

Internship report
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Last October I got the great opportunity to do a two month internship at Manipal Institute of Technology in India. This exchange was enabled by the Indo-German-Cooperation of pmIndia. Manipal is a university town located in the southwest of India. It is only a few kilometers away from the Arabian Sea. It was the aim of this internship to write a case study about cell formation at the machine shop of the Manipal Institute of Technology.

Before my journey I was introduced into the Hindi language and the Indian culture by attending a crash course. This class was really helpful to get an idea of this Asian country. Before departing from Munich Airport, I was still a little afraid about the adventure "India". But as soon as I entered the plane, all my worries and doubts were gone. Next day I arrived at the Mangalore Airport. It was a hard journey but fortunately the shuttle bus of the University was perfectly arranged. My initial impression of my accommodation for the next two months was really good. Hardly arrived Dr. K. Raghunandanana sent another German exchange student to my room. He showed me the campus and the city of Manipal. He also gave me useful information and became a really good friend in these two months.

After this I met Dr. K. Raghunandanana, who organized many things for me. He arranged a mobile phone, told me where I had to go to pay my fees and get my student identification card and further organizational things. Every time I had problems I could come to him. He was great convenience during the first days of my stay. When I met Mr. Barboza and Dr. Krishnananda Rao, additional Professors at the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, I discussed the project I had to do. In the beginning it was really hard for me to understand all the things they wanted to know of me, but after a few weeks the communication was no big problem anymore. We agreed on the topic "Manufacturing Cell Formation".

This topic was about to theoretical rearrangement of the MIT machine shop depending on parts, which are produced there. The machine shop is the workshop, where all students of the MIT have to attend a practical class. When Mr. Barboza showed me the machine shop, the wooden section and the forge, I was a little bit confused, but later I recognized that this is really useful for a proper study.

First of all I had to start with the research of literature. The library of the MIT was really helpful for this. After some meetings with my supervisor Dr. Krishnananda Rao, I could begin my practical research at the MIT machine shop. Analyzing the existing arrangement of the machines was the first part of this. After all this, they gave me the parts which had to be produced. Together with my supervisor I discussed the new assembly of the machines. He supported me very well, concerning the simplicity of the parts, with which I had some problems finding the right arrangement.

But finally we were able to solve these problems and I could start to write my report in the last two weeks. This was too little time, but in the end I could complete my work successfully.

The best thing of this internship was, to learn a huge amount of new things about a rather complete unknown culture and country. On the weekends, I did some trips with other interns from all over the world. In October, we were in Mysore. We had to go by bus for five or six hours, which is a short time for Indian conditions. Anyway, it is not comparable to Europe. At this weekend there was a big festival going on in the city and thousands of people were joining this event. So the city was really crowded which was really exhausting for all of us, but we saw many great things there. In November, we decided to go to a trip to the North of India. We were sleeping in the dessert, joining the border ceremony in Amritsar, walking on the Himalaya and doing other memorable things. We talked to many different people and learned a lot about the Indian culture.

I think the advertising slogan "*Incredible India*" fits perfectly to this great country!

