

VSEP Bulletin



**Vinayaka Mission's School of
Economics and Public Policy (VSEP)**

Where Policy Meets Purpose

Dr. A. S. Ganesan, Hon'ble Chancellor, VMRF-DU with Prof. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Advisory Committee, VSEP

Dean's Desk

Dear Stakeholders,

It is with immense pride and anticipation that we present the inaugural issue of the Vinayaka Mission's School of Economics and Public Policy (VSEP) newsletter. This initiative is a testament to our commitment to transparency, engagement, and academic excellence.

We are deeply indebted to our esteemed Chancellor, Dr. Ganesan, for his unwavering belief in VSEP's vision. His invaluable guidance has been instrumental in shaping our institution into a center of academic rigor and societal impact. We are equally grateful to Dr. Anuradha Ganesan., Vice-President, VMRF, for her inspiring words of wisdom. Her support has been a constant source of motivation for our entire community. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Suresh Samuel for his exceptional leadership and guidance. His contributions have been pivotal in steering VSEP towards new heights.

This newsletter aims to provide a comprehensive overview of VSEP's activities, achievements, and aspirations. It is our endeavor to keep you informed about our academic pursuits, research initiatives, and community engagements.

As we embark on this journey, we are thrilled to share the experiences of our talented faculty and interns, who are the backbone of our institution.

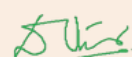


The recent presentation of the Union Budget 2024-25 by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman, marks a significant moment in our nation's economic trajectory. We believe that there is no better time to launch this newsletter than amidst such crucial policy discussions. VSEP is committed to analyzing and dissecting the budget's implications for the economy and society, and we will continue to provide insightful commentary and analysis through this platform.

We invite you to join us in this exciting journey as we strive to make a meaningful contribution to the field of economics and public policy. Your feedback and support are invaluable to us.

Together, let's weave a tapestry of innovation and service, redefining what's possible.

Sincerely,



Dr. Debdulal Thakur

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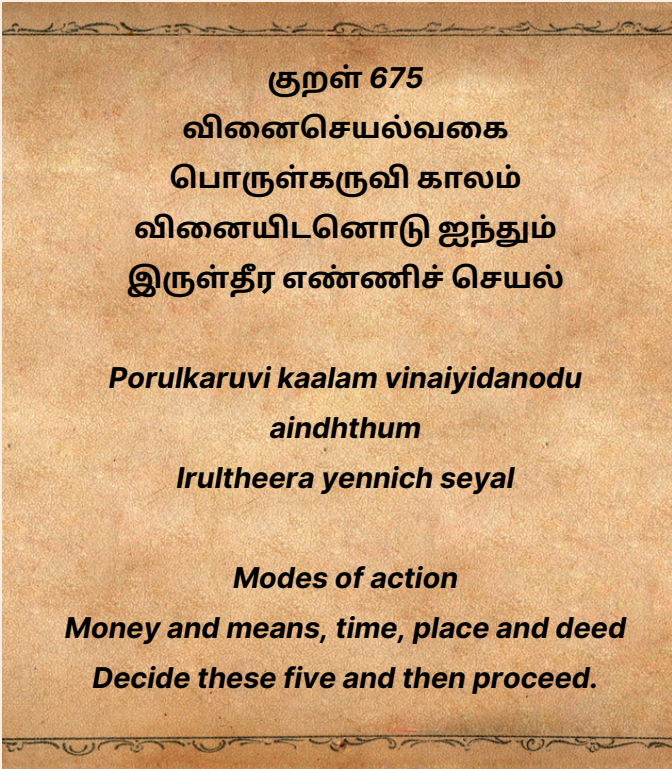


Words of Vision: Letter from the Vice-President

Dr. ANURADHA GANESAN

Dear Faculty and Students,

Congratulations on the first edition of Vinayaka Mission's School of Economics & Public Policy (VSEP) newsletter. Public Policy and Economics have played a vital role in shaping our nation, from ancient texts like the Arthashastra & Thirukkural to the modern policies we see today our history is rich with diverse ideas. The wisdom of ancient scholars like Thiruvalluvar remains relevant today.



He states the modes of action for utilising the five essentials - Money, Means, Time, Place and Deed, for success in every economic activity. Thiruvalluvar emphasised the factors of production: land, labour, capital, organisation, time, and technology. He said, "Unfailing harvest, competent body of men, group of men whose wealth knows no diminution, are the components of an economy." He also noted the importance of executing work at the proper time to ensure success, and he highlighted the crucial role of time and technology in achieving seemingly impossible feats. "Anyone who executes at the appropriate time with appropriate technology can conquer the world." He asserted on the importance of capital formation and savings, and remarked that "Profit cannot be had without capital."

