



CATKing IIM Shillong WAT PI Workbook

Congrats for Getting an IIM Shillong Call! How to use this workbook?

This is a consolidation of 62 IIM Shillong, WAT PI Experiences. These are consolidated from various online sources.

IIM WAT and PI is conducted across India at Bangalore / Delhi / Kolkata / Hyderabad / Mumbai.

This Booklet gives you the Candidate Profile also in most cases, for you to understand the Personal Interview and relate to it better.

After reading the entire Document you are required to check on your CATKing IIMWATPI Super 30 Dashboard:

1. Build Your Interview Skills (Videos from IIM and SP Jain Alumni)
2. Functional Dossiers: If you want to pursue an MBA in Marketing, choose that dossier first.
3. SOP / Application Forms (Check out Jagesh Golwala (IIMA) , Raj Doshi (IIMA) , Jay Gosalia (IIM B))
4. Sample AWT from the dashboard to understand the Structured Approach. WAT / AWT / AWA – All of these are same terms of Writing test assignment conducted across various IIMs.

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Summary- What IIM Shillong looks for?

Excellent Academic, cocurricular and extracurricular Background

Work experience

Gender and academic Diversity gives an edge

Personal Interview Evaluates Candidates on Qualities of – Focus, Clarity of Thought, Learnability, Ethical Dilemma, Ability to handle pressure, Decision making skills, Discipline

Prerequisites:

Form to be Submitted (Interview)

Resume (not mentioned, good to carry)

Original Documents along with photocopies

Insights - Writing Ability Test

Time Allotted is 10-30 minutes

When given an abstract topic time allotted is less

When given a specific topic for in-depth analysis time is given separately for ideation and writing

Sample WAT Topics -

1. Unethical practices by doctors are increasing. Provide some solutions to improve the current scenario.

2. It is better for old people to live in retirement homes away from rush of city. Do advantages of living in retirement homes outweigh the disadvantages

Insights - Interview

Interview time - 20-30 Minutes. (Sometimes as low as 10 mins)

Interview Panel Details - 2 to 3 people (Professor and Alumni)

Interview Type - Detailed Interviews check your perspective, thought process, interests and knowledge

Interview discussion Pointers – (as per IIM-I experiences of last five years)

Be completely prepared with anything and everything on the form.

They will go into details of everything you speak about in the interview. (level1- what do you know about Indian Economy, level2- what do you think about GST, level3- how has GST affected the sector you work in).

They can ask about your hobbies and interests.

It is absolutely fine to ask for time before you answer (they often expect you to think about a solution when they ask you about a problem at hand).

It is fine if you are anxious and you need not portray a brave face being real with your emotions is better.

Be prepared to answer everything about your work experience or about your favourite subjects if you are a fresher.

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Interview Experience – 1

IIM SHILLONG, Peerless hotel, Kolkata, 9th april afternoon slot,
Background - GEM (9/9/6) with 2 yrs of work ex at Deutsche Bank

2 panelists, both male, P1 mid-fifties, P2 mid forties

Extempore - getting cold feet (got 2 mins to think and 3 mins to speak)

P1- So, you're a chemical engg, can you tell me why are tyres always black in colour

P1- how does the detergent cleanse a dirty cloth?

P1- So you've worked at Deutsche Bank for more than 2 years, tell me what all things that you learnt.
(Answered along the lines of having a right attitude and grit, with a clear goal and the req determination for it)

P1- so donald Trump seems to be very determined, what do you think about it?

P2- so explain your job role

P2 then continued with workex related questions

P2- what are your hobbies (ans- football, and watching live sports)

P1- what do you think about Sunil chetri's comeback from retirement?

P1&P2 said thanks and asked me to leave

Overall a very chill experience and they tried to check my thought process. The interview took around 20-25 mins (including the extempore)

Interview Experience – 2

Extempore - Keep the Fingers Crossed

2 panelists were there

Q. Your role in your organization and some cross question

Q. Different types of incoterms (I work in procurement)

Q. US tariffs to India and how it is going to hamper indian economy

Q. Tariffs effect on specifically metal and mining industry

Q. How civil engineering helps you in procurement

Q. Difference between shear stress and strain

Q. They gave 2 functions and asked A intersection B, A union B.

Q. What is function

Q. 3-4 question on probability distributions and statistics which which were theoretical types of questions and I was not able to answer

Q. 4 red candy and 2 yellow candies, in how many way we can arrange them

Q. Largest Indian state(i asked in terms of population or land area?)

They are grilling, people are coming out sweating after the interview. Prepare Maths especially Maths and geopolitics. One of the panel were asking geopolitics aggressively.

Interview Experience – 3

10/04/2025

Peerless Kolkata, Slot 8 AM

Extempore: when the cat's away, the mice will play

Interview:

Panelist 1: I think he was an Alumni

Workex related questions, what do you do and basics

Any tough situation you faced at work, how did you handle it.

What strategy would you make if you were working with a competitor of your firm?

Panel 2: Prof

Do you know any famous people that share your surname?

Any live projects/other projects done by you in college?

Fav subjects

Cost of equity

CAPM

What is the cost of equity for me if I give contract to an investment banking firm at 10% cut for raising equity?

He looked at my marksheet and started asking me what I had studies in which subject?

What is the difference between t-test and z-test? (Stats was one of the subjects I had in grad)

Explain BCG Matrix

OPEC, Cartels, why are they important?

Why are huge companies who form Cartels looked down upon?

Asked me to take candies and leave.

Alumni was very chill, the professor tried to grill, but it went fine.

You could also revise basic quants, the person before me was asked std deviation and how to find roots of quadratic equations and stuff.

Interview Experience – 4

lim shillong transcript

10/04/2025

Peerless Hotel, Kolkata, 8:00Am

Profile - GEM, ~3 years workex

Exptempore - "time will tell"

Interview:

P1:

1. Current affairs : usa tariff impact on india ?
2. why did rbi reduced the repo rate ?
3. what are the sustainable development goals ?

P2:

1. System design - 1 billion records needs to be streamed in real time from google. Design the architecture ?
2. Why did you chose these services ?
3. What is the difference between co-pilot chatgpt and grok ?
4. What impact does AI have on business ?provide example from your current job experience.
5. How can you leverage ai with cloud computing to have a check on my financials without leaking the data ?
6. Which body regulates the data privacy in india and europe ?
7. What are the recent developments in data management?
8. You migrated the data but then found there are some missing data after the etl process was completed. How would you debug ?

Interview Experience – 5

IIM SHILLONG

2/3/25 1pm slot

Extempore: Stand your ground

- Tell about your work
- What are the problems with attribution in marketing mix (work ex)
- Which marketing channels will you allocate budget (i talked about mROI)
- Definition and formula of mROI
- Asked fav subject, I said DBMS
- asked difference b/w relational and non relational DB
- Asked what kind of regression have I run?
- What language? R, which package (i didn't remember)
- Imagine you are consultant to govt, how will you convince people asking separate state to drop the demand. Give 5 points (took time and was able to answer)
- What advise will yo give to Samay Raina? I told moral answer. They asked for advise as his brand manager to him (told)
- Is India ready for dark comedy? (Said no, 100% population won't ever will be)

Gave mentos, thats it

Interview Experience – 6

IIM Shillong Mumbai

Panelist 1 male (professor)

- I handed him my research papers and drawings directly started going very deep into statistics and what research I did
- Then asked about difference between electrical and electronics engineering, where would I use a rheostat in the interview room
- Panelist 2 Prob alumni I saw him leaving after interviews so: why didn't I join IIM kashipur in

- my graduation year even when I was offered
- What is the buzz around LLM gen ai and why is india not doing anything about it

Interview Experience – 7

IIM Shillong Transcript

11th Feb'25 (Morning Slot)

Panel: M1 (35-40 yrs) & M2 (40-45 yrs)

GEF - 9/8/8 - Work ex - 30 months (CS)

Extempore (5 mins):

Topic - "Cool as a cucumber "
(2 mins to think and 3 mins to talk)

PI (15-20 mins):

M1

1. Difference between BRS and FRS (I didnt know these terms told that)
2. Explain your role as a BA
Told then M1 explained BRS is another word for BRD then I explained Q1
3. What tools and functions do you use?
4. Why cloud over on-Prem DWH (basis my work ex)
5. More explanation asked on my work tools eg Apache Airflow and some discussion on that with M1

Till then M2 was verifying my documents

M2

7. What is IoT
8. What is Malaysia and India's relationship, they had some trouble (said I am not sure)
9. Why is Pak refusing money from IMT and World bank - didn't know and told my assumption
10. Why are people going to US even when we are developing in terms of Technology now in India.
11. What news are you following - told Budget, Trump but forgot to mention Kumbh so he asked me what is Kumbh
11. Who are Naga Sadhus - based on my prev qn ans
12. What are your hobbies ?
13. Then asked me to show a certificate for classical singing - he couldn't find it because it was written in Hindi which he had some trouble reading. He asked me how many exams given for singing and kathak.

Then told to take toffee and leave.

Interview Experience – 8

IIM Shillong Interview Transcript- Afternoon 7th Feb

Background- Mechanical Engineering

Work ex- Chemical and Renewables

Extempore- Put out fire

F-

You are CEO of a company and you need to select between customer satisfaction and revenue generation what would you prioritize?

How would an MBA help you in wrt career goals?
Tell me name of 3 chemicals you used to import in your previous job?
What is your current job role pls elaborate?

M-

What is bending and sheer stress? Kindly draw diagrams and show directions?
Draw P- V diagram.
Have you read the recent report by jindal steel?
How much steel do you think India requires?

Interview Experience – 9

**Extempore topic - Climbing up the mountain (2
2 Panelists- Both Male, Mid 30s (P1) and Mid 50s (P2)**

Personal Interview

P1

- 1.) What was your job role?
- 2.) What is your ultimate goal?
- 3.) What is the size of the company?
- 4.) How does your long term goal align with mba?
- 5.) 1 instance where you solved a problem of a client(this was a follow-up with my job)

P2

- 1.) You mentioned Bhopal, what is the story behind the name?
- 2.) What is something that you have observed happens
Only in election year
- 3.) What is the main source of revenue for MP?
- 4.) Why do you say it? (I said agri business)
- 5.) What if the central and state govt are not aligned how does it affect the states?

Interview Experience – 10

Date: 26/02/2024

Hyderabad, Forenoon, Panel 3, Serial number 3

Personal Interview

Before sharing my interview experience, I'd say that the overall ambience was much warmer and friendlier than any of my other interviews. The person registering the candidates was very jolly and well spoken and that helped with my anxiety a lot!

Also, the snacks were good :)")

Actual interview experience:

Duration: 25 minutes approximately

Two panelists:

Female:

Please give me your original documents, arranged in the order as instructed on the call letter

You'll now be given an extempore phrase. You'll have 2 minutes to organise your thoughts on the notepad and then, you'll speak for approximately 2-3 minutes

My topic was 'Keep an eye on....'

Did my best to gather my thoughts and tried my best to speak considering different aspects of interpretation

Both panelists were very actively and patiently listening all throughout the interview. Never interrupted. M was also reassuring, although F maintained an expressionless face but a convinced attitude.

Next were a series of HR questions on my profile, my Master's from abroad, many follow-ups on long term goals and why MBA, etc.

I was then quizzed on some basic Chemistry questions like strength of acids, uses of Calcium nitrate, Carbon compounds, etc.

Over to M, he asked me a generic puzzle and then a mathematics problem, which luckily I could solve in a very brief time and he seemed convinced. He then asked me a bunch of questions how I could draw a relation between my Background in Chemistry and my future in Management.

I was also asked to explain in detail the steps and concept behind Hypothesis testing, t test, etc. Although I was not very confident, I tried my best and he was also very helpful in organising my thoughts and seemed convinced with the overall explanation through a research problem example.

Next, he asked me about international laws on fission and fusion reactions which unfortunately I didn't have a lot of command over as he was looking for a very specific law. I mentioned 2-3 laws which I was aware of. However, he was very accommodating and appreciated whatever little I could manage to mention.

Finally, they asked me a few questions about my extra curriculars and my personal background and asked me to take a toffee and wished me well.

Overall, it was a decent experience, and the panelists were very calm and composed. No grilling. However, questions demanded thorough understanding and eloquent explanation.

I hope this helps! All the best everyone!

Interview Experience – 11

Extempore topic: Fools rush in

Two interviewers, both males, about 40 years

They didn't start with TMAY and started straight with academic questions

P1

- 1)What's ABC in accounting?
- 2)What's Break Even analysis
- 3)Explain an economic model for analysing a business in respect to business environment(posters five forces model)
- 4) briefly summarise different theories given by Keynes
- 5) briefly summarize different different theories and models given by Porter
- 6)explain various measures of variance in a given data set

Don't know why this person was so concentrated on economics, I had not mentioned anything related to it in my form, neither was it a major subject, everyone in the panel was complaining the same about him

P2

- 1)Since you have worked in your family business, how have you contributed to it in your time working there?
- 2) how have your undergraduate subjects proven fruitful in your business management.
- 3)Explain some recent happenings with paytm.
- 4) Name a fintech startup and tell me why you like it, its business model and your personal outlook on it.
- 5)What are your hobbies?

Interview Experience – 12

Afternoon Slot

GEM, 2yrs work ex

Extempore topic: No Laughing Matter

Two male Panelists P1 (Mid 30s) P2 (Mid 40s)

Personal Interview :

P1

1. Asked about my work ex and my role in it?
2. Difference between B2B and B2C Marketing?
3. What is Hunting in Sales?
4. What is Harvesting in Sales?
5. Growth Strategy for a particular Category at Urban Company (as I have worked there) (Too many cross questions 4-5 minimum were there in this)
6. Then give a numerical to solve for electrical circuit based on Ohm's Law?

P2

1. What are the initiatives by GoI for Startups?
2. What is the difference between Made in India and Make in India?
3. Why is Bangladesh and Vietnam considered top competition for India in the field of Textile industry?

P1

1. What are your Hobbies?
2. That's it , take your toffee and you may go?

Interview Experience – 13

Work ex: 36 Months

Extempore Topic: Nitty Gritty

1 Male and 1 Female Panellists

Personal Interview

P1

- F: Started with Work ex questions
- F: Any specific portfolio or financial instrument that you dealt with? (Since I come from an Investment Banking background)
- F: Any Indian Companies equities that was traded in European portfolio (Since I was a part of Germany team)
- ME: I explained about RIL
- F: Why RIL?
- ME: I explained why RIL and how the company has gone past 20 lakh crore Market cap
- F: If I want to build a portfolio, what would you recommend me to do?
- ME: I explained about diversification.
- F: Anything other than diversification?
- F: What is CAPM? How is it different from NPV?
- M: Questions related to Student union council at UG?
- M: Questions on Hobbies?
- M: Questions related to new job and follow up questions about the company
- F: Questions on GST as I did a certification in GST.
- The panel was smiling throughout the interview. Equal questions on Work ex and Academics

Interview Experience – 14

10th- 9.6cgpa; 12th- 94%; BCom- 7.7cgpa (fresher) CAT: 96.85%ile

Date: 04/04/2023

Venue: Hotel Oberoi, Kolkata (afternoon slot)

2 panelists: M, F

Me: Good morning ma'am, sir (blunder in the start)

M: is it really morning I thought its afternoon

Me: Oh sorry sir good afternoon

F: Ritu, tell me something that is not mentioned in your form

Me: (talked about my strengths including examples then hobbies and mentioned paintings and watching movies)

F: So you like movies you know there are mostly crime based movies made that is based on the states like Jharkhand, Bihar and UP do all the movies portray the truth and is the situation really like that?

me: though I agree that most movies made are of crime based but the situation not is not like that it has changed very much. blah blah...

F: so if you want to change the perception of people what kinds of movies you want to make

me: there are a lot of things like how Jharkhand gained independence also about the bio pics of the freedom fighters and the different cultures that are there

F: ok, do you know which countries India has close relation with

me: Russia, US, UK, etc (could have mentioned those with examples)

F: You are from Dhanbad why it is famous for

me: it is the coal capital of India

F: do you know other states that have coal mines and industry

me: mentioned 5–6 states

M: You have studied commerce in your grad

me: yes

M: (asked 1, 2 questions which I couldn't answer)

M: what are your favourite subjects

me: financial management, marketing

M: what is NPV and IRR

told

M: which measure is good

told

M: is it possible to have more than 1 irr?

me: no sir as it is calculated by putting npv as 0 so I think it is not possible (answer is yes it is possible)

F: you have mentioned that you like making paintings name some famous painters

told

F: paintings that originated from Bihar

told

F: ok this is all from our side you can leave take a toffee

I took a toffee and left

Interview Experience – 15

Background: I had only one call. It was from IIM Shillong. I honestly did not know whether I should be happy or depressed. I had around 3 months to prepare for the interview but I had decided to start my preparation only in March. So here is my experience in exact words:

CAT Percentile: 97.84

Profile: General Category, Engineer, Male with no work experience.

Academics: Class X → 9.6/10 (approximately 91%), Class XII → 93.7% (Intermediate), B.Tech in Electronics and Computer Engineering (ECM) → 86%

Extracurricular Activities: Marketing Head and Board Member of a student run NGO, NSS Team Lead, Marketing Deputy of The Robotics Club, Mentor in The Robotics Club and passive participant in a few other clubs.

Group Discussion and Interview:

The interview was at Hotel Fortune Park JP Celestial. I had been allotted the morning slot and I was asked to report at 8:30AM. IIM Shillong is the only IIM which has a case based GD. I had my GD along with 6 other candidates.

The case was a really simple case. It was about a cake manufacturing company which was facing losses for the past few months and had a personal brand of cakes. It was given an opportunity to become a subcontractor for another company. So, we were asked to suggest the right course of action. I felt that my personal performance was decent in terms of my ability to come up with new points and also be clear in my communication. I would rate my performance in the GD as 4/5. However, I felt that the performance of the group was below average. The group members were not willing to discuss new concepts or ideas but were coming with a fixed mindset in terms of the conclusion. The entire GD had reached its conclusion in the start itself. My attempts to bring in new points or ideas were greeted coldly or were directly shot down by some of the group members. So, I would rate the group performance as 3/5.

I was the third candidate from my group to be interviewed. The panel consisted of two members. The first member was an old (in my view at least 60), highly experienced male professor and the second was a middle aged professor. Let's call the old professor **P1** and the middle aged professor **P2**. **P1** and **P2** had also been the moderators in the GD. I already had a differentiating point even before being interviewed. I was the person with the A3 sized application form. My application form made me the famous, different guy in the eyes of the professors and also the staff assisting them. I was repeatedly asked about the size of my application form. Now I will cut to the chase and start with the interview experience.

P1 came to the waiting hall and called me inside. I went inside and I was waiting for **P1** to enter so I could close the door. Meanwhile, **P2** asked me to sit twice. I took my seat and then **P1** entered so I got up to close the door. **P2** was surprised by my actions. I was also surprised by my actions. I don't know why I was fixated on the door. I guess it was because I was really excited.

Me (Smiling): Good morning sir (looking towards P1) and Good morning sir (looking towards P2)

P1 and P2: Good morning!

P2: Please give me your folder and also give your application form to P1.

I quickly remove the folded A3 sized paper and give my folder to P2. I unfold my application form and immediately the size of the paper is pointed to me again. I smiled and told them the problem with the photo while printing the form on an A4 sized paper. P1 was looking at my application form while P2 was randomly opening my folder.

P2: Oh so you are from Hyderabad? Where do you stay in Hyderabad?

Me: Yes sir, I am from Hyderabad. I am currently staying in Secunderabad.

P2: How did you come here?

Me (*Sensing danger because I did not prepare anything related to the train*): Sir I traveled by train.

P2: Did you come here today or yesterday? Which train did you board, the overnight one or the morning one?

Me: I came here yesterday. I took the overnight train.

P2: Are you going back today? (*He asked me this because I had taken my huge travel bag to the GD room because of instructions from the Admissions Team about personal property. This was also because I had accidentally knocked over a fellow candidate while taking the lift and P2 was in the lift while this happened*)

Me: No, Sir I am leaving tomorrow.

P2 (*grinning*): Oh that's nice! Have fun in the afternoon and tomorrow

Me (*Thinking is he being sarcastic or making fun of me?*): I calmly smiled and thanked him.

P2: So, tell me the difference between Hyderabad and Secunderabad?

Me (*I had seen a park or some garden before entering the hotel*): Sir, Hyderabad and Secunderabad are twin cities. The only major difference is that Hyderabad has more parks than Secunderabad. Hyderabad also has more places of amusement.

P2 (*Smiling*): I wanted the answer in terms of the difference in culture.

Me: Sir, there is no difference in terms of the culture. Both cities have people with heart of gold.

P2: That I will agree with.

P1 (*Jumps in suddenly*): You are a Gujrati.

Me: Yes sir!

P1: What are you doing in Hyderabad? When did you shift there?

Me: Sir, I am born and brought up in Hyderabad. My grandparents shifted to Hyderabad.

P1: You must be having a business? I mean your grandfather must have started a business?

Me: No sir. My grandfather was a farmer. He had expertise in producing special variety of high quality grapes.

P1: Is your father a farmer too?

Me: No sir.

P2: What does your father do?

Me: *I told them what my father does.*

P2: Why didn't your father continue to be a farmer like your grandfather?

Me: Sir, the land on which my grandfather grew grapes was owned by some other person. By the time my father grew up, the zamindar had decided to sell the land. So, my father couldn't become a farmer. My father also did not have the expertise that my grandfather had.

P1 (Excitedly): But you are a Shah? Everything right from the application form to the profession of your family is weird!

