

I. Life in India

It is almost impossible to describe India in words; you have to experience this country which is characterized by many nice people, spicy food, a high and seeming uncoordinated traffic volume, and many contrasts. It would be a shame not to try the Indian food – it is really spicy for a German, but at the same time so tasteful. Just make sure that the food was well prepared and after a while and some little complaints your stomach will get used to the food. The Indian people are really traditional and religious. You can't compare their culture to any European culture and you should try to understand and accept it, but actually the Indians will help you. They belong to the nicest, friendliest and most hard-working nations in the world. At the beginning you will have the feeling that everybody is looking at you, they are just interested and you don't have to be confused. I think the biggest problem for Germans is to deal with the huge gap between rich and poor. You have to challenge things that you have never seen before. Sometimes it is hard not to act emotional when children ask you for money, but they must learn that they need school education to earn money. Another big challenge is the traffic. At the beginning you will be so happy that you survived while crossing the street, but you will get used to the fact that the Rikscha is your new favorite means of transportation. Just try to be open for all new experiences and impressions, but be careful at the same time and you will enjoy the Indian way of life.

II. Internship at Cognizant Technology Solutions

I am working at the Manufacturing & Logistics Department at Cognizant with special focus on business development of the German market. Since my first day I felt very welcome at Cognizant in Pune. In comparison to German companies, there are much more people in one office and I work in the smallest office with 400 other employees. I usually work from 9:30 to 18:30. My task is to develop a business strategy for Cognizant to be more successful on the German market in the field of manufacturing and logistics. I get a lot of support from my team members. The Indians are usually more relaxed at work and not so serious like Germans, but at the same time Indians are very hard-working and more professional. They are always interested in your personal and educational background. Furthermore, Cognizant offers me free accommodation at a guesthouse which is clean, close to the office (15-minutes-Riksha-drive), has Internet access and offers breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Take the chance and attend an internship in India! It is a great opportunity to experience a completely different culture and business life!