



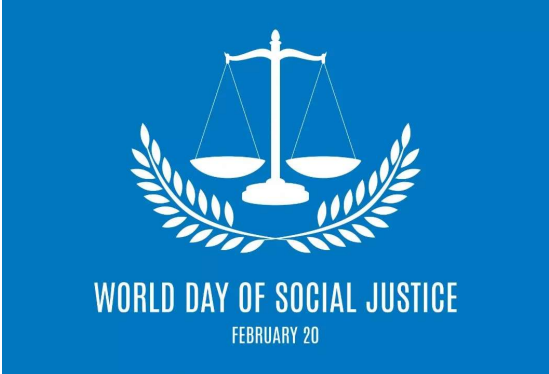

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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

20 February 2024

### Maharashtra State Specific News

<p><b>World Day of Social Justice</b></p> 	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>World Day of Social Justice</b> is an international day recognizing the need to promote social justice and is celebrated annually on 20th February</li><li>• The <b>International Labour Organization (ILO)</b> marks the occasion this year with a <b>series of six events held in major cities around the globe.</b></li><li>• It includes efforts to tackle issues such as <b>poverty, exclusion, gender inequality, unemployment, human rights, and social protections</b></li><li>• The theme of <b>World Day of Social Justice 2024</b> is "<b>Bridging Gaps, Building Alliances</b>".</li></ul> <p><b>Did you Know?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In <b>2008</b>, <b>ILO</b> declared 20 Feb as the World Day of Social Justice.</li></ul>
<p><b>MH cabinet approves draft bill to extend 10% reservation to Marathas</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Maharashtra Cabinet</b> approved the draft of a bill proposing a <b>10% reservation</b> for the <b>Maratha community in education and government jobs</b>, reigniting the long-standing debate on caste-based quotas in the state.</li></ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The quota will <b>increase reservations to 62%</b>, facing legal challenges.</li><li>• The <b>OBC community fears dilution of its quota.</b></li><li>• <b>Muslim leaders demand 5% reservation.</b></li></ul>
<p><b>Supriya Sule Receives Sansad Maharatna Award From President</b></p> 	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Supriya Sule</b>, the Member of Parliament (MP) representing <b>Baramati in Maharashtra</b>, has been conferred with the prestigious <b>Sansad Ratna Award</b> by <b>President Droupadi Murmu.</b></li><li>• This distinguished honor recognizes her outstanding contributions to the Indian Parliament, particularly during the first year of the 17th Lok Sabha (2019-2020).</li><li>• Previously, <b>Sule</b> was honored with the <b>Parliament Excellence Maharatna Award for Best Journalism</b> by <b>Prime Point Foundation</b> and <b>E Magazine</b> in Chennai.</li></ul>



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Lokmat Maharashtra of the Year Awards 2024

Context:

- Lokmat Maharashtra of the Year aims to celebrate the outstanding achievements of individuals who have left an indelible mark on Maharashtra and beyond.
- Over the years, Piyush Goyal, Nitin Gadkari, Sushil Kumar Shinde, and Nita Ambani have been a part of the jury panel.
- The selection process for the LMOTY awards involves editorial meetings, public voting, and evaluation by a jury.
- In addition to the main awards, LMOTY also gives special honors on individuals who have made exceptional contributions to society.

List of Awardees 2024:

**SPECIAL AWARDS:**

1. Isha Ambani.
2. Abhay Bhutada.
3. Jaisingh Chavan -Special Award for Overcoming Disability and Empowering Others

**MAIN AWARDS:**

1. Actor (Male)- Ranbir Kapoor.
  2. IPS (Promising) - Somay Munde.
  3. IAS (Promising) - Bhushan Gagrani.
  4. Influential Politician - Deepak Kesarkar.
  5. Influential Politician - Atul Salve.
  6. Lok Seva - Harishchandra Sude
  7. Politics - (Promising) - Kunal Patil
  8. Sports - (Promising) - Ojas Deotale.
  9. Medical - Dr. Abhishek Mangeshkar.
  10. Medical - Dr. Meraj Kadri.
- BKT - Innovator in Agriculture - Savita Nana Pawra.
  - Tech-Savvy Teacher - Anand Anemwad.
  - Industry and Business Category - Sudhir Mehta and Vishal Chordia.



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11 state varsities to get Rs 540 crore grant under PM-USHA; Rs 100 crore for SNTD

Context:

- The GOI has allocated Rs. 540 crore to 11 state universities in Maharashtra under the Pradhan Mantri Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA) scheme.
- This initiative aims to improve the infrastructure and academic development of higher education institutions.
- Four universities, including SNTD Women's University, received a substantial grant of Rs. 100 crore each, while the remaining seven universities will receive Rs. 20 crore each.

About:

- PM-USHA, or Pradhan Mantri Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan, is a centrally sponsored scheme by the Indian government aimed at transforming and uplifting the higher education system in the country.
- It was launched in 2021, building upon the previous Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) scheme, and aligns with the goals of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

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