

# The jury is here!

These five eminent people, drawn from varied fields representing the essence of Puneri spirit, will meet soon to discuss who among the 18 heroes featured in Mirror over the last four weeks make it to the top four

## Sujay Dahake

**H**e began with studying Engineering, but Sujay Dahake's heart lay in the movies. Soon, he dropped out and went on to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Mass Communication, and then studied Film Semiotics at the Mumbai University, with dreams of becoming a film critic. From there, Dahake went to Cebu, Philippines for a second Masters degree in filmmaking at the International Academy of Film and Television.

He later worked as an associate Producer at Bigfoot Studios in Hollywood under a six-month contract on a feature film. Dahake is now pursuing a doctoral degree in cinema from an Australian university.



*Shala (School)*, filmed in 2011, was Dahake's directorial debut. Released in January 2012, the film went on to bag several prominent awards, also winning Best Marathi Film and Best Screenplay at the 59th National Film Awards. Dahake is the youngest recipient of the Silver Lotus Medal or President's Medal. He has also won two International awards as Best Director — one at the New York Indian Film Festival in 2012, the other at the USA & Stuttgart Indian Film Festival in Germany, for *Shala*.

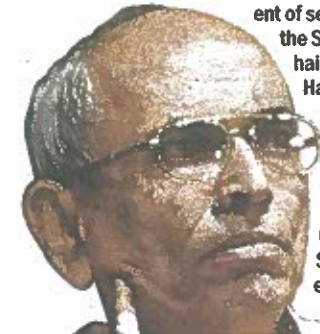
His second feature film, *Ajoba* (2013), focusses largely on wildlife conservation and environmental concerns, as widely relevant subjects today.

With his subsequent ventures — *Vulgar Activities Incorp* and *Kesari* — Dahake aims to push the boundaries of regional cinema and infuse his movies with world-class technique and creativity.

## Madhav Gadgil

**M**adhav Gadgil was the first student of Biology at Harvard University to receive a Ph D degree for a thesis based on mathematical modeling. His scientific interests focus on ecology and evolutionary biology, human ecology, and ecological history, and he has published over 225 scientific papers and eight books. A keen sportsman, Gadgil set records for the high jump at the Maharashtra State Junior level and at Pune University. These outdoor interests are at the root of his life-long, vigorous pursuit of ecological field work. Gadgil has been a Biology lecturer at Harvard, a Distinguished Indo-American Lecturer at the University of California, Berkeley and a visiting professor at Stanford.

From 1973 to 2004, he was on the faculty of the Indian Institute of Science, where he established the Center for Ecological Sciences. He has been elected to all the science academies of India, the Third World Academy of Sciences and the US National Academy of Science. Gadgil has been the recipient of several distinguished awards — these include



the Shantiswarup Bhatnagar and Vikram Sarabhai awards, the Volvo Environment Prize, Harvard University's Centennial Medal, Karnataka's Rajyotsava Award and the Padma Bhushan.

Gadgil served on the Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India (1986-90), the National Advisory Council (2010-12), and chaired the Science and Technology Advisory Panel of Global Environment Facility (1998-2002) and the Western Ghats Ecology

## Meher Pudumjee

**M**oher Pudumjee is Chairperson of Thermax Limited, a company focussed extensively on the business of energy and environment.

After completing her postgraduation in Chemical Engineering from the Imperial College of Science & Technology, London, Pudumjee joined Thermax as a trainee engineer in August 1990.

Now a member on its Board of Directors, she has worked closely with the treasury and working capital management functions of Thermax, and also played a key role in the Environment divisions of the company. In 2001, along with the Board and senior management of the company, she played an active role in the turnaround of the company. In October 2004, after the retirement of Anu Aga, she took over as Chairperson of Thermax.

Pudumjee is also the Chairperson of the CII-Pune Zonal Council for 2014-15

Pudumjee has a keen interest in music, especially Western classical and is a member of a Pune-based choir. She is personally involved with the NGOs Teach For India, Akanksha and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation.



## Meeran Chadha Borwankar

**C**urrently working as Additional Director General of Police, Maharashtra State Prisons, Meeran Chadha Borwankar was the first female Commissioner of Police of Pune, and in the state, from 2010-2012. As chief of police, she lead an organisation of around 8,000 police officers and is actively involved in collaborating with citizens for law enforcement.

Borwankar worked as the Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime), Mumbai from 2004 to 2007. As head of crime prevention, investigation and detection units in Mumbai and its suburbs, she was responsible for mounting several successful operations against organised crime syndicates and terrorists.

From 2002 to 2004, Borwankar was the Additional Director General of the Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration (YASHADA).

As director of the 'Centre for Good Governance', she imparted training to top government functionaries on governance and organised national conferences for the Centre.

Borwankar was part of the Central Bureau of Investigation from 1999 to 2002 as Deputy Inspector General, Economic Offences Wing, Mumbai, as well as the Deputy Inspector General, Anti Corruption Bureau, New Delhi.

Borwankar holds a doctorate in Organizational Management from the University of Pune, where her thesis was on Community Policing.

She is the recipient of the President of India Police Medal for Distinguished Services, the highest honour bestowed on a police officer.



## Dr WN Gade

**H**aving taken over the Vice Chancellor of the University of Pune in 2012, Dr WN Gade's academic career has been long and distinguished. Gade graduated with a B Sc degree in Biology from Nagpur University, then went onto postgraduate studies in Life Sciences at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, ultimately obtaining a Ph D.

After this, he continued his research and worked as a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Laboratory de Technology, University de Compiegne, France and at the Department of Biochemistry, University of Umea, Sweden.

Gade has worked as Honorary Professor at the University of Delhi and as a scientist at the Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, CSIR, (IGIB), New Delhi.

He has a large number of research papers, published in national and international journals, to his name, as well as several books. As of today, his extensive qualitative research has resulted in four patents to his credit, and he has served as consultant to many Biotech companies.

Gade is a member of the Central Advisory Board on Education, the Executive Committee of National Assessment and Accreditation Council, as well as many others.

