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Police constable martyred...

Further details were awaited. Meanwhile, a terrorist of The Resistance Front (TRF) was arrested from a hospital in Shopian district, police said. Police came to know that an active TRF terrorist, identified as Sohail Ahmad Lone of Hermain area of Shopian, was in the district hospital undergoing treatment, a police official said. "He was taken into custody and has been admitted at SMHS hospital Srinagar in a critical condition," the official said. He said the terrorist has a bullet wound on the neck. Police is verifying the cause of the injury, the official said. Meanwhile, the National Conference (NC) condemned the attack in Batamalo.. Unequivocally condemn the cowardly & dastardly attack on 29-year-old policeman in Batmaloo, Srinagar in which he lost his life. No words of condemnation would be enough! May Allah grant him a place in Jannat. Our hearts go out to his family and friends at this time of grief, the party tweeted.

History-sheeter succumbs...

bodies of two persons, Sabar Chowdhary and Arif Chowdhary, were recovered while Babar Chowdhary and Parveen Kumar were found in a critical condition and shifted to Government Medical College (GMC) hospital following the shooting. Babar Chowdhary, a history-sheeter who had served two jail terms under the Public Safety Act (PSA) in the past, succumbed to injuries while being shifted from GMC hospital to a hospital in Punjab for specialised treatment, the officials said. They said the body of Babar Chowdhary, who was the elder brother of Sabar Chowdhary, was brought back to GMC from Kathua and its post-mortem is underway. The body will be handed over to family members for last rites after completion of the legal and medical formalities, the officials said. Jammu Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Chandan Kohli had already constituted a special investigation team (SIT) to probe the incident and bring the culprits to book. After initial investigation, constable Bhopinder Singh emerged as the main accused who had fired indiscriminately from his AK assault rifle on the four people, the officials said. Singh was accompanied by his former colleague constable Sadeeq and both of them fled the scene after the shooting, they said, adding multiple teams have been formed to arrest the accused who are on the run. The officials said Singh has already been placed under suspension following the incident.

Be bridge of...

it shows growing acceptance of the party's development agenda, sources said. Chief ministers and BJP presidents of four poll-bound states - Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur - gave a presentation on upcoming assembly elections at the meeting, Yadav told reporters. A similar presentation was given by BJP's Punjab unit president, he said, noting that the state organisation has worked to fight on all assembly seats there in the upcoming polls. "In his address, Prime Minister Modiji gave a mantra to the party workers that they should become a bridge of faith between the common man and the party, while referring to the party's history as it has always been associated with the issues close to the common man of the country," Yadav said. The BJP is not a family-based party, it isn't run by a family but by a culture of public service and dedication, Yadav said while quoting Prime Minister Modi. Referring to the welfare work done by BJP workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, Modi said the ruling party focused on serving the people. Talking about the presentations on poll-bound states, Modi expressed confidence that the party will win the people's trust as it has been moving forward by taking up issues close to the people. Modi also spoke about a new initiative of Kamal Pushp launched on the Namu App for paying tributes to all party workers who devoted their entire life to the party. He asked party members to be in touch with veteran workers, saying a lot could be learnt from them. BJP secretary Sunil Deodhar said Modi also referred to the party's improved show in Badvel assembly by-poll in Andhra Pradesh, noting that people pay attention to wins but not to this. "He applauded BJP workers from Andhra Pradesh for the party's performance in Badvel assembly by-election. He said we had got 750 votes earlier and now we are getting more than 21,000 votes. I would like to say that this is all because of his vision and guidance," Deodhar said.

Maj Gen Prashant...

commissioned into elite Parachute Battalion of the Special Forces on June 9, 1990. An alumnus of National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, the General Officer has attended all important career courses including Defence Services Staff Courses Wellington (Tamil Nadu), Higher Command Course and National Defence College (USA). He has an MSc in Strategic Studies and Masters of Philosophy to his credit. The General Officer has vast operational experience having served in intense Counter Insurgency/Counter Terrorist environment in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and the North East, the spokesman said. He said Maj Gen Srivastava has been awarded Sena Medal in 2011 while commanding his unit. He has held various important staff appointments prior to assuming the command of the prestigious Counter Insurgency Force (Victor), Col Musavi said.

