

The Sydenhamite

THE BULLETIN OF SYDENHAM COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION/

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY/WWW.SYDENHAM.AC.IN VOLUME NO.2, ISSUE NO.7, FEBRUARY 15, 2022



From the Editorial Team

Dear Readers,

We bring you yet another Edition of "The Sydenhamite" for the month of February!

This Edition will highlight the significant happenings in the month of February, beginning with the celebrations of Valentines to raising spirits by toasting the warriors of history. The Edition is bringing in awareness for the important issues of our societal elements as well.

This edition has an essence of Finance as it is the month of Budget, we also are astounded to announce the success of the event "The Budget 2022: Impact and Analysis discussed with CA Snehal Muzoomdar, CA Atul Joshi and CA Ashok Pradhan" in the edition.

The agenda of the newsletter has managed to bring out the vigilance and importance of the affairs happening around you!

Alas, Hope you enjoy and learn something new!

Happy Reading!



A Sneak Peek into the February Edition



1. A future ready India

"...Tackling the largest vaccination programme in the world, tackling the most citizen aspirational issues and providing for them through targeted IT and capex innovation are all a sign of a Government on the move. Kudos to the FM for making India Future ready."

2. India Enters Amrit Kaal!

"While the markets gyrated as they started appreciating the implications of the Budget, the general feeling about this budget is that it is completely relevant to the new India. A confident, agile, resilient, self-confident, Atmanirbhar Bharat!..."



3. Alumni Talks With Sunil Gogia Sir

"...Such is the illustrious story of our alumni Mr. Sunil Gogia, who has taken an unconventional career path, switching from the corporate lane to that of an artist, at the age of 60...."

4. Melody Queen- Lata Mangeshkar

"...Lata Mangeshkar has passed away. Yet, In a way she will always live in the hearts and memories of people through her songs and music. She was India's national treasure. However, she was also a gift to the music world and had become a global icon."



5. Why should LinkedIn be important to you?

"...Being a Teenager can be tough but a person entering their 20s has to face more than just puberty, it's about being picture perfect most of the time and balancing the Life and Fun factor.

LinkedIn gives you the opportunity to have an online professional presence..."

6. Valentine's Day

"While Valentine's Day is generally associated with presents, elegant dinner dates, and a general celebration of love, its beginnings are considerably less romantic..."



7. India's Unspoken Truth



"...It's loathsome to see young women suffer, to this extent, their voices need to be heard loud and clear, protests, campaigns and drives will continue to yell in the ears of people that turn deaf on such critical social issues...."

8. Draining Nature's Sinks

"...Remember jumping in mushy swamps and jumping into lakes in our early childhood? Most of us don't and that's because we never got to experience it. By the time we came around, these wetlands were already depleting..."



9. Honouring The King of Swarajya- Shivaji



"...He is known as the 'Mountain Rat' for being a very strategic fort conqueror back in his days, his guerrilla campaigning of the forts and the warfare tactics are talked about till today. Shivaji, the son of Jijabai fought bravely for swarajya until his last breath, he left a legacy to be followed on 7th of April 1680...."



[sydenham_alumni](#)

[SydenhamAlumni](#)

[Sydenham Alumni Cell](#)

[Sydenham Alumni Cell](#)

[SydAlumniCell](#)

A future ready India

-Mr. Shailesh Haribhakti
Batch: 1975



While the markets gyrated as they started appreciating the implications of the Budget, the general feeling about this budget is that it is completely relevant to the new India. A confident, agile, resilient, self-confident, Atmanirbhar Bharat!

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- India will have a CBDC next year.
- India recognises that NFTs and digital coins are assets and will tax them on sale appropriately. (The largest number of digital asset holders are in India. Their number exceeds the ROW number)
- Digitisation will scale from Rural to urban areas. A seamless, portalised, platform driven interaction will rapidly emerge.
- Portalisation will be G-C, B-B and B-C.
- Platforms will deliver Digital services in the critical areas of Health, Education and all other Government services to Indian citizens.
- New tax return, reduced litigation, an opportunity to correct errors and a rationalisation of surcharge and disallowance of cess from taxable income all point to simplicity, clarity and ease of voluntary compliance.
- Tax buoyancy will sustain as rates have remained unchanged.
- Customs duties will continue to be an important and rationalised source of protection to Indian industry.
- GST will be streamlined and enforcement through the Digital backbone will lead to more formalisation of the economy and therefore, higher revenues. (The FM gave the all-time high collection number for January 22 interrupting her Budget speech!)

A brand new, highly efficient and digital India can emerge if the external factors identified in the economic survey do not cripple the execution of this Budget. We can look forward to growth and inclusive welfare, tech enabled development, energy transition, climate action and a virtuous cycle of private investment being crowded in by public Capex.

The elephants in the room are:

INFLATION:

Oil prices are way above our tolerance limits at \$ 92 a barrel, shipping costs are making imports expensive, the constrained supply of semiconductors is causing rising consternation in the automobile sector, and the broken relationship with China are causing risks in the supply chain that are hard to mitigate. The budget seeks to keep us on a path of Fiscal rectitude: 6.4% in 22-23 and <4.5% in 25-26. The glide path is visible! Our macros are also supportive of a balance between consumption and supply, as PLI schemes have been enhanced in scope. Extension of commencement dates for availing tax reductions are also a welcome supply side initiative.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Here the budget has exceeded all expectations. If all goes per plan, the Centre and States will outlay over Rs 10 lakh crores in capex and crowd in Private investment using PPPs. The domestic green bonds, digital payments, clarity in land titles, the 5 rivers linking plans and many other targeted interventions will change the entire thinking about infrastructure. 25,000 Kms of highways, 400 new-generation Vande Bharat Trains, multimodal transport connectivity and ropeways, will all modernise infrastructure.

