

August 6th ,25

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE WITH MR. RATHINAVEL RAJAN – REGIONAL HR HEAD, BALL CORPORATION



On 06/08/2025, students at MCC BTSB had the opportunity to engage in a leadership dialogue with Mr. Rathinavel Rajan, the Regional HR Head for the Asia and Mediterranean Region at Ball Corporation. He began the session by asking, “What are your expectations from this dialogue with me?” prompting enthusiastic questions and responses from the students. The first question posed was, “Why do you do what you do?” to which he responded simply and beautifully: “Society has given me a lot, and I just want to give back.” He referred briefly to his forthcoming book, based on his life experience and career, to the importance of authenticity. He referred to his first job as a "Junior Personnel Officer" and stated that while there was initial hesitation, accepting that job was the best thing in his life. He advised shy students to believe in themselves and made the point that, although a successful leader in human resources does not necessarily require extrovert qualities, it does require sincerity and flexibility. Mr. Rajan stressed that there is no “one size that fits all” when it comes to human resources, and interpersonal relationships are still crucial even with greater digitization. He also stressed Ball Corporation's thrust toward sustainability, especially in the area of aluminium manufacturing. To end the session, he discussed how to deal with cultural diversity and the importance of demeanor and appearance in the workplace, ending with the venerable advice, "Magizhvithu Magizh" – Be happy by making others happy.