## Dr. S. SHARMILA BEGUM Designation: Associate Professor, Head of the Department email: sharmilabegum@lbc.edu.in

**Dr. S. Sharmila Begum** is an Associate Professor and Head of the Biotechnology Department at Dr. Lankapalli Bullayya College, Visakhapatnam, with 20 years of experience in teaching and research. She holds an M.Sc., M.Phil., and Ph.D. in Biotechnology from Andhra University and has qualified in prestigious exams such as CSIR-NET, BARC, and APPSC exams for DLs and Assistant Professors.

Her expertise spans microbiology, molecular biology, bioinformatics, environmental bioremediation, and organic product development. Known for her innovative teaching methods, she engages students with hands-on learning in both the classroom and laboratory. She has been instrumental in establishing a Biotechnology Incubation Centre and an ESIC Start-up Centre in collaboration with the Entrepreneurship Cell at her college.

Her mentorship has led to the development of eco-friendly products like bioplastics, bioenzymes, vermicompost, and chemical-free cosmetics, as well as innovations in mushroom cultivation and plant tissue culture. She is currently guiding two Ph.D. students and has mentored 40 postgraduate projects.

She has published 13 research papers, served as a reviewer for the *American Journal of Bio Science*, and has organized numerous seminars, webinars, and workshops. She has also designed five add-on programs to equip students with professional skills in Biotechnology.