

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !!

### Ensure benefits of...

Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor, Administrative Secretaries, Heads of the Departments, and other senior officers remained present during the meeting, in person and through virtual mode.

### India will continue...

and peaceful sea lanes, but also responding to humanitarian crises in man-made or natural disaster situations, the senior bureaucrat said.

The Indian Navy has and will continue to work for HADR (humanitarian assistance and disaster relief) in the region as a first responder and net security provider, he said.

He emphasised that India will work with all willing nations for peace in the region. While standing for a rules-bound world, New Delhi will continue to oppose attempts of aggression and to deter them on land and the sea, Kumar said.

The defence secretary said maritime security and economic prosperity were inter-related and inter-dependent from the times immemorial.

Kumar said the conclave was symbolic of India's constructive engagement in the Indian Ocean Region.

He highlighted India's engagement and continued efforts towards reaching out to the nations in the region bilaterally and under the framework of IONS (Indian Ocean Naval Symposium), IORA (Indian Ocean Rim Association), BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation), Colombo Security Conclave and other structures.

Kumar spoke about the Indian initiative of setting up the Information Fusion Centre for Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) for fostering better understanding of the maritime domain and sought further support and participation from IOR countries.

At the GMC 2021, the Indian Navy is hosting chiefs of navies/heads of maritime forces from 12 IOR countries comprising Bangladesh, Comoros, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Vice Admiral AK Chawla, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Naval Command, delivered the welcome address where he highlighted the importance of the maritime domain and the Indian Navy's commitment towards ensuring safety, security, and inclusive growth in the IOR.

He reminded the participants about the maritime vision of 'SAGAR' (Security and Growth for All in the Region) articulated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

### Sushma, Jaitley, Fernandes...

Bhushan award. Bollywood star Kangna Ranaut, film producer Karan Johar, television and film producer Ekta Kapoor, senior Professor at PGIMER, Chandigarh, Digambar Behera, internationally renowned Indian classical dance exponent Indira P P Bora were among those conferred the Padma Shri.

There were two Padma awards ceremonies for the years 2020 and 2021 held in the morning and evening.

Among the awards given away were seven Padma Vibhushan, 16 Padma Bhushan and 122 Padma Shri awards for the years 2020 and 2021.

The Padma awards are given in three categories -- Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri -- and announced annually on the eve of Republic Day. The Padma Vibhushan is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service, Padma Bhushan for distinguished service of high order and Padma Shri for distinguished service in any field.

Those awarded Padma Vibhushan include former union ministers George Fernandes (posthumous), Arun Jaitley (posthumous), Sushma Swaraj (posthumous) and Pandit Chhannulal Mishra, Hindustani classical and semi-classical vocalist.

President Kovind termed Fernandes as a veteran political leader and trade unionist, who was a 'champion of the poor and devoted his life to uplifting the cause of



President Ram Nath Kovind presenting Padma Shri Award to Prof Shiv Datt Nirmohi for Literature & Education.

the downtrodden'.

The award was received by Fernandes' wife Leila Kabir.

The President described Jaitley as an outstanding parliamentarian and a distinguished lawyer", who made significant contributions in judicial reforms, electoral reforms and progressive social and economic legislations.

The award was received by Jaitley's wife Sangeeta Jaitley.

Kovind said Swaraj was a visionary leader, deeply rooted in Indian traditions.

She was "embodied the empowerment of women and was a woman of many firsts," Kovind said in another tweet.

The award was received by Swaraj's daughter Bansuri Swaraj.

President Kovind also presented Padma Shri to Harekala Hajabba, an orange vendor in Mangalore who saved money to build a school in his village and Mohammad Shareef, a cycle mechanic turned social worker who performed last rites of unclaimed dead bodies with full dignity.

Abdul Jabbar Khan (posthumous) from Bhopal, who was known for his fight for justice for victims of Bhopal gas tragedy, was also awarded Padma Shri.

Padma Shri was given to Leela Josho, a gynaecologist known as Mother Teresa of Ratlam, for her contribution of more than two decades to reduce maternal mortality in tribal, rural and urban slums of in Madhya Pradesh and Tulsi Gowda, an environmentalist from Karnataka who has planted more than 30,000 saplings and has been involved in environmental conservation activities for the past six decades.

The prime minister said in a tweet: "Attended the first of the Padma Award ceremonies for the years 2020 and 2021. I felt extremely happy to see grassroots level achievers being recognised for their exemplary efforts to further public good. Congratulations to all those who have been conferred the #PeoplesPadma".

President Kovind presented Padma Vibhushan to Jugnauth (posthumous), who had "immensely contributed in deepening the special relations between Mauritius and India".

Padma Shri award was also given to renowned litterateur of Santali language Damayanti Beshra, television and film actress Sarita Joshi, music composer Adnan Sami.

Captain of the Indian hockey team Rani Rampal and leading Indian epidemiologist Raman Gangalkhedwar were also among those who received the Padma Shri.

The Narendra Modi government has been honouring many unsung heroes, who are contributing to society in different ways, with Padma awards since 2014.

