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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

23 August 2024

### Maharashtra State News

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| <p><b>Dhangar Community</b></p> | <p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A large group of Dhangars recently marched to the sub-divisional officer's office in Khamgaon, Buldhana district, Maharashtra, to demand a "grazing corridor" for their sheep and goats.</li></ul> <p><b>About Dhangar Community:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Population and Distribution:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The Dhangar community is a shepherd community with populations in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh.</li><li>○ In Maharashtra, they are on the <b>Vimukta Jati and Nomadic Tribes (VJNT) list</b>.</li><li>○ <b>Estimated population:</b> Around 1 crore, comprising about <b>9% of Maharashtra's total population</b>.</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Occupation and Lifestyle:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Primary occupation:</b> Sheep and goat herding.</li><li>○ <b>Lifestyle:</b> Mix of <b>nomadic pastoralism, semi-nomadic</b>, and agrarian lifestyles in rural areas.</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Seasonal Migration:</b> The Dhangar tribe undertakes <b>annual migration after the bajra harvest in October</b>, seeking greener pastures for their cattle.</li></ul> |
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| <p><b>Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act</b></p> | <p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Bombay High Court</b> said that the <b>school authorities</b> were aware of the incident but kept silent and did not inform the police.</li><li>• Under the <b>Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act</b>, non-reporting of a sexual assault is also an offence, said the court.</li></ul> <p><b>About POCSO Act:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enacted by the Government of India to <b>safeguard children from sexual abuse and offences</b>.</li><li>• <b>Defines a child as any person below the age of 18 years</b>.</li><li>• <b>Amended in 2019</b> to introduce <b>more stringent punishments, including the death penalty</b> for severe sexual crimes against children.</li><li>• <b>Key Provisions:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Gender-neutral Legislation:</b> The Act defines a child as "any person" under the age of 18, <b>irrespective of gender</b>.</li><li>○ <b>Non-reporting is a Crime:</b> Any person in charge of an institution (excluding children) who fails to report a sexual offence involving a subordinate faces punishment.</li><li>○ <b>No Time Limit for Reporting Abuse:</b> A victim can report an offence at any time, even years after the abuse has occurred.</li><li>○ <b>Confidentiality of Victim's Identity:</b> The Act <b>prohibits disclosing the victim's identity in any form of media</b> unless authorised by the special courts established by the Act.</li></ul></li></ul> |
| <p><b>Shakti Criminal Laws (Maharashtra Amendment Bill) 2020</b></p>  | <p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Maharashtra government</b> is moving forward with the implementation of the <b>Shakti Criminal Laws (Maharashtra Amendment Bill)</b>, which introduces strict punishments for crimes against women, including the death penalty.</li></ul> <p><b>About Shakti Criminal Laws:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Shakti Criminal Laws (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill, 2020</b>, commonly known as the Shakti Bill, was introduced to <b>amend the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), and the Protection of Children from</b></li></ul>   |



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### Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act) in Maharashtra.

- This bill aims to **curb sexual crimes against women and children by introducing stringent penalties**, including the **death penalty** for certain offences.
- **Key features of the Shakti Bill include:**
  - **Death Penalty:** For heinous crimes such as rape, gang rape, and acid attacks where there is conclusive evidence.
  - **Enhanced Punishments:** Increased terms of imprisonment and fines for various offences.
  - **Expedited Legal Process:** Mandates that **investigations be completed within 30 days of the complaint.**

**MPSC GAZETTED CIVIL SERVICES 2024**  
संयुक्त पूर्व परीक्षा  
(पेपर 1 आणि पेपर 2)  
20 Total Tests

Test Series

**MPSC GROUP B & C 2024**  
संयुक्त पूर्व परीक्षा  
(अराजपत्रित)  
27 Total Tests

Test Series



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