



St. Vincent College
(Affiliated to Savtribai Phule Pune University)
Pune -411037

Title of the Event	Seminar: “Mastering MS Excel for Cost Accounting: Bridging Theory with Digital Practice”		
Date of the Event	20th February 2025	Place of the event	St. Vincent College, Pune
Objectives of the Event	The seminar “Mastering MS Excel for Cost Accounting” aimed to enhance the digital proficiency of T.Y.B.Com students by demonstrating practical applications of MS Excel in core cost accounting functions, thereby bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and industry-ready technical skills.		
Name/s of the Resource Persons	Dr. Gilbi John		
A short narration of the program			
Seminar: “Mastering MS Excel for Cost Accounting: Bridging Theory with Digital Practice” On 20th February 2025, St. Vincent College, Pune, organized a highly focused and application-oriented seminar titled “Mastering MS Excel for Cost Accounting: Bridging Theory with Digital Practice”, exclusively for its T.Y.B.Com students. The session was conducted by Dr. Gilbi John, Associate Professor and Vice Principal from department of Commerce and aimed to equip graduate learners with practical, industry-relevant digital competencies that enhance the accuracy, efficiency, and analytical depth of cost accounting tasks. The seminar was held in the college’s smart classroom equipped with computer workstations, enabling a hands-on learning environment. It commenced with an overview of the evolving role of digital tools in modern accounting practices, where Dr. John emphasized that proficiency in MS Excel is no longer optional but essential for commerce professionals. She highlighted how Excel serves as a foundational platform for budgeting, variance analysis, cost allocation, break-even modeling, and financial forecasting—core components of the T.Y.B.Com curriculum and real-world accounting functions. The core of the session was structured around live demonstrations and guided practice, covering key Excel functionalities tailored to cost accounting scenarios. Students learned to: • Design dynamic cost sheets using formulas and cell referencing; • Apply SUMIF, VLOOKUP, and PivotTables for department-wise cost analysis;			



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- Build flexible templates for job costing and process costing;
- Utilize data validation and conditional formatting to minimize errors and improve presentation;
- Create interactive charts and dashboards to visualize cost behavior and trends.

Special attention was given to best practices in spreadsheet design, including logical structuring, documentation through comments, and audit trails—skills that align with professional standards of transparency and accountability. Dr. John also introduced basic what-if analysis tools (Goal Seek and Scenario Manager), enabling students to explore the impact of variable changes on profitability and cost control.

Throughout the session, students actively engaged in replicating exercises on their systems, receiving immediate feedback and troubleshooting support. The interactive format encouraged peer collaboration and problem-solving, reinforcing both technical and cognitive skills. Many participants noted that the seminar transformed their perception of Excel from a generic tool to a powerful analytical instrument directly applicable to their dissertation projects, internships, and future careers.

The seminar aligns seamlessly with St. Vincent College's commitment to outcome-based education and the integration of ICT-enabled pedagogy across disciplines. By contextualizing software training within a specialized domain like cost accounting, the event exemplifies the institution's effort to produce graduates who are not only theoretically sound but also digitally fluent and industry-ready.

This initiative contributes significantly to the college's broader goals of curricular enrichment, skill development, and employability enhancement—key pillars of quality higher education as recognized by national accreditation frameworks. The Department of Commerce plans to institutionalize such domain-specific digital literacy sessions as a regular feature of its graduate program, ensuring sustained relevance and academic excellence.

Name of the Collaborating Agency	St. Vincent College
Learning Outcomes of the Event for the Participants	Students gained hands-on experience in using Excel for cost sheet preparation, variance analysis, job costing, and data visualization, significantly improving their analytical



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	efficiency and readiness for academic projects and professional roles in accounting and finance.
Learning Outcomes for the Organizing team	The organizing team strengthened its capacity to deliver domain-specific, technology-integrated pedagogy and reinforced its ability to align co-curricular workshops with curricular outcomes and evolving industry expectations in commerce education.
No. of Participants	100+ Students of T.Y.B.Com
Faculty in Charge	Dr. Gilbi John
Documents Attached	1. Attendance Sheet 2. Geotag photographs 3. Resume of resource persons if any 4. Copy of remuneration paid if any 5. Notice of the event 6. Thank you letter to the resource persons