

## **Voices of Students Dispatched to IIT-Kanpur in 2025**

**Visiting period: September 15–27, 2025**

**(These are translations of parts of the student survey.)**

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

– I was pleased to work on a research topic closely related to my own at the host university. Many of the students in the laboratory were PhD candidates, and I learned from their strong commitment to research and the theories they apply.

In terms of language skills, I could understand spoken English, but I realized that improving my speaking skill is still a challenge. Many Indian students can speak their regional language, Hindi, and English, while I am fluent only in my native Japanese. Although direct comparison is difficult, this highlighted a difference between myself and the Indian students.

– In the laboratory I was assigned to, I learned about lithium-ion batteries. In addition to studying the basic theories, I conducted numerical analyses and experiments. Although this was outside my field of expertise and understanding it in English was quite challenging, I managed to grasp the subject matter by asking many questions and doing my own research. Both the professor and the students were very kind, which made learning comfortable, and I was able to take what I learned back to my own laboratory and share it with others.

In terms of language skills, actively engaging in conversations helped me feel much more comfortable communicating with people from abroad. While I do not feel that my English ability improved dramatically, I gained a practical understanding of how to express my ideas clearly using the vocabulary I know and how to ask questions when I am unsure.

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

– In the laboratory, I observed students of my own generation from a distant country, pursuing an endless quest for knowledge toward a sustainable society. I was impressed by their research style, conducted in both Hindi and English.

– India is a country full of diversity, with many religions, languages, and skin colors. Living in Japan, it can be hard to notice such individual differences, but the diversity I encountered in India was on a much larger scale—and everyone accepted it as completely normal. In an increasingly globalized world, I realized this is a perspective we often lack.