

Panjab University Period:
from Aug/23-Sep/03

1. What I learned in terms of training and language at the host university

University

- I was impressed by the fact that expensive equipment in research facilities was kept with due care by specially trained staff.
- I took a few classes at a graduate school of business administration which is close to my specialty. I found them practical and interesting.
- The marketing lecture (about 3 hours), among others, was very interesting. Indian students were actively speaking out in response to the lecturer's questions, in comparison, Japanese students lacked in this enthusiasm.

Industrial tour

- We visited an orthopedic supplies company and an electronic component company. Both companies carried out designing, manufacturing, and delivering on self-contained base. It was an interesting opportunity to see the entire process being completed in one place.

Language

- I always used English as a communication language, so I could learn many phrases that could be used in daily conversation.
- It was the first time for me to interact with a small group almost every day, I was able to exchange opinions on private topics, which gave me confidence in my speaking ability. I also learned a little Hindi. Although it was only a greeting and a short sentence, I was able to talk with Indian students.
- Indian university students have a very rich vocabulary. Therefore, if we try to tell them without giving up, they will generally understand our intension.

2. What I learned about the lifestyle, culture, and society of the host country

- I observed the welcome party for new students, what shocked me was that the new students stood on the stage one by one and performed dance, music, etc. During the intermission, everyone in the venue went on stage and danced to the music, which was overwhelming.
- Wherever I went, some students accompanied me to help me. According to them, it is a national trait of India to give everything to those close to them.
- It has a distinctive food culture (vegetarian culture) and all food items which we could get at restaurants and supermarkets have the letters VEG or NON-BIG on the label. friendliness to vegetarians was obvious.

3. For students who are thinking of participating in next year's program

- India has many distinctive cultures, and each person's perception of things is very different from that of Japanese people. I think it was a good opportunity to review my own way of thinking and values.
- All explanations and daily conversations must be made in English, I feel that if we join the conversation and keep it going, then English skills will inevitably improve.
- Money exchange is not advisable, in turn, it is better to go for cash advances or use services such as Wise and Revolut.
- At the beginning I thought it would be a tough two weeks, however, life in Chandigarh could be much better than my expectations.



