



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

Title: Conserving biodiversity, towards a scientific approach

Organized By	Pune Knowledge Cluster (PKC)
Date	14th August 2021
Time	11:00 AM - 12: 30 PM
Abstract	<p>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.</p>
Open to all	It's public talk. Open to all
Potential Gains	<p>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.</p>
Speaker	Prof. Madhav Gadgil, Fellow, Indian Academy of Sciences



Profiles of Speaker



Brief information about the speaker

Madhav Dhananjaya Gadgil (born 1942) is an Indian ecologist, academic, writer, columnist, and the founder of the Centre for Ecological Sciences, a research forum under the aegis of the Indian Institute of Science. He is a former member of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India and the Head of the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) of 2010, popularly known as the Gadgil Commission. He is a recipient of the Volvo Environment Prize and the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement. The Government of India awarded him the fourth highest civilian award of the Padma Shri in 1981 and followed it up with the third-highest award of the Padma Bhushan in 2006.

About the Organizer



The Pune Knowledge Cluster (PKC) has been established by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. It aims to bring together academia, R&D institutions, and the industry of Pune and its surrounding areas, to address the challenging problems of the region through innovative means, using scientific knowledge and engaging highly skilled human resources.

PKC is administered by the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA). In the initial phase, PKC would focus on Health, Sustainability and Environment, Sustainable Mobility, BIG Data and AI and Capacity Building

For more information, visit: <https://www.pkc.org.in/>