AGRICULTURE

Drones, organic farming, post-harvest value addition, branding, fruit trees propagation, procurement support, hydro and solar power and land reforms will ignite the growth stuck at below 4% today. A really interesting word picture emerged as a corridor of trees along the Ganga was placed before us! Wasteland development, FPO support, and an outlay of over Rs 3 lakh crore in Rural India augur well for purchasing power being enhanced. Consumption will follow. The outlay on rural infrastructure for education, healthcare and availability of tap water for almost every family are likely to transform life in our Rural areas.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Bringing back the lost two years of pandemic driven education loss is a most heart-warming initiative. That this is being done with a content led, digital mode is

truly inspired. Skill development is being given a digital, doorstep delivery focus. This is crucial as technology overwhelms all old occupations. The freedom to establish Global University affiliates in GIFT city and the revamping of age-old syllabi are amazing initiatives.

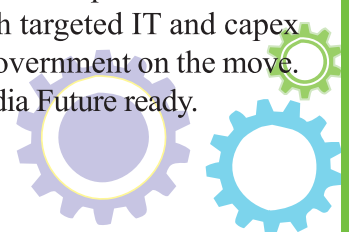
Telehealth, mental health, and Missions Shakti, Vatsala and Saksham Anganwadi are all massively creative initiatives. Post pandemic, these interventions are the most citizen Centred actions. Universal basic services are likely to become available for the first time in India!

FINANCING THE BUDGET

Contained in the 35% Borrowing and other liabilities is a large trove of Asset monetisation. These long-term instruments, when commingled with the proposed green bonds will reduce the need for Bank support to GSec issues. In fact, the lendable resources of Banks to private businesses will rise. This stock will also be fuelled by lower credit costs and a deep international interest in India. As borrowings get calibrated as is happening right now, the sequestered resource pool will become visible. With an eminently achievable disinvestment target of Rs 65,000 crores, the crowding in effect will be heightened. Also, there is a likelihood of savings rising as some 'bad apples' get divested and larger pools of dividends accrue.

In fact, this has created room for the MSME sector receiving larger debt support. The linking of all MSME portals will make significant resources available to this sector. Our take is that the panic in the Fixed Income market is a bit premature!

From a Geopolitical standpoint, we are keeping our Markets open, our policies clear and easy to adopt, our ports and goods movements resilient and our responses agile. Tackling the largest vaccination programme in the world, tackling the most citizen aspirational issues and providing for them through targeted IT and capex innovation are all a sign of a Government on the move. Kudos to the FM for making India Future ready.



India Enters AMRIT KAAL!

Budget 2022 was furnished by the Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharam on 1st February, 2022 in a paperless format, on a tablet. It was a successive 4th budget announced by the current government and also the second Covid-19 budget. After excruciating suffocation from the Covid wave, this budget was expected to bring a breath of fresh air for India's economy. The Budget covered sectors from Agriculture, Education, Health, Insurance, Business to many other as well. The total budget announced was of astounding Rs. 39.45 lakh crore. Budget 2022 focuses on expanding the infrastructure expenditure so as to develop India right from its roots to heights of glory and glam. The economic growth rate is expected to rise at the fastest pace ever by 9.2%. An applaudable level of sincerity shown by the current government despite of the elections coming up ahead. Shri Narendra Modi, India's Current Prime Minister is assured on his decision of making India Self Reliant, "Aatma Nirbhar".

The budget 2022 has mainly 4 priorities.

1. PM GATI SHAKTI
2. INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT
3. FINANCING INVESTMENTS
4. PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENTS AND INVESTMENTS, ENERGY TRANSITION, SUNRISE OPPORTUNITIES, CLIMATE ACTION.

PM's Gati Shakti Plan was launched on 13th October 2021 but in budget 2022, it holds a significant amount of importance. As stated by FM Nirmala Sitharam in the speech, it will have 7 engines driving it and those being Roads, Railways, Airports, Ports, Mass Transport, Waterways and logistics Infrastructure. The budget has a Multi-Modal Movement, a mechanism for data exchange among operators of all modes of transport on Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP).

Logistics

- The Master plan of Gati Shakti is a way to boost the logistics of India. Gati Shakti will be tech driven logistics, tech will be introduced to improve our logistics ways.



Railways

– Railway Ministry has been allocated an amount of Rs. 1,40,367.13 crore in the new fiscal budget. New 400 semi high speed Vande Bharat express Railway trains will be introduced and to incorporate the one station one product 2000 kms of railway network under Kavach.



Airports

– The Civil Aviation Ministry was allotted Rs. 10,667 crore in the budget 2022. The budget 2022 had a blind eye towards the tourism sector.



Waterways/ports

-The government has introduced Mari-time vision, 2030. The budget also includes the improvement of the mega ports of greater than 300 MTPA cargo handling capacity as well as removing the trans-shipment cargo share from 25 percent to 75 percent, also removing the share of cargo handling at major ports by PPP operator to 85 percent.



Roadways

– The national highways of India are to be expanded by 25000 kms according to the budget allocated. National Ropeway programmes will be done under the Parvat mala schemes. Contract for 8 ropeways will be awarded in the year 2022, the states which have these schemes will have an upturned boost in the tourism sector as well.



BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS ON TAX

-The Finance Minister's Budget Speech was brief, and she made only a few references to the proposed direct tax changes. Nonetheless, the Finance Bill is detailed and contains several important, albeit minor, and direct tax amendments.

On the procedural front, an important change will allow taxpayers to update their returns beyond the current time limits for filing belated returns. This is now possible for up to two years after the end of the assessment year, but at a cost: the taxpayer must pay an additional tax of between 25% and 50% of the tax on the additional income declared in the updated return. This is a significant change that will allow taxpayers to address inadvertent errors and obtain certainty without having to go through a time-consuming and complex litigation process.

The tax proposals are a bit of a mixed bag for businesses. Startups founded before March 31, 2023 (rather than March 31, 2022) will now be taxed.

THE STATUS QUO ON TAXATION

-The government clearly accepts the role of facilitator in investment, leaving the private sector to take the lead. The government's capital expenditure (up 9% over FY22RE) is primarily focused on four facilitating sectors: roads, railways, communication, and defence. The remainder has been left to private entrepreneurs with the promise of a supportive and transparent policy regime.

The 'Updated Return' process was used to institutionalise the 'Vivad se Vishwas' settlement scheme. This, combined with a ban on repeated legal appeals, will significantly reduce tax litigation.