Me: You could say that sir!

P1: Shahs are generally traders or businessmen, right?

Me (Seizing the moment): Yes sir. I hope to run a business in the future as a leader so I will change that about my family hopefully!

P2 and P1 both smile and they continue to the next round of questioning.

P1: You mentioned that you love participating in debates? Where do you participate and how often do you participate in them?

Me: I am a member of a club in my college. I participate in most of the debates conducted by them. I have also won a few debates. *(I spoke about the wins)*

P1: When was your last debate?

Me: Sir, my last debate was very recent. I was selected to represent my college at a debate conducted by the Britain Embassy. They conduct debates once a year across the country.

P1: What was the topic given?

Me (thinking): I did not speak for some time and then I apologized saying that I can't remember.

P1: That's all right if you can't remember. Did you win the debate?

Me: No sir! Unfortunately I couldn't win the debate.

P1: Why so?

Me: Sir, they had called up many teams but they selected only few teams.

P1: How many teams were called? How many were selected?

Me: They called 80 teams for the first round but selected only 4 teams for the semi-final round. They divided the 80 teams into 4 pools and selected 2 teams from each pool. They did not declare winners for each debate but they selected 2 teams even when they debated with each other.

P1: So, you didn't win? (*Looks towards P2*)

Me: Yes, sir!

P1: You mentioned that you worked as a Marketing Head of an NGO. What was your role and what did you do there?

Me (*Explained what I did*): Explained how I rose through the ranks as a volunteer and became the Marketing Head after a really good performance. Explained how I was responsible for engaging with companies and fund raising.

P1: Oh! How much money did you raise?

Me: I along with my team raised Rs 2 Lakh.

P1: So, how do you utilize this money?

Me: Every year, the team decides to take up a cause and we implement it for all the government schools around our college. I told them about the past projects that we had undertaken and then I spoke about the projects undertaken using the money that my team raised. I also told them about other activities being undertaken by the team like Science Fair for the students.

P1: When did the NGO start? Who started it? Why did you specifically become the Marketing Head?

Me: I told them the date when it started and the seniors who started it. I told them that those seniors handpicked me for the role as the Marketing Head after observing my performance.

P1: Who keeps track of money?

Me: The volunteers who are students. This is voluntary work so interested students take part.

P1: What are the other activities that you do?

Me: I am the NSS team Lead in my college. I lead a team there and we do a lot of activities. My team has done the highest number of activities. Some of the best voluntary work in my college was undertaken by my team.

P1 (*Smiles*): says something inaudible

Me (*Assuming it was a question about NSS*): I start speaking about the activities that my team completed but I am interrupted before I can say something more.

P1 (*A little Sternly*): I asked if you read books?

Me: Yes, Sir!

P1: How often do you read them?

Me: Not as often as I would like to read them sir.

P1 (*Smiles*): When do you read them? Not as often meaning?

Me: I read them when I am travelling in the bus to college or before sleeping (I wanted to say even in my useless classes but somehow I maintained my composure). I meant that I am an enthusiastic reader but I don't get enough time to read.

P1 (*With raised eyebrows*): What are you reading currently?

Me: I started reading *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini recently. I told him the essence of what I had read until then.

P1: Have you read other books written by him? How many books has he written till now?

Me: I have read some of the other books written by him. I am aware of three books written by him.

P1: Tell me the names of the other books he has written?

Me: I told him about *The Kite Runner*. I couldn't remember the other book that I read, which was written by him. So, I told him the summary of *The Kite Runner*.

P1: Who is your favorite author?

Me: My favorite authors are Dan Brown and Jeffery Archer.

P1: Tell me the names of the books written by Dan Brown in the order in which you read them?

Me (*Thinking that he is an avid reader*): I took the names of *The Digital Fortress*, *Angels and Demons* and *DaVinci Code*. (*My mind was recollecting the kiss in the movie Angels and Demons. I kind of had a crush on the actress so I was smiling while answering this*)

P1: Tell me the summary of *The Da Vinci Code*?

Me (*Looking at him with wide eyes because for some reason I had forgotten the story that too just now and also because I was snapped back to reality from my day dream*): I told him a vague answer about saving the lives of people by breaking the *Da Vinci code*.

P1 sensed my discomfort I think and decided to spare my life. He did not press me on this answer.

P1: Did you develop this habit of reading just a few months ago or have been reading from before? Who helped you develop this habit?

Me (*Thinking whether I should tell them about the person who helped me develop this wonderful habit of reading. But in the end my mind won the battle against the heart and I decided not to tell them about the person*): No sir! I have this habit of reading from earlier. (*Both P1 and P2 were expecting a detailed answer I think*)

P1: What newspaper do you read?

Me: I read *The Hindu*.

P1: Do you read the online version or the hard copy?

Me: The hard copy.

P1: How often do you read it?

Me: Sir, I read it every day.

P1: Do you read the editorial page?

Me: Yes sir.

P1: Did you read yesterday's editorial?

Me: No sir! I did not have access to yesterday's newspaper.

P1: Tell me about day before yesterday's editorial?

Me (*Did not remember things perfectly*): I started speaking about an article I read about the upcoming presidential elections in Iran. *I got interrupted here by P1.*

P1: You know what the editorial means right? It's not an article. It's the opinion of the editor.

Me: yes sir! The article had the opinion about the election in Iran and how many candidates have registered for that. The previous presidents have also registered again for the elections.

P1: Ok! Do you read the business news?

Me: Yes sir!

P1: Tell me something about recent business articles?

Me: I spoke about the Flipkart investment round and the impending merger of Snapdeal with Flipkart.

P1 (*Not looking satisfied*): Tell me something about government policy which might affect the business world?

Me (*Couldn't recollect any particular policy*): I told them that the most recent policy change that's going to change the way business is done is GST.

P1: What is GST?

Me: Told them about GST. I ended by telling that it will create a single market across India.

P1: What do you mean by that single market? India is one only right?

Me: Sir by single market, I mean it will create a uniform tax structure across India. The taxes currently vary from state to state. GST will simplify this by ensuring uniform tax regime across India.

P1: How will it be administered?

Me: GST council has been appointed to look after the functioning. The GST council consists of members from the Central Finance Minister and ministers of finance from each state.

P1 looks satisfied and turns towards P2 who has been the silent knight all along. P1 asks P2 to continue.

P2: All my life I have met people from Electronics or Instrumentation but never from Electronics and Computer Engineering!

Me (*Elated that I the first at something at least*): I politely smile and tell him how this branch is present in only few colleges in India. It's a really good branch having the best of faculties from both electronics and Computers (*My brain is ironically laughing at my statement.*). I also tell them how this branch gives an opportunity for confused students to get the experience of the best of both world of electronics and computers (*My mind is seriously laughing again*).

P2: So even you were confused when you took this course?

Me (*Thinking of how he can manipulate my answer if I say yes*): No sir! I wanted to experience the world of hardware as well as software so I took up this branch.

P2 looks satisfied and opens my folder again to look at my engineering score cards. I am praying to god and chanting "Please no electronics. Please no transistors or circuits". God listens to me and luckily P2 asked me questions only from CS.

P2: Since you studied DWDM recently, tell me the three schemas from Data Warehousing and Data Mining?

Me: I told the names of the schemas named Star and Snowflakes. Couldn't remember the third ones name and was also confused about the technical concepts related to the schemas so I took a minute and told him that I was unable to recollect it at the moment despite studying it recently.

P2: Tell me the object oriented programming concepts?

Me: Told about Encapsulation, Abstraction, Polymorphism, Inheritance.

P2 interrupts me and asks me to explain Polymorphism in detail. I explain about the basic definition of polymorphism. Then I speak about runtime polymorphism and compile time. I speak about each case and explain the concepts of Overloading and Overriding.

P2: Asks me the use of Kernel? (*After looking into my marks sheet and finding that I scored less in SPSL aka shell programming and scripting languages*)

Me: I explain about kernel and how it is program that runs always. Then I speak about the resource management and hardware management by the OS and how OS passes instructions to Kernel which is responsible for final usage by the hardware.

P2: Tell me something about TCP/IP ?

Me: Told the full forms and how they form the basis for safe communication using the Internet.

P2: Tell me about the layers in TCP and how many are there?

Me: I could remember that there were 4 layers and the names of only two initially.

P2 (*Sternly*): Tell me the names in the correct order?

Me: I told him that I will first tell the order using the OSI model. Then, I go on to TCP/IP model and I explained the difference between the OSI and TCP/IP model. I finally told him the order of the layers and their functionality. (*In my mind I was thanking my friend Siddharth who had told all boys a really nice way to remember all the protocol layers. I was laughing at that joke*)

P2 (*Looks deeply into my mark sheets*): What subject is Product Service and Design and why did you study that?

Me: Sir, it's an elective that I took up because I feel that as an Engineer I have the ability to have incremental innovation. But I can't personally design or even think of making a new product. I wanted to get some perspective on that so I took up that subject.

P2: Do you know what disruptive innovation is?

Me: Yes sir! I gave the example of how startups come up with new ideas or differentiate themselves in terms of the business process and that is considered disruptive by the market generally.

P2: How was your academic performance in college?

Me: I told him how I performed to the best of my ability despite juggling so many things. I also told him that I have always been in the top 5-10% of my batch of 130 students. I ended by telling him that I had also topped the first year of my college.

P2 (*Looks into my marks sheet again*): What did you study in Project Management and Structured Finance?

Me: *I start off by telling him that it was an elective that I chose. Before I could respond he interrupts me and asks me to tell the difference between PERT and CPM.*

Me: I explain the concept of PERT and CPM and tell him how CPM helps determine the worst case scenario in terms of the path or the worst possible time frame in which the project will be completed.

P2: Which one among PERT and CPM is probabilistic?

Me: *I answer PERT with a confused facial expression.*

P2 (*coily*): Are you sure? You seem to be confused! It's Ok, I am done!

P2 looks to P1 and they decide that they are done with my interview and they ask me to leave.

Me: Thank you so much for your time and the opportunity!

They look at me like an alien with a puzzled expression. I felt that they wanted to tell me something but they didn't. I gave them a no holds barred 20000 watt smile and left the room. I was smiling when I came out of the room. I had honestly expected a situation similar to ragging but I had a really pleasant interview. I will never forget the priceless expressions on the faces of some of the girls waiting in the lobby for their interviews. It was as if they were being sent to the gallows and before going they were watching a mad man laugh.

Like most other candidates even I was facing the toffee conundrum. They did not offer me a toffee so I was wondering about the implication. I decided that I needed that toffee so I went to the waiting area and pocketed a few toffees and a water bottle to preserve the memory. I thanked my stars for an AMAZING opportunity and decided to talk to a few other candidates waiting there.

Interview Experience – 16

IIM Shillong interview experience 2023

CAT : 97.17%ile (89.xx , 95.xx , 96.xx)

Academics : 95% , 70.8% , 66.70

Background :Obc / Non engineer (BA Economics honours)

Date and Slot: 06/04/2023 , Morning Slot

Venue : The Oberoi Grand , Kolkata

My reporting time was 8:15 a.m. . I reached there 30 minutes earlier. They took our attendance and gave our panel number and the order in which the interview was to be taken .

There were 4 panels and I was to be interviewed at 3rd position by 3rd panel . Our case study was taken at 10 am just before the interview of the first candidates . Our attendance was taken on ground floor and interview was to be taken on 2nd floor . After the case study , we were waiting for our respective turn in the room front of the interview room . My turn came around 10:45 am , 40 minutes after the first candidate entered for the interview . They checked our documents during the interview .

Questions :

Q. Introduce yourself .

Q. Tell us about the Nalanda district . (I mentioned Nalanda district in the introduction)

Q. Who shifted the capital of Magadh from Rajgir to Patliputra ?

Q. What do you do in your free time ?

Q. What is your work in the NGO ? Why have you not mentioned it as your work ex ?

Q. Do you know about Chicken's neck ? Suggest any alternative to connect North East states .

Q. What is the Lorenz curve ? Draw it's graph.

Q. What is the Consumption function ? Draw the graph of the consumption function .

Q. What is Autonomous function ?

Q. What are the differences between inflation and stagflation ?

Q. What is black economy and the shadow economy ?

Q. How many North East states are there ?

Q. How many countries share boundaries with India ? Which are they ?

Q. Are Income and wealth the same ? Will wealth necessarily increase if there is an increase in income ?

Q. What is the GDP growth rate of India and how is it calculated ? What are different methods for calculating it ?

Q. Have you travelled anywhere ?

Interview Experience – 17

Date and Slot: 06/04/2023 , Afternoon slot

97.78 %

(9/8/7) fresher

Msc (chemistry)

My interview was in Delhi Dwarka Raddison blue hotel, I stayed in nearby hotel named green lotus, you can consider this hotel it is affordable and just 30 meters away from the radisson blue, if you bring your parents with you then they can visit vegas mall near by metro station while your interview process will be going on as it takes 3-4 hours sometimes

So..

We were sent on second floor by a receptionist, there in club-lounge hall we had to register ourselves first by telling our name and cat id

There were 6 panels running parallel and in each panel there were 2 panelists and 10 students
The GD-PI happened at 5th floor, 10 students in GD, as everyone is sitting closely you do not have to speak loudly so you can channelize your energy in speaking logical points instead of speaking loudly

GD: You are a CEO of a US based highly profitable pharma company and are going to have a Shareholder meet in a week. You are facing trouble because your products(AID's meds) are high priced and people suffering from the disease in Sub Saharan Africa are not able to afford it but they need it the most. Seeing this some Indian pharma companies are manufacturing your patented drug without permissions and selling it in Africa. Apart from this the company has also confronted the government in Sub Saharan Africa regarding the same issue. This whole issue has got you very negative press, what should the CEO do in this case? (The whole case was around 400-500 words, 3 mins to read and 10 mins to discuss)

This case GD is already given before to others in their interviews of march and feb sessions
Now one by one we were being called for interview, my number was 3

1 M, 1 F

Female panelist :

Tell me something not mentioned in your form, briefly (i told her about my workex which i was recently allotted by my professors in MSc)

She didn't went into project and directly went for G.S.

I will just brief out all the relevant question

<Geo politics question >

1. what is brics and its significance for india ? (cross questioning)
2. What is OCED ?
3. What is the policy of india for middle east countries ? (Cross Questioning)
4. Why china is growing its influence in srilanka ? And how it is doing it so (cross questioning)
5. State the measures india has taken for tackling china. (cross questioning)
6. Name all the middle east countries and which are friendly with india and which are not?

(She kept asking reasons for why a particular middle eastern country was friendly with india what were their vested interest and mutual understanding of topics and agendas with india and if a country was not in good terms with india, the reason behind it)

7. Saudia arabia vs iran (shed some points on there relations)

This was tensed QnA session, as she was asking rather deep and was also expecting deep rooted answers

P2 , male:

Acads question, my background (msc chemistry) so i was a bit confident in this segment

1. Explain Avagadro's hypothesis.
2. What is SN1 and SN2 rxn ?
3. What is d/l configuration?

4. What is grignard reagent? examples
 5. Difference between molality and molarity
 6. Chemical formula of toluene and acetic acid
 7. What is Buffer solution ?
- Before getting into maths he asked for my choice of mathematical section and i said calculus
8. Differentiation of $\sin x \cos x$.
 9. Integration of $\sin x \cos x$ via substitution.
 10. Differentiation of $\log X^3$.
 11. Integration of $\log X^3$.
 12. What is fractionation and distillation ?
 13. What is the Probability of getting 5&6 together when 2 dice is rolled ?

-had to solve all the questions on paper -

Also had to write reactions

After this he told me that it was all from their side, i was hella tensed about my geo political session, but they offered me mentos toffee and wished me all the best

Offering mentos toffee is quite sarcastic since the tag line of mentos is
"Mentos dimag ki batti jala de"

XD

Result declared on 28th april : converted

Interview Experience – 18

Date: 28th February 2023, Morning Slot

Venue: Mercure Hotel, Hyderabad

Profile:

Academics: 9/9/8, Bachelors and Masters in Public Administration

CAT 2023: 96.22

Work Ex : 1 Year fulltime work experience as Assistant Professor in a Private Degree College.

My experience:

I was more tensed about Shillong's interview than any other IIM because it had a Group Discussion. We can never be sure of what kind of a group we will get and how the discussion will go. But thankfully, I had a pleasant experience.

While we were waiting in the waiting hall sipping the tea served to us, there was a sir who explained the whole process to us and gave us our panel number and serial numbers. He seemed to be a native of Shillong because he passionately spoke about various things in Shillong and Meghalaya. He spoke about the language, culture, interesting social customs, politics and local tourist attractions of Shillong. It calmed our nerves and made us feel comfortable. Then our interview panelists arrived in the hall and took us upstairs to our respective interview rooms.

They conducted a GD and then asked us to wait outside for our turn to be called in for the interview.

My panelists:

P1: Professor Subhadip Mukherjee

P2: Professor Sanjita Jaipuria

Group Discussion

Topic: You are incharge of an earthquake relief camp. You have to send 20 Medical consignments to Place A immediately to save lives of people there. You don't have any medicines with you right now. You phoned some private doctors and they agreed to send 80% of medicines tomorrow. Meanwhile 11 consignments were sent by govt but when they were being sent to place A, Dinesh, the nephew of local MP stopped the vehicle midway and took the consignments away to his village which is place B which is also affected by the earthquake. How will you handle this situation?

It was a 250-300 worded case. 3 minutes were given to read and understand the problem and write down the points. 10 minutes were given to discuss. We were 9 people in the group, we worked collectively and arrived at a common solution. The time was not enough to understand the case completely. When asked to start, none of us started speaking as we were still reading the case. However, one guy initiated the discussion. I did not start the discussion but spoke 4–5 times in between. I noted down all the points and at the end, I was concluding the discussion by repeating all the points, when P1 sir cut me off and said that the time is up. Overall, it was decent GD.

Interview

(I am only listing down the questions as most of my answers are similar to answers I have given in other interviews and some of the questions were factual)

P1:

So, I should call you Professor Sathvik. Why did you leave teaching?

Tell me about yourself.

Tell a major PPP project of govt of India.

What did you study in public policy.

What is good governance.

Tell me about research methodology

What are methods of sample collection

What are the pros and cons of having a single unified government and one election in India?

P2:

Tell me about Indian geographic divisions

Tell me about plateaus in India.

What are the major mountains in India?

Which countries were part of India earlier and not now?

Which part of Afghanistan?

When did Bangladesh emerge as a country?

Name some prominent kingdoms of South India.

What were slave dynasties?

Who was Iltutmish?

Who was Muhammad Ghori?

How many times did he attack India?

Why was Somnath Temple plundered. Why are temples attacked in general?

What measures is Govt of India taking to preserve temples?

P1:

Sathvik, you have qualified NET too. Are you sure you want to do an MBA?

Good. All the best. You can take a chocolate and leave now.

Experience: It was a decent interview. Thankfully, I managed to remember and answer all the factual questions asked by sir and ma'am. I also did my best to answer the HR questions asked by sir. I am hoping for a positive result.

Interview Experience – 19

Date: 28th February 2023

My Background

10th - 95% (CBSE)

12th - 92% (CBSE)

BTech (Civil Engineering)- 7.25

CAT percentile - 99.57 percentile (GEM Fresher)

Due to the prevailing COVID-19 situation IIM Shillong interview was held online. Case based GD which also was part of admission process was scrapped this year. **So in final selection, 70 percent weightage was given to Personal Interview and remaining 30 percent to CAT score.**

There were two professors, one male (M) and one female (F). Interview commenced with initial greetings.

F - *Tell us about yourself including your hobbies.*

Me - Told well prepared answer.

F - *Vijay hazare trophy is awarded in which sport?(Even though I didn't mention sports as my hobby)*

Me - Ma'am its for Cricket.

F - *Okay! then Duleep trophy?*

Me - Ma'am this also is for cricket only.

F - *Tell me one trophy which used to be there but now it's not being held?*

Me - Thought for sometime, but couldn't answer. Said sorry.

F - *Tell me about history of Chhattisgarh (my home state).*

Me - Covered from very ancient time. Lord Sri Ram's mother was born here that's why it was known as Dakshin kausala in ancient times. Then talked about Kalachuri dynasty that ruled for decades, Maratha empire then colonial British. Ended the answer with its demarcation out of MP in 2001.

F - *Tell me about history of cricket.*

Me- Told from colonial British time to now.

F - *Famous Tabla players? (I am prolific Tabla player in case you want to know from where this question came from)*

Me- Told briefly about Ustaaad Zakhir Hussain, Ustaaad Alla Rakha and Pandit Anindo Chatterjee.

M - *So you are civil engineer?*

Me - Yes ma'am

M- *What are fascinating civil engineering structures being built in India or already built?*

Me - Talked about highest Bridge in world being built in Jammu and Kashmir (Chenab bridge), it's features (blast proof, wind sensors, earthquake resistant), then talked about Ram mandir (it's structural features, difficulties being faced, how they are proceeding), Statue of unity.

Now M takes the charge

M - *Are you comfortable with concrete technology?*

Me - Yes sir!

P2- *Why concrete is weak in tension?*

Me - Answered.

M - *How compressive strength of concrete is found? Unit? What does M indicates? How much strength concrete gains in 28 days? In 14 days?*

Me - Answered all.

M - *If concrete is weak in tension, how we used it?*

Me - Told about RCC and PSC and explained him deeply.

M - *Do you know speciality about Howrah bridge?*

Me- Talked about it not having any piers, it being doubly balanced cantilever beam and explained him about how it resists bending moment and it is made up of 25600 tonnes of high tensile alloy steel from Tiscrom (TATA).

