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Prof. Ajay A. Deshpande is currently the Adjunct Professor at the Centre for Policy Studies, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. He also served as the Expert Member, National Green Tribunal during March 2013 to July 2017. He is currently a part-time member of the Compliance Review Panel of Asian Development Bank, Manila. He has also worked in several senior positions in Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation. He has also worked as Environmental Specialist at Water and Power Consultancy Services (I) Ltd (WAPCOS) at New Delhi from 1992-1997. He was Chairman of the committee which was constituted under orders of NGT for Monitoring the compliance of HW regulations in the country. During his tenure at MPCB several initiatives of capacity building including expansion of environmental monitoring program, theme-based training program, research and development division, computerisation, auto-renewal, MPCB fellowship and State environmental policy were initiated. He was also invited to deliver lectures at several national and international programs, including one at Harvard University.

Prof Deshpande holds degrees in civil engineering: an undergraduate degree from the Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli (1988) and a master's degree in Environmental Engineering from Walchand College of Engineering (1990). Subsequently, he completed Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Indian Institute of Delhi (1997).

Areas of Expertise, Teaching and Research:

1. Environmentally Sound Infrastructure Development by integrating the, Environmental Safeguards in Development of Infrastructure projects, Design of Environmental safeguard framework for the development organisations
2. Enforcement and compliance strategies for the environmental regulations through innovative environmental Governance,
3. Critically Polluted areas and design of action plans. Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of such action plans
4. Environmental status reports for the urban areas
5. Environmental monitoring network, design and optimisation, analysis and interpretation of the environmental quality data for policy framing, analysis and reviews.
6. Environmental audits of the industrial units and industrial areas, and evolving the corrective and remedial action plans