The government appears eager to participate in the global digital transition. The initiative to expand the use of digital technologies in critical sectors such as education, health, logistics, and agriculture is a good sign. The addition of infrastructure status to data centres is a step in the right direction.

Initiatives such as digital education platforms, health registries, and document registries have the potential to make a significant difference in the lives of many people. India is maybe 10-12 years behind the rest of the world in adopting digital as a way of life and governance, but hopefully, no further delays will occur and the proposals will be implemented quickly.

•
The recognition of the animation, visual effects, gaming, and comics (AVGC) sector as a high-potential employment opportunity for youth; the introduction of digital currency; and the acceptance of virtual digital assets (VDAs) such as cryptocurrencies and NFTs as legitimate assets all demonstrate a shift in bureaucratic mindset.

•
Both the Budget and the Economic Survey have emphasised the importance of promoting clean energy. Some of the key initiatives announced in this budget include incentives for solar panel manufacturing, a national battery swapping policy, differential duty for blended fuel, mandatory co-firing of biomass pellets in thermal plants, and so on.

•
Creating a 5-kilometre-long chemical-free agriculture corridor alongside the Ganga is a noble idea. Hopefully, it will be implemented quickly and thoroughly.

•
The river-linking project is given a boost. Following Ken-Betwa, DPR for five more river-linking projects was completed.

•
The year 2023 has been designated as the International Year of Millets. Post-harvest value addition, increasing domestic consumption, and branding millet products on a national and international scale will all be supported.

•
Mental health has been identified as a top priority.

•
Government payments to contractors and suppliers should be transparent and timely.

•
Spectrum auctions must be held in 2022 to allow private telecom providers to roll out 5G mobile services by 2022-23.

Schemes announced and talked about: -

PPP

During her Budget 2022 presentation speech on Tuesday (February 1), FM Nirmala Sitharaman announced a major stimulus and a slew of other decisions to benefit the country's agriculture and farming sector.

During the fiscal year 2022-23, the Central government will promote Kisan Drones, chemical-free natural farming, and public-private partnerships (PPP) for the delivery of digital and high-tech services to farmers across the country.

The budget announcements, according to Ritwik Bahuguna, Founder of Roots Foundation and Business Director of Wazir Advisors, "covered a series of agriculture-related priorities, which can broadly be linked to our Sustainable Development Goals- 2030 of responsible production and consumption."

"According to the FM, chemical-free farming should be promoted throughout the country. This is a critical step. This is a welcome change in a country where quantity has long taken precedence over quality.

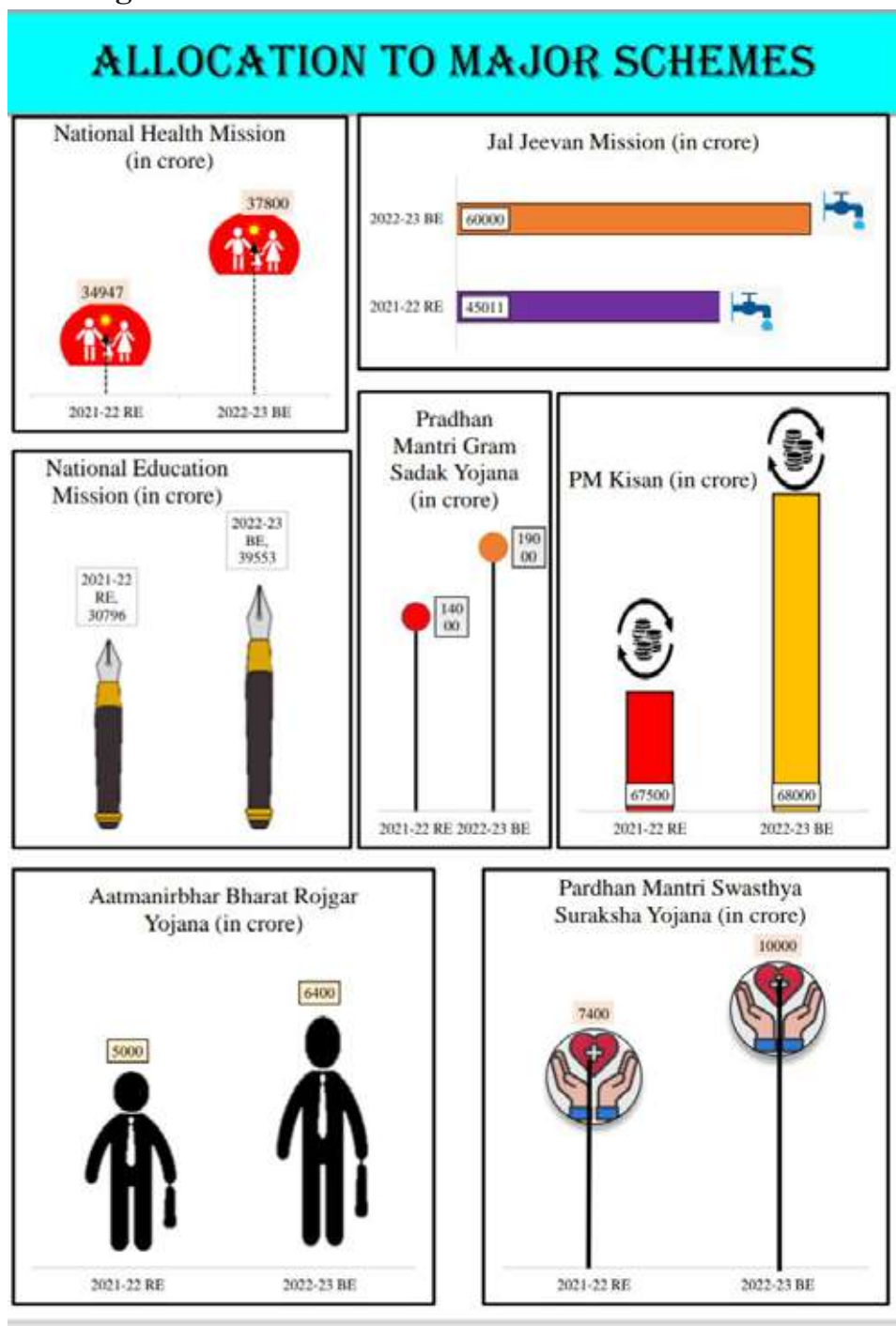
Adoption, however, may necessitate targeted policy support, such as input subsidies for organic inputs such as fertilisers and pesticides.