VSEP aims to broaden your perspectives and prepare you for leadership in advocacy, research, and real-world policy work. Innovative thinking in public policy and economics is key to India's success in healthcare, IT, engineering, and more.

Take advantage of every opportunity to learn from our experienced faculty and connect with experts in various sectors.

This newsletter is your space to share ideas and solve problems. Remember, the success of any industry depends on its social and economic sustainability. With globalisation on the rise, you have a unique role in shaping the future.

I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing the impact of your work and your achievements.

Best regards,

Dr. Anuradha Ganesan

Vice President,

Vinayaka Mission's Research Foundation,

(Deemed to be University)



COLLEGE TO CAREER

Webinar Series

WEBINAR 1: EXPLORING ECONOMICS AND PUBLIC POLICY

The webinar, part of a series aimed at inspiring new generations of economics and public policy students, commenced on 9th June 2024 featuring renowned econometrician Prof. Anil Kumar Bera. He shared his life story, highlighting his journey from a remote village in West Bengal to becoming a renowned economist. He discussed the importance of perseverance, education, and adaptability. Bera explained the evolution of economics, emphasizing the growing significance of quantitative economics due to data availability. He also provided insights into the career prospects in economics and the critical role of data analytics. The session aimed to bridge the gap between established economists and aspiring students, offering a motivational perspective on the field of economics .



Prof. Anil Kumar Bera,
Professor, Department of Economics,
University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign



Mr. Rohit Kumar,
Co-Founder, Young Leaders for Active
Citizenship (YLAC) and The Quantum Hub (TQH)



Mr. Tanushankar Chakraborty,
Assistant Head, International School of Penang,
IB Consultant, CIS Evaluator

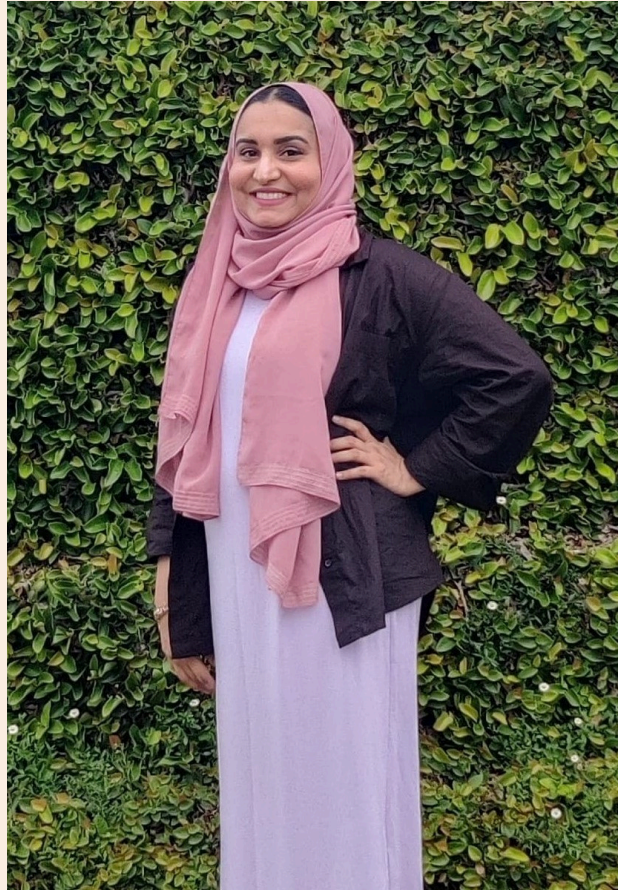
WEBINAR 2: NAVIGATING CAREER PATHS IN ECONOMICS AND PUBLIC POLICY

VSEP hosted a thought-provoking webinar, second in the series of 'College to Career' on 20th June 2024, featuring esteemed speakers Mr. Rohit Kumar, Co-Founder of The Quantum Hub (TQH), and Mr. Tanushankar, an IB Educator and passionate advocate for holistic education. The discussion revolved around the evolving landscape of education, the importance of 21st-century skills, and the impact of technological advancements on careers and policymaking.

This webinar underscored the need for a dynamic approach to education and career development, focusing on skills, adaptability, and technological integration. We are excited to continue exploring these themes and fostering discussions that prepare our students and professionals for the future.



