

Institution Name: G H Patel College of Engineering & Technology
A Report on Alumni Talk on “A Brief on Sonamarg Tunnel by Mr. Brijesh Wala

About the event: Our 2014 alumnus Mr. Brijesh Ashokbhai Wala is working as an Engineer in the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation (NHIDCL). He has been working on Sonamarg Tunnel for the last four and half years which was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendrabhai Modi. Shri Modi appreciated his work and sincerity. It's a proud moment for GCET, especially for the Civil Engineering Department. To celebrate this achievement, the Civil Engineering Department organized this event to felicitate him and he briefed the students about the project.

The Sonamarg Tunnel is a 6.5 km, two-lane bi-directional long tunnel that connects Gagangir and Sonamarg in the Ganderbal district of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, India. It provides connectivity throughout the year between Srinagar and Sonamarg. The tunnel is 10 m wide with a 7.5 meters wide parallel escape tunnel to be used in an emergency. It is located at an elevation of 2637 meters above sea level. It is designed for 1000 vehicles per hour at a design speed of 80km per hour.

The tunnel was constructed by using the New Austrian Tunneling Method (NATM), which is the most popular method of tunneling through challenging geological conditions of the Himalayas. Industrial-grade explosives (ANFO (Ammonium Nitrate + Fuel Oil)) were used for blasting, helping break the rock into smaller pieces. Each blast excavates around 3 meters of rock. After blasting, primary supporting systems like rock bolts, wire mesh, umbrella pipe roofing, etc based on the rock condition are provided. After that, the excavated tunnel is monitored for any ground deformations and if excessive deformation is observed, additional support is provided. Above the primary support, secondary support in the form of reinforced concrete lining is provided using gantries. These ensure the tunnel stays safe and strong over time.

The Z-Morh Project is executed in Design, Build, Finance, Operate, and Transfer (DBFOT) Annuity mode. The concessionaire of the project is M/s APCO-Shri Amarnathji Tunnel Private Limited (an SPV of M/s APCO Infratech Pvt. Ltd.). The work on the project was first started in 2015 by the previous concessionaire (M/s IL&FS) (the executing agency was MoRTH). The project was foreclosed in 2018 due to financial crunches of the previous concessionaire and National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) took over the project in 2018. The project was re-tendered in 2019 and M/s Apco Infratech Pvt Ltd. was the lowest bidder. After that, the balance work was restarted on 24th June 2020 and the project was completed on 27th July 2024 and inaugurated on 13th January 2025 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

Dr. Khadeeja Priyan, Head Civil Engineering Department introduced our alumnus Mr. Brijesh A. Wala; Dr. Vipul Shah, Head AS&H Department blessed and congratulated him on behalf of the GCET Family; Dr. Snehal Popli gave a vote of thanks and Prof. Krunali Patel coordinated the event.

The details of the event are as follows:

Date: 27/01/2025

Time: 2.00 pm onwards

Venue: Seminar Hall, GCET

Objective: The main objective of the event is to felicitate our 2014 alumnus Mr. Brijesh Wala for his remarkable contribution to the Z- Morh (Sonamarg Tunnel Project) and to share his knowledge and experience of the project and also methods and procedures to construct the tunnel among the students and staff.

Participation (Attendance sheet):

Photographs:

Alumni Talk
"A brief about Sonmarg Tunnel" by Mr. Brijesh Vala
Date: 27/1/2025 Time: 2.00 PM onwards