M - *Define Surface tension and viscosity?*

Me - Defined

M - *What you know about IIM Shillong?*

Me- Told

M - *That's okay from our side. You can log out. Thanks!*

Me - Thank you Sir and ma'am. Hope you both have a good day ahead.

Verdict - Converted

My two cents about IIM interview processes - If you are a fresher, be ready to deal with graduation questions. So, please revise your graduation subjects before interview. You should be well versed with concepts of at least common subjects of your graduation stream. You should also know about current happenings in the country in your graduation field. Interviewers will expect you to know about history and current happenings of your home state. Do a thorough research about the institute whose interview you are appearing. I read articles about IIM Shillong on InsideIIM and also skimmed through their website to know about their clubs. Also have a command on current affairs. There will be few questions that would be thrown at you just to unsettle you. So, don't lose your calm and patience over those questions. Don't judge your interview based on number of questions answered. Just give your best and you are good to go!

Interview Experience – 20

Profile: General Non-Engineer Female, BMS Fresher, 10th/12th/Grad - 9/9/9

CAT'22 Percentile - 99.50

Date - 03/02/2023 Time: 9:00 A.M. Venue: Institute of Hotel Management, Mumbai

It was my first interview for the season and for preparation, I majorly went through basics of statistics, and other subjects of graduation and tried to keep myself updated about Budget and other major current affairs.

So, I reached the venue at 8:00 am since it was first offline interview for me. Not only was I very excited but also not at all nervous, the reason being, I felt that there are still 8–10 interviews left and this will just be a practice interview for me if nothing else, so I talked to people, click pictures and finally went for verification of documents.

So, the process was that documents will be verified by the panelists during your interview itself, so before GD and interview, we just had to sign attendance sheet.

When we were waiting in the waiting room for our panel and serial number to be announced, sir (who was monitoring everything in the waiting room) told us about IIM Shillong culture and how they have women leaders in east and how they use their mothers' name as middle name etc and I was literally so fascinated by how calmly he was explaining.

We went for GD first, My panel number was 5, we were 9 people and one was absent.

GD Topic (It was case rather than topic): Something on a company who was well established and were looking for launching a new product and they had their USP so what should be pricing strategy?

Surprisingly, I initiated and said that they should go for Value based pricing or competitive pricing and all others who spoke after me said that they should go for price skimming, I was kind of little worried about that but I think it didn't matter much as people have their own opinions and its ok but there were three people who either didn't speak or didn't get chance to speak even if they wanted so I strongly advise all of you to be not in that category.

Now, I was third one to be interviewed and two candidates before me said that more or less the interview was chill but they definitely covered everything from current affairs to core grad subjects, but it somehow just didn't make me worried, I was just happy to meet people and about the fact that I was finally attending an IIM interview.

Here's my interview experience

P1 and P2, both male, maybe in mid 30s

P1 opened door and called out my name

I went inside

I greeted and P2 greeted back, P1 was looking at my shillong form

P2 asked me to hand over the documents

He started verifying it

P1 started with interview,

So bansi you are from?

- Gujarat

In which part of Gujarat

- sir porbandar western Gujarat

Ok tell me about Rann of Kutch

- talked about desert, northern part of Gujarat, their cultural significance etc

P1: from security perspective

- sir it is also on border of India and Paksitan and there is high security there, there is something or other going on however I don't remember anything reading about it recently

P1: okay do you know about smart city

Tried to explain about digitization and literacy and suddenly realized that accessibility of electricity is what defines smart city so said about it

P1 plans of your cm for Gujarat

Told that current cm is elected overnight because of political reasons and will focus on infrastructural and educational development, started by previous cm

P1 asked about solar energy

Told

I somewhere mentioned about windmill and turbine 🙄 also, he asked me which turbine, said water turbine and then he asked me how is it related to solar energy, I tried to explain but obviously was just covering up.

P1 asked me about unconventional energy sources

Talked about Solar, wind etc

He moved on

Asked about current Indian deficit

Told

P1: as per budget what all investments will gov. make?

Told, infrastructure, cap ex, AI, etc

P1: what do you do in your free time

I like to write, Asked to tell more, Told about current quora answers writing and that it crossed 100 k content views in just a month

P2 what do you write about

I started with things about school and city and then now I write about CAT prep plans

P2 how did you prepare for CAT and GDPI?

Was so much looking for this question, explained for about it for a minute or more than that

P2 what else do you write

Told that written short stories as well and short discussion there.

P2 you studied corporate communication as well what did you learn in that,

Told, used words like team management and etiquette etc

What is difference between group and team explain with example?

- took a pause then he said okay *explain meaning first*

Explained

Then gave example of g20 summit and ecommerce platform to explain

(He seemed satisfied and impressed at this point, Idk why)

P2 how is oil traded

Tried to use Russian condition and current crude and oil conditions

He's like no how is it traded

(I didn't understand what he was trying to ask) so asked whether he is asking of physical trading or futures trading

He said physical tried to explain from whatever I could recall from international business

P2 okay, do you know how board is formed

Told

P2 tell me about Composition

Told that studied but couldn't recall

P2 passed a certificate to P1

Both together: you have published your research paper as well?!!

- yes sir

P1 what was it about

- Told, very well prepared answer, spoke for about 1.5 mins and follow ups on statistical tools.

P2 what are your favorite subjects

Told

P2 looking at current condition of market because of adani what would you suggest who already have adani shares

- explained the whole scenario and told how I started losing confidence when fpo was withdrawn so would suggest anyone to avoid it for now, already existing shareholders can wait for adani comeback.

P2 Do you think you learnt more about this subject theoretically or practically investing (I mentioned that I started building my own portfolio recently)

- sir our college follows practical case study techniques so after teaching basic concepts they gave us practical assignment to built portfolio as a wealth manager so I think both played significant role

P2 But you do agree that there are flaws in education system?

- would partially agree to that as there are chances of improvement but my college is Autonomous now and they have changed few things in positive manner

P1 was verifying my research paper publication by looking up online

And then p2 said we are done

P1 you can take a toffee and leave

It went for about 25 minutes.

Overall it was a very good experience for me.

Verdict - Converted in First list!

Interview Experience – 21

Profile: 10/95.4/82.11/98.88

Interview: OFFLINE (New Delhi)

Date - 02/02/2023

Interviewers: 2 male professors

1- Tell me something about urself? (a good beginning for sure ...)

2- why now MSc but MBA?

3- what extracurriculars are you having?

4- Who is vice- president of India?

5- what is the source that you use for getting news?(I am not a newspaper person ... I use inshorts and youtube vedios for getting daily news)

6- Tell us any 3 trending news u want?

7- Tell us the highlights about India's G- 20 presidency ?

8- What is coefficient of friction and coefficient of restitution and their roles? (acads based)

9- (they asked me which topic to ask .. and i said quantum theory) who was Planck and what is the value of Plancks constant?

10- What is Photon ?

11- Give one example of nucleopilic substitution reaction?

STILL NOT SATISFIED 😞😞..

12- what is the rank of matrix?

13- What is the significance of the colours in our tricolour?

14- Why Rajya Sabha is known as upper house and Lok Sabha is known as lower house?

15- What is the difference between ocean and sea and which one is more viscous? (never expected this 😞😞)

16- what are 3 laws of motion . Explain with examples?

FINALLLYYYY... That was it about itIndeed a tedious one .. 😞

The conclusion I can take out for u all is that IIM SHILLONG interview was very wholesome covering all the dimensions namely gk, current affairs, hr questions and academics..... So prepare for all and stay positive and confident throughout

Interview Experience – 22

Date - 11 April 2023

Profile - 8/9/8

Fresher, Non Eng , Female

First our GD was conducted then we were asked to wait for our PI. My sequence number was 4th.

Entered the room, exchanged greetings

P1- Which countries have been diplomatic in Russia Ukraine war

- take of India in the same?

- is it ethical that we are still importing oil from Russia

- Tell me what is fiscal deficit

- is India's budget deficit ?

- why is it deficit, what's the solution?

Tell me about Delhi

History of Delhi

What's unique about it ?

What do you do in your free time ?

Okay now P2 will ask

So Mansi tell me Maslow theory

-Asked something from organisation behaviour I can't recall

Oh mansi you had corporate law as a subject?

I completely forgot that corporate law was a subject, said I am not sure sir but I have studied business law

(Both of them laughed, I mocked myself)

How are labour laws in India ?

What is the difference between recruitment and selection and when does selection ends and recruitment starts ?

Corrected him , said selection starts after recruitment. He seemed convinced

Okay thankyou Mansi all the very best , take this candy and waterbottle

I Smiled said much needed with a deep breath.

(They laughed)

Interview Experience – 23

Date - 11 April 2023

CAT- 96.99

10/12/grad- 81/93/8.07 (Commerce)

Venue- Grand Oberoi, Kolkata

Time- 2.00 p.m

I got stuck in the traffic and reached the hotel around 2.10 . First they told me to reschedule again but after due request they accommodated me in the last panel and at last number.

GD TOPIC- IT was a case study based GD.

You are manager of a company which produces goods making use of forest products. But the government has set an upper cap on the amount that can be used from forest. There is a agency which can provide you with raw materials but it doesn't take any permission from government and there is a foreign company which will charge 20% more for the same.

What decisions will you take considering that labours are demanding more wages and you have to meet up the increased demand?

The time allotted was 30 min but we were told to stop after 12–14 minutes. It was not a fish market because everyone agreed to the same suggestions.

PI Round-

There were two panelists and one of them was the same person to whom I requested for accompanying me in any panel.

P1- why were you late?

P2- Don't you realise we had so much trouble because of you.

Me- I had no idea about Kolkata's traffic. (This went on for few more minutes)

P1(After seeing my certificates)- Tell me which all teams qualified for the ISL playoffs?

Me- answered

P1- have you heard about i-league? What are some other football leagues played in India?

Me- Named 4–5.

P1- The young generation. You must be interested in EPL and la Liga?

Me- yes

P1- Name the top 4 teams , top scorer in both the leagues.

Me- answered.

P1- There was a recent feud and a team was barred in EPL. How to stop that?

Me- No such things happened sir (It was a trick question)

P2(Taking put my graduation marksheet)- How do you treat dividend paid in pl a/c and balance sheet?

Me- answered after a lot of cross questions.

P2- I manufacture a bottle. The cost incurred is 10. A agency approaches me to sell those bottles to them at 9. Should I go for it?

Me- I talked about channels of distribution and economies of scale. But later on realised they are not included in cost of production so I said no sir.

P1- Explain me the PNB scam?

Me- answered(Lot of cross questions regarding Lou etc)

P1- what other scams have you heard about recently?

Me- Rotomac scam, Inc media , Marxis scam

P1- explain the marxis scam?

Me- I don't know sir.

P2- What is the issue which is going on in Kashmir?

Me- explained

P1- what is your stand? Do you know what plebiscite is?

Me- I explained taking a neutral stand and not fully supporting india.

There were few more questions regarding current affairs and north east.

P1- That will be all. All the best for your mid semester exams.

P2- Take a candy.

Interview Experience – 24

Date : 14/03/22

Online zoom interview

10th/12th/grad (BSc agriculture) / Cat

95/79/82.2/96.07

Two panelists in a single frame (1 male & 1 female)

M : please upload the document in the chat box

Done sir

M: let me go through your documents then we will start the process .

Okk sir

M : let's start the extempor . Your topic is

“ PROFIT IS A POISONOUS WORD IN INDIAN DICTIONARY “

you will have 1 minute to think of and another 1 minute to speak

Told

M: tell me the subjects you have in your undergrad?

Told

M: so tell me the two subjects you would like me to ask ?

Agriculture economics and plant pathology

M: so tell me the difference between agriculture economy and real-estate in the current markets ?

Told the

- Gdp contributions
- Employment dependence percentage
- Growth status
- Rol

M : tell me the type of irrigation ??

Told

M : tell me the benefits of BGA (blue green algae) during nursery bed preparation????

Told

Okk now mam will ask the further questions

F : who is SHANE WARNE and what is the recent news about him ????

Told

F : he was an athlete then why did he die bcz of heart attack ???

Told

F : what are the sources of misinformation??

Told

M : what are the schemes on GM(genetically modified) crops ???

Told that I'm not aware of the schemes

But I gave the details about what gm crops are and how they were introduced during 2nd green revolution (2002) through BT cotton etc....

F : tell me about your hobbies

Told (introduced about DAN BROWN series)

F: Describe about DECEPTION POINT

Told and also told the Robert Langdon series

F : Okk that's it

You can log off now

Thank you mam

Overall it was a fairly smooth interview but I am not sure whether I was able to give satisfactory answers or not..

Takeaways

Be thorough with your acads and current affairs

Interview Experience – 25

Background: GEM

CAT: 99.4

10th : 95%

12th: 90.8%

NIT Raipur (2018) 82.3%

Work ex: 3 years (ZS Associates)

Interview Date and Time: Date : 14/03/22, 11 AM (Online)

2 Male Interviewers — P1 and P2

P1

How do your friends describe you?

Situation when your friend didn't like you. Prove with an example.

Smart city project. Describe in brief. Why is Bhilai not in smart city project?

Why Imran khan loans from IMF and not World Bank?

Do you know about P&G? What are the brands under P&G?

What are FMCG? Why are they named so?

Your views on electric vehicles in india?

Voltage required for charging vehicles? Can India develop infrastructure for it?

What do you do at ZS?

What type of statistical test you have used?

When is T test used?

How do you fill missing values in a dataset?

Do you think p value is enough for testing?

What is ANOVA? When do you use it?

Do you sleep at night? Why ? Dont you have passion for anything?

P2

What is difference in Electricity transmission and distribution?

What is used for stepping up voltage? How to step up?

Open wire system vs underground cable? Can India have underground cables why or why not.

Different types of motors. What are demerits of induction motor?

What are recent Development in power electronics industry?

Solar power future prospects in India? Efficiency of solar panels?

What do you do apart from work?

You are Electrical Engineer then why Analytics then now MBA?

Were your parents not aware of which field would be better for you? Your mother and father are educated enough to decide the same then why didn't they.

Why didn't you choose computer science engineering?

Can MBA solve all your problems?

Your life has been a sine wave. You are not firm on your decisions.

A 27 minutes stress Interview. Was able to answer 60% questions with satisfaction.

Verdict: Converted

Interview Experience – 26

Date : 14/03/22, (Afternoon Slot)

I was 3rd in my group. I had a short conversation with the aspirants of the group before the case discussion. Most of them had calls from BLACKI and they were done with some of their interviews.

Panel: Male in mid-50s and Female in mid-40s. For the sake of convenience let's call them M and F respectively. Later, the same moderators took the interview.

Case Discussion: Production Team used Finance Team's system for an urgent delivery over the weekend. They did not ask them before taking these systems. As they were tired, they did not put these systems back. Due to which, the Finance Team was unable to work for the next day. As a mediator, what will you do now?

(We were 9 aspirants in the group. I was the second person to speak in the discussion. I gave 3–4 points in it. Later suggested making a standard protocol if such a situation occurs again. Overall, the CD was decent. Everyone contributed equally. No fish market situation.)

Interview

M: Tell us something about yourself.

Me: Told a practiced answer.

M: Tell us more about the startup and your contribution.

Me: Explained the working model of startup and how a credit system works. Later, shared my individual contribution.

M: How do you recover the loans from a student?

Me: Explained the recovery model in detail.

M: How much is the NPA?

Me: 5%

M: Isn't that huge?

Me: No, Sir. Considering the max amount of individual loan disbursed and the market NPA, it's relatively less.

M: NPA for SBI?

Me: around 10 %.

M: So you left your job, why?

Me: As the job was quite demanding. Being a startup, we had to work even on weekends. I could not prepare for the MBA entrance exams.

F: You are already a manager, why do you want to do an MBA?

Me: Told the practiced answer. (A holistic view, peer to peer learning, academical interest, etc.)

F: What do you do apart from studying now?

Me: Told them about the NGO for which I worked. (They were not that satisfied with my answer).

F: So, You are an Electronics Engg, tell me how does a microwave work?

Me: I am unable to recollect this. It's been a long time I have touched this subject.

F: Tell us the working of a Satellite

Me: Made the basic blocks of satellite communication and explained the components.

F: How do AC works?

Me: Started explaining but was stopped in the middle.

F: What is the industry system of AC named?

Me: HVAC. Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning.

F: We are done here. Do you have any questions for us?

Me: No, Ma'am.

M: Take chocolates from the bowl.

Me: Thanks

The overall experience was good. No stress interview. The interviewers were calmly listening. I still had time for my train, so I waited until everyone's interview was done. We all had a similar sort of interviews. Everyone was happy after the interview.

Interview Experience – 27

10/12/GRAD(Statistics) - 95/87/72

WORK EX- 8 MONTHS (T. I. M. E. INSTITUTE VARANASI)

DATE - 15/03/2022

1. VERIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS(8.10 am - 9.20 am)

All the students were asked to report by 8 am. Soon after that registrations started. We had to present the following documents as asked in the interview call letter.

1) Cat scorecard /cat admit card

2) interview call letter

3) pre-interview form

4) original photo id

Then we were briefed about the entire process as the number of panelists and students in each of them. 9- 10 students were grouped in one and each panel consisted of 2 professors for the personal interview. This process took approximately an hour. At 9.15 panelists came in and called out the names of each student so that students can join their respective groups one by one.

2. GROUP DISCUSSION(9.45am - 10.10 am)

At 9.30 I was in a room along with 8 other students for Group discussion. We were asked to sit tag wise(each one was assigned a tag from 1 to 9). We had a case study before us which had to be done in 13 minutes(3+10). So each of us was given a sheet of paper with a case printed. We had 3 minutes to read and analyze and next 10 minutes to discuss it at length.

The case before us: -

A driver with 15-year work experience and good behavior was promoted as a personal driver of Managing director of a large public sector company. On a day, after a long tiring trip, he took the vehicle to his own house rather than parking it at the office, which was against office norms. On that very day, he killed an 8-year-old girl who was crossing road hastily. The driver tried to save that girl but it all happened so quickly, that he could not save her. He was taken to custody but was later released from the law of land due to lack of enough evidence. Now you are managing director of the company. Decide what course of action you would take keeping that fact that taking office vehicle to home was against companies rules and regulations?

After the group discussion, all of us were asked to wait while the personal interview would take place one by one.

3. PERSONAL INTERVIEW(11.45am - 12.10 pm)

At 11.45 after waiting for a good one and a half hour, I was called in for an interview.

There was 2 panelist as mentioned before. A professor aged around 35 (Y1)and other around 55 (O2). As I went inside I was asked to sit in.

Y1: How are you Praveen?

Me: I am good sir.

Y1: You are from Banaras Hindu University. What its called in Hindi?

Me: Sir, In Hindi, it's Kashi Hindu Viswavidyalaya

Y1: what is the difference between Kashi and Banaras?

Me: Sir, Kashi is an old name that means "city of light" and this word is mentioned in Rig Veda. While Banaras is also an old name. The new name is Varanasi. As Britishers found it difficult to pronounce Varanasi, they used Banaras.

Y1: Do you follow recent news? What sort of news do you keep an eye on?

Me: Yes Sir, I do follow national and international news and I am well aware of current affairs. I also sometimes follow regional news.

Y1: Tell me something that happened recently.

Me: Talked about India withdrawing MFN (Most favoured nation) from Pakistan. Talked about government steps on this issue.

Y1: During the last terror attack, there were talks about India withdrawing MFN status from Pakistan but didn't take it. What's your say in it?

Me: India believes in negotiations and not against direct attack. We believe that terror attacks happen because of a few terrorist organization and we should take action against them rather than taking action against Pakistan. India thus giving one more chance to Pakistan did not take this step although our leaders did discuss this option.

O2 was listening all this very carefully without any questions. It was difficult to analyze what he was thinking and how he was rating my performance.

Y1: Heard anything about the indigo issue that's currently in the news

Me: No Sir, I am not aware of this issue. (Indigo is currently facing a shortage of pilots and thus have to cancel many flights).

Y1: Karnataka is in news recently. Why?

Me: Could not tell (horse trading of MLA's by BJP while INC and JDU(secular) tries to form the government.

Y1: Major political parties in karnataka?

Me: Karnataka is represented by three major political parties, the Indian National Congress, the Janata Dal (Secular) and the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Y1: Major political parties in TN?

Me: Major parties are AIADMK and DMK.

Y1: what is AIADMK?

Me: could partially answer (All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam)

Y1: Name politicians that died in the last 2 years in TN and difference between them.

Me: M. Karunanidhi and Jayalalithaa

Y1: Difference between regional and national parties and follow up questions of whether this party is national or regional. (BSP, Trinamool Congress, AIDMK)

Me: Partially answer (Correct answer [Praveen Kumar \(प्रवीण कुमार\)'s answer to What are the major differences between a national and a regional political party?](#))

Y1: what is the difference between NDA and UPA?

Me: The **National Democratic Alliance** (NDA) is a center-right coalition of political parties in India. At the time of its formation in 1998, it was led by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and had thirteen constituent parties like Samata Party, the Shiromani Akali Dal, the Shiv Sena in addition to the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and the Biju Janata Dal.

The **United Progressive Alliance** (UPA) is a coalition of center-left political parties in India formed after the 2004 general election. few parties are Rashtriya Janata Dal and DMK.

Y1: what it consists of?

Me: mentioned a few (correct answer is given above)

Y1: why Shillong is famous apart from being a hill station?

Me: Shillong is famous for bamboo handicrafts. it is known as Scotland of east and is also famous for football clubs. (I knew a lot more about this place but was point blank at that time. *This is an important question and I would advise preparing well for this question*).