Parliament was informed on Friday that the government expects to invest Rs 34,090 crore under the PLI scheme for large-scale electronics manufacturing, primarily mobile phones and electronic components, by 2025. The government has approved proposals from 20 companies, including Tata Electronics, under the Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECES)

Around Rs 20,000 crore is expected from electronic component and semiconductor companies, and Rs 14,090 crore from 32 proposals approved under the production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for large scale electronics manufacturing, according to Rajeve Chandrasekhar, Minister of State for Electronics and IT, in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha.

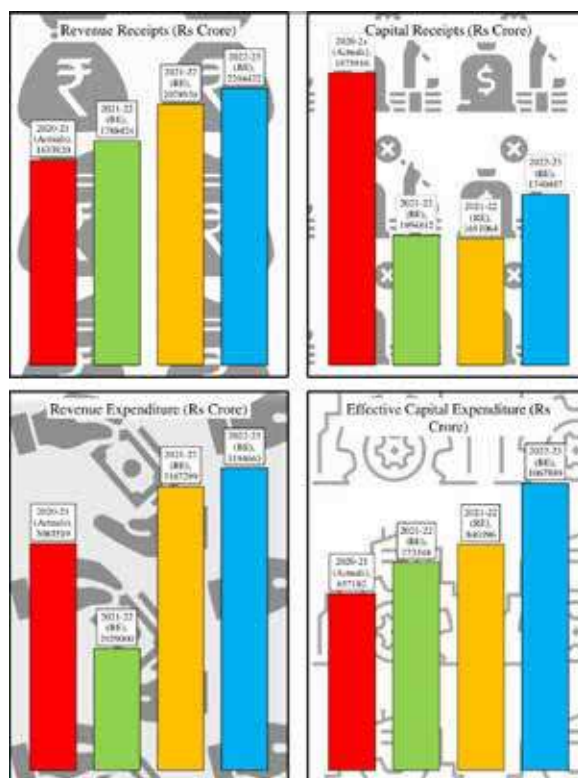
Apple's leading contract manufacturers, Foxconn, Pegatron, and Wistron, as well as South Korean electronics giant Samsung and Indian companies Lava, Jio's Neolync, Optimus Electronics, and others, have all participated in the PLI for large scale electronics manufacturing.



REVENUE EXPENDITURE

(₹ करोड़) (In ₹ crore)

	2020-2021 वास्तविक Actuals	2021-2022 बजट अनुमान Budget Estimates	2021-2022 संशोधित अनुमान Revised Estimates	2022-2023 बजट अनुमान Budget Estimates
1. Revenue Receipts	1633920	1788424	2078936	2204422
2. Tax Revenue (Net to Centre)	1426287	1545396	1765145	1934771
3. Non Tax Revenue	207633	243028	313791	269651
4. Capital Receipts	1875916	1694812	1691064	1740487
5. Recovery of Loans	19729	13000	21975	14291
6. Other Receipts	37897	175000	78000	65000
7. Borrowings and Other Liabilities ¹	1818291	1506812	1591089	1661196
8. Total Receipts (1+4)	3509836	3483236	3770000	3944909
9. Total Expenditure (10+13)	3509836	3483236	3770000	3944909
10. On Revenue Account of which	3083519	2929000	3167289	3194663
11. Interest Payments	679869	809701	813791	940651
12. Grants in Aid for creation of capital assets	230865	219112	237685	317643
13. On Capital Account ²	426317	554236	602711	750246
14. Effective Capital Expenditure (12+13)³	657182	773348	840396	1067889
15. Revenue Deficit (10-1)	1449599	1140576	1088352	990241
	(7.3)	(5.1)	(4.7)	(3.8)
16. Effective Revenue Deficit (15-12)	1218734	921464	850667	672598
	(6.2)	(4.1)	(3.7)	(2.6)
17. Fiscal Deficit [9-(1+5+6)]	1818291	1506812	1591089	1661196
	(9.2)	(6.8)	(6.9)	(6.4)
18. Primary Deficit (17-11)	1138422	697111	777298	720545
	(5.8)	(3.1)	(3.3)	(2.8)



BUDGET IMPACT AND ANALYSIS -An Initiate By Alumni Cell

On 6th February 2022, Sydenham Alumni Cell and the department of Economics of Sydenham College organised an event to explain the budget. The event had three established Chartered Accountants as panellists sharing their opinion on the Budget and explaining it to the audience.

Our speakers included CA Snehal Muzoomdar, CA Ashok Pradhan and CA Atul Joshi.

CA Ashok Pradhan is a Chartered Accountant and a distinguished Alumni of Sydenham college with over 41 years of rich professional experience and has memberships in various Finance institutes in India. CA Snehal Muzoomdar is the India Head of the Indian Chamber and an Independent Director in many firms. He has a keynote speaker in various budget sessions on television and other platforms too. CA Atul Joshi has more than 30 years of experience in banking industry and is the Founder and CEO of Oyster Capital Management. He has worked with various organisations like ICICI Bank, ING Vysya Bank, etc.

The three speakers brilliantly gave us their insights on the budget and how it affects different classes of the society as well as how it is inter-related to the mythical culture of India. The beginning of the session was beautifully brought to light with the quotes from CA Snehal Muzoomdar and then taken forward by CA Atul Joshi in a very broadened perspective with niche detailing for us viewers to understand in-depth the real story behind the budget. CA Ashok Kumar enlightened all of us with Edmund Burke's quote on tax, "To tax and to please, no more than to love and to be wise, is not given to men." With that, we got an amazing start to the event and went ahead with our anchors and our panel discussing mostly about the budget's insight and how the budget will affect India's growth and how particularly some of the main sectors of Indian infrastructure are soon to be developed and brought into a good picture.

