

Internship at pmIndia Innovation lab

Manuela Heinze, student of Print and Media Technology (Master) at Chemnitz University of Technology, October – December internship at pmIndia Innovation lab in Manipal, India.

Gaining some experience abroad was my aim when writing the application for the DAAD scholarship. Once I handed in the application everything was managed by the Institute for Print and Media Technology (pmTUC) and Ms. Strauß. According to my previous knowledge and the topics I am interested in, she suggested to do the internship in the new lab at Manipal University. Nearly everything was managed by Ms. Strauß: she organized a hostel room on the campus, she recommended a doctor in Chemnitz for the necessary vaccinations and answered all questions which I had before starting my adventure India.



Figure 1: The Innovation Centre in Manipal

Manipal University was founded by Dr. T.M.A. Pai in 1953 as a medical school. Later, Manipal Institute of Technology was established there. So it is a good basis for opening a new lab there. The laboratory for printed solar cells situated in the Innovation Centre of Manipal University, functions as a basis for analyses and further projects on printed solar cells. Thus, I arrived equipped with 3PV (printed paper photovoltaic) cells, which had been printed in Chemnitz, in Manipal. My main task was the monitoring of the solar cells

under ambient weather conditions. Therefore I had to learn how the measurement devices work and had to set them up in a proper way. I analyzed the recorded weather data and got into contact with Indian bureaucracy.

When I first arrived in the lab, it was completely empty and still under construction. So the main task changed to helping Mr. Prakash and Mr. Engler, two pmTUC researchers who had been send to India to establish the lab, with the setup of the completely new office and lab. It was amazing how they arranged everything. After some weeks, which is pretty fast for Indian conditions, the regular laboratory work could start. Mr.



Figure 2: Me working in the new lab

Prakash and Mr. Engler organized measuring devices and we got into contact with local computer specialists, who set up our devices. To support Mr. Prakash, Mr. Engler and me, Prof. Hübler visited us in the beginning of December and gave a lot of advices and instructions for the coming opening ceremony, which would be held in January 2013.

I learned a lot during my research internship in India. I improved my language skills and got new impressions of the Indian culture and the way of living here. I would really like to thank Mr. Prakash and Mr. Engler for their support, DAAD for financing this experience and pmTUC for realizing this internship. Because a picture is worth 1000 words, I would like to finish this report with some impressions of Manipal and the working conditions.

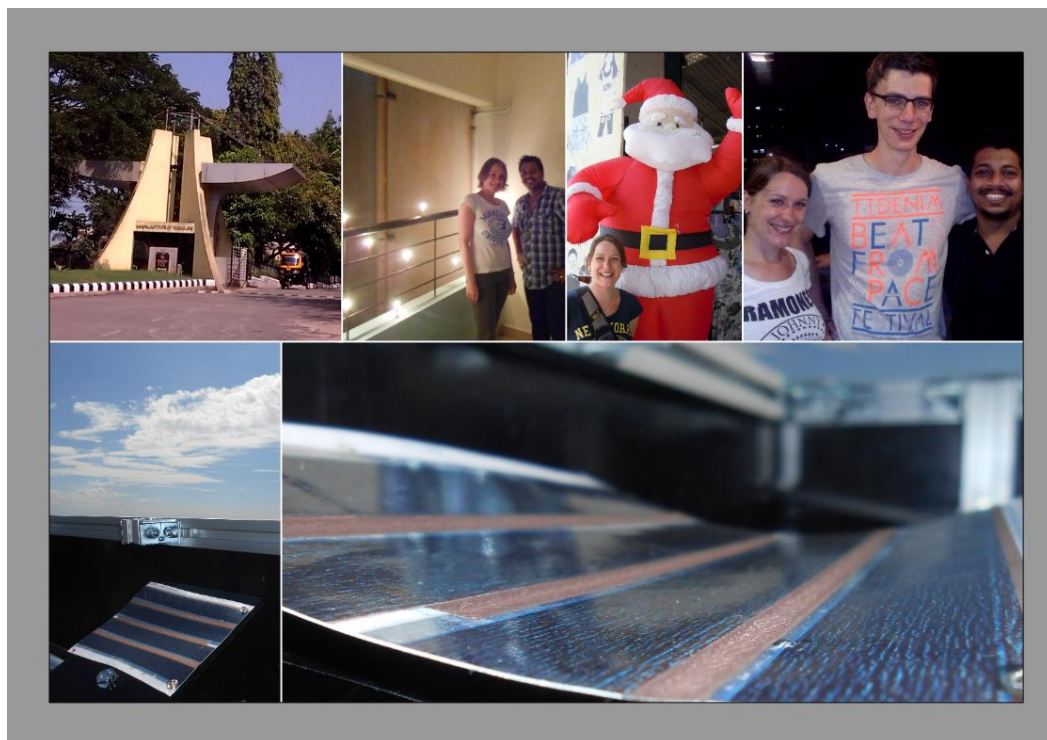


Figure 3: From left to right : Manipal main gate, celebrating Diwali, Christmas and New Year, solar cell measurement box on the rooftop of Innovation Centre and 3PV cells (printed in Chemnitz)