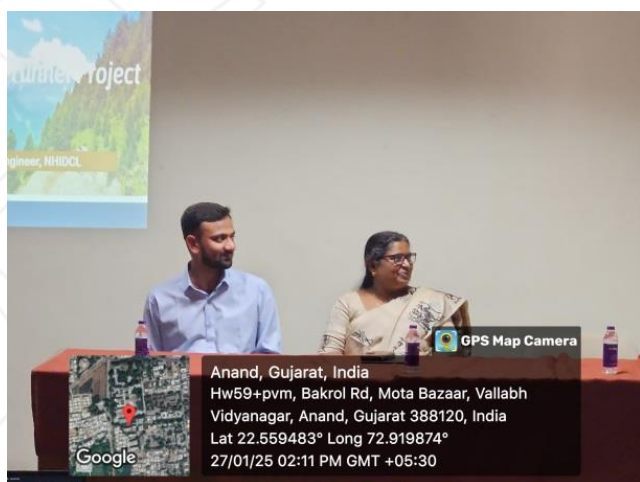
Sr No	Enrolment Number	Name	Sign
31	12202030501001	KADRI ADI IMTIYAZUDDIN	
32	12202030501002	PATEL BHADRESHKUMAR PRAVINBHAI	
33	12202030501003	PATEL JAY BHARATKUMAR	
34	12202030501004	KADRI MOHAMMAD ALAIN IMTIYAZUDDIN	
35	12302030503001	LAKHLANI AASTHA JATIN	
36	12302030503002	ADITYA PANJNATHIA	
37	12302030503003	AKSHAY BALOTRA	
38	12302030503004	DHAVAL CHAUDHARI	
39	12302030503005	PATEL KENILKUMAR KALPESHKUMAR	
40	12302030503006	SHAH KRUTI KAILESHBHAI	
41	12302030503007	PATEL UMANGKUMAR RUDHIRBHAI	
42	12302030503008	JOSHI UNNATI KARSANBHAI	
43	12302030503009	NISARG JAYPAL AYER	

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Sr No	Enrolment Number	Name	Sign
13	12302030501001	GOHIL DEVANG NARESHBHAI	
14	12302030501002	SUTARIYA KRRISH BHAVESH	
15	12302030501003	MD RAZIULLAH	
16	12302030501004	AAROHAN	
17	12302030501005	SURJEET SINGH	
18	12402030503001	GUPTA ANSH	
19	12402030503002	MAKWANA DEVANG NILESHBHAI	
20	12402030503003	DODIYA HET JIGNESHBHAI	
21	12402030503005	PAREKH JAYKUMAR DILIPBHAI	
22	12402030503006	KACHHIYAPATEL JEELKUMAR JATINKUMAR	
23	12402030503007	JAISWAL KARAN RAMDULAR	
24	12402030503008	BHAT MUJEEB AHMAD	
25	12402030503009	PADHIYAR NILESH FATESINGH	
26	12402030503010	SHARMA SHIVANI DEVI	
27	12402030603001	PATEL DEEP DHARMENDRABHAI	
28	12402030603002	PRAJAPATI MEGHAL VIJAYKUMAR	
29	12402030603003	PATEL PRACHIBEN BHAVESHBHAI	
30	12402030603004	PRAJAPATI ROHIT NAVINBHAI	

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Sr No	Enrolment Number	Name	Sign
1	12402030501001	KYASA TENDO MARCELLINO	
2	12402030501002	PRAJAPATI DIVYA JAYRAMBHAI	
3	12402030501003	MAVANI DVIP HARSHADRAY	
4	12402030501004	KALATHIYA JAY GHANSHYAMBHAI	
5	12402030501005	KOTADRIA JENIL HARESHBHAI	
6	12402030501006	BAMBHANITYA KRUSHNA RAKESHBHAI	
7	12402030501007	SINGH SHORYAVEER DEVENDRA SINGH	
8	12402030501008	PARMAR UDDHAV ASHOKBHAI	
9	12402030501009	DESAI VEDKUMAR GOPALBHAI	
10	12402030501010	CHAUDHARY VIKKY RAMNIWAS	
11	12402030501011	SUTHAR DHURVAL UMESHBHAI	
12	12402030501012	KAKADIYA PRAYAG HARIKRUSHNABHAI	



Publicity of the Event in News Papers/social media (Screenshots, Images etc.)

NO

Event organized by:

Name & Sign: [Organizing Secretary]: Dr. Khadeeja Priyan

Department: Civil Engineering Department

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