



## Pune Knowledge Cluster

Presents

Conversations with Women Role Models in STEM

**Title of the talk: *My insights and deliberate strategies: Fostering career exploration in the industry***

<b>Organized By</b>	Pune Knowledge Cluster (PKC)
<b>In collaboration with</b>	BASF Chemicals India Pvt Ltd.
<b>Date</b>	<b>Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>4:00 PM to 5:30 PM</b>
<b>Description of the talk series</b>	An initiative by The Pune Knowledge Cluster, which aims to bring forward the journey of women in various fields of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM). This series is conducted in an informal conversational format to help the audience relate to the lives of successful women professionals in S&T, knowing first-hand about their success stories, their failures, and how they moved ahead to make a mark in their field. We hope this initiative will inspire young women to break gender stereotypes, societal barriers and encourage them to pursue careers in STEM.
<b>For whom</b>	It's public talk. Open to all
<b>Potential Gains</b>	Women Role Model Talk series aims to create a supportive ecosystem for women in science to build professional networks, meet women role models and develop leadership skills. The speaker will share details about their journey, research work, and motivation to engage in Chemistry.
<b>Panellists/Trainers/speakers</b>	Name: <b>Dr. Apoorva Deshmukh-Kambale</b> Designation: <b>Senior Staff Scientist</b> Affiliation: <b>Praj matrix, R&amp;D centre, Pune</b>
<b>Registration Link &amp; Eligibility</b>	<b>Shorten Registration Link: <a href="https://forms.gle/ArMfzkPDpQ7FELyp6">https://forms.gle/ArMfzkPDpQ7FELyp6</a></b> <b>QR Code for registration link:</b> 



## Profile of the Speaker



Dr. Apoorva Deshmukh-Kambale

Dr. Apoorva Deshmukh-Kambale was working as a Senior Staff Scientist at PRAJ matrix, R&D centre, a division of PRAJ industries. With a motivation to engage in Biotechnology, she started her career in the industry in 2015.

She is an alumna of Modern College (Shivaji Nagar and Ganeshkhind), Department of Technology, Pune University from where she pursued her B.Sc and M.Sc in Biotechnology. She did her Integrated M.Tech. - Ph.D. in Chemical and Biotechnology, jointly, from Pune University & PRAJ Ind. Ltd. from 2011 to 2016, and received the 'Gold medallist award' for Ph.D. thesis on waste valorisation titled "Development of a bioprocess for the production of 2,3-butanediol".

Dr. Apoorva has 13 years of experience working in the industry. Her expertise covers microbial fermentation processes, and she has successfully developed and optimized strain engineering and bioprocesses, for innovative solutions for industrial projects. So far, she has trained researchers to implement precise experimental protocols and overseen technology transfer for large-scale production, ensuring compliance with regulatory standards. She was recognized as an inventor in a patent for improving fungal enzyme production through developing innovative bioprocess solutions. In 2024, she was awarded the "Stellar Performance Award" for successfully achieving 100% glycerol reduction in yeast through "adaptive lab evolution" method. In the future, she intends to leverage her experience in interdisciplinary scientific fields to contribute towards impactful results.

In her talk, she will share her valuable career insights and lessons learned. She intends to help young future scientists in navigating the industry ecosystem. She is a firm believer that with disciplined commitment, everything is possible.



## 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/>



**BASF** has successfully partnered in India's progress for more than 130 years. As of the end of 2021, BASF had 2,311 employees in India with 8 production sites and 39 offices throughout the country. The Innovation Campus Mumbai and the Coatings Technical Center in Mangalore are both parts of BASF's global technology platform. In 2021, BASF registered sales of approximately €2.3 billion in India. Further information is available on [www.basf.com/in](http://www.basf.com/in)