



## **Four from state feted in London**

**Mumbai:** The Maharashtra Mandal felicitated four prominent Maharashtrians for their contributions to society on the occasion of its 75th anniversary celebrations in London on Saturday. Chief minister Vilarao Deshmukh, who is currently in Europe, gave away the awards. Late Baba Amte, author Dr Yusuf Mohammad Pathan, former captain of Indian cricket team Ajit Wadekar were conferred with the Jeevan Gaurav award. Young technocrat Sanjay Gaikwad, was given the Aryabhata award — named after the great Indian scientist.

Addressing the gathering, Deshmukh said Maharashtra will continue to be India's premier state because of its rich cultural heritage.

Baba Amte's son Vikas was to receive the award on behalf of his late father but could not make it. Dr Pathan, too, could not attend the ceremony due to health problems. Deshmukh said he will personally hand over the awards to them. He also announced a donation of Rs 15 lakh to the Maharashtra Mandal.