

**Event Name:** *Alumni Interaction Session “Reconnect • Reflect • Reignite”*

**Date of Event:** 06.02.2026

**Venue:** *Seminar Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Department of Environmental Science & Engineering, DTU*

**Organizer:** Department of Environmental Science & Engineering, DTU in association with Paryavarnam DTU



### **Distinguished Alumni Speakers**

The Alumni Interaction Session featured two accomplished alumni of the Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, Delhi Technological University:

#### **Mr. Aviral Agarwal**

Assistant Engineer, Santa Clara Valley Water District, USA

M.S. in Environmental Engineering, Stanford University (2023)

B.Tech in Environmental Engineering, DTU (2021)

#### **Mr. Sankalp Kumar**

Programme Associate (Clean Air), The Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), New Delhi

Former Environmental Engineer, NDDEQ

M.S. in Environmental Engineering, UIUC

B.Tech in Environmental Engineering, DTU

Both alumni have built impactful careers in international and national environmental institutions, contributing to water resources management, clean air policy, and applied environmental engineering.

### **Summary of the Event**

The Alumni Interaction Session was organized on Friday, February 6, 2026, by the Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, DTU, in association with Paryavarnam, DTU, with the objective of fostering meaningful engagement between alumni and current students. The event was held at the Seminar Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Department of Environmental Science & Engineering, DTU, commencing at 3:00 PM.

The programme began with a formal welcome address by the student moderator, who introduced the theme “Reconnect • Reflect • Reignite” and highlighted the importance of alumni interaction in shaping academic and professional aspirations. This was followed by a departmental address by the Head of the Department, Dr. Geeta Singh, followed by an address by Dr. Rajeev Kumar Mishra, Departmental Coordinator, who emphasized the role of alumni mentorship in guiding students through academic choices, career transitions, and professional challenges in environmental engineering.

Following this, the alumni delivered individual talks elaborating on their personal academic and professional journeys. Mr. Aviral Agarwal shared insights into water resource management practices in the United States, the relevance of data-driven decision-making in environmental engineering, and the academic rigor required for pursuing advanced studies at globally reputed institutions. Mr. Sankalp Kumar discussed his experience working at the intersection of engineering and policy in India, highlighting the application of environmental engineering principles in clean air management and large-scale impact programmes.

The session then progressed into a moderated interview segment, during which both alumni reflected on their academic journey at DTU, key subjects and projects that influenced their career paths, and the decisions that led them towards higher education and professional roles. The discussion covered critical transition phases such as preparation for international studies, adapting to interdisciplinary work environments, and navigating early-career challenges.

An open interaction and Q&A session allowed students to engage directly with the alumni on topics such as career planning, higher education, internships, research opportunities, skill development, and work–life balance. This was followed by a rapid reflection round where the alumni shared concise advice, lessons learned from mistakes, and key habits contributing to professional growth. The session concluded with a formal vote of thanks, followed by informal interaction and a group photograph.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from undergraduate and postgraduate students, research scholars, and faculty members of the department.

### **Key Takeaways**

- Alumni engagement bridges the gap between academic learning and real-world professional expectations.
- Career pathways in environmental engineering are diverse, spanning higher education, industry, policy, and research at national and international levels.

- Internships, research exposure, and skill development beyond core academics significantly influence long-term career outcomes.
- Real-world environmental problem-solving requires interdisciplinary thinking, adaptability, and strong communication skills alongside technical knowledge.
- Mentorship and networking are essential for navigating transitions from undergraduate studies to higher education and professional roles.

## Conclusion

The Alumni Interaction Session successfully achieved its objective of reconnecting students with accomplished alumni and providing practical insights into academic and professional journeys in environmental engineering. The session served as a source of motivation and clarity for students, helping them reflect on their career goals and reignite their aspirations through informed guidance. Such interactions strengthen alumni–department relationships and contribute significantly to holistic student development.

## Feedback

The session was highly engaging, informative, and motivating. Students appreciated the openness and honesty with which the alumni shared their experiences, challenges, and lessons learned. The interactive format encouraged meaningful dialogue, while real-world perspectives provided valuable clarity on career planning and professional growth. Overall, the programme was well-organized and highly beneficial for all participants.

## Glimpses





