



SARDAR PATEL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Department of Civil Engineering | SPCE Alumni Association



Report on the Inauguration of MODEL CLASSROOM NO. 216

*Conceptualized, Designed and Executed by Alumni of Civil Engineering, Class of 1995,
under the guidance of the SPCE Alumni Association*

Venue: Room No. 216, SPCE | Date: 7th August 2026

1. Introduction

The Department of Civil Engineering, Sardar Patel College of Engineering (SPCE), in association with the SPCE Alumni Association, formally inaugurated the newly refurbished Model Classroom No. 216 on 7th August 2026. The classroom, once an ageing and un-airconditioned Second Year lecture hall, has been transformed into a modern, air-conditioned, and digitally equipped learning space through the generosity and initiative of alumni from the Civil Engineering Batch of 1995. This report documents the background of the initiative, the proceedings of the inauguration ceremony, and the individuals whose contributions made the project possible.

2. Genesis of the Project

The origins of the Model Classroom Project trace back to 2023, when Room 216 served as the Second Year classroom for Civil Engineering students. The room, largely unchanged for over sixty years, had no air-conditioning and was furnished with ageing fixtures. Two students of the Second Year Civil Engineering batch remarked candidly to Dr. Hansa Jeswani, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, that the classroom conditions made it difficult to study owing to the heat. Although an ordinary observation at the time, the remark did not leave Dr. Jeswani's mind, and she took considerable efforts thereafter to shape this observation into a concrete idea, exploring whether alumni of the department might wish to contribute towards improving the very classrooms that had once shaped their own education.

Through an introduction facilitated by Shri Shashikant Banka, contact was established with Shri Sunil Doshi (BE Civil, 1995), a conversation that proved pivotal to the project. Shri Doshi, together with Shri Bhasker Bhatt (BE Electrical, 1974) of the SPCE Alumni Association, undertook to envisage, design and execute the initiative. Shri Doshi subsequently rallied his batchmates from the Civil Engineering Class of 1995, whose generous and collective contributions enabled the transformation of Room 216 into an air-conditioned, modern, and digitally equipped model classroom, complete with new furniture, lighting, and an interactive smart board.

3. Proceedings of the Inauguration Ceremony

The inauguration was held on the afternoon of 7th August 2026 in the presence of the contributing alumni, faculty members, and students of the Civil Engineering Department. The programme commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the diya, accompanied by the recitation of shlokas, followed by the Saraswati Vandana.

Two ribbon-cutting ceremonies were conducted during the event: the first for Room 216 itself, performed by Shri Arun Karle, President of the SPCE Alumni Association, and the second for the newly installed interactive smart board, performed by the contributing alumni. Formal addresses were delivered by Dr. Mohan M. Murudi (Principal, SPCE), Dr. B. N. Chaudhari (Principal, SPIT), and Shri Arun Karle (President, Sardar Patel College of Engineering Alumni Association), each reflecting on the significance of alumni returning to rebuild and reinvest in the institution that shaped them. The address of Shri Sunil Doshi brought the proceedings together, tying the sentiment of the occasion to the collective effort of the Batch of 1995.

A particularly memorable segment of the afternoon featured members of the Batch of 1995 sharing personal recollections of their years at SPCE — recalling old friendships, professors, and memories both of diligent study and of youthful distraction. It was this shared memory, the alumni noted, that inspired them to give back to the institution.

In recognition of their generosity, each of the nine donors (five of whom were present at the inauguration) was presented with a plaque and a Certificate of Gratitude from the students of Civil Engineering. The certificates were 3D laser-printed by Mr. Laukik Patil as a keepsake from the students to the contributors. The ceremony concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Shri Bhaskar Bhatt, followed by an informal gathering over tea and snacks that allowed alumni, faculty, and students to reconnect.

“Dedicated to the College that Shaped Our Minds and Inspired Our Future.”

4. Project Team and Donors

The Model Classroom Project was envisaged, designed and executed by alumni Shri Sunil Doshi (BE Civil, 1995) and Shri Bhasker Bhatt (BE Electrical, 1974) under the aegis of the SPCE Alumni Association. The project was made possible through the generous contributions of the following alumni of the Civil Engineering Class of 1995:

Bijoy Nair	Gautam Chari	Preeti Saroop
Rajesh Gandhi	Rajesh Khatri	Sameer Ranabhor
Sanjay Patel	Sandeep Tilak	Sunil Doshi

5. Acknowledgements

The Department and the SPCE Alumni Association place on record their sincere gratitude to Dr. Hansa Jeswani, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, whose sustained efforts were instrumental in carrying this idea from an early observation to its eventual realization as Model Classroom No. 216. Gratitude is also extended to Shri Sunil Doshi and Shri Bhasker Bhatt for bringing this initiative to fruition, and to every donor of the Batch of 1995 for their generosity. Appreciation is also extended to

Dr. Kshitija Nadgouda, Dr. Kiran Bhole, Mr. Ankit Asher and Dr. Pravinchandra Gaikwad for their support to the project; to Mr. Mandar Warambhe for the initial design of the classroom; and to Shri Shashikant Banka, whose introduction set the initiative in motion. Special mention is made of the contributions of Ms. Prachi Kamble and Mr. Mayank Mayekar. As articulated in the Alumni Association's theme for the day — *“This is just the start.”* — the Model Classroom Project is regarded as the beginning of a larger tradition of alumni engagement in the renewal of the institution's academic infrastructure.

Photographs

