

## **Seminar Report: ACTREC Alumni Talk by Dr. Nikhil Sangith**

As part of the ACTREC Alumni Talk Series, Dr. Nikhil Sangith, an esteemed alumnus of Dr. Prasanna Venkatraman's lab, visited ACTREC on **29th November** for a seminar held at 4:15 PM in the PS Mini Auditorium.

Dr. Nikhil Sangith, currently serving as the **Director of Research and Development at Xact Diagnostek Private Limited**, shared insights from his journey in the biotechnology sector. His company specializes in developing diagnostic kits and reagents, protein and enzyme engineering, and fostering collaborative projects in the life sciences domain.

Dr. Nikhil delivered a thought-provoking talk on "**The Importance of Fundamental Research in Startups**," shedding light on the critical role of basic research in driving innovation and success in entrepreneurial ventures. The audience, comprising students, researchers, and faculty, deeply appreciated his candid discussion about the challenges and roadmap for navigating the startup ecosystem. His pioneering efforts have led to numerous collaborations and the successful development of a vaccine for animal livestock, underscoring the impact of his work in applied research.

The event concluded with **Dr. Prasanna Venkatraman**, Deputy Director of the Cancer Research Institute, presenting Dr. Nikhil Sangith with a certificate of appreciation as a token of gratitude for his inspiring talk and contributions to the field.

Dr. Nikhil's visit served as an excellent opportunity for the ACTREC community to engage with and learn from his experiences, further strengthening the connection between academia and industry.