

# Two Unforgettable Years at IIT Roorkee: A Journey of Learning and Growth

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I consider myself incredibly fortunate to have spent two formative years at IIT Roorkee. Having witnessed the momentous occasion of the institute's 175th anniversary and the 50th year of the Department of Hydrology during my time there instilled a deep sense of pride and belonging. IIT Roorkee is more than just an academic institution; it's a nurturing environment that fosters both academic and personal growth.

The institute provides a plethora of facilities and support systems, catering to a student's holistic development. They understand the importance of extracurricular activities, as evidenced by the encouragement I received for pursuing my hobbies, which ultimately led me to win second place in an institute-wide painting competition. This sense of support extends beyond academics, creating a secure and familial atmosphere within the campus. The professors truly embody the role of guiding pillars, offering invaluable knowledge and unwavering support.

I pursued my MTech dissertation jointly under Prof. Brijesh and Prof. Nitin and was lucky to be Professor Nitin Khandelwal's first research student at IIT Roorkee. His tireless efforts went beyond just experiments and thesis completion. He challenged me to think critically, broaden my perspective, and develop a deeper understanding of concepts. The AquaNano Lab, in particular, became a space for immense learning. It taught me valuable life lessons about perseverance, resilience, and the importance of staying positive even when things don't go according to plan. It instilled in me the power of hard work, dedication, and critical thinking, pushing me to come up with new ideas. The lab itself became a family, and the patience I discovered within myself allowed me to navigate challenges alongside supportive lab members.

To my dear juniors and upcoming lab members, I extend a warm welcome! The AquaNano Lab awaits you with open arms, offering unparalleled support and guidance from Professor Khandelwal. Remember to stay positive, be patient with your work, and embrace the collaborative spirit that defines the lab. You'll find your lab members become your family, and your time here will be an enriching journey filled with learning and growth. Enjoy every moment of it!