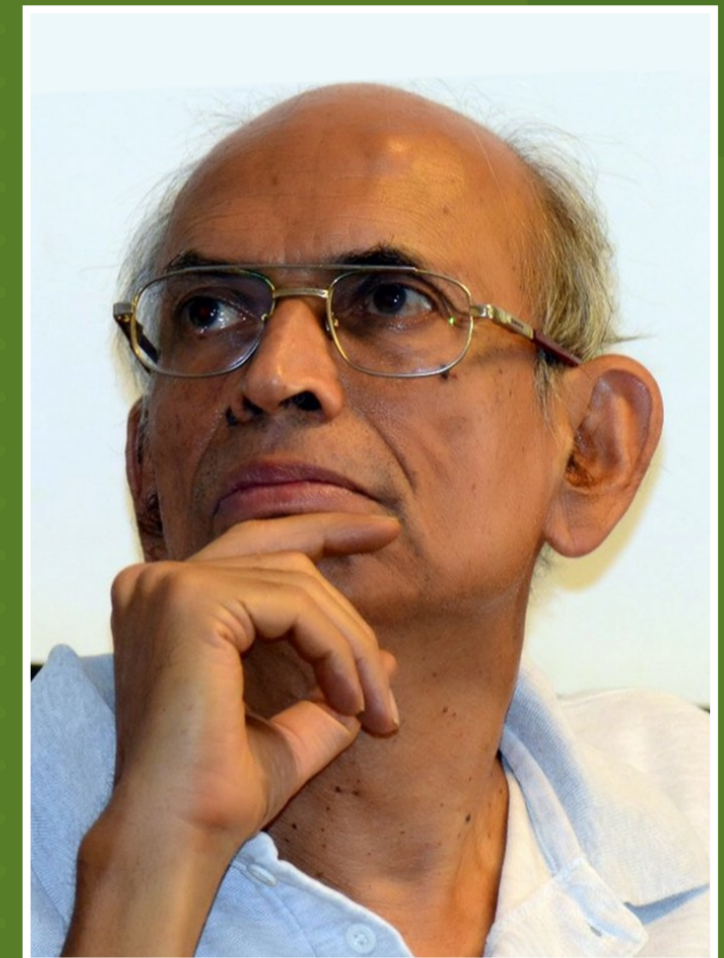


PUNE KNOWLEDGE CLUSTER AND INDIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES PRESENT
INDIA S&T @ 75 LECTURE SERIES

LECTURE 3

CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY, TOWARDS A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH

Indians traditionally viewed the natural world as a community of beings, protecting sacred rivers, forests, plants, and animals. Village communities used the biota of community lands sustainably. When British conquered India was an ocean of trees teeming with wildlife. They created Forest department to confiscate tree wealth of community lands without compensation, falsely claiming that India's farmers and forest-dwellers were destroying it and that Foresters would conserve them through scientific management. These claims of scientific management are baseless. To hide this, Foresters have discouraged all public scrutiny, turning at once into an anti-people and anti-science enterprise. Foresters have continued to operate in independent India as a colonial agency and have progressively decimated country's biodiversity resources. India is a party to International Biodiversity Convention that calls for engaging people in management of the local biodiversity resources. India's Biological Diversity Act provides for the constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees in all local bodies to operationalize these provisions of the Convention. Foresters have taken over implementation of Biological Diversity Act and sabotaged it. The way forward is to hand over biodiversity management to democratic institutions, and to involve local people with substantial experiential knowledge of local ecosystems alongside school, college teachers and other scientists to document biodiversity to create a basis for effective management.

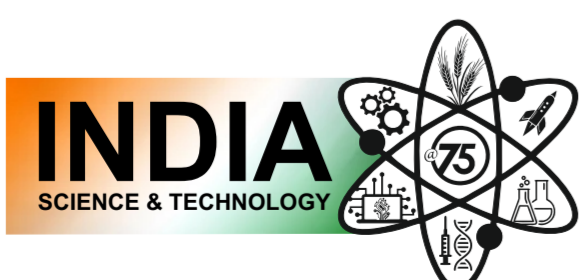


Prof. Madhav Gadgil
Fellow,
Indian Academy of Sciences

DETAILS

SATURDAY | 14TH AUGUST 2021 | 11.00 A. M.

LIVE STREAM ON  **zoom** &  **YouTube**



As a part of the "India S&T @75" events during the countdown to the 75th year of India's independence, the Pune Knowledge Cluster will be organising a number of lectures on scientific topics. These lectures will be delivered by Fellows and Associates of the Indian Academy of Sciences, who are based in Pune, and will be organised in association with the Academy. The lectures will cover a wide variety of topics, ranging from cutting edge science and technology to developments in these areas in the country over the 75 years since independence.