

# Maharashtra Bhushan award

April 19, 2023

**In news**– Spiritual leader and social reformer Appasaheb Dharmadhikari received the Maharashtra Bhushan award, the highest civilian of the state.

- The Maharashtra Bhushan is a highest civilian award presented annually by the Government of Maharashtra State in India.
- When the Shivsena- BJP alliance came to power in 1995, it proposed to institute this award. The Maharashtra Bhushan was first awarded in 1996.
- It was initially conferred in every years in the fields of Literature, Art, Sport, and Science. Later the fields of Social Work, Journalism, and Public Administration and Health Services were included.
- The award is presented for outstanding achievement in their field.
- At present, the award carries a cash prize of ₹ 25 lakhs, a memento and citation.
- The winners are selected by a committee appointed of the Government of Maharashtra.

## **Who is Appasaheb Dharmadhikari?**

- Appasaheb Dharmadhikari, also known as Dattatreya Narayan Dharmadhikari, is an Indian social worker from Maharashtra.
- Following footsteps of Dr. Nanasaheb Dharmadhikari, **Appasaheb has been instrumental in conducting various tree plantations, blood donation camps, free medical camps,** job fairs, cleanliness drives, superstition eradication, de-addiction centers, etc in Maharashtra.
- In 2014, he was conferred with Doctor of Letters by Dr D Y Patil University, Nerul.
- In 2017, he was awarded Padma Shri, India's fourth

highest civilian honour, and Maharashtra Bhushan award for year 2022.