Y1: Why the name Meghalaya?

Me: It is a combination of two words: Megham meaning clouds and alayam meaning abode. Hence, in its entirety, Meghalaya signifies abode of the clouds.

Y1: Famous tribes in that region?

Me: Could not answer (Meghalaya tribes can mainly be classified into three groups - Garos, Khasis, and Jaintias.)

Now O2 starts asking the question...

O2: You took political science in 4th semester? What did you study over there?

Me: Told him that it was about gender discrimination and inequality. (He did not seem satisfies with the answer.)

O2: What you studied in probability?

Me: Told that I studied about probability distribution. (*Should have elaborated more on the same*). (Univariate probability distributions include the binomial distribution, the hypergeometric distribution, and the normal distribution while normal distribution is a commonly encountered multivariate distribution.).

O2: what are the type of distribution?

Me:- Told in detail (explained answer given above)

O2: Explain Bernoulli trial?

Me: explained in detail starting with definition and assumptions of Bernoulli trial. (*Bernoulli trial (or binomial trial) is a random experiment with exactly two possible outcomes, "success" and "failure", in*

which the probability of success is the same every time the experiment is conducted. Example: rolling of dice)

O2: How can we say that trials are independent?

Me: Tried to explain but he seemed not satisfied and asked twice to explain. When tried to explain using an example, O2 asked to explain the definition and in terms of exact statistical term. could not answer exactly what he wanted as an answer. (An event is independent of itself if and only if

O2: Find probability (Gave a question based on dice.) Easy one

Me: Answered correctly

O2: what did you study in operation research.

Me: Linear programming, Transport problem, Inventory problem etc...

O2: What is linear programming?

Me: answered (Linear programming (LP, also called linear optimization) is a method to achieve the best outcome (such as maximum profit or lowest cost) in a mathematical model whose requirements are represented by linear relationships.)

O2: what is a transport problem?

Me: Answered partially. could not use the right words to describe this problem. O2 did not seem satisfied and his face showed that I was heading toward *Danger zone*. (The transportation problem is a special type of linear programming problem where the objective is to minimize the cost of distributing a product from a number of sources or origins to a number of destinations. Because of its special structure, the usual simplex method is not suitable for solving transportation problems.

O2: Is transport problem a type of linear programming?

Me: Explained correctly as mentioned above but O2 was adamant not to accept my answer as correct.

O2: Pen down the structure of Linear programming model?

Me: wrote correctly on the sheet of paper. Did miss to complete optimum solution Z. (It is something like this- A linear programming problem is mathematically formulated as follows:

- **A linear function to be maximized or minimized**

e.g.

maximize $c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2$

- **Problem constraints** of the following form

e.g.

$a_{11} x_1 + a_{12} x_2 \leq b_1$

$a_{21} x_1 + a_{22} x_2 \leq b_2$

$a_{31} x_1 + a_{32} x_2 \leq b_3$

- **Default lower bounds of zero** on all variables.

The problem is usually expressed in matrix form, and then becomes:

1. maximize $CT \cdot x$ subject to $A \cdot x \leq B$ $x \geq 0$

O2: what is a feasible solution?

Me: Defined correctly (It satisfies the entire constraints provided in the optimization problem. The feasible region of the optimization problem is defined by all the set of the feasible solutions.)

O2: what is the basic feasible solution?

Me: Could not answer satisfactorily (A constraint is active for a particular solution if it is satisfied at equality for that solution. A basic solution that satisfies all the constraints defining or in other words, one that lies within is called a basic feasible solution.)

O2: What is the optimum solution?

Me: Answered (An optimal solution is a feasible solution where the objective function reaches its maximum (or minimum) value – for example, the most profit or the least cost. A globally optimal solution is one where there are no other feasible solutions with better objective function values.)

Y1 and O2 discuss for a second and ends it.

Soon after they Offered me a candy. I picked one.

Interview Experience – 28

Profile: 9/9/7 GEM, BITS Pilani, Currently working in a consulting firm(though work ex marks were not counted in terms of composite scores)

CAT: 98.78%ile

There were two panelists, one male and one female. I will address them as M and F respectively in subsequent description. Would address myself as S.

Interview starts with greetings from both sides.

F : Introduce yourself.

S: Gave a well rehearsed answer.

F: Why management?

S : Told my side of story that I explored core engineering jobs through internships and wanted to switch to management because I did a consulting internship in 4th year and liked it more than the core internships. Hence I decided to join a consulting firm and switch to consulting.

F: Which consulting firms I would like to work for in future?

S: MBB, ATK etc.

F: Why?

S: Explained that I would like to work for a firm which is in the management consulting domain as I would like to solve problems from multiple industries to widen my horizon and increase the depth of knowledge on different sectors.

F: Explain your current work profile.

S: Explained.

In the meantime M was silent and was either going through my certificates or was searching for something really fishy to ask questions on.

M: Coming to why you are switching, don't you think if you are bored of consulting you will leave it as you have left core?

S: Told him that I was not bored of core particularly. I was inclined more towards this domain then core. Repeated the point that I did multiple internships to figure this out.

Then came the academic questions which revolved mainly around my undergrad. Questions were fairly straightforward. I guess none of the panelists were remotely close to my undergrads and hence there was no roasting business here.

F: Suggestions on how work will continue in the new world.

S: Explained that businesses would be affected. Service businesses can continue online for now, but would be difficult to maintain in future. Manufacturing would take massive hit as demands would reduce drastically. Pharma would get a boost as demands for both medicines and vaccines would be higher and more and more investors would like to pump their money in these to get maximum benefits.

I gave example of different businesses when the panelists asked me which businesses would be affected the most and which would thrive under the current scenario.

And with this the interview got over with final few words from the panelists. All in all it was a 20–25 min interview. The process was smooth and the panel was friendly for most parts of the interview.

Verdict: **STRAIGHT CONVERT!**

Interview Experience – 29

General, Male, BS Physics, fresher 2022 graduate, Ramjas college University of Delhi.

CAT- 99.13 percentile.

Venue - Radisson Blu, Dwarka, morning slot.

Case study based GD.

DATE - 15/03/2022

Personal Interview

P1 and P2 both male.

P1- How can breaking be made better? Invent new braking system vs disc brakes.

P1– 3 cars with different velocity collide, which side would be the final momentum?

P2-What are SDGs name some?

P2-What are the recent schemes of govt regarding environment conservation?

P2-How can Third gender and women be included in the workforce?

P2- I don't think reservation is making any difference, what do you think?

P2- (Continuing the same thread) If you were the PM what schemes would you consider that are already not in place?

P2-What do you do in your free time?

P2-What are civic rights?

P2-What do you read, any business news- Adani Hindenburg, lithium in J&K, Air India buying aircrafts,

P2-What are the parent nations of Boeing and Airbus.

Both questioned me over the switch from Physics to MBA and asked me to justify it too.

Interview Experience – 30

DATE - 15/03/2022

Slot- Morning (reporting time- 8:00AM)

After the documents verification we were divided into groups and led towards the GD-PI room.

GD:

There were six aspirants in my panel (3 aspirants were absent). It was a case discussion. Legal and ethical perspectives were mentioned during the discussion.

PI:

I was third in line for interview. I was called in and asked to take a seat.

There were two interviewers: male about 55 years (M), female about 50 years (F). They were also our GD moderators.

M took my file and was going through my scorecards and certificates.

F- Do you follow news.

Me- Yes ma'am I do.

F- Tell me some recent news from Karnataka.

Me- Answered about political situation in the state, recently concluded air show in Bangalore.

F- Interrupts and asks about bilateral treaty signed between India and Bangladesh four months ago.

Me- I am not sure.

F- Tell how the interim budget has affected the corporate world both industry and employees.

Me- Started with tax slab, mentioned about changes in GST implementation, perks to start-ups.

F- How has GST affected manufacturing sector in India?

Me- Talked about process of filing returns, multiple taxes being merged into one.

F- Interrupts and asks how it has affected the business of the industry.

Me- Said I was not completely aware, but tax slabs have changed for certain commodities which would have influenced the business. Mentioned how tax slabs on certain FMCG goods have decreased and how textiles were brought into the ambit of GST. (F looked satisfied with the answer)

M who had gone through my file starts asking questions.

M- Around 5 technical questions on the current project that I'm working on at work.

Me- Tried to answer all of them.

The headquarters of my company is in USA

M- So in companies like yours where the HQ is in some other country, what are the challenges that employees in India face.

Me- Talked about how most innovative work is mostly done in the headquarters for most companies and not related to my current company specifically. Also mentioned that countries like India, China, etc. are considered low cost geographies. (M seemed satisfied)

*Now the elephant in the room- Academics

I'm Jon Snow, I know nothing :P *

M- Asks me about some three four terms which I had heard for the first time in life.

Me- I'm not sure sir for everything.

M goes through my profile again and comments: "Oh you are a CS and not an EC engineer"

Me- *Sighs*

M- Asks me basic questions from CS like difference between C++ and C#, garbage collection.

Me- Answered them partially.

Finally, the toffee conundrum- M offered me a toffee which I happily accepted and left.

Interview Experience – 31

Profile: 10th-81%, 12th-72%, grad-63% Electrical engineering

Case discussion: Topic was pretty decent and everyone gets decent chance to speak and no fish market, everything was pretty smooth.

Panelist: Two males, P1: engineer, P2: from economics background.

P2: Hello Naman, How are you doing? Can you please give us a brief introduction?

P2: What you town got that name? Tell me something more about your town.

P2: In India which industry you are aware of?

P2: Tell me something about India's pollution management.

P2: What you do as a recruitment specialist?

P2: Okay so you are good at analytical skills, Please write a differential eqn.

P2: Tell me about probability.

P2 Gave me a problem on probability.

P1 was looking at my documents all this time.

P1: So you are an electrical engg. What is a pole pitch?

P1: what is a half wave rectifier.

P1: Draw XOR gate's circuit with output table.

P1: What is the difference between MOSFET and FET?

P1: What you do in free time?

P1: Do you follow any guitarist?

P1: What type of mashups you play?

Overall there were multiple cross question in academics. They asked several question deeply from Electrical engineering. No gk or current affairs questions.

Interview Experience – 32

10th - 89.5%

12th - 93.38%

BBA - 9.21

CAT score - 97.31%ile

Location - Institute of Hotel Management, Mumbai

15th of February 2022

I was nervous for my IIM Shillong which was scheduled for 15th of February 2022. While the document verification took place, the invigilator specifically mentioned that no grilling would take place and after listening to this, I could detect how the candidates were relieved. So was I. I checked the panel number and proceeded with the process.

Case Discussion

It was about an electric company **that** is facing a financial crisis in times of economic recession. It needs to cut down on expenses and avoid the power theft thus the CEO instructed that no overtime working should be allowed or else severe punishment will be delivered for violation.

A worker is in a dilemma as he needs to work overtime to get the job done. He asks his senior to which he replies that do whatever you want to do. Considering the punishment and all, he leaves the work incomplete. This results in Cable damage because of heavy rain last night giving losses on the part of the company. Was the overtime policy correct?

My performance was decent. I contributed good enough points and also asked the silent strugglers to put forth their view. All in all, a good round for which I am happy.

Personal Interview

Panel - 2 Male members one a bit older than the other. Let's name them O(Older) and Y(Younger)

I was 2nd in my panel

O - So, Vinay, Tell me something about yourself (counting all the practice I took for this question, it was 2656245 time I was reciting this answer)

M - Told (convincing expressions mixed with **the** rote answer)

S - **What are these magnetic shoelaces?** (I did a small business where I was selling to the people something new which they never witnessed. This was done when I was in my 11th standard. If you want to know what the product **specification** is, please visit this video - Zubits - Magnetic Shoe Closures)

M - Explained

O - So, what kind of magnets are they?

M - Sorry sir, I do not know that?

O - You are an engineer and you don't know this? (He was shocked)

Y - No sir, he is a BBA graduate.

O - Ohh, my bad, Sorry. So how do these laces function?

M - Explained

O - Aren't they heavy?

M - No sir, they have a plastic covering so the weight only rests on the magnets and the magnets are (using my hand to show them) this small sir. So its weight is very low.

O - ***What benefits does it possess?***

M - Told everything

Y - So, what is a Want?

M - When you have a desire to have a product.

Y - ***So, you are using one concept to explain the other one.***

M - Sir, but I see that as these concepts are linked, a better understanding can take place after we co-relate everything.

Y - ***What is a desire?***

M - told

Y - ***What is a Demand?***

M - Told.

Y - ***You Participated in MUNs, ha? What is UNODC?***

M - Told

Y - ***What it does?***

M - Told, vague answer though

Y - ***What is the Red Corridor?***

M - Sorry sir, I don't know.

They acknowledged among themselves and said Ok Vinay, you can go now.

As soon as I got up from the chair,

Y - ***Please take a candy***

M - Thank you so much, Sirs.

Interview Experience – 33

Date - 20/2/2022

Profile - Mechanical Engineer with 15 months of work experience in the oil and gas industry.

2 panelists P1 and P2 aged between 45-50

P1 - First question after entering the room, how much tall you are?
Convert 6 ft into cm ?

P2 - Tell me about yourself.
Asked me about Left hander's association which I mentioned.

P2 - What are problems generally faced by left handed people?

P1 - Asked questions related to work experience.
Current oil prices?

Major oil exporting countries?

Which currency is used for trade of oil?

Name the country which was ready to export the oil to India and accept money in rupees ?

P2 - Difference between 2 stroke and 4 stroke?

Asked me to draw Otto cycle, diesel cycle and explain it in detail.

Asked about various tool angles.

They offered me a candy and asked to leave.

Total Duration - 15 min

VERDICT: Direct Convert.

Interview Experience – 34

Date - 20/2/2022

Profile: 91/89/79/GEF.

Interview- Two panelists- a male(P1) of age around 40 and a female(P2) of age around 45.

P1: How are you feeling being the last one in the panel.

Me-(Smiling)Yeah, It is a test of patience.

P1: Why MBA ?

Me: Told them.

P1: Why can't you learn skills from google? Why IIM, Shillong?

Me- Explained them.

P1: Okay, what difference do you feel when you were a fresher and now freshers in your team.

Me- I told them about financial independence and enthusiasm to work.

P1- This is one attribute. Tell me 4 more.

Me- I said traits are almost same. I don't find much difference.

P1- What is digital switch ?

Me- Answered according to best of my knowledge.

P1- Can capacitor work as digital switch ? NPN transistor?

Me- They can work as a switch but not sure about digital switch.

P2- Tell me about Syria civil war ?

Me- Answered.

P2- How much FDI has been done in India after Modi as PM?

Me- I told them %age division in different sectors.

P2- No,Tell me exact amount.

Me- I don't know Ma'am.

P2- Talk about India Dubai Relations.

Me- Told them 1–2 lines about oil, energy, infrastructure trade.

P2- What is the maximum marketing export of Dubai and from where?

Me- NO idea

P2- All the best !! Take as much candy you want as you are the last one.

Me- Thank you.

PS: Not satisfied with my performance. I found it weird, as no questions from personality and profile. Felt more like a stress interview.

Interview Experience – 35

X | XII | Grad: 10/10 CGPA | 92% | 8.17 CGPA (Engineer)

Work-Ex: 20 Months

CAT 2019: 99.63%ile (General)

Date: 03-Mar-2022

Location: Radisson Blu, Dwarka

Case Discussion: Plastic Manufacturing company where new patent reduces cost by 30% but there are environmental concerns, how would you go about the Marketing Campaign?

3 minutes to read and think, 10 minutes to discuss

PI: 1 Male (M) and 1 Female (F) Panelist

F: Asked about Father's and Mother's Occupation and Hometown

M: Asked about various Graphs and Charts in Statistics

M: Cross-Questioned

F: Current Job Roles and Responsibilities and your learnings?

M: What is Conditional Probability?

M: Asked to explain Independent Events

M: Asked about multiple subjects from Undergrad (C++, Construction Materials, Highway Engineering, Airports)

M: Asked about Howrah Bridge

F: Asked about Water Conservation

F: Cross-Questions with examples from Rajasthan (My Home State)

M: Asked about Recent Flyover Accident in Hyderabad

F: Asked about History of Jaipur and why is it called Pink City

M: How to determine the life of a building?

F: Why is the weather so volatile these days?

M: Can you explain any law of Thermodynamics to a 5-year old?

F: What do you know about the Bermuda Triangle?

F: Hobbies?

M: Can you name 2 famous Violin players?

M: Other Calls?

F: Asked me to grab a candy from the bowl kept in front of her.

Total Duration: 30 Minutes

Result: Converted

Interview Experience – 36

Profile: I did my undergrad from IIT Kanpur in Economics (M.Sc. Intg. 5 year course) graduating in 2013. I then proceeded to pursue M. Phil. & Ph.D. from Tilburg University (2013–19)

CAT Percentile: VARC(99.95)/DILR(96.59)/QA(99.08)/OA(99.84)

Work Ex: I taught UG & Masters level courses as a part of my doctorate and also had an opportunity to run a **Randomized Control Trial(RCT)** in Nairobi in 2015. Duration of my work ex was **45 months** (Sep 2015-June 2019)

Panel: 2 Male (Duration ~30 mins)

Q1. Introduce yourself?

A. Told about my educational journey from undergrad in IITK to M.Phil. and then research work in Tilburg University. Mentioned my hobbies and places I have stayed/visited.

Q2. Why didn't you finish your Ph.D.?

A> Explained that my research work was not going so well in the last leg. Although, I had finished two papers the second paper still needed more refinement and I had not started on the third paper. Additionally, my teaching experience gave me an insight that this was not something I enjoyed doing so much and would like to stop. All this motivated me not to further extend my contract beyond June 2019, and thus I came back home.

Q3. What were your research areas?

A> Microfinance and International Trade. Also explained the Randomized Control Trial I helped run on the field in Nairobi.

Q4. What did you do in Microfinance?

A> I worked on setting up lending contracts which are self-enforcing and don't require a collateral, a feature prevalent in micro-finance. The Model assumes homogeneous agents where the group member chooses to work diligently and monitor his partner (costly peer monitoring) to ensure compliance. I extend the multi-agent principal-agent model with costly peer monitoring developed in Carli & Uras (2017) by relaxing the assumption of perfect monitoring. The core result of one of the agents receiving a higher expected return to compensate for higher volatility is preserved, albeit under more stringent conditions. Finally, I evaluate a threshold level of imperfect monitoring beyond which a sustainable joint-liability contract is no longer feasible.

Q5. Did you do any experimental work in your microfinance paper?

A. Told that it was a theoretical paper. I worked as Research Assistant for a project implemented Randomized Control Trial (RCT) in Nairobi, Kenya. The RCT focused on measuring the impact of adopting mobile money technology on small and medium business owners. The project targeted over 1500 business owners who were interviewed regularly over a period of 6 months. My primary responsibility was to train the personnel for undertaking the survey.

Q5. You have also done research in Game Theory in your undergrad, what was your master's thesis?

A> I worked on Ad Avoidance technologies (AAT), its effect on Media Content and reason for their increasing presence. Studied an equilibrium existence issue: AAT penetration may lead to more advertising, causing further increase in AAT and determined a unique equilibrium outcome for the equilibrium existence issue and evaluated optimum advertising level. I also examined content providers' responses to increased AAT penetration and effect of ad-avoidance on total social welfare (i.e. we considered the net effect of ad-avoidance on the sum total of producer & consumer surplus). Finally, concluded that higher AAT penetration causes increased user fees and lower advertising levels.

Q6. Can you set up a two player zero-sum game using linear programming?

A. Told that we can simulate a Prisoner's Dilemma game where the constraints will be such that the payoff from co-operating was higher for both, but unilateral deviation to noncooperation increased

that payoff for the player who deviated. This way we can pick every strategy set and run it against unilateral deviation and as such we will converge to the two possible Nash Equilibrium in the game.

Q7. Since, you have experienced the COVID-19 period how will rate the government's response towards it?

A. Started with the stimulus package of 20L crore INR and how bank reform and digital India along with it are paving the growth for faster economic growth. But, this crisis has pushed over 30% of the middle class back into poverty and government should come up with methods to put money in the hands of the populace like what US is doing. Farm laws are a step in the right direction, but the implementation could have been better.

Q8. Do you think China is still an economic center of gravity, and what can India do now to ensure it can also become one?

A. Told that China's recent actions like the COVID-19 pandemic and its actions against Uighurs and Hong Kong democracy protests have dented its public image. On the other hand, India with its vaccine diplomacy and pharma sector growth during the pandemic is well set to become a crucial player in the global value chains. Additionally, we have also started to export defense goods which are made in India which opens up another export area. Thus, we have the momentum now, and we can use this also to attract some labor force from agriculture to manufacturing sector as agriculture employs almost 66% of labor force while contributing a measly 15% to GDP which is not sustainable in the long run.

Q9. How will you handle change from academic research to MBA & corporate life?

A. I have been switching towards corporate since I came back in June 2019, and it won't be an issue. Additionally, I have gone through enough academic rigor to handle the MBA course load and my quantitative achievements show that I am capable enough to handle the workload. Age is a factor, but I have studied with & taught students from different age groups during my PhD, so it won't be an issue.

Q10. You mentioned you like reading, what are you reading nowadays?

A. Told that I am fan of historical/mythological fiction and have read Suheldev & the Shiva Trilogy by Amish. I also like Frederick Forsyth and am currently reading the Cobra which talks about an American operative trying to bring down a global cocaine cartel.

Q11. How do you get time to read multiple books?