The session was definitely brainstorming with all sorts of facts and digits thrown around, being a finance budget session the panel wrapped it up very interestingly adding onto a lot of different elements and aspects of finance as well as other backgrounds!

This session touches the in-depth report on the Budget 2022 for key taxals, policy updates, and impact across all the myriad sectors in general. The speakers hold an expertise in topics under finance and impart us with valuable insights and perspectives for the same.

The session was greatly appreciated by all the viewers and the efforts of the students were applauded by all!



Such is the illustrious story of our alumni Mr. Sunil Gogia, who has taken an unconventional career path, switching from the corporate world to that of an artistic dimension, at the age of 60. He went ahead and gained recognition for his talent, which caught the attention of India's Got Talent, a famous reality show, where he auditioned and showcased his painting skills. He then made live paintings at Kala Ghoda's Cultural Sundays, worked with renowned brands such as MAC Cosmetics and Audi, and appeared on TEDX talks, giving motivational talks regarding his style and work.

Mr. Sunil Gogia was kind enough to answer ample of our questions, but here are a few which definitely stood out:

Q. Was starting to paint as a career a thoughtful decision, or was there any inspirational story to it?

Certain things and circumstances led me to painting at the age of 60. I had a family business of trading, the market conditions had led the business to its end. My family collectively then decided to take up the distribution of spray cans, which was a new DIY product launched in the Indian market and people weren't very receptive toward it. I would go around demonstrating people how to use and sell these spray cans, and in this marketing process, I became an artist by default.

Q. You've shifted from being a college student to a businessman to a spray painter. How has this shift felt?

While being in a family business had its own charm, we went through a few rough patches during its duration but when it was reaching its near end, things started changing drastically. When our business shut and I started moving into various art circles, I found this change to be quite exciting, explorative and workable. While the business was still running, we were one of the very few in the industry who used computers to conduct business. And because I was tech-savvy back in those times, maybe around 25 years back, I was able to transverse into the digital world.

Q. Many refer to art as therapeutic, so how has art aided you in all the aspects of your life?

I'm sure not just I, but a great number of people have been going through a lot of stress at some time or the other, post pandemic, due to the uncertainty. Today everything might be opening up, but suddenly tomorrow you might hear on the news that everything is shutting down. You're again back to square one, confined to your own house, or in this sense your own cage. I would feel very restless and sometimes even wake up in a cold sweat with all kinds of disturbing negative thoughts in my head. I decided to go into other art forms which kept me immersed that I forgot all those negative thoughts. So from this point of view, yes, art is a therapy. I would advocate the same to my friends. Indulge in any kind of art form, be it Music or Dancing, as it helps one unwind and de-stress.

Q. Whether it is our professional or private lives, we all idolise someone. Who is one such figure to you?

In the initial stages of my art journey, I would look for people on YouTube who were indulging in the art of Aerosol Graffiti and try to learn from them. Though I can't remember whether I followed just one person, I do remember being highly encouraged by Banksy as his works were done on walls, which was a very unorthodox medium, yet they were fetching him an unbelievable price.

Q. What advice would you give to others on keeping their work and private lives in balance?

It's all the mind. One has to make a decision affirming they want to do this. We simply limit ourselves by saying we cannot do this. When I started with spray painting, I would tie myself down by restricting myself to only A4 size paintings. I then challenged myself to shift to a bigger, A3 size painting. I went ahead and started to experiment with other aspects of my fine art: I would try new methods, and on surfaces with the use of stencils. This is how I overcame the obstacles I faced out of my own free will. It is your own will and decision which will help you reach new levels in your chosen path.

Q. What would you suggest to someone who has to make a choice between their profession and passion ?

I was a first class student throughout the course of my schooling years and was into one art form or the other, making me a recipient of numerous art awards. When the time came for me to enter college, the streams available for one to pursue were limited to science, commerce and art, and having a family with a business background, I too with no disappointments chose the same and stuck to the family firm. Later, when an opportunity came by to move out of the business world, and get closer to things I held precious, which was my art journey, I was very happy that I got a chance to reconnect. Today, you aren't limited to only a couple of streams. You can do what you like and although it might take a lot of time, this will definitely give you success in your chosen path. In art there's no right or wrong, it's all about one's own perception. Similarly, there's nothing right or wrong in your decision to follow a path. My advice to the younger generation would be that — follow your passion, the paths are open, opportunities are open, and the world is now very much acceptive.

The session was well appreciated by Alumni, Professors and students alike and garnered over 500 views within a day of being premiered.

"IT IS YOUR OWN WILL AND DECISION WHICH WILL HELP YOU REACH NEW LEVELS IN YOUR CHOSEN PATH."



Melody Queen: Lata Mangeshkar

In the sad passing away of the Indian singer, Lata Mangeshkar, India has lost one of its most talented daughters. Lata Mangeshkar sang over 30,000 songs in around 1,000 films, in 36 languages. She became the voice of India. Her melodious voice made the lyrics memorable. People of all ages have hummed her songs for the last 60 years. Her voice never aged, never faltered.

- Mr. Rajendra Aneja
Batch: 1971

She sang for the films of heroes like Dilip Kumar, through Rajesh Khanna, through Amitabh Bachchan all the way to the films of Shah Rukh Khan. She sang songs for actresses like Nargis and Madhubala all the way to Madhuri Dixit. Indians, Pakistanis and South Asians, across the world, were fans of her songs. Her music cut across boundaries. She was rightly christened as India's nightingale.

The former Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, was moved to tears, when she sang the song, "Aye mere watan ke logon..." (Oh! People of my country.) The Indian Government has honored her with all the Awards possible.

The highest award for a civilian, the Bharat Ratna, was awarded to her in 2001. She received the Dada Saheb Phalke award in 1989. She also received the Padma Vibhushan and the Padma Bhushan awards from the Government in recognition of her art and contribution to music. She also won three National awards and seven Filmfare

awards for her songs. Through all the accolades and honors bestowed on her, she remained humble, unassuming and modest.

She started singing at the age of five and made her first public appearance at the age of nine with a song. She acted in Marathi plays and movies also. She also learnt the Urdu language.

