



**EMERITUS PROFESSOR**

**Prof. Smita S. Lele**

*B.Chem. Engg., M.Chem.Engg., Ph.D. (Tech.)  
FMASc, FBRs, FAFST, FICS*

Former Director, ICT Jalna Campus and Professor  
of Biochemical Engg.

**Research Interests:**

Food product/process development, fruit & vegetable processing with complete utilization - green processes, biomolecules from seeds and meals, non-grape fruit wines, plant biotechnology, biological effluent treatment

**P**rofessor. Smita Lele has over 40 years experience in Industry, Academics, Research, Administration and entrepreneurship as well. She is currently Emeritus professor at the Institute of Chemical Technology. Formerly she was the Director ICT, Marathwada Campus, Jalna.

Prof. Lele has served ICT in various capacities:

- Coordinator of the M.Tech. in Bioprocess Technology programme (2004-2008)
- Head of the Department of Food Engineering and Technology (2008-2012); initiated the M.Tech. in Food Biotechnology programme
- Controller of Examinations (2012-2014)

- Registrar (2014-2018); initiated psychometry assessment of students and recruits and started the Day Care Centre on campus for children of ICT staff, faculty members and students
- Director of ICT's first off-campus at Marathwada, Jalna (2018-2020); formulated mission and vision of ICT-MARJ and contributed immensely to image building of the new campus

Prof. Lele has successfully mentored 2 Start-up units on food processing (i) Trilok Food Satara (since 2012), (ii) Sawarde Valley Food Foundation Chiplun Ratnagiri (Section 8 company, since 2017). The products developed and marketed under Justsip, Justeat, Bigmeal and Frutine brands are novel, healthy, tasty and affordable. All the projects involve 4 win approach – making farmers, processor, Consumer and the society happy. During COVID pandemic, Pune Municipal Corporation chose some of these products for giving to the patients due to its healthy, tasty, affordable nature. The products have a shelf life of 6 months or more without addition of any chemicals or Prof. Lele has many “First” to her credit. She was the First woman Engineer to work for Unilever (then Hindustan Lever Ltd) way back in 1977. She developed and maintained the first website of ICT – www.udct.org in the period 2001-2005, also wrote application on behalf of ICT for IMC Bajaj Quality Award - a process that ran over almost for 1 year. She also compiled ICT annual report in that period and participated in making first formal Vision Mission statements for the Institute. This training helped her to take up that challenge of becoming the Founder Director of ICT Marathwada Campus at Jalna in year 2018. Under her able leadership in just a span of 2 years, the new campus developed an excellent academic and research culture. Through outreach activities she has made an impact in Marathwada region in the educational field and signed many MOUs.

Prof. Lele is a multifaceted personality and she has an extraordinary passion for outreach activities to inculcate scientific temper in the society, to guide students for appropriate career selection and educate house-wife to use science in kitchen and thus improve quality of life. She has been a believer of PSR- personal social responsibility since her student days and has been a member and office bearer, Board member, president etc. of several professional bodies such as Indian Women Scientists Association, AFST, BRSI etc. She has been conducting National Sc Day programs for High school students for last 2 decades and continues the



### Recognized Research Guide for Ph.D.

(Tech.) in Food Engineering and Technology, Food Biotechnology, Bioprocess Technology, Ph.D. (Sci) in Food Science, Biotechnology

### Guided students

Ph.D.: 32,  
Ongoing PhD: 06  
Masters: 72

### Total Research Publications

Total 142  
National: 11  
International: 131

### Patents Granted: 03

H-index: 31  
i10 index - 73  
Citations: 4224

### National and International Awards:

- Vividhalakshi Audyogik Sanshodhan Vikas (VASVIK) award (2018)
- “Uncha Maza Zoka” Zee Marathi Award for woman achiever in the area of science for society (2016)
- Dr. Bains Life Time Achievement Award for Women in Food Tech given by AFST (2005)
- Hari Om Ashram Prerit Bhatnagar Award for Environmental Sc. (2003)

### Professional activities

Member of several committees of DST, DBT, FSSAI etc. and participated in policy making.

Life Member of Asso. Of Food Scientist and Tech. (AFST), Biotech Research Society of India (BRSI), Asso. of Microbiologist India (AMI), UDCT Alumni Asso. (UAA), Indian Women Scientists' Asso. (IWSA) and Third World Organization of Women in Science (TWOWS) any many more social and scientific bodies.



**Technologies developed and transferred : 22**

- (i) Effluent treatment – distillery waste, radioactive nitrate waste - 02
- (ii) Justsip and Just eat brand drinking vegetables – 03
- (iii) Retorted Indian Traditional foods - 15
- (iv) Non-grape fruit wines - 02

tradition in ICT Jalna as well. She made many educational films with TEQIP –Phase I support in 2008 and distributed few thousand CD- DVD free to schools and other organizations for popularizing science mainly for students and home maker women. She also runs a Free You tube channel –< dr smita lele> started in year 2020 where 40 educational films related to day-to-day science in kitchen nutrition, food and demo training on technologies developed are uploaded. It also has Marathi series Anna Brahma (10 parts) describing food nutrition in day-to-day life. The channel has over 1300 subscribers. Wrote Marathi books on Swayapak gharat Vidyan, Khadya Vidnya, Shahanpanachya 100 Goshti – 3 editions are published. Wrote a column Jeevan Vidyan in Loksatta Newspaper for the entire year 2020 making a positive impact on health and nutrition on over million persons across the state of Maharashtra.