Through the Padma awards, the government seeks to recognise 'work of distinction' in various fields such as art, literature and education, sports, medicine, social work, science and engineering, public affairs, civil service, trade and industry, etc.

### Srinagar joins UNESCO...

Srinagar: Congratulations to the people of Jammu and Kashmir," he tweeted.

Srinagar joins Chennai and Varanasi - UNESCO Cities of music; Jaipur - UNESCO city of crafts and folk arts; Mumbai - UNESCO city of film and Hyderabad - UNESCO City of gastronomy, UNESCO New Delhi Office said in a statement.

The network now numbers 295 cities reaching 90 countries that invest in culture and creativity - crafts and folk art, design, film, gastronomy, literature, media arts, and music - to advance sustainable urban development, the world body said.

"A new urban model needs to be developed in every city, with its architects, town planners, landscapers and citizens. We are urging everyone to work with states to reinforce the international cooperation between cities which UNESCO wishes to promote," said UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay.

UNESCO New Delhi Director Eric Falt offered words of praise to all those who worked on the candidacy of Srinagar.

"I would like to offer my warm congratulations to India and especially to Srinagar. This is a great recognition of the vitality of the arts and crafts sector in Srinagar," he was quoted as saying in the statement.

By joining the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), cities commit to sharing their best practices and developing partnerships involving the public and private sectors as well as civil society in order to strengthen the creation, production, distribution and dissemination of cultural activities, goods and services, the world body said.

They also pledge to develop hubs of creativity and innovation and broaden opportunities for creators and professionals in the cultural sector, it said.

Newly-designated creative cities such as Bohicon, Doha and Jakarta will join forces with existing member cities including Brazzaville, Dubai, Mexico City and Montral to develop innovative urban policies and solutions that place people and sustainability at the centre of the development process, echoing the urban solutions launched by the UNESCO Cities Platform on the occasion of the World Cities Day

Khajuria & Guard Shahbaaz Khan raided Ghati, Upper Saktachak, Lower Saktachak, Kundeychak and adjoining areas of Kathua to arrest menace of illicit distillation. During raids, 37 litres of liquor including 183 pouches of illicit liquor and 700 Kg Lahan was recovered and destroyed.

### Theft at school, house

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Thieves on Monday burgled a school and a house and decamped with goods.

As per details, a theft case has been reported in Shesh Mehal Higher Secondary School on Monday as management lodged a complaint with local police. After scrutinizing CCTV footage of school, police has identified the thief as Nikhil, son of Shashi, resident of Power House Poonch. The accused is a habitual thief and has already been booked several times in several theft cases.

Meanwhile, thieves also targeted a house belonging to one Rajesh Sharma, resident of Durga Nagar and decamped with gold ornaments worth lakhs and cash. The complainant stated that he was at his relative's house for Bhai Dhoj when theft took place. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

### Auto-driver found dead under mysterious circumstances

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An auto-driver was found dead in his house under mysterious circumstances in Gangyal area on Monday.

As per details, 47 years old Jung Bahadur, son of Ganda Singh, resident of Seora, Farid Nagar, who was staying alone at home, was found dead. On receiving the information, police reached the spot and shifted body to morgue for autopsy.

### Two injured in road mishap

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JHAJJAR KOTLI: Two persons were injured in a road mishap at Jhajjar Kotli area on Monday.

As per details, a car, on its way to Jammu from Udhampur, hit a bike near Suketar area due to which two bike-borne youth got injured. They were shifted to hospital for treatment. The injured were identified as Abdul Rashid and Sabar Ali, both residents of Jagti.

### CRPF Jawan commits suicide

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Jawan committed suicide on Monday inside a camp in Pulwama district.

As per details, CRPF constable, Bhupinder Singh shot himself with his service rifle at Lethpora camp in Pulwama district and died on the spot. FIR has been lodged and investigation is going on in the matter.

### SSB Jawan dies of cardiac arrest

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: A Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Jawan died of cardiac arrest at Nagam Chadoora in Budgam on Monday morning.

As per details, a Jawan identified as Bawani Singh, son of Kanuji Lal of Rajasthan, presently posted with 14 Battalion SSB, Nagam died on Monday morning after suffering cardiac arrest. The body will be sent to his hometown in Rajasthan after legal formalities.

### Gang of women thieves busted; 5 arrested

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Monday busted a gang of women thieves by arresting five members and recovered stolen property from their possession.

As per the details, officials of Smart City Project lodged a complaint with Bus Stand Police that their machines had been stolen from the store. Acting on the complaint, police scrutinized CCTV footage and learnt about the gang of women thieves. On this, police raided various suspect locations and nabbed five thieves, who were identified as Bimla, Bindu, Kavita, Mohini and Sunita, all residents of Rajiv Nagar. Stolen items were also recovered from their possession.

### Child killed, 8 others injured in Ramban mishap

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: A child was killed while eight others got injured when a makeshift motorcycle-rickshaw met with an accident in Ramban district on Monday.