Lata Mangeshkar has passed away. Yet, In a way she will always live in the hearts and memories of people through her songs and music. She was India's national treasure. However, she was also a gift to the music world and had become a global icon.



Why should LinkedIn be important to you?

This article is an effort by Team Alumni Cell, to share the importance of LinkedIn as a platform among the students of our college. As students, balancing our Life and academics is quite the casual thing now. While most of us can't, some of us do find ways to do so. How do they reach a point where they can actually balance these two elements?



LinkedIn as a platform provides us an opportunity to balance. In the Covid pandemic era, we have the option to do the same thing we would do as adults by sitting in our favourite area of the house and impressing those firms by adorning our professional image.

It helps one create their professional image and balance their social media presence by doing only one activity...Using LinkedIn!.

LinkedIn has more than 706 million users in over 200 countries and territories worldwide and a lot of them are Indians. India is now the second largest user of the application, trailing only the United States.

It is one of the most used apps for networking in the professional industry. The users of LinkedIn are mostly from the age group of 45-50 years but a recent survey conducted by us with 45 people concluded with the result that the user age group which used LinkedIn the most was 20 years of age. The soon to be adults in India have been in the race towards Professionalism, Adulthood and Success.

Being a Teenager can be tough but a person entering their 20s has to face more than just puberty. It's about being picture perfect most of the time and balancing the Life and Fun factor. LinkedIn gives you the opportunity to have an online professional presence by spending time on a social media platform and simultaneously utilizing that time in building your professional image.

6 ways as to How linkedin can Improve your Professional Approach as a Student

1. YOU LEARN

You learn how to be the perfect salesman you usually see in TV advertisements by actually connecting to people who are doing that job themselves on linkedIN. The best way is to approach people who are a level higher in the Industry hierarchy, to use professionalism in your way of communication and to network.

2. BY FLEXING YOUR SKILLS

For obvious reasons, In a race where there is so much competition, to be unique and authentic is a quality to have. Show and decorate your CV with every jewel of participation, endorsements and some confetti of your own talent with LinkedIn's recommendation to your profile, it makes it easier to exhibit your personality and convey it to the companies online!

3. YOU GET BETTER FACE TO FACE.

LinkedIn gives you the chance to talk to the established people in your industry through virtual mediums which impacts and empowers your skills in real life situations and you polish your own verbal skills through it. This can be achieved by being a regular user of LinkedIn.

4. INTERNSHIPS.

In the Recent Survey conducted by us, We found out that a lot of young adults use LinkedIn to secure some corporate experience through acquiring for internships in a lot of startups and companies, leading to a better perspective by the end of it. Internships can be acquired through LinkedIn as a college student, companies look out for fresh interns! Keep an eye out!

5. BOOST YOUR CONFIDENCE.

When you finally decide on a job, you'll know how to show your skills and weaknesses as your medals and not as a printout from the old printer house. A CV does help but what acclaims is your own built with effort, persona. LinkedIn helps you to feel worthy but actually presents your skills in your bio.

6. OPPORTUNITY TO THE ONES WHO START WITH ZERO.

A bonus to add onto is that LinkedIn helps you to create your own brand image as a person with zero experience in the market and still be able to reach out to the same number of people as the ones with a good market reputation. This ensures the maximum output you receive by putting in minimum input!

LINKEDIN CAN NOT ONLY MAKE YOU A BETTER PERSON BY THE END OF IT BUT IT HELPS YOU TO CREATE A BETTER PLACE FOR YOURSELF AS A PROFESSIONAL PERSON.

Valentine's Day

On February 14, couples of all ages celebrate the much-anticipated Valentine's Day.

While Valentine's Day is generally associated with presents, elegant dinner dates, and a general celebration of love, its beginnings are considerably less romantic... Saint Valentine, a Catholic cleric who lived in Rome around the 3rd century B.C., is the patron saint of Valentine's Day.

The history of this day and the tale of its patron saint are both buried in obscurity, as are the remnants of both Christian and ancient Roman customs. There are various legends surrounding Saint Valentine, and these legends have evolved into the narrative that we know today.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE DATE FEBRUARY 14.

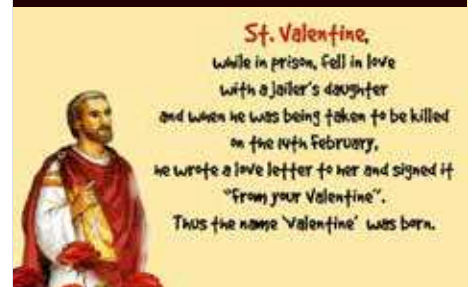
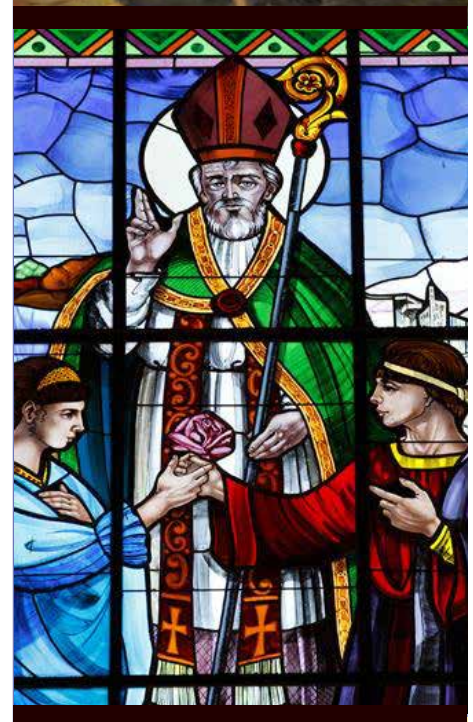
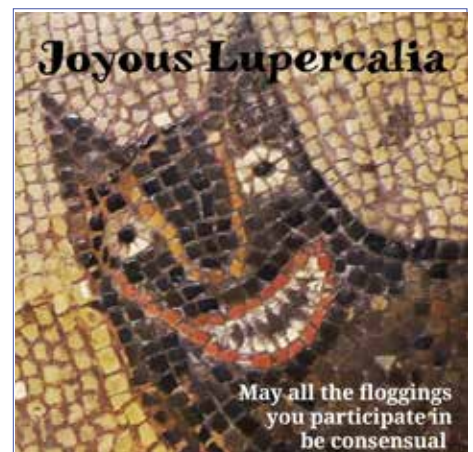
Back in the day, The Romans used to celebrate the feast of Lupercalia from February 13 to February 15, in which men sacrificed a dog and a goat. After this, the hides of the slain animals were used by men to whip women. In fact, young women even lined up to be whipped by men due to their belief that this made them more fertile. During the celebrations, a Matchmaking lottery was also held and men picked out names of women from a box and proceeded to profess their love to these women during the festival. This sometimes also culminated in a marriage.

