8th February 2006 was a day of historical significance in the annals of AATCC and the Indian Textile Industry. It was on this day that the first section of the AATCC outside the USA was formally inaugurated in India.

AATCC President Robert Lattie, flew in from the US to inaugurate this first International Section of the AATCC. He also delivered the Keynote Address.

Mr. Ullhas Nimkar, Senior member of the AATCC, was invited to deliver a special lecture.

The inaugural was formalized by the ancient but still practiced Indian tradition of lighting of a lamp. 

*Lighting of the lamp signifies "The Ushering in of knowledge, dispelling the darkness of ignorance".*

The Chairman of the local section of the AATCC, Mr. Venkatarayan Krishan, welcomed the gathering and spoke about the importance and significance of the event.
Mr. Venkatarayan elaborated on the efforts that led to the formation of this section and thanked all who had worked for it. Speaking about the plans of the local section, the need and importance of forming AATCC student chapters in India was emphasized, as well as the importance of conducting AATCC local section programs in the many small regional centers of production in India that form the backbone of the Indian Textile industry.

The welcome address of the Chairman was followed by a presentation on the AATCC and its activities by International Regional Board Member and India Section Secretary Jayakumar Gopalakrishnan. In his presentation Jayakumar spoke about AATCC’s myriad activities and urged members and non members
to contribute and participate in the various forums available within the AATCC. He also introduced all section officers to the invitees.

Following this was the main event of the day - President Robert Lattie’s Keynote Address on “Gaining Confidence in Durability Tests on Fabrics”. President Lattie also gave a brief talk on AATCC and applauded the formation of the local section. He offered the Chairman, Officers and members of the India section his Congratulations and, on a lighter note, “Commiserations” for the quantum of responsibilities that the local section has on its shoulders.

President Lattie elaborated on the use of statistical principles to arrive at acceptable confidence levels in physical tests for Textiles. His talk had many
answers to the often puzzling problems of repeatability and reproducibility of results in physical tests for textiles.

Mr. Ullhas Nimkar, Senior member AATCC delivered a special lecture on “Dynamic Consumer Quality Expectations and Standardization”. His lecture elaborated on the changing scenario of the consumer’s expectations of textile products and the efforts of AATCC to include these aspirations of the consumers into its activities.
President Lattie was presented a momento by the Chair of the Indian section on behalf of all the members of AATCC India section to acknowledge his assistance and efforts for the formation of the AATCC India section.

On the conclusion of the formal parts of the day’s events, all the dignitaries and attendees were invited to enjoy the high tea buffet.