A. Told I had a Kindle and a Kindle app on my phone which enables me to read multiple books parallelly, and I normally read when I am taking short breaks from work. Also, reading multiple books parallelly makes the experience richer and much more fun for me

Overall it was a good experience, and although I got asked questions from various domains the panel always gave me enough time and asked many follow-up questions which showed that they had a genuine interest in my profile. One of my better interview experiences in this MBA cycle

Status: Converted

Interview Experience – 37

Profile-

10th-98%

12th-91.6%

graduation-78.6%

CAT-90.94%

Background- Mechanical engineer with 7 months work ex in IT

Panel- 2M

GD- Metasoft is a software company which is 3 years old. Metasoft got its first big project and after 3 months, client is not happy with the results so far. The client has fixed a deadline to improve and complete the work, and there is no payment done yet. The future of Metasoft depends on this project.

What should Metasoft do?

M1

1.briefly introduce yourself.

M2

2.What is UFC? Is it legal?

M1

3.tell me about your work experience.

4.Can we write static public void main instead of public static void main ?

5.Are there pointers in java?

6.Are there references in java?

7.what is multithreading?

8.How can we integrate multithreading with applets?

9.What subjects of mechanical engineering do you remember?

10.What are the applications of IC engines?

11.Can you relate thermodynamics anywhere in MBA?

12.What subjects do you remember in maths?

13.What is median and where is it used?

Okay.You can leave.

M2

Wait. You mentioned about a temple.

14.Tell me about the temple history and significance?

- 15.What about the architecture of the temple?
16. Do you know any temples around Hyderabad?
- 17.History of golconda fort?
18. Do you know the famous lake in Hyderabad?
- 19.When did you visit Hussain sagar?

Thank you. Take a mint and leave.

Interview Experience – 38

Venue: Mantra Amaltas, Delhi

Case discussion:

(3 minutes to read. 10 minutes to discuss.)

About a software company, wherein a person's team used finance department's workstations to meet the deadline of a Rs. 1300 million project. Because of this finance department will not be able to transfer salaries, it being the last day of the month. The company has never before delayed salary. What should the general manager do?

Personal Interview:

2 panelists, 1 male(P1), 1 Female (P2).

Duration: 20-25 minutes.

****Asked to enter. Politely greets panelists. Asked to have a seat. Me having a big smile on my face and a cheerful outer cover.****

P1: So you mentioned Crocheting as your hobby. ****I nod and agrees**** I am curious where you learned it from? As far as I know young people aren't much interested in it.

Me: Sir, when I was young, maybe 6 or 7, my grandma and mum used to crochet in the afternoons and I would sit beside them. That's how I developed an interest and learned how to do it.

P1: What is your opinion about teaching this thing to young kids? It is a pretty monotonous job.

****Matter-of-factly****

Me: Sir, in theory crocheting just involves learning 3 types of stitches. That's all. But the magic lies in what we can do with those 3 stitches and a single piece of yarn. There is an endless scope of creativity there and I think a kid can surely learn to be creative through crocheting and boost up his imaginative power.

P1: (almost inaudible) Good. ****Thank God! Yay!****

P1: Is India a peninsula? What is a peninsula? Southernmost point of India?

P1: Where are you from?

Me: Indore.

P1: Thank god! Its not Delhi. That means you might be knowing a little bit more about the country than others. ****Chuckles****

Then Questions like: History of Indore? How did Holkars came to power? Are Rajasthanis the majority population in Indore? What is Indore famous for? Famous sweet? Etc.

P1: You read too? ****I mentioned it as a hobby**** What genre do you read?

Me: I am more interested in the children's books.

P1: What sort? Noddy or Harry Potter?

Me: The Harry Potter sort. Specifically speaking I like Rick Riordan's books. They are based on

mythology, Greek, Roman, Egyptian and recently Norse, and the plot is set in the modern world. It perfectly blends-in the mythological teachings and their significance in the modern world. And that's what I like about them.

P1: Which book is your favorite?

Me: By the same author. Its actually a series, Percy Jackson and the Olympians, based on Greek mythology.

P1: So you know about Greek mythology. Who was Zeus? Who is Zeus's Roman counterpart?

Me: Roman counterpart is Jupiter. Zeus is the king of all Gods and the god of lightening. He is the eldest, not actually the eldest, but the son of the most powerful Titan Kronos. Tells the story about Kronos eating his children and Zeus taking revenge.

P1: What is Mercury's relation with Zeus? Are they related at all?

Me: Firstly, Zeus is Greek, Mercury is Roman, Hermes is Mercury's Greek counterpart, the messenger god. And I think that he is Zeus's son, but I am not sure.

P2: ****Looking through my folder.**** So you studied all these subjects. What is the difference between Cost Accounting and Management Accounting? Have you studied ratio analysis? Inventory turnover ratio? Interest coverage Ratio?

Me: Answers everything.

P2: Okay we are done. Take some candies from the bowl in front of you. Take as many as you want.

Me: Takes one. Thanks them. Exits.

Interview Experience – 39

5th April 2022, Gurgaon

CAT: 99.19, GEM

Profile: 10CGPA (CBSE)/93.83 (CBSE)/80.4 (Mechanical Engineering)

Work Experience: 40 months, Consultant, Deloitte Consulting

I had been waiting for this day for five years, believe it or not. I was prepared to give my all and determined to leave the interview room with a smile.

AWT Topic: Business is not only concerned with profit-making anymore but also doing great things and solving real life problems.

Interview Panel: (Two male professors, P1 between 45 and 50, P2 between 35 and 40)

P1: Why have you chosen Gurgaon location over Hyderabad location?

- I clarified Hyderabad is my work location and I travelled from Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh to attend the interview.

P1: Mention some good things that Yogi Ji has done in Gorakhpur in his tenure.

- Gave prepared answer, some cross questions, tackled them pretty decently

P1: What is the GDP of India?

- Told approx 3.5 trillion USD nominal (shouldn't have said nominal because I wasn't prepared thoroughly for that line of questioning)

P1: Nominal? Okay. What other figures do you know for other kinds of GDP?

- Told 11.xx trillion USD by PPP (I knew the number)

P1: What is PPP?

- Gave the full form Purchase Power Parity and talked a little about how there are different ways of calculating GDP to account factors like inflation and price changes while nominal is calculated without accounting for inflation.

P2: I'm a little confused here. Aren't you describing the difference between real and nominal? This is not PPP I guess.

- (realising my mistake) Yes Sir, I got confused. I do not recollect the exact definition of Purchase Power Parity.

P1: That is fine. Can you comment on Yogiji's recent statement on making UP a 1 trillion USD state, UP being one of the most popular states in India? Do you think it is possible? Also, can you suggest some measures to be taken to reach that vision?

- discussed economy of UP, its old reputation as one of the BIMAROU states, its dependence on agriculture sector, backwardness in industrial sector, disguised employment in agriculture, opportunities for employment in labour-intensive industries like manufacturing.

Also discussed potential for further industrial development in the western part of the state, areas near NCR, and in other industrial hubs like the leather industry in Kanpur.

P1: Yogiji also talked about religious tourism.

- discussed the Kashi and Ayodhya corridor, recent developments, and intense marketing and promotion considering BJP's stance

(P1 looked satisfied with my answers. He engaged me well and was very polite and looked interested throughout)

P2: Tell us about your current role at Deloitte.

- Described my work (real estate management and technology consulting), my role, my projects, the technology I work upon in detail. They listened to me carefully.

P2: So is this all about Workspace Planning or there are other things as well?

- Described different modules within real estate management world with an example, how they are related to each other, and how IWMS system (the technology that we use) comes into picture.

P2: You said "heavy software systems". What do you mean by "heavy"?

- Talked about the data side of the work in the IWMS world and the integrations with other large systems.

P2: And which clients do you have?

- Talked about clients from different industries, gave a couple of examples without mentioning clients' names.

P2: No, I mean are they all US-based?

- I said yes because I worked with US Consulting.

P2: Hmm that makes sense. (not sure what he meant by that remark)

P2: Did you ever get a chance to look at Deloitte's balance sheet?

- I told that I hadn't.

P2: Okay. Do you know what kind of entity is Deloitte? Is it a listed company... or what?

- Told them about Consulting LLP (limited liability partnership), how Deloitte Global and other different entities like Consulting exist within a global umbrella, mentioned Punit Renjen being the Global CEO somewhere

P1: And another Puneet is getting ready, huh? (smiling)

- I said with a smile "we'll see" and everyone laughed 😊

(P2 looked satisfied with my detailed answers and didn't question further)

P1: (smiling) What do you do in your free time?

- Gave a monologue (since they didn't interrupt or question and were listening to me intently with a smile) on my hobbies (writing and fitness), my accomplishments, things I have done in the past, things I am doing right now

P1: And how many minutes did you take to complete the 10k run you mentioned? (tongue-in-cheek)

- Answered; discussed my training style in the past 7-8 years and how long distance running was a new challenge to pick up, also joked about my defensive excuses and everyone laughed 😊

(Everyone seemed comfortable at this point of time. I was feeling very confident, good, and satisfied. P1 and P2 exchanged looks and acknowledged to each other that they were done with the questions)

P1: (smiling) Alright, it was really nice interacting with you. All the very best! You may leave now, and please take a toffee when you leave.

- I thanked them, got up, and the adrenaline rush made me ask, "Sir, can I take two?" 🙋 Instant regret! That was totally unnecessary. But they laughed and said, "Yes please go ahead!"

Thanked them again, took the toffees, and left the room. I was smiling ear to ear.

Verdict: *Converted.*

Interview Experience – 40

Date: 24th Feb, 2022

Class 10: 91.2% (CBSE)

Class 12: 84.4% (MP Board)

Grad: B. Tech (Aerospace Eng.) from IIT Kanpur - 62%

Work Experience: Management Trainee, Ninjacart (11 months from July'19 to May'20) and Probationary Officer, State Bank of India (2.1 years from March'21 till present)

After reaching the venue we were asked to check the panel number and serial number and wait for our turn for Document Verification (DV), WAT started just after DV.

WAT: Covid has brought out many changes in the lifestyle of people. What according to you are positive impacts on their lifestyle? (Not the exact words but along these lines)

We were given 30 mins to think and write (one sheet is provided, no extra sheets allowed)

I wrote about self-awareness, more focus on healthy lifestyle, passive income, etc and linked the same to the business opportunities it has created in the given fields like cultfit, groww, etc.

Just after the WAT serial number 1,2,3 were called to wait for their interview and others including me went for snacks.

I approached the first candidate interviewed by my panel he was not happy with his interview. He was badly grilled on his academics (he had 2 years of experience). (This was the only thing I was afraid of, I was not prepared for questions on my grad, though I knew how to convince them not to ask questions from the same)

Interview (Duration- 20 minutes) -

I was 5th one to be interviewed in my Panel. There were 3 panellists - 3 Male

P1 - Male (~ 40 years)

P2 - Male (~ 40 years - Prof of Operations management)

P3 - Male (~ 35 years - Prof of Human Resource Management) (checked institute website after the interview to check their credentials)

P1 invited me in. I greeted him at the door and the remaining panellists before sitting. (They were having a look at my biodata form. I handed over my file containing all my certificates to P2)

P1 - Tell us about yourself.

Me - Told them about my home town, medals in athletics, my role in UDGHOSH (Inter college sports fest of IITK) as Head Events, my work-ex in Ninjacart and SBI

P3 - Tell me what Ratlam (my home town) is famous for?

Me - Sir, It's famous for the 3 S's (Sev, Saree and Sona (gold)). Also said I am working hard to be the 4th S's (S - Shubham). All the panellists had a good laugh including me. (icebreaker for me)

P1 - So, why are you willing to leave govt. job?

Me - Told them about slow growth and monotonicity in my current job.

P3 - But it's a dream job for many. Don't you think you are making a big mistake?

Me - Yes Sir, It's a dream for many but it is all part of the plan. It's starting point for me in the finance world. I joined SBI so as to learn about how the finance sector works and I have learnt a lot in the last 2 years and I am ready to skill myself up with MBA in Finance and move ahead in my career.

P2 was the most silent and serious one and was pointing out my marks to other panellists (It felt like they were noticing my consistency in maths)

P1 - So Shubham, Why have you joined a non-tech job after Aerospace Eng. from IITK?

Me - Sir to be frank I was not at all interested in the field that I was studying. This was because of my rank that I had to settle for this branch. But since IITK is a good brand in itself I preferred to take it for better exposure.

They all were quite surprised by my boldness in accepting this.

P3 - Means all your 4 years of Grad are a waste?

Me - I explained how I participated in sports, took various management roles in different clubs and fests, and how all this has upskilled me to grow as a manager.

Everyone seems satisfied with my response.

P2 - Since you said Aerospace was not your preference it makes no sense for us to ask you questions on it.

Me - (in my mind - This was all that I wanted)

P1 - Tell me 3 things that you like and 3 that you hate about your Job at Ninjacart?

Me - told them about

1)how I was given a free hand to innovate and try new strategies to achieve my sales target and eventually be awarded the Best Area Sales Manager, Mumbai.

2)how we were allowed to hire/interview to build our own team and train them.

3)how every single second things were changing (rigorous environment) and someone was achieving something new.

told them I didn't like only one thing which was their HR policy in which we used to fire employees frequently with a notice period of only a few days (5-6 days).

The panellist seems satisfied.

P1 - Since you want to be an investment banker (referred to my form), which firm do you want to join after your MBA?

Me - Morgan Stanley or J P Morgan.

P1 - So you might have heard recently that one of these firm (don't remember which one) has recently laid off over 10,000 employees. Don't you think you are joining a company with the same HR policy which you don't like? (Clean Bowled - That was such a good question. I was never ready for this one)

Me - I told them how this could be a business strategy/cost-cutting. (I was not confident enough)

P3 - It's not a business strategy. This is done to please investors as the stock price boosts just after the lay-off. You might be aware of this.

Me - Yes sir I am.

P1 - Tell me what will you do as a manager if the CEO of your dream company calls you and asks you to fire your 1000 executives?

Me - I told them that, I'll not fire them as this decision conflicts with my core values.

P3 - But then they'll fire you... (they all smiled)

Me - That I'll accept, it's better to lose my job instead of firing my 1000 executives, I can survive the lay-off but my executives can't.

P3 - In that case they'll first fire you and then eventually fire your 1000 executives also.

I smiled and then P3 explained that that's why we encourage students to join some good small companies.

Me - I agreed

P2 took charge (he was serious of the three)

P2 - Do you know anything about statistics?

Me - I said I know normal /Gaussian distribution

P2 - That everyone knows what else?

Me - I told Poisson distribution, Binomial distribution, CLT

P2 - What does 'k' represents in the formula of Poisson distribution?

Me - Told

P2 - What is lamda in the formula (poisson distribution)?

Me - Told but was confused

P2 then explained me the difference

P1 - We are done Shubham thank you

I thanked them and left the interview room with confidence.

Took a break and then headed again for snacks (LOL).

Verdict - CONVERTED!

Interview Experience – 41

1 April 2021

Profile -87/78/77 - mechanical engineer

CAT percentile -99.51 (94.4/98.66/99.46)

1M,1F

Good afternoon

M

- So pavan you have done btech ?
- working at atlas copco ?
- mechanical ?

Yes to all.

- You had maths in engineering

Yes differential calculus, used in vibration analysis.

- So tell me about electric technology in vehicles ?

Told about how electric vehicles come somewhat late in india as compared to usa etc (because of tesla). But its gaining trend in India too. Also told how its affecting ICE market too. hybrid cars are used, energy recovered from devices like mguh, mguk etc.

- Mechanical engineering that goes in a car ?

Told that i was in sae supra

Heart of the car - (ICE) told about its mechanical components

Gearbox

Transmission system

steering

suspension etc.

- Difference in dynamics of a diesel and petrol car

Told about the basic difference SI, CI

More vibrations in diesel etc.

- In your form you said something about 3rd in sae supra.

Explained.

- Oh ohk you like F1 ? Who is world champion ?

Sir Lewis Hamilton for last few years

- Who provides engine to red bull racing

Honda F1 for the last few years

- Who did before that ?

Renault F1... but they were not happy with that engine so they switched it.

- Team Principal of Red bull ?

Christian Horner since the time they won 4 championships with Sebastian Vettel

- Who Sebastian Vettel ?

Yes

- What about Force India ?

Told now it's Aston Martin racing after being bought by Lawrence stroll a Canadian businessman.
Also told that it was named racing point till last year

F

- Ok pavan what else do you do apart from watching racing on weekends ?

Told i volunteer in an ngo

i like reading novels

i like watching sitcoms

- Do you follow politics ?

Yes

- Whats going on in politics nowadays

5 state elections

Nandigram election going on as we speak. from where mamata banerjee is contesting

Modi visit to Bangladesh (some people say it might have something to do with west bengal elections)

International politics - Quad meeting took place - discussion on rare earth metals and vaccines

- Ok coming to Shillong , what do you think about permits required to travel in north east?

I haven't visited north east since childhood . (Just to divert the topic). But i just heard a speech by Nitin Gadkari (Road transport , highway minister) speaking about how they are trying to make things smoother by establishing a north east development entity etc.

- Ok pavan you can drop off the call

Thankyou Sir/Mam

Overall around 10-15 min Interview

Interview Experience – 42

Venue: Mantra Amaltas, Delhi.

Two male professors- P1, P2

P1: (Taking my files and asking me to sit)

So you've mentioned in your form that one of your weaknesses is that you over contemplate on things. Tell me more about it.

Sir I am constantly trying to work upon that but a number of times I do end up losing my energy and time in thinking about the possibilities rather than just taking a step back and let things take their natural course. I think I have gotten a lot better in the recent times.

Hmm. Tell me something about yourself, your family, your interests.

I started very smartly, cutting short all crap about schooling, college, came straight to my hobbies. Told them about poetry and painting. Meanwhile P2 was going through my poems.

They didn't give a cue to stop so I went on to describe about the professional freelancing that I've done. The platforms I've written for and how it connected my dots towards pursuing an MBA.

P1: So where do you see yourself after 10 years from now?

Sir honestly I haven't even decided what specialisation I'll be choosing in my MBA so the only things that I can say about myself in 10 years is that I want to see me staying loyal to my work and waking up every day with the confidence that I'm doing what my heart desires.

P1: So what according to you are the challenges that women face in getting to mid level management positions?

(This was a rather personal question for me, so I answered it purely from my personal perspective)

First of all I think the biggest challenge women face is being accepted into those kind of roles. We are not very used to seeing women in top-managerial positions but thankfully it's changing and we have top management figures like Mrs. Indira Nooyi, Merissa Mayor and many more women in the arena. Still the field has to be levelled more.

Next challenge is that women are expected to deliver a lot in terms of societal and family issues. I'm not ranting but specially if one comes from a conservative background it's even difficult to sustain in the corporate sector. There is greater pressure from the society to deliver your capabilities within an acceptable framework of behaviour or morals.

Taking care of the family and managing a job along side is really challenging so it's quite expected of the men to support women in making this imbalance correct.

P1: What kind of articles do you read?

Mostly editorials and opinionated articles.

P1: Do you know about the telecom industry? Some important news there.

I'm not very well read there, but by far the most significant happening in the telecom industry was Reliance Jio taking up on a number of its competitors by launching the 4G network. Other companies were forced to launch similar 4G plans because of that.

P1: Do you know about Aircel?

Sir Aircel was also suffering losses and was facing a tough competition because of the Jio factor.

P1: No, Aircel went bankrupt!

Sorry sir I didn't know that.

P1: What do you mean by a Secular state?

Told.

P1: Name another country in Southern Asia other India that's secular?

Said Australia.

P1: I'm asking Asian?

I said sorry I heard only Southern, then took a moment to think:

Well, this is what was going in my mind at that point:

Nepal. (Majorly Buddhist)

Sri Lanka. (Buddhist again)

Myanmar (Surely not secular I thought, because of the Rohingya Crisis)

Indonesia (Muslim Nation)

Bangladesh (Muslim Nation)

Pakistan (Muslim Nation)

Finally I gave up and said:

Sorry Sir, can't think of one.

(Well internet tells that these countries are officially secular: Nepal, Malaysia, Singapore and many more; so basically I screwed up big time here)

P1: What is the difference between Directive Principles and Fundamental Rights?

Told.

P1: When can our fundamental rights be taken away?

In the case of an emergency of national level.

P1: Which country recently had an emergency going on?

I told about the recent Maldives emergency, but he was expecting Sri Lanka as the answer. He later told me about the Sri Lankan Emergency.

P2 couldn't locate my B.Tech marksheets for the 'different subjects that I'd studied', so asked me to assist on that. I took the file and was literally praying to God for him to not get into details.

He asked me about my favourite subjects. I said DBMS and Data Structures.

P2: What are Data Structures?

Answered.

P2: What is a Linked List?

Answered.

P2: What other subject do you like?

I said DBMS.

P2: What is DBMS?

Told.

P2: Can you create a real database?

I started with my basics but he was expecting deeper answers. I said I've been out of practice there.

P2: So tell me whether you know about Rise and Fall?

Didn't know about it.

P2: What do you know about Software Testing?

Told.

P2: What are different types of testing?

Told.

P2: What is Product Life Cycle?

Answered and explained with a diagram.

P1: Your 10th and 12th marks are very good. Then there's a dip in graduation marks. Is it because of the co-curriculars or because of the university marking policy?

Sir it is not because of my extra curricular activities but mostly because of the strict marking policy of the University. Nevertheless I have tried to maintain a position in the top three students in my class ever since the start.

P2: By the way what do people call you? Fatima or Firdous?

(I started laughing on the inside at this because I had got questions on my name in every single interview I gave.)

