



# CATKing IIM Indore

## WAT PI Workbook

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### Congrats for Getting an IIM Indore Call!

#### How to use this workbook?

This is a consolidation of **57 IIM Indore, 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 Indore looks for?

- Excellent Academic, cocurricular and extracurricular Background
- Work
- 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

### Prerequisite

- 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 mints)
- **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 IIMI 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 you work experience or about your favorite subjects if you are a fresher.

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## Interview Experience – 1

IIM Indore 05 Mar Morning slot

Venue: Surajkund Faridabad

2 panelist: both male, young

P1: About bachelors degree

P2 : went through my file

P1:

what is six sigma

Why its called six sigma

How do we arrive 3.4 DPMO : told not sure that it was a correct explanation

What is normal distribution: told

Then asked about DMAIC : Told

Choose one topic from maths: i said matrices

They asked me some questions about how to solve linear equations by matrices : answered wrong

Then he asked me about hypotheses testing

Confidence level and its significance

Why type 1 error occurs ( i think i have intermixed these two)

P2: do you know what is absolute and relative grading ( no idea)

P2: in your undergrad the principles of management was your subject ( what are principles of management) couldnt answer

P2: do you follow Gk ( nodded)

P2: CM of rajasthan : told

Vice president of USA : Told

President of UN : Didnt tell

How many loksabha seats in rajasthan : told ( 25)

No workex related questions. They were grilling me on GK and undergrad. 😬

## Interview Experience – 2

B.A History

93/91/60 acads

2 gap years - UPSC prep, fresher.

They asked me TMAP, then why low score in grad, then you were good student in 10th and 12th, and you had PCM in 12th, so why shift to history, then asked me about UPSC optional, anthropology why ( more marks you will get), why not history as optional, and why didn't you do anthropology in grad, then why not M.A history, What do your parents do, then some history questions, some history questions were like even I never heard about them ever in my life, then some math questions and extempore in between 30 secs to think and 1 min to speak, dont know what they were expecting 😬. I was like so confused, I gave 4-5 interviews before this but never did I expect this.

## Interview Experience – 3

19/03/25 Hyderabad, Panel 3 - 2M

- \* TMAY
- \* Questions on academics (somewhat grilling)
- \* Asked me about Hyderabad population ( no Idea as I am from Andhrapradesh)
- \* Asked about rivers and lakes in Hyderabad ( don't know)
- \* Asked about Kakathiya dynasty ( don't know)
- \* Extempore - Situation of Volleyball in India ( Mentioned that I play volleyball)

## