

# 8<sup>th</sup> International Women's Day

7<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) March 2026 | Hotel President, Pune 04

**UPDATE**

## International Women's Day Celebration – "Give to Gain"



As part of the International Women's Day celebrations, the GDC Tech Forum & ASM International Pune Chapter jointly organized Women's Day celebration.

Mr. Anil Kulkarni, President the Chief Guest, Panellists, Invitees, Members of GDCTECH & ASM Pune Chapter.

In his welcome address to introduce the importance & objective of the IWD.

Ms. Swathi Ramesh in her Keynote address narrated her experience of career growth, not only by the guidance of her father Mr. Ramesh & colleagues in the factory. Main contributor for her growth was developing the co-cordial relationship with people on the shop floor to understand their pain areas and thinking on solutions. Which was a good learning point and gaining the confidence of the shop floor people and enhancing my technical capability capacity.

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## Distinguished Panelists



### The distinguished panelists included:

- Aishwarya Jadhav, Business Associate at Machine Tech, with experience in foundry operations and manufacturing management.
- Dr. Manisha Kulthe, Head of the Department of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering at COEP Technological University, Pune,

with extensive experience in teaching, research, and academic leadership in materials science.

- Meha Shah, Business Development Executive at Sipra Engineers Pvt. Ltd., representing the new generation of professionals engaged in global engineering business development.
- Sayali Hitesh Patil, Senior Manager – Operations at Machine Tech, with expertise in financial planning, MIS, and international operations.
- Swati Jagtap, Head of Operations at Assertive Industries LLP, bringing over 16 years of industrial experience in wiring harness manufacturing and die casting operations.

## Discussion Highlights

The conversation was structured around the central idea that giving—through effort, knowledge sharing, mentorship, and support—creates opportunities for growth and collective progress. Panelists reflected on their early career experiences and the investments they made in building technical credibility in traditionally male-dominated industrial environments. They shared how persistence, continuous learning, and the willingness to take on challenging responsibilities helped them gain professional confidence and recognition.

The discussion also explored the evolving role of women in metallurgy, die casting, and manufacturing industries. Panelists emphasized the importance of mentorship, supportive workplace cultures, and inclusive leadership in enabling more women to pursue and sustain careers in engineering and manufacturing.

A particularly engaging segment of the discussion connected the theme “Give to Gain” to metallurgical processes, with panelists drawing parallels between professional growth and processes such as forging, heat treatment, and alloying - where transformation occurs through deliberate input of energy, effort, and time.

The panel concluded with a shared reflection that when individuals and organizations consciously invest in supporting women’s growth, the benefits extend beyond individuals to strengthen teams, industries, and Communities. The session served as an inspiring reminder that giving - whether through knowledge, opportunity, or encouragement - is not a subtraction but a multiplier for progress.

Mr. R.T. Kulkarni, Founder, GDCTECH presented the appreciation mementos to the Chief Guest and Panelists.



Mr. D.G. Chivate, President, ASM Pune Chapter, proposed the vote of thanks. The entire programme ended with Dinner.

