



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

Title of Event	Faculty Development Program: Lecture by Dr. Sharad Jawadekar on "Union Budget and Higher Education" at St. Vincent College		
Date of Event	23 rd August 2024	Place of Event	Staffroom, St. Vincent College
Objective of the event	To understand the Union Budget		
Name of the resource person	Dr. Sharad Jawadekar		
A short narration of the program			
Faculty Development Program: Lecture by Dr. Sharad Jawadekar on "Union Budget and Higher Education" at St. Vincent College			
As part of the ongoing Faculty Development Program, St. Vincent College hosted a special session on 23rd August 2024, where Dr. Sharad Jawadekar delivered an insightful lecture on the topic "Union Budget and Higher Education." The session was attended by faculty members across various departments, aiming to provide a deeper understanding of how the Union Budget impacts higher education in India. Dr. Jawadekar began his talk by outlining the key provisions in the Union Budget related to education, with a focus on the higher education sector. He emphasized how budget allocations for education have fluctuated in recent years, noting that while there has been a steady increase in funding, the allocation still falls short of the target set by education reform advocates. Impact of the Union Budget on Higher Education Dr. Jawadekar provided a detailed analysis of how the budget affects higher education institutions, focusing on critical areas such as: • Research and Innovation: He highlighted the government’s initiatives to boost research output by allocating funds to research institutions and universities. However, he pointed out that while research funding has increased, there is still a need for more robust infrastructure to support cutting-edge research.			



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- **Skill Development and Employability:** One of the key focuses of the Union Budget is improving employability through skill development programs. Dr. Jawadekar explained how funds are allocated for vocational education and technical training programs within higher education institutions, designed to bridge the gap between academic learning and industry requirements.
- **Infrastructure Development:** He discussed the government's push to improve the infrastructure of universities and colleges, ensuring that institutions have the resources to provide quality education. The importance of digital infrastructure, especially in light of the shift toward online education during the pandemic, was also emphasized.

National Education Policy (NEP) and Budget Provisions

Dr. Jawadekar also linked the Union Budget's provisions with the goals set by the National Education Policy (NEP). He explained how the NEP's focus on multidisciplinary education, flexibility in academic programs, and internationalization of higher education has influenced budgetary allocations. He encouraged faculty members to align their academic initiatives with these policy goals to maximize the opportunities provided by the budget.

Challenges and Opportunities

Dr. Jawadekar highlighted the challenges faced by higher education institutions due to budgetary constraints, such as:

- Limited funding for public universities, which can affect their ability to compete with private institutions.
- Inadequate financial aid and scholarship programs, which restrict access to higher education for marginalized communities.

However, he also pointed out opportunities that come with the budget, such as the increased focus on digital learning platforms, collaborations with foreign institutions, and initiatives aimed at promoting inclusive education.



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Faculty Role in Maximizing Budgetary Resources

Toward the end of the lecture, Dr. Jawadekar urged faculty members to play an active role in securing grants and utilizing government-funded research initiatives. He encouraged them to explore public-private partnerships, work with industry stakeholders, and apply for government-sponsored research projects to enhance the academic and financial standing of their institutions.

Conclusion

The session concluded with a lively discussion where faculty members engaged Dr. Jawadekar with questions about budgetary challenges specific to their institutions and how they could advocate for better resources. The talk provided a comprehensive overview of the Union Budget's impact on higher education, equipping faculty members with the knowledge to better navigate financial constraints while maximizing the opportunities presented by government policies.

Overall, the lecture was highly informative and relevant, offering practical insights into the intersection of fiscal policy and higher education, and fostering a better understanding of how faculty can contribute to the growth and success of their institutions within the framework of the Union Budget.

Name of the Collaborating Agency	_____
Learning Outcomes of the Event for the Participants	The faculty members understood the different dimensions of the union budget.
Learning Outcomes for the Organizing team	To help the faculty members understand the impact of union budget on the economy and education
No. of Participants	Faculty members of St. Vincent College
Faculty in Charge	Dr. Anil Adsule



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Documents Attached

Photographs

Photographs