J&K records 165 new COVID cases, Ladakh 27

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday recorded 165 fresh cases of coronavirus, raising its tally to 3,33,076, officials said. No death due to the infection was reported from the union territory in the past 24 hours, they added. Of the fresh cases, nine were from the Jammu division and 156 from the Kashmir division, the officials said. They said Srinagar district recorded the highest of 87 cases, followed by 26 cases in Baramulla district. There are 1,153 active cases in the union territory, while the number of recovered patients was 3,27,483, the officials said. The death toll in the union territory stood at 4,440.

The officials said there were 49 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus) in the union territory and no fresh case was reported since Friday evening. Meanwhile, Ladakh has recorded 27 new cases of coronavirus during the past 24 hours, pushing the overall virus tally to 21,033 and active cases to 114, officials said. The Union Territory has so far registered 209 Covid-related deaths -- 151 in Leh and 58 in Kargil -- since the outbreak of the pandemic last year. The officials said a total of 1,179 people were tested for COVID-19 in the twin districts on Saturday and 27 of them returned positive in Leh. Four coronavirus infected

patients were discharged from a hospital in Leh, taking the number of recoveries in Ladakh to 20,710, they said. The officials said the active cases in Ladakh have risen to 114 with 110 in Leh and four in Kargil. No Covid-related death was reported on Saturday, the officials said. Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Shrikant Suse reviewed the COVID-19 situation on Saturday and directed the surveillance officer to enhance testing, contact tracing and surveillance in the district which has recorded one death and 77 new cases since the beginning of this month. Suse, who is also chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority

(Leh), enquired about the arrangement and preparation of medical facilities in terms of beds, oxygen and medicines during the meeting, an official spokesman said. He directed the officers concerned to make necessary arrangements at all levels to overcome any spike in COVID-19 cases. Covid special enforcement squads have been formed by DDMA, Leh to strengthen COVID-19 surveillance and to ensure that all related guidelines and SOPs are strictly enforced at public places and schools, the spokesman said. He asked officers to ensure that all sorts of gatherings are held within the permissible limits with all Covid protocols.

here. Many riders alleged their bikes were seized by the police without even checking the documents. The applicant, whose two-wheeler was also allegedly seized by the police, pleaded the illegal action has not only caused humiliation, mental agony , but also took away people's fundamental rights.

DIPR condoles demise of Shahid Bukhari

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Directorate of Information and Public Relation (DIPR) has expressed grief and sorrow over the sudden demise of prominent journalist Shahid Bukhari, who passed away on Sunday due to cardiac arrest. In a condolence meeting, Director Information and Public Relations, Rahul Pandey, expressed deep grief and sorrow over the demise. He also offered sympathies with the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

Report sought from police over seizing of two-wheelers in Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A court here has sought a report from the Jammu and Kashmir Police over the seizing of two-wheelers in the city here in the wake of terrorist attacks on civilians last month. The Court of Additional Special Mobile Magistrate (Traffic), Srinagar, asked the police to submit the

report within ten days. Hearing an application moved by social activist Naveed Bukhtiyar who pleaded that the two-wheelers were detained illegally by the police, the Court in an order on Saturday observed that the allegations were very serious in nature and as such the issue requires the indulgence of the court.

Physical, financial status under Distt CapEx in Budgam reviewed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: While reviewing physical and financial targets achieved under District Capex for the years 2021-22 till September 2021, the DDC Budgam on Sunday directed all concerned district and sectoral officers as well as executing agencies to accelerate the completion process of remaining work within the stipulated time, keeping the impending winter conditions in view. The detailed status was put forth before chairman through a power point presentation according to sector and scheme wise, touching all departments and executing agencies. While giving the details of the physical targets achieved the Chief Planning Officer said that by the end of September 2021 about 52.38% expenditure has been achieved under District CapEx. He said out of 2112 targeted works 1755 works have been given accord of approval while tenders of 1541 works have been issued out of which 849 works stand allotted and 107 have been

completed. These include works under DDC, BDC, PRI grants, besides 2052 new works, of which 60 works are under progress, he added. It was also given out that about 1655 different kinds of works were taken up under MGNREGA during 2021-22, thus involving an expenditure of 3955.92 crore, of these 813 works stand completed till date. On the occasion, DDC also reviewed the physical status of other key sectors like R&B, PDD, Jal Shakti, RDD, PMGSY, Health, Education, Social Welfare, Agriculture, Horticulture etc. The DDC during the meeting once again reiterated that the departments demonstrating poor performances will be made responsible for delays. He stressed on close coordination among concerned departments for timely completion of projects. The meeting among others was also attended by CMO, CEO, ACD, ACP, all exens, all BDOs, all EOs and other concerned.

