



Smt. P.D. Hinduja Trust's

K.P.B. HINDUJA COLLEGE OF COMMERCE

Sindhi Linguistic Minority Institution: (Autonomous)

(Affiliated to University of Mumbai) : NAAC Re-Accredited With "A+" Grade: CGPA: 3.59

Current Address (Temporary): Sadhana House, 570, Pandurang Budhkar Marg,
Behind Mahindra Towers, Worli, Mumbai – 400018. Contact Details Tel: 022-4098-9000.

Email: info@hindujacollege.Com : Website: www.hindujacollege.edu.in

Prin. Dr. Navin M. Punjabi

Ref. No. :

REPORT ON CAMPUS DIALOGUE WITH SHRI MILIND DEORA

Organised by: Students' Council and Cultural Committee.

K. P. B. Hinduja College of Commerce (Autonomous)

Date: 29 September 2026

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Venue: Worli Campus

Speaker: Shri Milind Deora, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Maharashtra.

Introduction

He noted that planned developments, including the proposed The Students' Council and Cultural Committee of K. P. B. Hinduja College of Commerce (Autonomous) organised a **Campus Dialogue Programme** with **Shri Milind Deora, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha**, on Tuesday, 29 September 2026, at 11:00 a.m. The programme provided students with an opportunity to interact with Shri Milind Deora and engage in a wide-ranging discussion on the challenges and opportunities facing India, the younger generation and the world.

Key Highlights of the Interaction

The discussion focused on the importance of viewing contemporary challenges as opportunities for innovation, growth and transformation. Shri Deora highlighted how major global crises have historically accelerated technological development and encouraged nations to invest in research and new sources of energy.

He discussed India's progress in recent years, particularly in strengthening domestic capabilities, reducing dependence on external sources, expanding manufacturing and processing capabilities, and developing greater self-reliance in critical sectors. He also referred to India's growing capabilities in the **defence, space, technology and manufacturing sectors**.

A significant part of the interaction focused on the **culture of innovation**. Drawing comparisons between the innovation ecosystems of the United States and China, Shri Deora emphasised that India needs to develop its own environment where experimentation, entrepreneurship and failure are viewed as



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integral parts of the innovation process. He stressed the importance of stronger collaboration among **government, universities and the private sector** to create an ecosystem conducive to innovation.

The discussion also covered emerging opportunities in **Artificial Intelligence, robotics, space technology, nuclear energy, climate technology and food technology**. Shri Deora highlighted climate change as both a major challenge and an important area of opportunity, particularly in areas such as green steel, sustainable agriculture, plant-based and lab-grown food, and other technologies aimed at reducing environmental impact.

On the impact of AI and robotics on employment, he noted that while several traditional jobs may undergo significant disruption, technological development will also create new requirements and opportunities. He encouraged students to understand emerging technologies and prepare themselves for a rapidly changing employment landscape.

Opportunities for the Youth

Shri Deora encouraged students to focus on the challenges of the present and identify them as opportunities for the future. He emphasised the importance of:

- Developing an **innovative and entrepreneurial mindset**
- Learning to work effectively in **teams**
- Building strong **communication and leadership skills**
- Staying informed about technological and global developments
- Being willing to experiment and learn from failure
- Spending less time on excessive social-media consumption and avoiding *doomscrolling*
- Developing the ability to adapt to rapidly changing circumstances

He observed that the younger generation is growing up with technologies such as AI and robotics and is therefore better positioned to understand and navigate these changes.

India's Future and Self-Reliance

The dialogue also covered India's position in the changing global geopolitical and economic environment. Shri Deora emphasised the importance of building domestic capabilities in areas such as



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semiconductors, solar energy, AI and other strategic technologies, while simultaneously exploring new international markets.

He highlighted the potential for India to expand its economic engagement with regions beyond traditional markets, including **Latin America**, and stressed the importance of developing a more diversified and self-reliant economy.

Urban Development, Affordable Housing and Connectivity

One of the major challenges discussed in the context of the **Mumbai Metropolitan Region** was the availability of **affordable housing** and ensuring access to employment opportunities without compromising quality of life.

Drawing parallels with developed metropolitan regions, Shri Deora referred to how expensive central areas such as Manhattan are supported by well-connected peripheral areas such as Queens, the Bronx and Brooklyn, with efficient public transport enabling people to live farther from employment centres while maintaining convenient access to work.

In the Mumbai context, he highlighted the role of major infrastructure projects such as the **Coastal Road and Atal Setu** in improving connectivity between Mumbai and its surrounding regions. He also referred to the proposed expansion and development of the **Greater Mumbai Metropolitan Region**, extending connectivity across areas such as Kalyan, Palghar and the wider metropolitan region.

Mumbai 3 and Mumbai 4, could facilitate greater connectivity between emerging residential areas and employment centres. Such integrated urban development has the potential to provide citizens with **more affordable housing, better access to workplaces and improved quality of life**, while reducing commuting time and enabling smoother movement across the metropolitan region.

The discussion highlighted the broader objective of creating a Mumbai Metropolitan Region where **housing, employment, infrastructure and connectivity develop together**, with the aim of enabling citizens to access their workplaces within a significantly reduced commuting time.

Q&A Session

The programme was followed by an engaging question-and-answer session with students. Questions covered a wide range of subjects, including:

- Skills required to remain relevant in the changing employment environment

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- Teamwork, communication and leadership
- India–US relations and changing global geopolitics
- India's need for greater self-reliance
- Opportunities in space and nuclear energy
- The role of technology in improving public safety
- Safety concerns relating to children in both online and offline spaces
- Decentralisation and urban governance
- Emerging opportunities for young entrepreneurs

While discussing the future of India's space sector, Shri Deora referred to the growing role of private enterprises following the liberalisation of the sector. He also discussed the potential of emerging technologies in the nuclear-energy space.

On urban governance, he emphasised the importance of stronger municipalities, decentralisation and greater inter-city competition in improving governance and quality of life.

Interaction with Students' Council Representatives

The session was followed by a one-to-one interaction with the Students' Council representatives in Room No. 1, wherein Shri Deora engaged directly with the students and discussed the roles and responsibilities of the General Secretary, President and other representative of the Students' Council. The interaction provided students with an opportunity to share their experiences and gain insights into leadership, teamwork, student representation and community engagement.

Impressed by the level of interaction and engagement with the students, Shri Deora encouraged the Students' Council to explore opportunities for undertaking meaningful social initiatives aimed at fostering leadership skills, strengthening community building, and promoting greater civic engagement among students.

He also expressed his intention to invite approximately 20–25 students from the College to attend the upcoming Winter Parliament Session, subject to further discussion and coordination with the Principal



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of the College. This provided an encouraging opportunity for students to gain firsthand exposure to parliamentary proceedings and civic engagement.

Conclusion: The Campus Dialogue provided students with an opportunity to gain perspectives on **India's economic and technological development, innovation, climate change, AI, entrepreneurship, geopolitics and the future of work.**

The central message of the interaction was that major challenges can also create significant opportunities for innovation and transformation. Shri Deora encouraged students to remain informed, adaptable and willing to experiment, while developing the ability to work collaboratively and contribute meaningfully to a rapidly changing world.

The session concluded with a reflection on maintaining perspective, not taking oneself too seriously, and approaching life with a positive and balanced outlook.