Meet the Faculty



Dr. SHAHIN KHAN **Assistant Professor**


Dr. Shahin Khan is an accomplished academician working in the area of environmental and resource economics. She holds doctorate in economics from Manipal University Jaipur, where she was the recipient of prestigious Dr. Ramdas Pai Research Scholarship Award.


She graduated from Sophia Girls College and Maharaja Sayajirao University (MSU, Baroda) with a bachelor's and master's degree in economics, respectively. She has presented her research throughout her master's and doctoral studies at several leading institutions of higher learning, including IIT Roorkee, IIFT Delhi, CURAJ, IIFM Bhopal, and IIM Kashipur. She has written a book on empirical evidence of the environmental Kuznets curve in India. In addition, she has research papers published in journals indexed by SCI and Scopus.

She worked as an Assistant Professor of economics at many esteemed universities before joining to VSEP, including Parishkar International College (affiliated to Rajasthan University), G. D. Goenka University (Delhi NCR), and Manipal University Jaipur. While working at GD Goenka University, she earned a Seed Grant Research Award to further her investigation of the perception, attitudes and behavior of households about the recycling of PET plastic bottles.

Her teaching expertise includes mathematical economics, quantitative approaches, game theory, econometrics, and environmental economics, while her research interests include environmental valuation and degrowth

“To impart wisdom is the true art of a professor; it is not merely the transfer of knowledge, but the nurturing of insight that shapes a pupil's journey towards understanding and the pursuit of greater knowledge”

 [linkedin.com/in/dr-shahin-khan](https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-shahin-khan)

 <https://vsep.edu.in/dr-shahin-khan/>



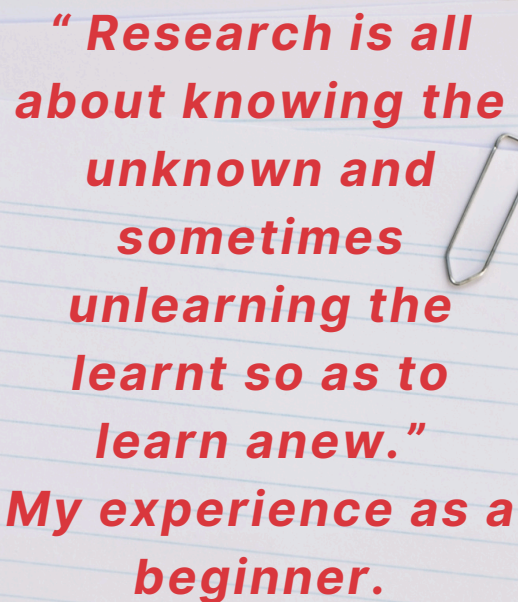
VSEP InternAL Voices

My experience of working as a summer intern at Vinayaka Mission's School of Economics and Public Policy is incredibly fulfilling. As a research intern, I am currently working on the critical analysis of India's Preparedness for their Net Zero Targets under the guidance of Dr. Debdulal Thakur and Dr. Prasanth, where I am able to apply my academic knowledge to practical situations and make a meaningful contribution to research.

My learning was substantially aided by the Internship programme's Refresher course which was a perfect balance of theoretical and technical sessions that are basic requisites of a research intern. As a remote intern, this internship is able to provide a collaborative and encouraging environment. The constant guidance and support extended by the Supervisors - insightful advice and criticism is helping me to hone my analytical and problem-solving abilities. Right now, I am thrilled that my knowledge of India's environmental policy framework at the behest of the International Climate Action agenda is expanding as a result of the work process required by my end goal of the internship. Our frequent team meetings and discussions has opened another avenue for observing the ideologies of my co-interns and to learn from them.

It fills me with immense happiness as I realize that my passion for research has become more pronounced during this internship. I am appreciative of the mentorship and the opportunity to work with such an expertise group. I believe that I will find great value in the experiences and abilities I will be acquiring here as I pursue my future academic and professional endeavors.

I extend my sincere thanks to all the faculty who are guiding me during the internship and VSEP for this enriching opportunity.



“ Research is all about knowing the unknown and sometimes unlearning the learnt so as to learn anew.”
My experience as a beginner.