CRIME REPORT

2 gamblers arrested, stake money seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: Acting tough against social crimes, Ganderbal Police on Sunday arrested 2 gamblers from a gambling site and seized stake money from their possession. As per details, acting on specific information, a party from Police Station Kangan under the supervision of SDPO Kangan raided a gambling site at Kangan following an input about gambling activities and apprehended two gamblers, who were identified as Manzoor Ahmad Magray, son of Abdul Rashid Magray, resident of Padabal Cheerwan and Arshad Ahmad Khan, son of Ghulam Qadir Khan, resident of Margund Kangan. Officers also seized stake money amounting to Rs 10,900 and playing cards from gamblers. They were shifted to Police Station where they remained in custody. Accordingly, FIR No. 129/2021 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Kangan and investigation started.

Inter-state drug peddler arrested; 170 gm Charas recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved success by recovering 170 gm Charas from a drug peddler during Naka checking at National Highway near Qasim Nagar. As per details, an active Naka was laid by police team of



J&K situation among main topics at upcoming DGPs conference in Lucknow

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The internal security scenario in the country, situation prevailing in Jammu and Kashmir, and a key role played by the police during COVID-19 pandemic are some of the issues to be discussed at the annual DGPs and IGP's conference to be held in Lucknow on November 20-21, officials said. New-age crimes like cyber terrorism, radicalisation of youth and violence perpetrated by Maoists will also be discussed at the top police officers' conference to be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. About 250 officers in the rank of DGP and IGP from all states, union territories and central government will take part in the meet, organised by the Intelligence Bureau (IB). An overview of the internal security situation in the country will be presented to the Prime Minister and the Home Minister and discussions will be held on how to improve the overall security scenario with more people-friendly initiatives, an official said. Pakistan-sponsored terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir, the role of police as frontline warriors during the

pandemic will be part of the two-day deliberations. The state police chiefs are expected to share their experiences in handling the pandemic and how the police have helped distressed people during the health crisis, another official said. According to an estimate, over one lakh police and paramilitary personnel were infected by the COVID-19 in the country and nearly 1,000 of them succumbed to the virus. Among the infected include about 40,000 paramilitary personnel and 30,000 police officials in Maharashtra, one of the worst hit states in India. Among the deaths include over 120 paramilitary personnel and nearly 300 in Maharashtra Police, almost all of them while playing different roles during the pandemic. There have been considerable changes in the format, venue, topics covered, deliverables in the DGPs and IGP's conference since 2014. The Modi government has been organising it outside the national capital since then. The number of business sessions and topics have increased significantly with focus on improving policing in service of people.

Police Station Bagh e Bahu led by SHO Insp Kirti Sharma under the supervision of SDPO City East Sajad Sarwar whereby police rounded up a suspect who turned suspicious on seeing police Naka. On search, 170 gm Charas was recovered from his possession of suspect, who was identified as Mohd Sadeeq, son of Mohd Noor ul Islam, resident of Murshidabad West Bengal, at present Gadi Garh, Jammu. He was arrested and FIR No 93/2021 under section 20 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Bagh-e-Bahu. The overall arrest and recovery was made under supervision of SDPO East Sajjad Sarwar.

Five vehicles involved in illegal mining seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against menace of illegal mining, a multi-pronged strategy was devised by Jammu Police in which police team of Police Stations Jhajar Kotli, Bagh-e-Bahu and Police Post Phallain Mandal acted stringently on specific inputs and raided at different locations in their respective areas and seized five different vehicles involved in illegal mining. The vehicles included a tipper (JK02AX 0947) seized by Jhajar Kotli police; a tipper (JK02BL 7457) seized by Bagh-e-Bahu police and 3 tractors without registration number seized by Phallain Mandal police. The vehicles were seized by SHO Jhajar Kotli Insp Devinder Singh, SHO Bagh-e-Bahu Insp Kirti Sharma and In-Charge Police Post Phallain Mandal Insp Anil Kumar in their respective jurisdictions.

Injured BSF Jawan succumbs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: A BSF Jawan, who got injured in a mishap, succumbed in hospital on Sunday. As per details, BSF Jawan Sheshhana, son of Keshavappa, resident of Karnataka, presently posted with 48 Bn BSF at Painthi, Samba fell from a truck and got injured. He was shifted to hospital where he was under treatment, but he succumbed to injuries. His body was handed-over to family members after autopsy.

