

## Press Release

### **Mira-Bhayandar Municipal Corporation Launches Maharashtra's First Municipal Skill Training Center with 100% Job Placement Guarantee**

**Mira-Bhayandar, March 28, 2025:** In a landmark move to uplift the youth from economically weaker backgrounds, the Mira-Bhayandar Municipal Corporation, in association with Kotak Education Foundation and Tech Mahindra Foundation, has inaugurated the city's first advanced Skill Training Centre. This initiative, unprecedented at the municipal level in Maharashtra, was formally launched on 27th March 2025 at Appasaheb Dharmadhikar Hall, Mira Road, in the presence of the Hon. Minister of Transport and local MLA, Shri. Pratap Sarnaik. The launch event drew an enthusiastic crowd of over 500 local youth, many of whom immediately enrolled for the upcoming training programs.

The training centre marks a powerful and progressive shift in how municipal governance can play a direct role in youth development and economic empowerment. By going beyond its traditional administrative scope, Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation has become a proactive force in addressing unemployment and underemployment in the region. The skill training centre targets youth from the lower-middle-class segment, those who have completed 10th, 12th, or even graduation but have dropped out or been pushed into the informal labour sector due to financial constraints and lack of opportunity. For many of them, the very concept of a 'career' remains unfamiliar, as survival through low-paying, unstable jobs often takes precedence.

Recognizing this harsh reality, Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation has partnered with national-level foundations to offer holistic, career-oriented training that not only builds technical expertise but also provides personality development, English communication, computer literacy, and industry exposure. The initiative is part of Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation's larger employment-focused campaigns 'Employability @18' and 'Campus Placement @MBMC'.

Importantly, both vocational training courses being offered, Banking, Financial Services, Retail Sales & Insurance, and Customer Relationship & Sales will be completely free of cost to all students. Kotak Education Foundation and Tech Mahindra Foundation have taken complete responsibility for training delivery, infrastructure, and expert facilitation. Notably, these foundations are also providing 100 per cent job placement guarantees to all eligible trainees, along with continuous career guidance and mentorship, making this initiative both socially inclusive and economically impactful.

Speaking at the inauguration, Hon. Minister Pratap Sarnaik emphasized the importance of such programs in evolving job market. He applauded the collaborative effort, stating that the

overwhelming participation of young students was evidence of the need for meaningful skill development initiatives. He added that this project stands as a model for future public-private partnerships that directly serve local communities.

Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation Commissioner and Administrator Mr. Radhabinod A. Sharma (IAS), highlighted that this skill training centre represents not just a policy intervention but a larger mission to redefine the purpose of education. He stressed that education must translate into employability, and equipping students with relevant, job-ready skills is now a civic responsibility. By launching this centre, Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation is not only helping individual youth build a future, but is also contributing to national development by creating a pipeline of skilled, responsible, and employable citizens.

The project has been executed under the strategic guidance of Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation's Innovation Cell and Centre of Excellence in Education, which has been actively collaborating with NGOs, CSR bodies, and private institutions to build a scalable model of skill-based empowerment. Kotak Education Foundation's Unnati Project and Tech Mahindra Foundation have aligned seamlessly with Corporation's vision, committing long-term support to both current and future courses under this initiative.

The impact of this centre is expected to reach far beyond the municipal boundaries. With Mumbai's job market located just next door, the potential for trained Mira-Bhayandar youth to be absorbed into the retail, finance, and service industries is extremely high. This, in turn, will strengthen not just the local economy but also support the broader economic ecosystem of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region.

Importantly, the centre's launch also signals a powerful message to policymakers. With its success, there is now a growing demand that the Central Government introduce a dedicated scheme for vocational-plus-professional skill development training, especially focused on underprivileged urban and semi-urban youth. A structured, nationwide framework that integrates free training, career counselling, and guaranteed placement, just as Kotak and Tech Mahindra Foundations are currently offering, can create transformative outcomes at scale.

The event was organised by Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation's Education department. The event was attended by key civic and foundation officials, including Additional

Commissioners Dr. Sambhaji Panpatte and Dr. Sachin Bangar, Deputy Commissioner Prasad Shingte, Education Officer Deepali Joshi, Tech Mahindra Foundation Director Ms. Nidhi Ramane, and Kotak Education Foundation project heads Mr. Abhijeet Bedekar and Mr. Amir Aijaz. Their presence highlighted the collaborative nature of this impactful initiative.

As the first municipal body in the state to initiate such a project, Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation has set a new benchmark for what local governance can achieve when backed by vision, partnership, and purpose. The Mira-Bhayandar Skill Training Centre is not just a facility; it is a gateway to opportunity, dignity, and transformation for thousands of youths who deserve more than survival. They deserve a future.