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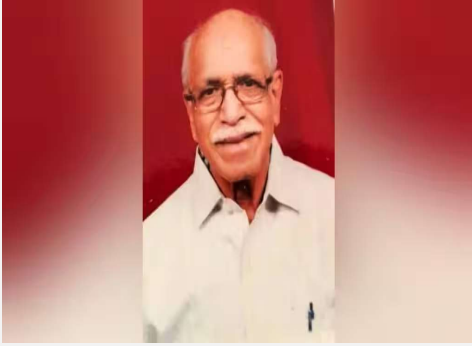
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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

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Maharashtra State Specific News

Lifetime Achievement given to Digambar Gadgil



In News:

- This year's **Bird Friend Lifetime Achievement Award** was announced to **Digambar Gadgil** from Nashik.

Key Points:

- '**Maharashtra Pakshimitra**' has announced the 2023 Pakshimitra Awards.
- It is an organization working on birds in Maharashtra for the last four decades.

About Lifetime Achievement Award:

- The **Maharashtra Pakshimitra Award** is given to individuals or organizations who have made significant contributions to the **conservation of birds in Maharashtra**.
- The organization was **founded in 1981** and has since grown to become one of the leading bird conservation organizations in India.

Vishnudas Bhave award to Prashant Damle



In News:

- Vishnudas Bhave Gauravpadak, which is regarded as an honor in **Marathi theater**, was presented to senior actor, theater artist **Prashant Damle**.

About Vishnudas Bhave award:

- The Vishnudas Bhave Award is a prestigious award given to Marathi theater personalities for their outstanding contributions to the field.
- The **award was instituted in 1959 by the Akhil Bharatiya Natya Vidyamandir**
- The award was instituted in **memory of Vishnudas Bhave**, one of the pioneers of modern Marathi theater.
- The award is **presented annually on November 5th**, which is **celebrated as Marathi Rangbhumi Din (Marathi Theater Day)**.
- The recipient of the award is selected by a committee of eminent theater personalities.
- The Vishnudas Bhave Award is one of the most coveted awards in Marathi theater.
- It is a recognition of the recipient's talent, dedication, and contributions to the field.



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Reservation for the Maratha community

Context:

- Efforts have been started at the government level to get **reservation for the Maratha community**.
- The work of collecting empirical data is going on to prove the backwardness of the Maratha community in the Supreme Court and **Kunbi records** are also being checked at the state level.

About Maratha community:

- The Maratha community is the largest social group in Maharashtra, accounting for approximately **30% of the state's population**.
- The Marathas are traditionally a **peasant community**, but they have made significant progress in education and employment in recent decades.
- Despite their social and economic advancement, the Marathas continue to lag behind other communities in terms of representation in government jobs and educational institutions.
- This is why the Maratha community has been demanding reservation for itself.
- In 2018, the Maharashtra government passed a law granting **16% reservation to the Maratha community in education and jobs**.
- However, the law was struck down by the Supreme Court in 2021 on the grounds that it breached the 50% reservation ceiling in the state.

MH govt encourages farmers to cultivate bamboo to curb menace of air pollution



Context:

- The Maharashtra CM has appealed to farmers to cultivate bamboo in large quantities through group farming
- He also said bamboo parks will be established in cities in view of the increasing pollution in urban areas.

Significance of Bamboo:

- Sugarcane cultivation generally yields about 100 tons per hectare and the price is at least Rs 2,500 per ton, the minimum production per hectare of bamboo is 100 tons but the price is at least Rs 4,000 per ton Thus, making cultivators financially stronger.
- Bamboo production starts in the third year and it is better for soil protection and water conservation.
- In order to boost the agricultural economy, **ethanol is being produced from bamboo**.
- If one hectare of sugarcane is cultivated, two crore liters of water is needed for it and if one ton of sugarcane is crushed, 80 liters of ethanol is produced.
- If one hectare of bamboo is cultivated, 20 lakh liters of water is required and if one ton of bamboo is crushed, 400 liters of ethanol can be produced,
- Bamboo also **releases 320 kg of oxygen in the air in a year**.



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