**Ms. Aditi Magesh,
Post Graduate Student,
Madras School of Economics.**



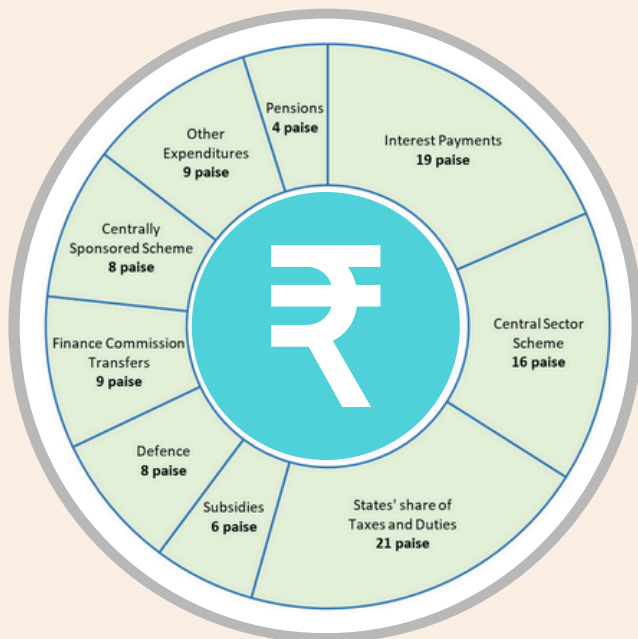
Union Budget

A Blueprint for Public Policy

The annual budget is more than just a financial statement; it's a roadmap for a nation's economic and social development. It outlines the government's priorities, resource allocation, and policy directions, influencing a wide range of public policies. From infrastructure development to social welfare programs, the budget plays a pivotal role in shaping the nation's trajectory.

We at VSEP are excited to initiate our newsletter journey with a deep dive into the Union Budget 2024-25. This issue presents key highlights of the budget, providing insights into its implications for various sectors of the economy. We believe that understanding the budget is essential for informed policy discussions and decision-making.

Where Rupee goes to?



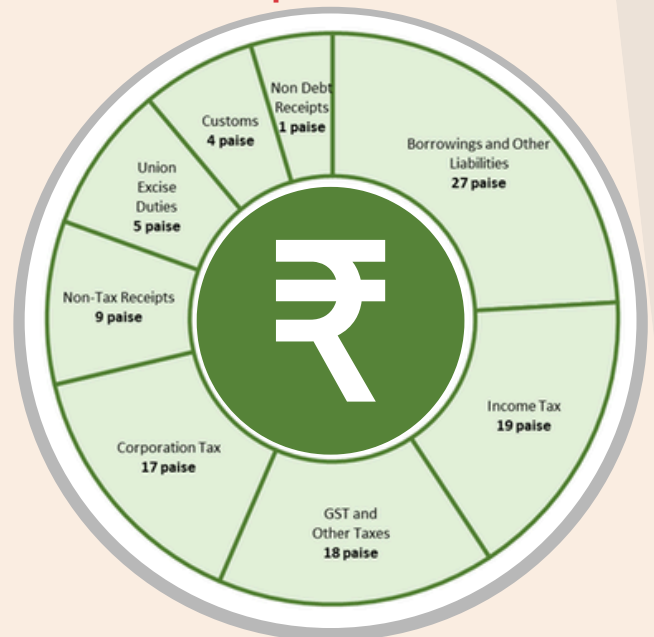
Source: Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
<https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>

Fiscal Situation: The government has budgeted for a total income of ₹32.07 lakh crore and expenditure of ₹48.21 lakh crore, resulting in a fiscal deficit of 4.9% of GDP. The aim is to reduce this deficit to below 4.5% in the next year. Inflation is under control and moving towards the 4% target.

Employment and Skilling: The budget prioritizes job creation, especially for youth. Key initiatives include:

- A package of five schemes to provide employment and skilling opportunities for 4.1 crore youth over five years.
- Incentives for first-time employees, job creation in manufacturing, and support for employers.
- A new skilling scheme to train 20 lakh youth. Upgradation of 1,000 Industrial Training Institutes. Internship opportunities for 1 crore youth in top companies.

Where Rupee comes from?



Indirect Taxes

The government plans to simplify and expand the Goods and Services Tax (GST) to cover more sectors, building on its success.

Direct Taxes

Simplification: The government will continue efforts to simplify the tax system, improve taxpayer services, and reduce litigation.

Revenue Generation: Measures are being taken to increase tax revenue for funding development and welfare programs.

Tax Base Expansion: The government aims to expand the tax base by increasing the Security Transactions Tax on securities and taxing income from share buybacks.

Personal Income Tax: Standard deduction for salaried employees has been increased, and the deduction on family pensions for pensioners has been enhanced. For other changes, the equalization levy has been withdrawn.

Overall, the budget focuses on simplifying the tax system, improving taxpayer experience, and generating additional revenue while providing some relief to taxpayers.

The budget is designed to create a conducive environment for employment and skill development, aiming for a 'Viksit Bharat' (developed India).

Thank you for reading!

For more info and updates follow VSEP

