

## **Sh. Mukesh A. Pund**

Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIScPR - Co-Chairperson

Sh. Mukesh Pund is a distinguished academic and researcher with a strong focus on digital information resources, knowledge management, and the advancement of open science initiatives. He is currently serving as the Chief Scientist at the CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR), where he also leads the Digital Information Resources Division. With a career spanning over several years, Sh. Pund has made significant contributions to the development and management of digital information systems, particularly in the context of knowledge management and resource sharing within the scientific community. As the Coordinator and Project Leader of the National Knowledge Resource Consortium (NKRC), Sh. Pund has played a pivotal role in enhancing access to essential scientific resources across India. His leadership in this initiative has been instrumental in improving the availability of scientific literature and databases for researchers, educators, and policymakers nationwide. Additionally, Sh. Pund serves as the Principal Investigator for the Pravasi Bharatiya Academic and Scientific Sampark (PRABHASS) Digital Platform, an important project aimed at connecting and engaging with the global Indian diaspora in the fields of academia and scientific research. This initiative highlights his commitment to fostering international collaboration and promoting knowledge exchange among Indian researchers globally. In his previous roles, Sh. Pund has served as the Head of the Information and Resources Management Division and as the Nodal Officer for the CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative Project, where he contributed to the development of skill-building programs aimed at enhancing the capacity of researchers and professionals within the scientific community. Sh. Pund's academic expertise extends beyond information systems into broader issues of open science, open access, and open-source technologies. He is an advocate for transforming the way scientific knowledge is shared and accessed, championing the principles of transparency, collaboration, and inclusivity. Sh. Pund is a strong advocate for open science, open access, and open-source initiatives, recognizing their transformative potential in democratizing knowledge and advancing scientific research. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of library and information sciences, Sh. Mukesh Pund was honored with the Best Library Professional Award 2023 (Technical). This accolade underscores his exceptional expertise and leadership in the management of digital information resources and his commitment to the advancement of scientific communication. Sh. Pund's research and professional endeavors have had a profound impact on the way scientific information is curated, shared, and utilized, both within India and globally. With a passion for innovation and knowledge dissemination, Sh. Pund continues to make lasting contributions to the evolution of digital platforms and knowledge management systems that support the scientific community and promote open access to research across the globe.