However, Lupercalia was replaced by St Valentine's Day by the end of the 5th century by Pope Gelasius, and this was part of the reason that led to Valentine's Day being associated with romance as well as the beginning of love.

VALENTINE'S DAY: HISTORY OF ITS NAME.

Valentine's Day has been named after Saint Valentine, a Priest who was believed to have secretly helped Christian couples get married. This was a move against the Roman Emperor Claudius II because the emperor did not allow men to get married. Saint Valentine was of the view that single men were better and more dedicated soldiers. Saint Valentine did not agree with this ideology and facilitated the weddings of couples in love. Due to this, He was beheaded by the Emperor.

Before the beheading was done, while imprisoned, Valentine's used to care for his fellow prisoners and also his jailor's blind daughter. Legend has it that Valentine cured the girl's blindness and that his final act before being executed was to write her a love message signed 'from your Valentine'. He was then executed on February 14 in the year 270 AD.



It wasn't until more than 200 years later, that February 14 was proclaimed as St Valentine's Day. By this time Rome had become Christian and the Catholic Church was determined to stamp out any remaining paganism. A pagan fertility ritual was held in February each year and the Pope abolished this festival and proclaimed 14 February Saint Valentine's Day, thus establishing this feast day on the Catholic Calendar of Saints.

How Valentine's Day got linked with Love?

The poet Geoffrey Chaucer, author of 'The Canterbury Tales', who lived during the Middle Ages was the first to link St Valentine with romantic love. This was the beginning of the tradition of courtly love, a ritual of expressing love and admiration, usually in secret.

This custom spread throughout Europe and stories grew about a High Court of Love where female judges would rule on issues related to love on 14 February each year.

Historians believe that these meetings were in fact gatherings where people read love poetry and played games of flirtation.

The older practice of sending love messages gradually developed into people sending special cards expressing their affection. These cards were beautiful creations handmade by the sender and individually designed to show how much they loved the recipient. Cards would usually contain sentimental verse, proclaiming the beauty of the receiver and how much they were loved. Initially, it was about having one valentine throughout the year. But it later evolved in the 19th century and sparked questions about the sincerity of exchanging pre-printed cards and the sanity of spending exorbitant amounts of money on them.

Valentine's Day and the exchange of valentines were a way that people in the emerging middle class in the 19th century negotiated that complicated relationship between romantic love and the economic reality of marriage.



The significance of this day in Contemporary Times.

Today, Valentine's Day is observed in a number of ways. While it is observed in most nations, diverse cultures have created their own rituals to commemorate the occasion. Valentine's Day is celebrated in various regions of the world as a day for expressing love amongst family members and friends rather than romantic partners. Some customs include leaving candy and presents for youngsters, while others include acts of friendship. Though the structure was already in place, it is probable that social media has made Valentine's Day more viral and poisonous in today's world.



It's not so much that social media changed the scrutiny that was already present on this day; it's rather that it opened up a whole new way of playing Valentine's Day.

The degree of scrutiny on how one spends Valentine's Day or what they receive from their Valentine is ratcheted up tenfold since social media sites are all about playing your imagined best self.

It's vital to remember that there are no rules when it comes to Valentine's Day. This is a new era, and individuals may spend Valentine's Day anyway they choose, even if it's simply by loving themselves.





INDIA'S UNSPOKEN TRUTH

"If gender equality were a reality, there would be no female genital mutilation"
says Dr. Natalia Kanem, UNFPA Executive Director.

International Day of Zero Tolerance For Female Genital Mutilation(FGM), marked on February 6 every year, is an important day for Gender Activists and a day that needs everyone's attention. Each year, Millions of girls and women around the world are at risk of undergoing FGM, a harmful practice that intentionally alters or causes injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. While the customs and traditions that perpetuate FGM vary from community to community, the procedure is generally carried out sometime between infancy and age 15 and it has serious Socio-Economic, Physical, Emotional and Health consequences, may also be fatal.

The World's First known campaign against FGM took place in Egypt in the 1920s. The prevalence in Egypt in 1995 was still at least as high as Somalia's 2013 world record (98%), despite dropping significantly since then among young women.

FGM procedures are performed at a very young age, many cultures feel a taboo about such discussions and a number of such factors raise the possibility that the validity of survey responses might be incorrect, potentially underreported. Consequences of FGM may range from discomfort to sepsis.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development reported in December 2017 that "There is no official data or study which supports the existence of FGM in India." Earlier, In May 2017, Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi announced that the government will ban FGM if it is not voluntarily stopped.



The Supreme Court decided that the issue of FGM be referred to a larger seven-judge bench and that it be examined alongside other women's rights issues. The court said it was a "seminal issue" regarding the power of the court to decide whether a practice is essential to a religion.

It also states that the issue first rose to prominence in India because of two International legal cases on FGM. It's loathsome to see young women suffer, to this extent, their voices need to be heard loud and clear, protests, campaigns and drives will continue to yell in the ears of people that turn deaf on such critical social issues.

Everyone needs to join hands and start working together for the progress, betterment and success of such awareness drives to spread throughout the nation.

Draining Nature's Sinks

"Save the Wetlands and then we can think about saving the entire earth."

Remember jumping in mushy-swamps and jumping into lakes in our early childhood?

Most of us don't and that's because we never got to experience it. By the time we came around, these wetlands were already depleting.

