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# Srinagar in fray for UNESCO Creative Cities Network

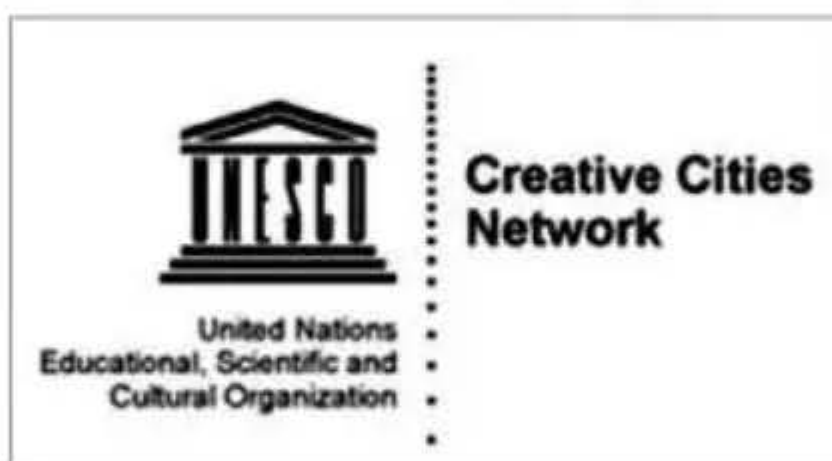
## Stakeholders brainstorm to prepare dossier

**Srinagar, Apr 27:** A workshop of stakeholders on preparation of dossier for inclusion of Srinagar City in UNESCO Creative Cities Network was held today at the Institute of Hotel Management, Rajbagh here.

The workshop is part of the Restoration and Strengthening of Livelihoods component of Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project funded by the World Bank.

During the workshop most of the stakeholders which included administrators, artisans, academicians, representatives of business houses associated with different crafts, policy makers, representatives of design schools and civil society associated with the promotion and restoration of arts and crafts shared their thoughts on the topic.

Director Technical, JTFRP Iftikhar Ahmad Kakroo, said the aim of the workshop is to provide a platform for all the stakeholders involved with the various aspects of Kashmir



Handicrafts and obtain their valuable inputs for the preparation of the said Dossier.

Convenor, INTACH, J&K Chapter Saleem Beg said that there is need for more pilot projects in the field and stressed on the need for inclusion of artisans in the policy formulation.

Prof N.A Nadeem from Central University of Kashmir emphasized on the need for developing of more innovative craft designs and quick patent registration of new designs.

Director Craft Development Institute, Srinagar Zubair Ahmad, said that CDI is working on quality certification of various local crafts, Geographical Indication Labels of various local crafts and also working on

the development of more innovative designs and quality control of the products.

Assistant Director, Handicrafts Mushtaq Ahmad, said "In present times there is

urgent need to blend the various crafts to make Kashmir crafts innovative to buyers".

Sharing their thoughts many prominent artisans from various crafts like Pashmina weaving, Papier machie, wood carving, namdhaas, Khatamband etc said that finance and marketing support from the government is must for the survival and promotion of Kashmir handicrafts. Various designers and entrepreneurs also shared their thoughts on the topic.

The workshop was organised by INTACH, J&K Chapter, in collaboration with Dronah and sponsored by Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project funded by World Bank.