As per details, at about 1700 hours, Police Station Ramban received information that a makeshift motorcycle-rickshaw met with an accident at Kowbagh, which was being driven by one Rampaul, resident of Punjab.

When police reached spot, a child was found dead while others injured were shift-

2021, the UNESCO said.

The collaborative spirit of the UCCN's members is reflected in the publication UNESCO Creative Cities' Response to COVID-19 in 2020, it added.

This year, too, the Network is collecting and disseminating information about the culture and creativity-based responses to COVID-19 that have been taken by members of the Network, which UNESCO will publish as part of its continued support to cities' recovery from the pandemic, the statement said.

The erstwhile unified state of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh in 2019.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also took to Twitter to hail the city's inclusion in the list.

"Srinagar included in @UNESCO Creative Cities Network in the crafts & folk art category. It is ultimate recognition for artisans & weavers of J&K. Congratulations to entire J&K team, @Junaid\_Mattu\_Ji, @AtharAamirKhan & thanks to @EduMinOfIndia, @MinOfCultureGoI for all the support," he tweeted.

"Grateful to Hon'ble PM @narendramodi for always giving special priority to J&K. Dossier of exceptionally rich art & craft legacy of Srinagar was meticulously prepared & submitted in June this year by @SMC\_Srinagar with help of Kashmir INTACH," Sinha also tweeted.

Earlier in the day, Mayor of Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu, made a series of tweets on the city joining the list, and also thanked people who were involved in the application process.

"What a proud moment for Srinagar! After sustained, collective efforts - Srinagar is now on the International Arts & Crafts Map and very prominently! Encouragement from the Hon'ble PM makes it even more special," he tweeted.

### Unity imperative for...

Prominent businessman Dharamvir Batra, office bearers of Jammu Chamber of Commerce, & Industries, STATE TIMES Editor-in-Chief Raj Daluja, Former DyCM Tara Chand, former ministers G M Saror, Jugal Kishore Sharma, Dr Manohar Lal, Yogen Sawhney, Vikar Rasool, Gulchain Singh Charak, senior congress leaders Hira Lal Abrol, Jai Singh, Naresh Gupta, Vishal Chopra and others also attended the Diwali Milan.

Former Mayor JMC Mamnoon Singh, ex-MLC Surinder Choudhary, former Dy Speaker Jehangir Khan, Former CVC and DGP Kuldeep Khoda, former DGP Dr S P Vaid, Ex-ADGP Qayoom Manhas, former SSP J L Sharma among other retired police and civil officers were also present on the occasion.

### Army ties up...

and Chinar Corps having established a long term relationship for provision of distance education courses to soldiers presently serving in Kashmir.

"As envisaged in the MoU, the soldiers of Indian Army posted in Kashmir, will be able to seek admission to various courses being offered by the Directorate of Distance Education, University of Kashmir. The type of courses being made available to Army personnel range from six months certificate courses to one year diploma courses and two years post graduate courses," the spokesman said.

He said a total of 18 courses are presently available for enrolment by the Army personnel, which will be increased in due course of time.

After the formal signing of the MoU, Prof Ahmad, while addressing the gathering, emphasised on core values of the university and mentioned that the vital significance of long term MoU which will benefit the soldiers posted in Kashmir.

Lt Gen Pandey in his address, praised the milestone achieved in the field of education, which will empower the soldiers of the Chinar Corps in performing their duties in a challenging environment.

He said the University of Kashmir, with its rich heritage, culture and academia, will provide a one of the kind opportunity for Army personnel and civil defence employees of Chinar Corps to pursue higher educational qualifications, domain specialisation and subject matter expertise.

### J&K logs 111...

fungus) in the Union Territory as no fresh case was reported since Sunday evening. Meanwhile, Ladakh has recorded 14 fresh COVID-19 cases, taking the virus tally to 21,047 while the active cases have climbed to 122, officials said.

The Union Territory has registered 209 Covid-related deaths -- 151 in Leh and 58 in Kargil -- since the outbreak of the pandemic last year.

Six patients were cured and discharged from hospital from Leh. The total number of cured patients is 20,716, they said.

A total of 165 sample reports in Ladakh were found negative, they said.

There was no death reported due to Covid in Ladakh on Sunday.

ed to hospital. The deceased was identified as 6-year old Vir Bhan, son of Rampal, while injured were identified as Rampal (driver), resident of village Baladah, District Mansa, Punjab, at present Kowbagh, Ramban; Suraj Bhan (12), Chameli (7), Gulshan (6), Zameerun (3), Chandni (9), Salma (12) and Sabana (14). Looking at the critical condition of five children, they were referred to GMC Jammu.

### Dowry harassment case reported

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A dowry harassment case has been reported at Bakshi Nagar Police Station on Monday.

As per details, Pallavi Abrol, resident of New Plot lodged a complaint with police that she is being harassed by her in-laws for dowry and was sent back to her parental house over the issue. Acting on complaint, police has registered a case against her husband Anil Abrol and other members including Mohit Abrol and Lalita Rani.

### Man drowns to death

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS</h