Four killed in mishaps

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Four persons were killed in separate mishaps on Sunday. As per details, a truck (JK02AU-9371) collided with a dumper (JK11D-4455) near Batera area of Kanachak, due to which helper of the truck got injured. He was shifted to hospital where doctors declared him as brought dead. The deceased has been identified as Mohd Shaffiq, son of Mohd Ahsraf, resident of Reasi. Meanwhile, 32 years old youth namely Mintu Kumar, son of Nagar Singh, resident of Saran Balor, Samba was killed after he got hit by an unknown vehicle in Channi Himmat area. At Bari Brahmana, a cyclist was hit by an unknown vehicle. He was immediately shifted to hospital where doctors declared him as brought dead. His identify is yet to be ascertained. In another mishap, 45 years old Sanjay Singh, son of Surjeet Singh, resident of Dhayansar was also hit by a bike. He was rushed to hospital where he succumbed to injuries.

Before 2014, deliberations largely focused on national security matters only. Since 2014, these conferences have a twin focus of national security as well as core policing issues, including prevention and detection of crime, community policing, law and order, improving police's image, etc., the official said. Earlier, the conference was Delhi-centric with officers coming together only for the conference. Residing in the same premises since 2014, over a period of 2-3 days, has served to build a heightened sense of unity amongst officers of all cadres and organisations. Direct interaction of the top brass of police with the head of government has resulted in convergence of views on crucial challenges faced by the country and emergence of doable recommendations, the official said. In the past few years, the topics have been selected after detailed discussions with the highest echelons of the police service. Once selected, several iterations of presentations are made before committees of DGs in order to encourage participation and to incorporate ideas from the field and from younger officers. As a result, all presentations are now broad-based, content-intensive and carry

a set of cogent, actionable recommendations. Since 2015, detailed follow-up of recommendations of past conferences is the norm and is the topic of the first business session, attended by the Prime Minister and the Home Minister. Recommendations are tracked closely by the conference secretariat, led by the IB, with the help of nodal officers of the states. From 2017 onwards, guest speakers were invited to share their knowledge and experiences with delegates. Decisions made in the past few conferences led to significant policy changes leading to improvement of policing in the country, including setting higher standards for effective policing in rural and urban areas, and improved methods of modern policing, based on SMART parameters. The DGPs and IGP's conference is an annual affair where senior police officials of the states and the Centre meet and discuss issues of importance. The previous conferences were held in Guwahati, Rann of Kutch in Gujarat, Hyderabad, Tekanpur in Madhya Pradesh, Kevadia in Gujarat and Pune. In 2020, the conference was held virtually due to the pandemic situation.

Active COVID-19 cases in country decline to 1,44,845

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India saw a single-day rise of 10,853 COVID-19 infections, which took the country's total tally of cases to 3,43,55,536, while active cases have declined to 1,44,845, the lowest in 260 days, according to Union health ministry data updated on Sunday. The death toll has climbed to 4,60,791 with 526 more fatalities, according to the data updated at 8 am. The daily rise in new coronavirus infections has been below 20,000 for 30 straight days and less than 50,000 daily new cases have been reported for 133 consecutive days now, the ministry said. The active cases have declined to 1,44,845, comprising 0.42 per cent of

the total infections, the lowest since March last year, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.24 per cent, the highest since March last year, it said. The data stated that a decrease of 2,105 cases has been recorded in active COVID-19 cases in a span of 24 hours. The daily positivity rate has been recorded at 1.18 per cent. It has been less than two per cent for the last 34 days. The weekly positivity rate has been recorded at 1.28 per cent. It has been below two per cent for the last 44 days, according to the health ministry. The number of people, who have recuperated from the disease, has increased to 3,37,49,900,

while the case fatality rate has been recorded at 1.34 per cent, the data stated. The cumulative doses administered so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive has exceeded 108.21 crore. India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7 last year, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19 last year. India crossed two crore cases on May 4 and three crore cases on June 23. The 526 new fatalities include 467 from Kerala,

14 from West Bengal and 10 each from Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, the ministry said. It said 4,60,791 deaths have been reported so far in the country including 1,40,372 from Maharashtra, 38,107 from Karnataka, 36,214 from Tamil Nadu, 33,515 from Kerala, 25,091 from Delhi, 22,903 from Uttar Pradesh and 19,215 from West Bengal. The health ministry said that more than 70 per cent of deaths occurred due to comorbidities. "Our figures are being reconciled with the Indian Council of Medical Research," the ministry said on its website, adding that state-wise distribution of figures is subject to further verification and reconciliation.

