



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

Title of the Event	Participation in the Joint Conference on Career Development and Upskilling under the “Career Katta” Initiative		
Date of the Event	12th–13th February 2025	Place of the event	Shardabai Pawar Mahila Arts, Commerce and Science College, Sharadnagar, Baramati
Objectives of the Event	The conference aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry by exposing students and educators to emerging career pathways, research-driven innovation, and essential upskilling strategies under the Maharashtra Government’s “Career Katta” initiative. It sought to inspire self-reliance, entrepreneurial thinking, and lifelong learning among youth through structured seminars and expert interactions.		
Name/s of the Resource Persons	Representatives from Career Katta		
A short narration of the program			
Participation in the Joint Conference on Career Development and Upskilling under the “Career Katta” Initiative			
St. Vincent College, Pune, actively participated in the Joint Conference on Career Development and Upskilling, a flagship two-day academic-industry confluence held on 12th and 13th February 2025 under the Maharashtra Government’s “Career Katta” initiative. The event, hosted by Shardabai Pawar Mahila Arts, Commerce and Science College, Sharadnagar (Baramati), in partnership with the Maharashtra Information Technology Support Centre (MITSC), brought together students, educators, policymakers, and industry leaders to foster a future-ready, skilled, and self-reliant youth ecosystem. Representing the institution, Dr. Milind Gaikwad, Faculty Member, accompanied three selected undergraduate students from diverse disciplines, enabling them to engage with cutting-edge discourse on research, entrepreneurship, and employability in the 21st-century economy. Themed around three transformative pillars—“Research as a Catalyst for Innovation,” “Entrepreneurship and Self-Reliance,” and “Upskilling for Modern Careers”—the conference served as a dynamic platform for knowledge exchange, mentorship, and strategic alignment between academia and industry. St. Vincent College’s delegation immersed itself in a series of high-impact seminars, panel discussions, and interactive sessions, each meticulously designed to translate theoretical knowledge into actionable career strategies.			



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The first thematic track, “Research as a Catalyst for Innovation,” featured expert-led seminars that demystified research methodologies for undergraduate learners. Participants explored how inquiry-driven learning can address real-world challenges in sustainability, public health, and digital governance. Practical demonstrations on literature review, data collection, and ethical research practices equipped students with foundational tools to pursue academic excellence and innovation.

The second pillar, “Entrepreneurship and Self-Reliance,” resonated deeply with the college’s emphasis on ethical leadership and initiative. Industry pioneers and startup founders shared compelling narratives of ideation, resilience, and growth, highlighting government schemes such as MahaStartup and Stand-Up India as enablers for young entrepreneurs. Interactive panels delved into business model validation, access to seed funding, intellectual property rights, and the role of social entrepreneurship in rural development—inspiring the student delegates to view enterprise not just as a career, but as a vehicle for societal impact.

The third and highly practical theme, “Upskilling for Modern Careers,” addressed the evolving demands of the global job market. Seminars focused on hybrid competencies—combining technical proficiencies (including data literacy, AI awareness, and digital tools) with essential soft skills such as critical communication, emotional intelligence, and collaborative problem-solving. Experts emphasized the need for lifelong learning and micro-credentialing through platforms like SWAYAM, NPTEL, and industry-recognized certifications.

A notable feature of the conference was the Industry-Academia Dialogue, where panelists from IT, manufacturing, education, and agri-tech sectors identified critical skill gaps and advocated for curriculum modernization, project-based learning, and stronger internship ecosystems. The Student Innovators’ Showcase further enriched the experience, as young participants presented prototypes in renewable energy, ed-tech, and community health—receiving constructive feedback from mentors and potential incubation leads.

For the St. Vincent College delegation, the conference was both enlightening and affirming. The three student participants—representing Commerce, Arts, and Science streams—gained clarity on interdisciplinary career pathways, while Dr. Milind Gaikwad engaged with fellow educators on integrating



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research orientation and skill modules into undergraduate pedagogy. The exposure reinforced the college's ongoing efforts to embed career readiness, innovation, and social responsibility into its academic fabric.

This participation exemplifies St. Vincent College's proactive commitment to extending learning beyond the classroom and fostering strategic collaborations that enhance student employability and holistic development. By engaging with state-level initiatives like Career Katta, the institution reaffirms its role as a responsive, future-oriented academic community dedicated to nurturing graduates who are not only knowledgeable but also agile, entrepreneurial, and ethically grounded—ready to contribute meaningfully to a rapidly transforming world.

Name of the Collaborating Agency	Maharashtra Information Technology Support Centre (MITSC), Government of Maharashtra, in collaboration with Shardabai Pawar Mahila College
Learning Outcomes of the Event for the Participants	Student delegates gained practical insights into research methodologies, startup ecosystems, and in-demand technical and soft skills, enabling them to make informed career choices. They returned with enhanced confidence, a broader perspective on interdisciplinary opportunities, and actionable knowledge to navigate the modern job market.
Learning Outcomes for the Organizing team	Dr. Milind Gaikwad and the institutional coordinators deepened their understanding of state-level skilling frameworks and industry expectations, which will inform curriculum enhancements and career guidance strategies. The experience also strengthened the college's capacity to leverage external academic networks for student development and institutional innovation.
No. of Participants	3 students and a faculty member
Faculty in Charge	Dr. Milind Gaikwad
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



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Photographs

