



PICTURED: Children and families posing for a group picture post Eid kits distribution at Baramulla



Dairy farming unit
(Bonichakul, Baramulla)



Boutique unit
(Palpora, Srinagar)

Two Small Business Units Launched

This month, two small business units were launched, one each in Baramulla and Srinagar, as part of CHINAR's Youth Development Program.

Zaffar Ahmad, an 8th-grade dropout with experience in dairy farming, was unable to start his own business due to financial constraints. After thorough due diligence, CHINAR provided him with two high-breed cows to kickstart his dairy farm. Saiqa, a young female entrepreneur from Palpora (Srinagar), trained in tailoring and designing, started her own boutique with the necessary equipment provided by CHINAR. This support has enabled her to pursue her passion and grow her business.



Genset rental unit
(Nazir Ahmad - Srinagar)



Wood carving unit
(Mohammad Amin- Srinagar)

Empowering widow for a Brighter Future

Kowsar Bano, a widow from Kathahallan, Shopian, has faced significant hardships following the death of her husband seven years ago. Left to support her three daughters alone, Kowsar struggled to make ends meet, relying on labor work and the support of relatives. In 2023, CHINAR identified her family during a scale-up survey and immediately enrolled her three daughters in the Child Development program. Her daughters, Irtiza (5th grade), Irtiqa (5th grade) and Arooba (UKG), are currently receiving education and other critical support from CHINAR, which has alleviated some of the family's immediate concerns.

Following a recent livelihood assessment, CHINAR provided Kowsar with a cow unit, aiming to empower her to become self-reliant and improve the family's financial situation. With her experience in cow rearing, Kowsar can now generate a steady income through milk production and related activities. This support not only helps Kowsar achieve self-sufficiency but also ensures a more stable and promising future for her daughters.



Two new livelihoods launched

With the goal of making families self-reliant, CHINAR has provided livelihood support to two families in Srinagar. Nazir Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Bemina, lives with his wife and three children in a modest one-story house. Nazir worked as a mechanic in a rented shop on the outskirts of Srinagar. His income was insufficient to meet the daily needs of his family, forcing his wife to work as a maid in a local private school. After an assessment, CHINAR helped him establish his own small genset rental services unit by purchasing two second-hand generators. His two children were enrolled in the Child Development Program in 2020. Another family from Khanyar received walnut furniture to be used for wood carving. Their two children, currently in 5th and 10th grades, have been a part of our program since 2021.

OUR MISSION

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



Eid kits distribution - Srinagar

Eid Kits Distribution held across all districts

Ahead of the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, CHINAR successfully distributed Eid kits to 486 families enrolled in the Child Development program across seven districts: Shopian, Pulwama, Srinagar, Kupwara, Budgam, Anantnag, and Ganderbal. These kits were meticulously assembled to ensure that the families could 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, bakerkhani, kulchas and snacks.

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

Three new skill centers launched

This month, CHINAR launched three skill centers, each focusing on a different skill. The first center, located at Government Girls Higher Secondary School in Nowhatta, Srinagar, offers a 5-month Mehndi Art training program. Another center in Warwan Valley provides Tilla embroidery training. Under project PARVAZ, a digital learning center in Rakhi Aarat, Bemina, started a 3-month basic computer skills course.



Guest speaker, Rameez Maqdoomi while interacting with students

Learning Circle Meet - HESP

A Learning Circle Meet was organized for 40 students enrolled in CHINAR's Higher Education Sponsorship Program(HESP). The event was graced by our Global Executive Director, Irfan Shahmiri, who shared invaluable insights on the significance of education, the importance of inculcating life skills, and the impact of artificial intelligence on modern learning. During the event, students had the opportunity to share their educational challenges and learn from the personal journeys of others.



Global Executive Director, Irfan Shahmiri shares his insights with the students

Renowned journalist Mr. Rameez Maqdoomi, a special guest at the event, also interacted with the students. He emphasized the importance of public speaking, the benefits of reading, and the value of working smart. The HESP is committed to providing educational opportunities to youth from humble backgrounds, enabling them to pursue their academic goals.

Sending drop outs back to school

Rabiya Rasool, a 17-year-old from the Chogal area in the Kupwara district, comes from an underprivileged family. Her father is a laborer and struggles to meet the daily expenses of his family. Due to financial hardships, Rabiya was forced to drop out of school. The worsening financial situation also compelled her younger sibling to leave school and take up casual labor work in the village.

In 2023, CHINAR International enrolled Rabiya and her brother in its Child Development Program and started supporting the family's needs. Now, Rabiya seems happier and is determined to complete her education.



My Learning Journey

I am excited to share my learning journey from the Phase 2 Accelerated Foundation Course in English workshop, organized by Shikshamitra in Kolkata, West Bengal. This course, designed for learners aged 7 years and above, aimed to quickly impart basic English skills through an intensive five-day program focused on innovative teaching methods.

The workshop provided me with valuable insights and advanced techniques for teaching basic English. I now feel equipped with creative methods that integrate teaching with elements like art and music.

Reflecting on this experience, I am grateful for the opportunity to grow as an educator and to bring these new insights back to my community. This workshop was more than just a training session; it was a journey of discovery and empowerment.

Sawleha Qadir - Project Coordinator



Felicitating 10th and 12th toppers

A felicitation event was organized at the CHINAR office to celebrate the success of 10th and 12th class toppers enrolled in the Child Development Program across all districts. Eleven children were felicitated for their outstanding performance and were presented with mementos. These children come from underprivileged families, some from the remotest corners of the Kashmir Valley, and are first-generation learners. The event aimed to encourage these students to continue striving for academic excellence.

The event was attended by principals from various schools that enroll children from our beneficiary base. Irfan Shahmiri, Global Executive Director, presented mementos to the children and encouraged them to share their journeys. He also engaged with the school staff, stressing the importance of education, especially for children from disadvantaged communities. He highlighted the crucial role of parents in creating a nurturing environment for children to thrive.