So I told them I've been called both and either works. But my surname is Rizvi which my parents forgot to get mentioned during my school time. So I'm stuck with a middle name as a sir name!

So Fatima, we're done. You were the last one in the panel.

At the end when I was getting up P1 candidly said:

You seem to be a great fan of Rumi. You've quoted a lot of his poetry in your paintings.

Have you read the book of compilation of Rumi's poetry?

I said I haven't read the book but I read his poetry from the internet. At this I grabbed the opportunity and recited my favourite quote of Rumi 'I saw many humans on whom there were no clothes. I saw many clothes in which there were no humans!'

I asked them if he'd like to read my poetry to which he said he already read it while I was talking to the other professor.

They asked me to take a toffee.

I took one.

P2: Well Fatima, you can take all since you were the last one!

(I really wanted to take all but I remained civilised and took one more)

Sir I'll take one more for my sister. Thankyou so much!

Interview Experience – 43

Online zoom interview (Date 1 April 2021)

10th/12th/grad (BSc agriculture) / Cat

95/79/82.2/96.07

Two panelists in a single frame (1 male & 1 female)

M : please upload the document in the chat box

Done sir

M: let me go through your documents then we will start the process .

Okk sir

M : let's start the extempor . Your topic is

“ PROFIT IS A POISONOUS WORD IN INDIAN DICTIONARY “

you will have 1 minute to think of and another 1 minute to speak

Told

M: tell me the subjects you have in your undergrad?

Told

M: so tell me the two subjects you would like me to ask ?

Agriculture economics and plant pathology

M: so tell me the difference between agriculture economy and real-estate in the current markets ?

Told the

- Gdp contributions
- Employment dependence percentage
- Growth status
- Rol

M : tell me the type of irrigation ??

Told

M : tell me the benefits of BGA (blue green algae) during nursery bed preparation????

Told

Okk now mam will ask the further questions

F : who is SHANE WARNE and what is the recent news about him ????

Told

F : he was an athlete then why did he die bcz of heart attack ???

Told

F : what are the sources of misinformation??

Told

M : what are the schemes on GM(genetically modified) crops ???

Told that I'm not aware of the schemes

But I gave the details about what gm crops are and how they were introduced during 2nd green revolution (2002) through BT cotton etc....

F : tell me about your hobbies

Told (introduced about DAN BROWN series)

F: Describe about DECEPTION POINT

Told and also told the Robert Langdon series

F : Okk that's it

You can log off now

Thank you mam

Overall it was a fairly smooth interview but I am not sure whether I was able to give satisfactory answers or not..

Takeaways

Be thorough with your acads and current affairs

Interview Experience – 44

Profile: 9/9/7 GEM, BITS Pilani, Currently working in a consulting firm(though work ex marks were not counted in terms of composite scores)

CAT: 98.78%ile

Due to the pandemic, the case study round was cancelled and PI was conducted online through ZOOM. There were two panelists, one male and one female. I will address them as M and F respectively in subsequent description. Would address myself as S.

Interview starts with greetings from both sides. I was asked to display my Aadhar in the beginning itself for verification.

F : Introduce yourself.

S: Gave a well rehearsed answer.

F: Why management?

S : Told my side of story that I explored core engineering jobs through internships and wanted to switch to management because I did a consulting internship in 4th year and liked it more than the core internships. Hence I decided to join a consulting firm and switch to consulting.

F: Which consulting firms I would like to work for in future?

S: MBB, ATK etc.

F: Why?

S: Explained that I would like to work for a firm which is in the management consulting domain as I would like to solve problems from multiple industries to widen my horizon and increase the depth of knowledge on different sectors.

F: Explain your current work profile.

S: Explained.

In the meantime M was silent and was either going through my certificates or was searching for something really fishy to ask questions on.

M: Coming to why you are switching, don't you think if you are bored of consulting you will leave it as you have left core?

S: Told him that I was not bored of core particularly. I was inclined more towards this domain then core. Repeated the point that I did multiple internships to figure this out.

Then came the academic questions which revolved mainly around my undergrad. Questions were fairly straightforward. I guess none of the panelists were remotely close to my undergrads and hence there was no roasting business here.

F: Suggestions on how work will continue in the new world.

S: Explained that businesses would be affected. Service businesses can continue online for now, but would be difficult to maintain in future. Manufacturing would take massive hit as demands would reduce drastically. Pharma would get a boost as demands for both medicines and vaccines would be higher and more and more investors would like to pump their money in these to get maximum benefits.

I gave example of different businesses when the panelists asked me which businesses would be affected the most and which would thrive under the current scenario.

And with this the interview got over with final few words from the panelists. All in all it was a 20–25 min interview. The process was smooth and the panel was friendly for most parts of the interview.

Verdict: **STRAIGHT CONVERT!**

Interview Experience – 45

General, Male, BS Physics, fresher graduate, Ramjas college University of Delhi.

CAT- 99.13 percentile.

Venue - Radisson Blu, Dwarka, morning slot.

Case study based GD.

Personal Interview

P1 and P2 both male.

P1- How can breaking be made better? Invent new braking system vs disc brakes.

P1– 3 cars with different velocity collide, which side would be the final momentum?

P2-What are SDGs name some?

P2-What are the recent schemes of govt regarding environment conservation?

P2-How can Third gender and women be included in the workforce?

P2- I don't think reservation is making any difference, what do you think?

P2- (Continuing the same thread) If you were the PM what schemes would you consider that are already not in place?

P2-What do you do in your free time?

P2-What are civic rights?

P2-What do you read, any business news- Adani hindenburg, lithium in J&K, Air India buying aircrafts,

P2-What are the parent nations of Boeing and Airbus.

Both questioned me over the switch from Physics to MBA and asked me to justify it too

Interview Experience – 46

Date- 07/03/2021

Location- Bangalore

Slot- Morning (reporting time- 8:00AM)

After the documents verification we were divided into groups and led towards the GD-PI room.

GD:

There were six aspirants in my panel (3 aspirants were absent). It was a case discussion. Legal and ethical perspectives were mentioned during the discussion.

PI:

I was third in line for interview. I was called in and asked to take a seat.

There were two interviewers: male about 55 years (M), female about 50 years (F). They were also our GD moderators.

M took my file and was going through my scorecards and certificates.

F- Do you follow news.

Me- Yes ma'am I do.

F- Tell me some recent news from Karnataka.

Me- Answered about political situation in the state, recently concluded air show in Bangalore.

F- Interrupts and asks about bilateral treaty signed between India and Bangladesh four months ago.

Me- I am not sure.

F- Tell how the interim budget has affected the corporate world both industry and employees.

Me- Started with tax slab, mentioned about changes in GST implementation, perks to start-ups.

F- How has GST affected manufacturing sector in India?

Me- Talked about process of filing returns, multiple taxes being merged into one.

F- Interrupts and asks how it has affected the business of the industry.

Me- Said I was not completely aware, but tax slabs have changed for certain commodities which would have influenced the business. Mentioned how tax slabs on certain FMCG goods have decreased and how textiles were brought into the ambit of GST. (F looked satisfied with the answer)

M who had gone through my file starts asking questions.

M- Around 5 technical questions on the current project that I'm working on at work.

Me- Tried to answer all of them.

The headquarters of my company is in USA

M- So in companies like yours where the HQ is in some other country, what are the challenges that employees in India face.

Me- Talked about how most innovative work is mostly done in the headquarters for most companies and not related to my current company specifically. Also mentioned that countries like India, China, etc. are considered low cost geographies. (M seemed satisfied)

*Now the elephant in the room- Academics

I'm Jon Snow, I know nothing :P *

M- Asks me about some three four terms which I had heard for the first time in life.

Me- I'm not sure sir for everything.

M goes through my profile again and comments: "Oh you are a CS and not an EC engineer"

Me- *Sighs*

M- Asks me basic questions from CS like difference between C++ and C#, garbage collection.

Me- Answered them partially.

Finally, the toffee conundrum- M offered me a toffee which I happily accepted and left.

Interview Experience – 47

Date: 18 Mar 2021

Profile: GEM, 9/9/7 (NITW – ECE)

Work experience (At the time of interview) - 20 months, Bank of America

CAT 2020: 99.57%ile

2 male panelists (Lets call them M1, M2 and myself "V")

M1: What is happening in Telangana? Why are covid19 cases rising?

V: Sir the initial testing was low in Telangana and as per yesterday's health ministry reports, Telangana stood first in wastage of vaccine. So, all these factors are promoting the spread.

M1: Have you heard about this school in the news where inflections were so high?

V: Sir I haven't heard about it.

M1: Tell me something about yourself that is not in the form

V: Swimming, Gardening and cooking.

M1: What can we humans learn from plants?

V: Sir we can learn sustainable life from plants. Plants also teach us to live with humility.

M1: What is sustainable living?

V: It's a responsible way in which a species evolves such that every aspect of its life functions is useful or at least not harmful to other species in the biosphere and environment.

M1: Name one Indian, who was inspired from Nature and contributed greatly to the country?

V: Talked about Saalumara Thimmakka and her Padmashri award.

M1: No, tell me one name in the fields of education and research

V: Sir over the top of my mind, I can only think of M S Swaminathan who is the architect of green revolution in India through hybrid farming.

M1: Where and when did green revolution happen in India?

V: Sir Punjab and Haryana are two states that benefitted the most from green revolution. It happened between the 50's and 60's. (I wasn't sure of the years)

M1: What is the difference between information and knowledge?

V: Sir information is just data which need not have any meaning whereas knowledge is awareness, making sense of the information and ability of drawing conclusions from that.

M1: Can you give a real-life example?

V: Sir if you go to myactivity.google.com you will find everything Google has on you as a user. Right from web searches, app usage to voice recordings. We can only see that information, but only Google has the knowledge to integrate that information into an advertising business model.

M1: What do you think of the farmer agitations?

V: Sir I support their protest for inclusion of MSP because food is a necessity and its producer should have a minimum guarantee for his/her crop. But at this point it turned into more of a political debate rather than what's good for farming community.

M1: So, what do you think of your state bifurcation (Andhra Pradesh and Telangana)?

V: Talked about the prepared points about the bifurcation, state reorganization act 2014 and common capital issues etc.

M1: Are you from Andhra or Telangana?

V: Sir I was born and brought up in Andhra. My education and professional life are in Telangana. So, I consider both as my states.

M1: What do you read in your free time?

V: Fiction novels

M1: Name an author you like and some of his books?

V: Dan Brown. Talked about his Professor Robert Langdon series.

M1: Why do you think India's GDP is lagging in the recent years?

V: Sir as foretold by former RBI governor Raghuram Rajan, Demonetisation though a well thought out plan had detrimental impact on our economy due to poor execution. We are witnessing it's after effects. And one more reason being lack of strong manufacturing sector like China. I think our government is trying to address that with Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

M1: I am done, M2 you may take over.

(Here comes the bloodbath!!!)

M2: What is your current role in project?

V: Told

M2: What is the difference between lithium ion and lead acid battery?

V: Talked about durability, compactness and efficiency of lithium batteries compared to the other. It's uses in EVs like Tesla and mobile phones

M2: No tell me exact chemical reaction.

V: Sir I don't know.

M2: What is difference between IC and power circuit?

V: Told

M2: Name some manufacturers of ICs in India?

V: Told

M2: What are the electronic components in car?

V: Talked about sensors and radio.

M2: What is ABS?

V: Anti-locking Braking System

M2: What is ECU?

V: Sir I am unable to recall (I couldn't remember Electronic Control Unit at that moment)

M2: You don't seem strong in your graduation subjects.

V: Sir I am not going to debate that; my interest was in communications and I don't have much liking for electronics.

M2: What are your extracurricular activities?

V: Told

M2: What are different styles in swimming?

V: Butterfly, Breast-stroke, Free style.

M2: What style are you comfortable with?

V: Told

M2: Name some famous swimmers.

V: Vikram Khade from India

Matt Biondi from America

Michael Phelps, also from America and currently holds the all-time records for Olympic gold medals.
(Thank God, at last some prepared questions)

M2: What is the style of Mr. Khade?

V: Sir I think it's free style.

M1: Do you have any questions for us?

V: Asked

M1: That will be all. You may leave the meeting.

V: Thank you sir, good day

Verdict: I was placed in General waitlist 44 initially and converted in the second list.

Interview Experience – 48

Profile: 10th-81%, 12th-72%, grad-63% Electrical engineering

Case discussion: Topic was pretty decent and everyone gets decent chance to speak and no fish market, everything was pretty smooth.

Panelist: Two males, P1: engineer, P2: from economics background.

P2: Hello Naman, How are you doing? Can you please give us a brief introduction?

P2: What you town got that name? Tell me something more about your town.

P2: In India which industry you are aware of?

P2: Tell me something about India's pollution management.

P2: What you do as a recruitment specialist?

P2: Okay so you are good at analytical skills, Please write a differential eqn.

P2: Tell me about probability.

P2 Gave me a problem on probability.

P1 was looking at my documents all this time.

P1: So you are an electrical engg. What is a pole pitch?

P1: what is a half wave rectifier.

P1: Draw XOR gate's circuit with output table.

P1: What is the difference between MOSFET and FET?

P1: What you do in free time?

P1: Do you follow any guitarist?

P1: What type of mashups you play?

Overall there were multiple cross question in academics. They asked several question deeply from Electrical engineering. No gk or current affairs questions.

Interview Experience – 49

For the batch 2021–23 due to the prevailing COVID-19 situation all interviews were held online. Thus, I had a Zoom interview for IIM Shillong

Date: 22/03/2021

Profile: I did my undergrad from IIT Kanpur in Economics (M.Sc. Intg. 5 year course) graduating in 2013. I then proceeded to pursue M. Phil. & Ph.D. from Tilburg University (2013–19)

CAT Percentile: VARC(99.95)/DILR(96.59)/QA(99.08)/OA(99.84)

Work Ex: I taught UG & Masters level courses as a part of my doctorate and also had an opportunity to run a Randomized Control Trial(RCT) in Nairobi in 2015. Duration of my work ex was 45 months (Sep 2015-June 2019)

Panel: 2 Male (Duration ~30 mins)

Q1. Introduce yourself?

A. Told about my educational journey from undergrad in IITK to M.Phil. and then research work in Tilburg University. Mentioned my hobbies and places I have stayed/visited.

Q2. Why didn't you finish your Ph.D.?

A> Explained that my research work was not going so well in the last leg. Although, I had finished two papers the second paper still needed more refinement and I had not started on the third paper. Additionally, my teaching experience gave me an insight that this was not something I enjoyed doing so much and would like to stop. All this motivated me not to further extend my contract beyond June 2019, and thus I came back home.

Q3. What were your research areas?

A> Microfinance and International Trade. Also explained the Randomized Control Trial I helped run on the field in Nairobi.

Q4. What did you do in Microfinance?

A> I worked on setting up lending contracts which are self-enforcing and don't require a collateral, a feature prevalent in micro-finance. The Model assumes homogeneous agents where the group member chooses to work diligently and monitor his partner(costly peer monitoring) to ensure compliance. I extend the multi-agent principal-agent model with costly peer monitoring developed in Carli & Uras (2017) by relaxing the assumption of perfect monitoring. The core result of one of the agents receiving a higher expected return to compensate for higher volatility is preserved, albeit under more stringent conditions. Finally, I evaluate a threshold level of imperfect monitoring beyond which a sustainable joint-liability contract is no longer feasible.

Q5. Did you do any experimental work in your microfinance paper?

A. Told that it was a theoretical paper. I worked as Research Assistant for a project implemented Randomized Control Trial(RCT) in Nairobi, Kenya. The RCT focused on measuring the impact of

adopting mobile money technology on small and medium business owners. The project targeted over 1500 business owners who were interviewed regularly over a period of 6 months. My primary responsibility was to train the personnel for undertaking the survey.

Q5. You have also done research in Game Theory in your undergrad, what was your master's thesis?

A> I worked on Ad Avoidance technologies (AAT), its effect on Media Content and reason for their increasing presence. Studied an equilibrium existence issue: AAT penetration may lead to more advertising, causing further increase in AAT and determined a unique equilibrium outcome for the equilibrium existence issue and evaluated optimum advertising level. I also examined content providers' responses to increased AAT penetration and effect of ad-avoidance on total social welfare (i.e. we considered the net effect of ad-avoidance on the sum total of producer & consumer surplus). Finally, concluded that higher AAT penetration causes increased user fees and lower advertising levels.

Q6. Can you set up a two player zero-sum game using linear programming?

A. Told that we can simulate a Prisoner's Dilemma game where the constraints will be such that the payoff from co-operating was higher for both, but unilateral deviation to noncooperation increased that payoff for the player who deviated. This way we can pick every strategy set and run it against unilateral deviation and as such we will converge to the two possible Nash Equilibrium in the game.

Q7. Since, you have experienced the COVID-19 period how will rate the government's response towards it?

A. Started with the stimulus package of 20L crore INR and how bank reform and digital India along with it are paving the growth for faster economic growth. But, this crisis has pushed over 30% of the middle class back into poverty and government should come up with methods to put money in the hands of the populace like what US is doing. Farm laws are a step in the right direction, but the implementation could have been better.

Q8. Do you think China is still an economic center of gravity, and what can India do now to ensure it can also become one?

A. Told that China's recent actions like the COVID-19 pandemic and its actions against Uighurs and Hong Kong democracy protests have dented its public image. On the other hand, India with its vaccine diplomacy and pharma sector growth during the pandemic is well set to become a crucial player in the global value chains. Additionally, we have also started to export defense goods which are made in India which opens up another export area. Thus, we have the momentum now, and we can use this also to attract some labor force from agriculture to manufacturing sector as agriculture employs almost 66% of labor force while contributing a measly 15% to GDP which is not sustainable in the long run.

Q9. How will you handle change from academic research to MBA & corporate life?

A. I have been switching towards corporate since I came back in June 2019, and it won't be an issue. Additionally, I have gone through enough academic rigor to handle the MBA course load and my quantitative achievements show that I am capable enough to handle the workload. Age is a factor, but I have studied with & taught students from different age groups during my PhD, so it won't be an issue.

Q10. You mentioned you like reading, what are you reading nowadays?

A. Told that I am fan of historical/mythological fiction and have read Suheldev & the Shiva Trilogy by Amish. I also like Frederick Forsyth and am currently reading the Cobra which talks about an American operative trying to bring down a global cocaine cartel.

Q11. How do you get time to read multiple books?

A. Told I had a Kindle and a Kindle app on my phone which enables me to read multiple books parallelly, and I normally read when I am taking short breaks from work. Also, reading multiple books parallelly makes the experience richer and much more fun for me

Overall it was a good experience, and although I got asked questions from various domains the panel always gave me enough time and asked many follow-up questions which showed that they had a genuine interest in my profile. One of my better interview experiences in this MBA cycle

Status: Converted

Interview Experience – 50

My Profile:-

10th– 93.2%

12th- 93%

Graduation- 82.1 % (B.E. in Mechanical Engineering from Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh)

Work ex. of 4 years in Alstom Transport (By the time I will be joining the college)

CAT 2019 - 98.32 (VA - 91.26, DI_LR - 96.37, Quant - 99.08)

I got calls from IIM-L (PGP, PGP-SM), IIM Shillong, NITIE, IIM B PGP (BA), IIT Bombay (SJMSOM), IIT D (DMS), CAP (New IIMs).

IIM Shillong Interview Experience

For IIM Shillong interview happened online on Zoom due to Covid.

There were 2 Professors, 1 Male and 1 Female.

First Male Professor asked questions and after that Female professor asked question.

Questions asked by Male Professor:-

1. Tell me something special about your college.
2. What exactly is your job profile and scope of work?
3. How the product your company make is different from its competitors?
4. Question on Space X Robotics development (I clearly said I am not aware of the development then he said OK and moved to next question)

5. In IIM Shillong if you got selected in which subjects you can give more inputs and have a healthy discussions?

Questions asked by Female Professor:-

1. How much is the corona impact on your industry and how your industry is going to cope up?
2. What kind of new technology and innovation you see will rise because of this disruption by Corona?
3. Questions about family and hobbies
4. Question on Weakness
5. How annual job performance review is done in your company?

Total Time approx. 15 minutes.

My take on the interview:-

It was not stressed. They were checking my knowledge on what I do and what exactly is happening in industry in general. Overall it was a good experience.

Verdict- Converted.

Interview Experience – 51

CAT percentile - 98.77

Interview Date - 25 Feb 2021

At the start of the call, I saw 2 interviewers sharing a screen. I could see shoulders of a man and a woman. Both of them started shooting questions as soon as the interview started. And one by one, they shoved their faces in the screen and asked me a question and then pulled their face back. Throughout the interview, I was answering to two shoulders

The questions were really vague and went as follows:

I1 : What is time study?

Me: I told them that I don't remember much from my B.Tech

I1: What is work study?

Me: My answer was the same.

I2: Difference between the two?

At this time, I had realized that they had prepared a list of questions to ask me, and they did not care where the interview was going. They kept on shooting such technical questions and they barely cared about the answer. Also, answering to two faceless shoulders didn't help either.

I2: Have you ever used a tool?

Me: What do you mean by a tool? Do you mean a tool like MS-Word, MS-Excel?

I2: no I mean.. Okay, next question, when did IT revolution came to India?

By this time I was done and I managed to finish the interview somehow. I knew that there was no point bothering with the result and decided not to join IIM Shillong even if I am offered an admit.

Interview Experience – 52

Date: 07 March, 2021

Venue: VCNow, Madhapur, Hyderabad

I reached at around 7:30am. IIM Ahmedabad was the only IIM to conduct in-centre interviews this year. We were supposed to go to the centre, give our AWT and then attend our interview via video conference.