Now, To commemorate and throw light on the significance of these gems of nature, it has been given its own day; Thus giving us—the 2nd of February, World Wetlands Day.

What exactly are Wetlands, and Why are they such a big deal? Wetlands are distinct ecosystems that are flooded by water, either permanently or seasonally, ranging from Lakes to Coral Reefs.

As opposed to being disease breeding spaces, wetlands are in fact among the most productive ecosystems in the world. An immense variety of species of microbes, plants, insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds, fish, and mammals can be part of a wetland ecosystem. Wetlands are somewhat like "biological supermarkets" as many species rely on them for food, water, and shelter, especially during migration. When healthy, wetlands can maintain and improve water quality, as they have a rich natural diversity of plants and animals.

They, therefore, act as filtering

systems, removing pollutants from water bodies. Scientists now know that atmospheric maintenance is an additional function of wetlands. They store carbon within their plant communities and soil instead of releasing it to the atmosphere as carbon dioxide, which helps to moderate global climate changes and reduce the effect of climate-associated dangers.

They provide many more benefits than no other ecosystem can, such as flood protection, shoreline erosion control, storm protection, and opportunities for recreation and aesthetic appreciation. How and When did World Wetlands Day first make an appearance? These wetlands, despite being critical for human survival, are Earth's most threatened ecosystem. Human activities such as drainage, pollution, overfishing, and overexploitation of resources have led to nearly 90% of the World's wetlands having been degraded, since the 1700s.

Back in the year 1971, a Treaty was signed in the Iranian city of Ramsar on 2nd February, which provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources, popularly known as the Ramsar convention.

Fast forward to the present day,

almost 90% of UN member countries have agreed to join in. Since then, the second day of February has been universally celebrated as World Wetlands day to acknowledge these nature's unsung heroes. The theme for the 2022 edition is "Wetlands Action for People and Nature", it puts emphasis on the gravity of actions that ensure wetlands are preserved and used sustainably. It's an appeal to invest human, financial, and political capital to save the world's wetlands from further disappearing and to restore those we have degraded.

This was the first year when World Wetlands Day was observed as a United Nations international day, following its adoption by the UN General Assembly on August 30, last year, giving it official recognition. "Rewet, Reforest, Restore"... and India takes the lead!

Two new Ramsar sites— Gujarat's Khijadiya wildlife sanctuary, and Uttar Pradesh's Bakhira wildlife sanctuary— were announced on the occasion of World Wetlands Day. India now has a network of 49 such sites, the highest number in South Asia.



HONOURING 392ND BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KING OF SWARAJYA:- SHIVAJI

The Great Shivaji Maharaj's Jayanti is celebrated on 19th february in the state of Maharashtra with utmost honour and pride devoted to the Swaraj King himself.

The Jayanti was first brought to the eyes of the people by Lokmanyā Tilak in Pune 1895 and later on celebrated for decades to come.

Shivaji Maharaj, The Revolutionary Krantiveer, was born in 1640's in the ascents of the fort, Shivneri. The fort itself has succumbed to a lot of ravages and tough times. Now, it remains a monument to visit as the birthplace, where he spent the rest of his childhood. Shivaji Maharaj's beloved father Shahji was connected to the Bhosale clan and had patrilineal links from the Sisodia Rajput, Highnesses from Mewar. Rajmata Jijabai, The dear mother of the king, had come from the Jadhav Family that was earlier linked with the Yadavas of Devnagri. In the womb of Jijabai, she had instincts that the baby who took solace in her, had martial and royal capabilities. Those instincts were proven true by the King in the near future.

Our Great warrior, At the age of 17 years of age, had managed to make a group of honest fighters and went on to surmount the lands.

The first fort that was won was the Torna Fort. He taught the Mavlas of the region to fight for their independence and managed to create a sense of unity amongst them. He utilised the geographical structure of the region to his benefit and laid down the purpose of the foundation of "Swaraj".



THE AIM OF LAYING DOWN THE FOUNDATION OF SWARAJ IS JUSTIFIED CLEARLY IN THE ICONIC SEAL FORMED IN SANSKRIT, MUDRA. BY CREATING THIS, HE ENSURED THE ACCEPTANCE FROM HIS MAWLAS. HE CONQUERED THE FORTS IN MAHARASHTRA TO EMPHASISE THE PAVEMENTS OF SWARAJYA, SUCH AS RAJGAD, KONDANA, PURANDAR. HE WAS SLOWLY AND STEADILY MAKING

AN IMPACT OUT IN THE RIVALRY AMONGST ALL HIS ENEMIES, HIS TROOPS WERE THE MOST LOYAL AND FAITHFUL ONES AMONGST THE TIMES. ONE OF THEM BEING, THE BRAVE WARRIOR, TANHAI MALUSARE, HE HAS HIS NAME GLORIFIED AS THE "MARTYRED WARRIOR" BECAUSE OF THE COURAGE AND PASSION SHOWN BY HIM.

In total, Shivaji Maharaj had his reign over 370 forts in maharashtra and out. He is known as the "Mountain Rat" for being a very strategic fort conqueror back in his days, his guerrilla campaigning of the forts and the warfare tactics are talked about till today. Shivaji, the son of Jijabai fought bravely for swarajya until his last breath, he left a legacy to be followed on 7th of April 1680. Jai Shivaji, Jai Bhavani, our hearts sing!





Sydenhamites can send their E-mail Addresses/Contact Details at **sydenhamalumnicell@gmail.com** for the free subscription of our monthly newsletter

College Principal: Dr. Madhuri Kagalkar
Aumni Cell Prof. Incharge: Dr. Ritesh Singhal
Head Of The Proposed Alumni Association: Mr. Ajit Lalvani
Editor: Sakshi Chavan, Paras Dhuliya
Layout Designer: Kaumudi Pradhan.

The views and opinions expressed or implied in THE SYDENHAMITE are those of the authors or contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editorial Team or the SYDENHAM COLLEGE ALLUMNI ASSOCIATION . Material in this publication may not be reproduced, whether in part or in whole, without the consent of SYDENHAM COLLEGE ALLUMNI ASSOCIATION