

## Work visit of a Belgian colleague to India

(27/11/2023-10/12/2023)

**Katrien Kolenberg** (KU Leuven/UAntwerp/VUB, Belgium; see picture) went to India to meet **Ajit K. Kembhavi** (IUCAA, India) to initiate collaborations in citizen science, public engagement and STE(A)M education inspired by the project [AstroSounds](#). This is a citizen science project aimed at investigating to what extent the human ear is capable of distinguishing the timbre of different types of pulsating stars. She gave



talks on astronomy and asteroseismology with some focus on citizen science at five different places and had many meetings with colleagues active in science, science communication, and citizen science. This visit has shown that, in general, there is a large potential to build bridges to society and to collaborate at all levels. For AstroSounds, specifically, there are possibilities to further extend the project (e.g. inclusion of artificial intelligence). However, elaboration of the plans still requires a lot of research work and dedication, revealing the need for additional funds to recruit PhD students and post-docs.