Post my Aadhaar verification, I was asked to sit in a room with 10 odd other aspirants. The AWT was supposed to begin at 8:00 am. Other students from my panel were yet to come. Meanwhile I had memorized some names of the students in my panel from the Aadhaar verification process. So I spent the next 20 minutes analyzing their profiles on LinkedIn (DO. NOT. DO. THIS. STUPIDITY.) I realized I was the only fresher there and got extremely intimidated.

Fun fact: 4 aspirants from my very panel got into IIMA. We just connected. 😊

Now, it's about 7:55am when a 45-ish professor enters the room and says something on the lines of, "Your AWT will begin in 5 mins. I will let you know when you'll have to put your phones aside. Put your phones on silent. Any sound will lead to your instant disqualification." Now, I thought I still have 5 minutes, let's fiddle around with some news. 😊 All the other students from my panel had put their phone aside by now. That's when the professor comes inside, sees me with my phone and shouts, "WHAT DID I JUSSSTTT SAY..!!!! WHAT DID I JUST SAY..!!!!" I immediately apologised and put my phone away. I was on the verge of crying but had to give my AWT. How could I mess my mindset up on the most important day of my life. I had worked hard for this day since the last 6 months relentlessly. How could I be so damn stupid. But once the AWT started, I got into the flow of it and came up with what I thought was a pretty beautiful answer. I was very satisfied with what I had written.

I was the 3rd in my panel. So, I spent the next 25 odd minutes, timing the students who went prior to me, judging their reactions with no conclusions whatsoever 😊.

And finally, my turn did come. I went in pretty calm. The setup was a conference room, where the student would be sitting at one end of a big round table and there will be two GIANT screens put up side-to-side on the other end, the left one had the interviewee and the right one had the interviewers.

My panel had 2 professors. P1 was a 50-ish male and P2 was a 35-ish female. Both were extremely welcoming and friendly. We exchanged usual pleasantries and began the interview.

P1: (I hadn't yet removed my mask, I had just taken my seat) It's absolutely your choice to keep or remove your mask. (I removed my mask).

P1: So, Bhavani or Susmitha?

Me: Anything will do, Sir.

P1: Ok, we'll call you Sushmita. So, Bhavani, Susmitha, what's the connection?

Me: (I gave the elaborate backstory behind my name which turned out to be a 1 minute monologue 😊. They heard it patiently. It ended on how Susmitha broken down is, Su-good and Smitha-smile.)

P2: Yes, you indeed have a good smile.

Me: Thank you, Mam.

P1: So, Sushmita, Why MBA?

Me: (I gave my well prepared answer. It included some personal reasons involving my father.)

P1: (countered my answers for a good 5 minutes.)

Me: (answered all of them pretty confidently. He seemed convinced at the end.)

P1: Sushmita, are you good in Maths?

Me: (didn't want to be grilled on the topic, so answered in the negative) I wouldn't say it's my strongest point, Sir. I used to be very good in Maths. In fact, it was Maths that I had scored the highest during my JEE. But, Engineering Maths has proved it otherwise.

P1: But you are an engineer, that too an IITian. How can you not be good in Maths..!!? You know that MBA does have a lot of Maths in it?

Me: (answered on the grounds that the Maths in MBA doesn't go beyond calculus and statistics. And how I knew of what I was signing up for.)

P1: (asks me few questions on Continuity, Differentiation, Limits and Quadratic Equations)

Me: (answered all of them)

P1: Do you follow politics?

Me: Not really, Sir.

P1: Can you make an educated guess and tell me which all states will be having their elections in the coming 2 months?

Me: (Luckily, I knew the answer to this question as I was well versed with the politics of all the states with an IIM because of preparing for their respective interviews.)

P1: Tell me the political parties prevalent in West Bengal.

Me: (answered with TMC, BJP and INC)

P1: Do you know the full form of TMC?

Me: (absolutely knew the answer, but my stupid brain blacked out for some inexplicable reason. I literally said, "Yes, Sir." and went silent. 🙊🙊🙊
I asked for a moment, suddenly remembered and yelled, "Trinamool, YES, TRINAMOOOL CONGRESS," like I was Archimedes from his Eureka moment.)

P1: (laughing at this point. THANKFULLY.) Can you tell us about the political scenario in West Bengal?

Me: (answered what I remembered from the preparation for IIM Calcutta interview (11 February, 2021) in a structural format.)

(P1 asked me some cross questions. I tried answering all of them. We were having a healthy conversation at this point. But I realised I couldn't afford to let my interview run in this direction since I didn't have a good knowledge in it and was running out of content from the interview I had prepared for, almost a month ago. Had it been Gujarat's politics, I could have answered so much better. So, I ultimately decided to be honest and resorted to the good old, "I am sorry, Sir. I do not have a good idea of this. I need to look into it.")

P1: Okay, no problem. Do you know the richest person today?

Me: Yes, Sir, last I checked it was Elon Musk.

P1: Are you sure? Is he the richest person today?

Me: I didn't check it today, Sir. I'm sorry I don't know.

P1: Make an educated guess.

Me: It must be Jeff Bezos, Sir. (It was. But I wanted to flaunt my knowledge of the top 10 richest people. So, I went ahead and named 5–6 other top richest people. 🤖)

P2: Yes, it is Jeff Bezos. Do you know Elon Musk?

Me: Yes, Mam.

P2: What's he in news for these days?

Me: (answered with the Bitcoin fiasco that was trending those days. Also with how his single tweet had caused Signal to boom.)

P2: So, he is not an MBA. And yet a CEO. He's recently said, "MBAs do nothing but work on spreadsheets." Do you agree with his statement?

Me: I absolutely do not. MBAs have so much more to do than that. Some of the world's leading CEOs today have an MBA degree. And even if they don't, they have a team of MBAs from reputed institutes. (Gave an example of how the successor of Amazon is an MBA. Told how Satya Nadella and Sundar Pichai are MBA too. And gave a list of about 5–7 other CEOs who were MBAs)

P1: Sundar Pichai is an IITian, no?

Me: Yes, Sir. But Satya Nadella and Sundar Pichai also have MBA degrees from Chicago Booth and Wharton respectively.

P1: (sounds surprised) So, tell me about your final year Project.

Me: (answers in detail)

P1: (asks for how it is relevant)

Me: (answers)

(P1 asks for few more technicalities. I answered all of them.)

P1: So, Sushmita, I can see an exponential growth in your undergraduate academics. We usually see most engineers, especially IITians, go through a decreasing curve. Can you tell me about it? (I had started with a 7.0 in first semester and ended at 9.6)

Me: (tells them about my journey.)

P1: good, good. We need academically oriented students here. So, are you placed currently?

Me: No, Sir. I didn't sit for placements as this was my primary focus. I didn't want to hog on another person's job.

P1: But, you do need to have a backup, no?

Me: Yes, Sir. My interviews end on April 2. My college conducts its placements till the end of May. I will seriously attend for my placements then. I have already dropped a year for JEE. I can not afford to lose another year. So, I will try seriously for a job and prepare for CAT again this year, in case things don't fare well. (I did eventually get decently placed in college.)

P1: (seems satisfied) asks if I have any questions.

I ask. P1 answers.

P1: Please take a toffee from the bowl.

I take a candy from the bowl and leave.

Interview Experience – 53

Date : 16/02/21 (IIM CAP 2021–2023)

Online interview on zoom

(I wait for 2 hours then my PI started)

Name : Shubham Kumar

Education : BSC Physics hons.

(10/12/graduation)marks : (77.9/80/56.87)

Two panel members (P1 & P2)

P1 : Tell me about you ?

P1 : Wait not this usual thing something different !

- **(They want to know the work I had done apart from academics some interesting facts about me)**

P1 : So , You seem to focus more on extracurricular than academics (I had done a lot of small activities)

P1 : Why low score in gradion

P1 : Explain Lagrange & Freeman theorem

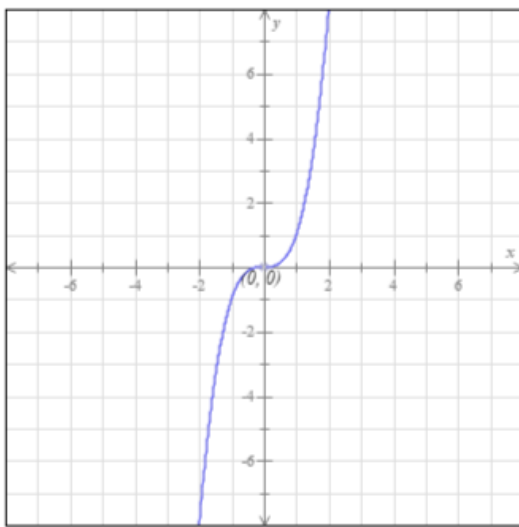
P1 : In casual way , I know you are not expecting this much deep questions (He is smiling because he wants to make me comfortable after this question)

P1 : Explain basic elements of nature

P1: Explain Bose einstein condensate ?

P1 : Which subject you like most in graduation ?

P1 : Draw the graph of ($Y = X^3$)



P1 : Find maximum & minimum value of ($Y = X^3$)

P2: You told me you like optics , Tell me about refractive index

P1 : Tell me the part of the business you like

P1 : Wow you like two things at a same time ,Tell me about operation

P1: What is the role of Finance minister in one sentence

Summary : You can't be unprepared about your academics & try to remain calm .

Before interview revise all the academics question because it is the most important part of Interview

Stay calm because they can asked anything

Interview Experience – 54

Profile: General Engineer Male (GEM) with 5+ years of experience in Sales domain.

Academics: 10th: 92% | 12th: 78.4% | BE Chemical: 8.56 CGPA | CAT'21: 95.13 %ile.

Date: 03.03.2021 Time: 3:40 pm.

Interview process was conducted online. I was supposed to log in 15 minutes in advance and wait. They let me in at around 3:42 pm

There were 2 panelists. Both male. Both seemed in their 40s. Let's name them M1 and M2.

M1: Sandip, can you hear us?

Me: Yes. Sir, Good afternoon. Am I audible?

M1: Yes.

M2: So, the format of this will be that we will give you an extempore topic to speak about. You will be given 1 minute to think and 1 minute to talk about it and then we will take the session further.

Extempore topic: **Pro-development – Democratic or Authoritative?**

Spoke on the topic for 30 seconds and I was interrupted by them with a question.

M1: Was the inclusion of Junagadh (since I am from Junagadh) in India during the Partition of India-Pakistan democratic or authoritative?

I answered Democratic as it was with the help of people and the majority of Hindu people in Junagadh. (I was partially wrong). He corrected me that it was due to Sardar Patel's initiatives that Junagadh became a part of India.

M1: Why MBA at this point? Why not an executive MBA?

(I was already expecting this question in all my interviews due to my 5 years of work-ex)

Me: It will be hectic to complete the same curriculum in 1 year and I would not be able to change the field if I want. If I want to move to Finance, then 1 year MBA will have fewer opportunities than the regular flagship program.

M1: Are you unhappy with your current Job in the sales domain?

Me: I don't like the sales and marketing domain in India because of people's money-oriented approach while conducting procurement activities. People are less Technology oriented.

M1: Struggle is everywhere. Even if you move to finance, you will struggle, and 2-year MBA is also very hectic here. Do you think we are happy in our job, taking interviews from 8 in the morning throughout the day?

Me: (All of us laughing) I can totally understand, Sir. I am not pinpointing the fact that I will choose finance, I would like to come there and explore my interests and then decide.

M1: What are you not happy with? Your engineering, the industry you are working in right now, or your job role?

Me: I am currently facing a struggle in the job role due to the current practices followed as I said before about people being more money-oriented.

M2: Why not change the job? Why do MBA? Because if you do MBA and then you go for a job interview at a BFSI sector company, they will also put you in marketing because of your 5 years of experience, and ultimately banks also operate by selling.

Me: As you said that it's hectic at IIMS, then I believe I will have a lot to learn in the upcoming 2 years, which will open the path for me in the BFSI sector. (I don't know where this was going.)

M1: Still, you might have learned things in your work experience also, right?

Me: Yes, I was weak in communicating with the customers when I started my career and I could not extract project information from the customer and could not hold the communication with them for a longer time but I learned to do so by getting out all the project info where we can pitch our products and get a timeline for the upcoming orders which would help in our sales forecast as well.

M1: Ok, what do you do in your current job role?

Me: I am a sales executive at my current company. Our company is very well known in the field of Mass transfer internals, so my role doesn't involve hardcore marketing. I review the incoming inquiries, roll out techno-commercial quotations to the customers and arrange technical and commercial meetings with the customers to come to a contractual agreement with them.

M1: What does your company manufacture?

Me: Mass transfer equipment which is used in Distillation columns and other types of columns in refineries and petrochemical industries.

M1: Can I ask you some chemical engineering questions?

Me: Yes, you can shoot the question. I will try my best to answer.

M1: What are the laws of thermodynamics?

Me: There are 3 laws of thermodynamics. 1st is about the conservation of energy. 2nd has something to do with the enthalpy of the system, but I can't recollect right now. and the 3rd one is about the entropy of the system (I didn't remember the full statement of the law for the 2nd and 3rd laws; luckily, they didn't emphasize much on it).

M1: What is reverse osmosis?

Me: Osmosis is generally a mass transfer operation happening due to foul particles in the wastewater. It happens due to the concentration gradient. Mass transfer happens from higher to lower concentration fluid but when it is done in a reverse manner it is called reverse osmosis (I forgot to add that it happens due to pressure).

M2: What do you do in your free time?

Me: I listen to music. I like singing also. I started learning classical vocals and joined classes but couldn't continue due to COVID-19, but I still try to learn it on YouTube and online platforms. Other than this, I usually watch web series on OTTs.

M2: Ok Sandip, what kind of news do you follow?

Me: I generally do not follow much political news, however, the Russia-Ukraine crisis is in the talks right now, which I am following. Apart from that, I follow typically sports and technology-related news. (I was like... finally, they will ask something about current affairs and I had prepared for it but it didn't happen).

M2: Ok, let's say you are a consultant to the Government and you have to recommend steps to take for financial inclusion of Rural areas, what will be those measures?

Me: I misunderstood the question and thought of rural development and started talking about that government shouldn't have reduced the budget for MGNREGA.

M2: How will it ensure financial inclusion?

Me: If the budget was increased or even kept the same the employment would have increased. Also through Infrastructural development like schools, and hospitals in rural parts of the country.

M2: Still, how will it affect financial inclusion?

Me: I can't connect the dots or maybe I am not following you. What do you mean by financial inclusion, as in overall India?

M2: As in how can rural areas are financially connected or included in India?

Me: (I was so idiot to not understand the literal meaning of what they asked me) Then I started explaining that more jobs will mean more bank accounts in rural areas. Government should also impart education and training related to financial markets and investments so that the money from rural parts can be circulated in the system.

M2: Ok Sandip, that's all from our side. Thank you. You may leave.

Me: Thank you, Sir. Have a great day ahead.

The total interview ran for around 16-17 minutes. Overall, it was a nice experience. They looked friendly but they also maintained an environment where you can't get away with your answers easily. In terms of grilling, only the "why MBA at this stage?" question was the one on which they were putting more pressure, which put me in doubt of my selection.

Interview Experience – 55

CAT 92.05%ile

Workex 18months

B.Tech 8.45

12th 85%

10th 95%

1) Tell me about yourself

Told them about myself, where I'm from, where and what I did at work, also told them that I have taken a break for a year because of Covid.

2) Questions on graphs and charts

A total of 7 questions were asked and the first question I started off was a mistake and it was a very silly error which I later realised, so I didn't have the perfect start to my interview. The rest of the questions I managed to answer.

3) Achievements in School and College

Mentioned that I was part of my school football team and also participated in intra college football tournaments.

4) What do you know about the Suez Canal Evergreen ship news?

Briefly explained what had happened and told them that 30% of all trades happen through that route although I made a mistake in presenting the numbers, it was actually 13% of world's trade.

5) Any recent Cryptocurrency news you've read?

Explained about the situation between cryptocurrency and Indian government. Also mentioned why the Indian government has banned crypto trading and the concerns related to it.

6) If you have to measure a country's World Happiness index, what factors will you consider?

Told him that, I'd consider freedom of speech, the income/spending capacity of the people, healthcare system and infrastructure.

7) Name the country that is leading in the world happiness index.

Told him that, I'm not very sure which one of the Scandinavian countries it is, it's either Norway or Sweden that is leading the charts.

Correct answer : Finland

8) What about India's happiness index?

Sir, India's world happiness index has dropped down this year.

9) Top 5 Indian companies with marketcap

After a pause for few seconds, I told him - Tata, Reliance industries and Adani group. Then, I told him - Sir, I could randomly say 2 more companies but it would be like me taking a wild guess.

Panel - smiles at me and says okay next question.

10) Mention 3 Government schemes

I told him Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Beti bachao and Vocal for local.

Panel - Is vocal for local a slogan or a scheme?

Hmm, I guess it's a slogan, my bad.

11) Tell me about Aatmanirbhar Bharat, how much money has the government allocated for it and the plan of action.

Sir, Aatmanirbhar Bharat is a plan to make India a self sustainable country and to promote indigenous products. I honestly do not know how much they have allocated towards it.

Panel - There are many factors to it like location, students, faculty members, our tie-ups with corporates and much more.

Thank you, it was lovely interacting with you both. All the best.

Interview Experience – 56

Background:- BBA(Marketing), Average extracurricular, some experience of volunteering and started a business venture during High School.

Interview reporting time:- 1:25(Zoom)

It started after waiting for more than two hours. There were two panels one Male (M), one Female(F).

M:- How are you Ankit.

Answered

M:- Why nervous?

Said

M:- Walk me through your personal and professional life so far in 90 seconds.

Gave well-prepared answer.

M(picked something when I was answering):- So you started a business tell me about that.

Told

M:- Great, In which year did you start?

ANSWERED

M:- Tell me about the major challenges you faced.

Told

M:- Do you know about Facebook and Jio collaboration?

Said

M:- How digitalization has affected buying behaviour?

Said

M:- How you can use technology in your business?

ANSWERED IN BRIEF

M:- Tell me about the selling model of the big basket.

Described

M:- What all sets you apart from competitors in the market?

Answered

F:- Tell me about the Marketing mix in the context of your business.

Answered in detail

F:- What was your pricing strategy?

Answered

F:- If you restart your business now what changes you will make?

Said

F:- How your business will operate in metro cities and tier 3 cities?

Answered

F:- So you had a subscription model. Why people should commit to the long term if they can buy on daily basis?

Answered

F:- How you were convincing people?

Answered in detail.

F:- Name a few entrepreneurs from Bihar.

Can tell only one but mentioned how Bihar can be changed from IAS producing state to IAS and ENTREPRENEURS producing state.

They seemed to be very satisfied. Professor said, "It is great that you started business at such early age, congratulations".

Total time:- 21-22 minutes.

Everything was smooth.

Learning:- GIVE THEM SOMETHING INTERESTING TO TALK AND HAVE THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF THAT TOPIC.

Interview Experience – 57

Panel 1. Slot 1.

I was second in the panel to be interviewed.

Profile - GEM with 1.5 years work-ex.

10th/12th/B.Tech. - 9.6/86.4/7.58

CAT'19 - 99.93 % ile (95.47/99.96/99.93)

Interview :-

P1 -Male Professor.

P2- Male Professor.

P1 - Hello Nitesh.

* Wished them Good morning *

P1- Good morning. As you know these are very tough times and we are conducting online interviews for the first time, how are you feeling being a part of this history ?

Me - Sir, I am very happy to be a part of this process and In fact, I am feeling quite relieved that this is finally happening, after a long break. All thanks to you and the admission team, who are taking out time and somehow conducting interviews in these tough times.

P1- Yeah. So tell me what brings you here. You have 60 seconds.

Me - Modified my Why MBA answer and mentioned few reasons.

P1 - Tell me why are so many engineers coming to B Schools. What could be the reason.

Me - Talked about the dearth of jobs in their relevant fields and lack of necessary skill set required for those jobs.

P1 - What's the difference between Education and skill ?

Me - Sir, skill is the ability to do something, or the ability to apply the knowledge acquired through education.

P1 - Which discipline are you from ?

Me - Industrial and production engineering.

P1 - So, don't you think India need more Industrial engineers ? Why do you want to come here ?

Me - Told him about the technical and managerial subjects of my branch and how I was more inclined towards the managerial one. (Mentioned subjects like Marketing, Supply chain, Operations etc.)

P2 - After graduation, you are working at EXL, right ?

Me - Yes sir.

P2 - Tell me what do you do.

Me - Told about my work in detail.

P2 - Coming back to graduation, did you do some course on inventory control or anything like that ?

Me - Sir, I did a course on Green belt in lean six sigma.

P2 - In layman terms, tell me what is six sigma ?

Me - Sir It's a data driven approach and use of mathematical tools to improve the process, increase efficiency, reduce time and waste in an organisation.

P2 - But why the term '6 sigma' ?

Me - The term 6 sigma comes from empirical rule of normal distribution which tells us about the area under the curve under different standard deviations. Area under 6 sigma is 99.9996 % which leaves 0.00034% area outside the curve, implying that we have to reduce our errors to 3.4 defects ppm.

P2 - Okay. And you had a course on Operations also ?

Me - Yes sir.

P2 - What all topics did you study ?

Me - Told 5-6 topics.

P2 - Ever heard of Convex set in operations ?

Me - No sir, I have never heard that term in operations.

P2 - But you must have heard this term 'convex' somewhere, right ?

