including pediatricians, physicians, and counsellors. In Arizal, 260 people were examined, while 79 beneficiaries and community members received services at NTPHC* Akura, Anantnag. In Pulwama, 332 beneficiaries were covered.



Reviving SMCs for Change

This October marked a major milestone as our TWC* fellows successfully convened School Management Committee (SMC) meetings across six districts—Srinagar, Baramulla, Bandipora, Budgam, Shopian, and Kulgam. Through engaging discussions, fellows emphasized the vital role of SMCs in improving school functioning and enhancing the quality of education for children.



Elderly Receive Free Healthcare

CHINAR International, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Moul Mouj Foundation, and GK Labs, organized a free medical camp for senior citizens of Arampora and Bonichakul at Government High School, Arampora. Supervised by Dr. Zubair Saleem and his team, the camp benefited around 150 elderly participants who received free check-ups, screenings, medicines, and counselling. Diagnostic tests under the Basic Health Package were also conducted, and participants were given immunity boosters and advised on winter health precautions.