Me - Yes sir, in optics. I studied about convex lens and mirrors.

P2 - Yeah. Draw a diagram of the same.

Me - Drew concave and convex mirror and showed them.

P2 - Yes. Now tell this in context of mathematics. What is a convex function ?

* I went blank. As I knew that IIMC interviews are Maths heavy, I was prepared for basic calculus questions and graph-plotting. But this was something about which I didn't have any idea *

Me - Sir, I don't know.

P2 - You sure you've never heard of how to check concavity and convexity in maths ?

* Suddenly something strikes. *

Me - Oh yes sir. We use differentiation. We use first order differential for this.

P2 - What does first order differential gives us ?

Me - It tells us about the slope of the curve and hence we can find whether the function is concave and convex. (Said the latter part wrong, probably). Then mentioned positive and negative slope.

P1 - And what's double diff. used for ?

Me - Sir it's used to find out point of inflection, the point where the curve changes its shape.

P1 - Okay. What is Rank of a matrix ?

* Again, a very basic question from Class 11th Maths, but I never knew that a question will pop out of this chapter, so haven't prepared *

Me - I don't know, sir.

P1 - What is a saddle point?

Me - I don't know, sir.

* losing some confidence after two don't knows *

P2 - What else do you do. What are your hobbies ?

* Ahh, finally a breather :) *

Me - Told about Reading and sports.

P2 - So what do you do in cricket ?

Me - I am a left handed batsman.

P2 - Ohho, Saurav Ganguly, haan ? And what position ?

Me - Sir, mostly as an opener.

P2 - Ahem ahem. Who is your favourite player?

Me - Sir, among the current ones, Virat Kohli. Overall, Yuvraj Singh.

P2 - Discuss some leadership qualities of Virat. Pros and cons.

Me - Discussed how his aggression plays a role in decision making. Told some pros and cons of his captaincy.

P2 - Now compare him with any business leader, and why ?

Me - Elon Musk, as both are risk takers, not afraid of anything, are bold with their decisions and are mostly right, like to do things their own way.

P1 - I am giving you a situation. You have three job offers in the time of covid - ITC, Bengal chemicals and McKinsey. Which one will you choose and why ?

Me - I'll go with ITC. First, I am more interested towards this domain, and second, the FMCG sector is not severely affected by Covid. Demand for FMCG products are still almost the same as it was earlier. This industry is not as badly affected as other ones.

P1 - If I'd given you these options one year ago, would your answer have been the same ?

Me - Yes sir.

P1 - Why do you think I mentioned Bengal chemicals , is it because we are sitting in bengal (smiling) ?

Me - No sir, maybe you wanted to show the volatility in the three industries.

P1 - Actually Bengal chemicals was recently in news, that's why.

Me - Okay sir. Sorry, I haven't heard of any such news.

P1 - Okay, one last question. What was the last non bestseller you read ?

Me - The cold war by Robert Macmohan.

P1 - What's there in it ?

Me - Told in detail.

P1- Heard of the term 'second cold war' ?

Me - Sir not exactly. Are you talking in the context of US China trade war ?

P1 - No.

Me - Then I haven't heard the term sir.

P1 and P2 - Okay Nitesh, All the best. You have any other IIM calls ?

Me - Yes sir, from IIM Ahmedabad and IIM Kozhikode.

P1 - Okay Nitesh. Thank you.

Verdict - **Converted.**


Interview Experience – 58

Date: 22April ,2021

Panel 7 (2 Male members)

- 1.Give a short intro about yourself .
- 2.What all subjects you studied in graduation?
- 3.Did you study Financial Subjects or about to study?
- 4.What is Current ratio.
- 5.What is Net worth.
- 6.What is Income of the Company.

- 7.What is Return on Sales.
- 8.Unearned income and where it come?
- 9.What should I ask you .
- 10.Whats the idea if you want to do entrepreneurship.
- 11.You have 30 seconds ,tell why should I give you 100crores.
- 12.How much would you return if I give you 100crore.
- 13.Where does 20crore in accounting will come?
- 14.What is Dividend?

Panel 2 entry 

- 1.Anshu you seem to be interested to work in education sector which is very good thing but tell me how many Salman Khan you know?
- 2.Same Question again as I said "I know 1"
- 3.Who is he?
- 4.I didn't mean Bollywood Actor ,after the interview please have a research on Who he is ?

PS:- He was talking about the Salman Khan (Founder of Khan Academy)

- 5.Can I ask some Maths Questions?
6. $\sqrt{2}$ is rational or irrational?
7. Can it be written in p/q form?
8. Can it be shown in a Number line?
9. 17 raise to 248 ka unit digit value batao?
10. 17 raise to 245 ka unit digit value?
11. Do you have any questions for us?

PS:— Acads is a must go for Freshers :/ Answers kya hee likhu yaar 😞😂 bahut hasso he tum sab,baaki agar mann kiya kabhi toh edit karke likh dunga pura Comedy lagega aap sabko . Till then pray and send good wishes 😊

Interview Experience – 59

Profile - 88.8/96.6/78.12(BCom, General)

CAT - 96.38%ile

Date - 27.03.2021

Mode - Online

Verification- 9:00 a.m.

PI - 9:50 a.m. scheduled began at 9:56 a.m.

Two Panel Members - 1 Male and 1 Female

M - Have you taken your breakfast

Me - No I will have it post the interview.

F - Tell us about yourself

Me - Answered

F - Tell me a game you drafted.

Me - Told

F - So you designed stories for students.

Me - Told

F - Subjects you studied in Graduation

Me - Microeconomics, Management Accounting, Statistics

F - How do we calculate GDP

Me - Told

F - Why do we prefer expenditure method

Me - Answered

F - Do you know about about PPP

Me - Gave a decent answer

F - What constitutes this basket

Me - Told

F - Do you know similar basket is used for BPL calculation. Why is BPL calculation wrong

Me - Told about different requirements

F - Any other Factors

Me - Sorry mam, I cannot recall any.

F - Do you follow business news

Me - Yes mam, I do.

F - Any recent news

Me - Told about the SVB collapse

F - What was the root cause?

Me - Told

M - Higher the risk, higher the profit. So weren't they right

Me - Told how there should be a balance between risk and profits so that we do not end up losing our money.

M - Did they not have economists to tell them what was right

Me - they might be having of course but the diversification of lending was not done and also in lure of higher profits, it gave its funds to VCs and startups

M - Can recession be predicted

Me - Yes sir (I doubt)

M - When is the next recession happening?

Me - Sir, I don't know.

M - Why do we plan and forecast in business?

Me - Told

M - Any calculations that have helped in prediction of recession?

Me - No idea Sir

M - Your year of birth is

Me - Told

M - Tell some recession periods since then

Me - Told about 2000s dotcom bubble burst, 2008 Global financial crisis and the pandemic

M - No other post 2008?

Me - I can not recall any other.

M - Whenever any global crisis occur, our country has no effect. What is your say on this?

Me - Told how we do face some downfall but are still averse to major hits like in other developing economies

M - Who is the Foreign Minister

Me - told

M - What is his background

Me - I don't know sir

M - Governor of RBI

Me - Told

M - His background

Me - I don't know sir, but he would probably be an economist

M - Original name of Sarojini Naidu

Me - Sir she was known as Nightingale of India but I don't know the original name.

M - Some other female freedom fighters

Me - told

M - Who was the first female freedom fighter

Me - maybe Rani Laxmibai, I don't know Sir.

M - What do you in free time.

Me - Told

M - Everybody writes on Quora, how do we check the credibility

Me - Answered

M - How is Wikipedia similar to Quora?

Me - Answered whatever came to my mind in terms of editing information, etc.

M - Any female business leaders you admire.

Me - Told

M - Any questions for us. Also I would like to tell you about the fee waiver of the entire tuition fees we provide. Kindly check our website for terms and conditions.(I was like why are you telling me this 😊).

Me - Yes Sir, I will go through it once.

M - Okay you may log off now. Thank you.

Me - Thank you Sir, Thank You Mam. Have a good day.

Around 20 minutes long. A little bit of cross-questioning but overall chill experience.

Interview Experience – 60

Two male interviewee let's call them m1 and m2

m1–good morning Anushri

Me- good morning sir

m1–introduce yourself

Me — gave prepared answer

m1–so you are biotechnology student, tell us about importance of biotechnology in human life

me — sir biotechnology has important role in human life, be it medicine, vaccine. From making curd to vaccine to immunisation, curing disease by cell transplantation everywhere biotechnology is used 😊

m1–do you know about serum institute

Me- mentioned about ceo and covishield vaccine manufactured by serum institute

m1–do you know about biocon ltd

Me- yes sir, it is a biotechnology based company

m1–who is Kiran mazumdar shaw

Me- 😊😊 sir she is an inspiration for Indian biotechnologists , she is also known as father of Indian biotechnology, she has an inspirational story of starting biocon(mentioned about her struggle for starting biocon)

m1–do you know who is our finance minister

Me- nirmala sitaraman

m1–textile minister

Me- sorry sir I don't know that

m1–have you heard about smriti irani

Me- yes sir

m1–can you give any characteristic similarity between nirmala sitaraman and smriti irani

Me- sorry sir , I'm not able to recall at this point

m1- do you follow any business news or budget..

Me- yes sir i followed budget

m1-okay so other than tax regime tell me some budget highlights from your sector, biotechnology or pharmaceutical

Me- this year budget has major focus on Pharma industry as we are world's pharmacy and export 50% Pharma products also on railways and roads construction, also it has focused on primary healthcare, 157 nursing colleges are to be built as well 1.25 lakh cr is invested in agriculture sector

m1-have you visited our website

Me- yes sir

m1- 2 things you liked about us

Me- website is well maintained and all the dates are mentioned

Me- so the biggest challenge for me in year23-24 will be employment as we are facing employment problem and other will be in agriculture sector to increase the productivity

And for agriculture there are already many schemes so I will focus on their implementation and for employment I will bring companies to our country and will make sure that majority of job roles are given to Indian people (could have answer this in a better way 😊)

m1-ok anushri, over to next member

m2-good morning Anushri

Me- good morning sir

m2- anushri you mentioned India export 50% of medicine to world

Me- yes sir India is world's pharmacy and it exports 50% of medicine and vaccine to world

m2- anushri in your views which sector involves more biotechnology, is it pharmaceutical or agriculture

Me- I don't think we can generalise it as every sector includes biotechnology in pharmaceutical biotech is used in vaccine and immunisation process and in agriculture it is used in manufacturing of pesticides, genetically modified crops

m2-if given a choice with which sector you would like to work

Me- firstly with pharmaceutical than with agriculture

m2 —are medicines development in india

Me — yes sir

m2-can you name some medicine which are not copy of medicine of other countries developed in India

Me- sorry sir i couldn't recall any

m2—its okay, anushri don't you think there are so many types of COVID vaccine in world, what is need of making these many vaccine

Me- sir it is made as per the types of body as different body reacts differently to vaccine

m2—but don't you think earlier there was only one vaccine for polio and life was easy

Me- yes sir but here in COVID vaccine different reactions are seen covaxin is made from deactivates viruses where as covishield is made from mild viruses extracted from different body.

m2—no one asked me about my health before vaccine then what was the need of making different vaccine

Me- sir people from different countries have different environment so different reactions to vaccine

m2—but we also had vaccine from Russia.... don't you think these pharmaceutical companies are doing business

May be sir because business is in every sector but at the time of COVID there was less time so(couldn't explain my point)

So in you opinion we should not make 1 vaccine and let the things keep going

Me- no sir we should try to generalise things

m2—okay anushri, so have you played Ludo.

Me- yes sir

m2 if a dice is rolled twice what is the probability of getting a 6

Me- $1/6$

m2—explain

Me- sorry I'm not good at probability

m2—so you made a guess

Me- yes sir

m2 — okay so your interview is over you may log out

Me- thanku sir

Interview Experience – 52

GEM

10th (CBSE) — 10 cgpa

12th (CBSE) — 94%

Graduation (NIT Jaipur, Mechanical) — 8.63 cgpa

Work experience— 24 months at Hero MotoCorp, Project Engineering department

Interview:—

My interview timing was 17:30 hrs; at 10AM, I was called by adcom and asked if I'm comfortable to prepone the interview at 15:30 and I replied with a yes since I wanted to be done with the interview process as soon as possible. I'D verification was done at 2PM.

Interview

2 panelists (P1: Late 30s- M ; P2: Mid 40s- M)

Me: Good morning, sir (immediately thought it's evening but to my surprise neither i got startled nor did the panel bother 😊)

P1:— Good evening, Ujjwal! You may begin with your introduction

Me: Standard introduction.

P1:— Which grad subject are you comfortable with?

Me: Thermodynamics, sir

P1:— What is the second law of thermodynamics?

Me: Told.

P1: What is entropy?

Me: Told.

P1:— Can entropy be negative?

Me: Yes sir.(Couldn't think of an example at the moment) Told the standard differential equation and justified how entropy of system can be negative but Sgen cannot be negative due to irreversibility etc.....

P1:- (Don't remember exact question but it was sth. Related to entropy in heat generation process in refrigerator)

Me: Told (couldn't give a satisfactory answer, ik)

P1: (Shared screen with me) Do you know this diagram?

Me: Yes sir, it's a network diagram.

P1: What is its critical path?

Me: Told

P1: If i increase the time of (he was pointing to an event in network diagram), would it affect the project schedule?

Me: No sir.

P1: Are you sure?

Me: (checked again) Sir, i made a mistake in evaluating the critical path; this should be the critical path (corrected my initial mistake). And yes sir, the project schedule would be affected since it changes the critical path.

P1: Okay, thanks Ujjwal, that's it from my side

Over to P2-

P2:- Hi Ujjwal. How is Hero Motocorp performing in the EV front?

Me: Told a well prepared answer (mixed the spices of economics, marketing etc while cooking the answer).

P2:- So, who are the current front runners in EV segment?

Me:- Told

P2:- So, while Ola has seen such a burgeoning jump in the sales, what are the factors for such a sluggish demand in Hero MotoCorp's EV?

Me: Gave reasons revolving around pricing, marketing, R&D etc and P2 seem satisfied.

(Lasted about 12 minutes)

Verdict:— Direct convert

Interview Experience – 53

22nd March, 5 PM, Zoom

CAT - 99.13 %ile.

General | Male | Physics Grad | DU | Fresher

X | XII | Grad - 90.25 | 93 | 82.5

P1, and P2, both male.

P1

Oh Physics, interesting,

What moment made you realise you are interested in physics?

How much are you interested in Physics on a scale of 10?

— 8.5

How physics is used in daily life?

— From simply walking to Car and rocket engines.

How does a car engine work?

Why not pursue physics further and not leave it mid way?

People who did physics and inspire you?

—Elon Musk, Naval Ravikant and Jeff Bezos.

What are the options after physics?

—Academia or R&D in corporations.

Honestly tell me how did you decide that you wanna do an MBA?

—Gave prepared answer.

Why not BBA then after 12th?

—I wanted to give it a shot to Physics as well as I can go for an MBA after physics but can't pursue Physics after BBA.

What excites you?

—Marketing.

What disappoints you in life (not career)?

—Complaining about things- explained further.

Ok, Dhruv that's it, Thank you.

Was about to log off, but P2 spoke,

P2.

Dhruv you have a smiling face, a charming and pleasant personality, I am assuming you are a nice guy to talk to, Right?

—Yes, I am :)

How would your friends describe you?

—Ambitious and the go-to person.

Explain you being ambitious, and recall any recent incident.

How can a small sum of money make someone's life better?

Are you into sports?

—Not really.

How would you estimate the weight of a TT ball if all the conventional and modern weighting machine gets destroyed?

—Would use see saw deployed in the park and would use some standard weighted items like a standard 10 rupee coin.

Interview Experience – 61

X-89%, XII-86%, Grad- 8.0/10

B.A. Economics Fresher

CAT:92.24%

Disclaimer: *There were many people who came literally in casuals like checked shirts and jeans, some wore fancy shoes, some had unkempt hair, messy beard, kindly avoid them. (Suit is not compulsory, a pant shirt tie would do)*

Documents Verification: Done simultaneously with PI

WAT: Do women view politically liberal men as weak? Do you agree? Give your views
It was a critical topic, I wrote against the statement, saying that even I am a politically liberal person and women don't see me as a weak person. Decent wat.

PI: 2 panelists One male (M) around 35 years old, One female (F) around 28 years old

M called me inside

I went in greeted them, they were smiling and told me to sit.

F: How are you Rahul, how was your day?

Me: Not good to be honest

F(concerned): Why?

Me: Actually I booked a room in a hotel but they denied my check in and I had to travel a lot and it was exhausting.

F: Where did you book? Oyo?

Me: Yes

F: Yeah, they always do this

M: Okay, now I'll give you a topic and you have to prepare a 2 min extempore.

(after 30 seconds)

topic- What major reform should the govt take in India

Me: Spoke about education, recent budget allocation, India being a young country need more investment, backwardness of Schools except for Delhi, spoke about ground facts.

M: Tell me if Coronavirus will affect Indian Economy?

Me: Told about it, told about a novel published years ago about a similar virus (Wuhan-400) and it came true (F seemed very interested)

M: No just tell me if it will affect Indian Economy?

Me: Yes

M: Positive or Negative?

Me: Positive as because of this US and other countries might invest in India, negative also as we import LEDs and all and it will hamper.

F: You are from Economics, draw me the consumer and producer surplus

Me(Its too easy): Here ma'am

F: What is the breakeven point here?

Me(thinking for a while): Can't find it in this graph, need Cost curves.

F: Okay what is price elasticity?

Me: Told

F: Tell me if price increases by one unit, and quantity demanded increases by 2 units, what will the graph look like?

Me: Drew, told.

M: Who is the governor of RBI?
 Me: Shaktikanta Das
 M: Governor of Odisha?
 Me: Ganeshi Lal
 M: CM of Odisha is Biju Pattnaik right?
 Me: No sir, its Naveen Pattnaik, Biju Janta Dal is the name of his party.
 F: How many terms have he been in charge?
 Me: This is the fifth term.
 F: Okay can you tell me 2 endangered species that the govt. is trying to protect in Odisha?
 Me: Sorry ma'am
 M: Puri temple is famous in your state, when was it built?
 Me: Sir, to be honest, my granny told me a story about it that it was built by a king !
 (M and F burst into laughter)
 M: Ofcourse you wont say it was built by labours. but I wanna know which king built it and in which century?
 Me: Sorry, that I don't know.
 F: Okay what is the difference between Democratic Republic and Sovereign State?
 Me: Told about elections and votings and state run by people in democratic
 F: What is republic then?
 Me: said something not convincing enough
 F: Okay how familiar are you with Correlation and Regression?
 Me: Not much
 F: Probability?
 Me: I had it 12 but skipped the chapters.
 F: there are 4 envelopes and 3 letters, arrangements possible?
 Me: flopped terribly, couldn't answer
 F: what is 5!?
 Me: 120
 M: What is a^3-b^3 ?
 Me: $(a-b)(a^2+ab+b^2)$
 F: Do you know differentiation and integration?
 Me: upto class 12
 F: If you get it, you will have to study statistics for the 1st year.
 Me: Ma'am I know the basics.
 F: What were your positions of responsibility?
 Me: Told about being Head Boy, Vice captain in Footbal team, CR in college, lead in marketing and content in TEDx
 F looking at M: I guess thats it,
 F: Thankyou
 Me: Thankyou (and funny enough I carried the pen they gave me to draw the graphs, with me!)

Overall it was a nice interview, It went for about 15-20 minutes, no grilling, all smiles in the room, more of a conversation I can say. Decent interview. The panelist were good and friendly.

Interview Experience – 62

BSc physics hons.

10/12/grad marks (78/80/56.86)

Date : 12/02/21

Overall experience

A well balanced interview

Mixture of everything

(acad , extracurricular, hobbies , business , gk)

Two interview panelist (P1 &P2)

P1 (Male) & P2 (Female)

P2 : Show me your certificates & CAT score card

Me : Mam I don't have print out of CAT result , Can I show my result of CAT in mobile

P2 : Yes

P2 : Shubham can you give me an extempore for 2 minutes on "Ban of chinese apps" . You can take 30 sec for preparation & arrangement.

(Extempore is quite unexpected)

Me : Told

P2 : Tell me something about graduation any chapter , any new discoveries from Physics

Me : Told

P2: Tell me about convex & concave lens . It's uses also in daily use

Me : Told but not systematically

P2 : Do you familiar with Tyndall effect

Me : Yes mam

P2 : Explain it

Me : Told

P2 : Any extracurricular activities ,national or international

Me : No mam I don't have any national or international activities but I had done activities in my college & coaching

P2 : Tell me the activities

Me : Told

P2 : Any hobbies

Me : I like to read fictional novels right now I just finished White tiger

P2 : Have you watched the movie

Me : No mam , Movies of novel version distort the story of novel

P1& P2 : Oh ! Smiling (I made mistake by not watching the movie I think :-)

P1 : Tell me what is the value of sensex as of now

Me : Sir can I guess

P1 : Yes , yes go on

Me : 45,000

P1 : You are telling very old value it's 51,500 something as of now , See it gets changed just a few minute earlier

P1 : Tell me recent acquisition which is going on in business

Me : Sorry sir

(I totally forget about Future group)

P2 : Tell me any recent name of 3 cities whose name was changed by UP government

Me :- Mughalsarai = Deen Dayal Upadhaya

Allahabad = Prayagraj

Sorry mam I can not remember the 3 rd one

P1: Any achievement of Yogi government

Me : Told

Overall a nice experience by my side due to it's non academic interview nature but I can't answer a few answer perfectly

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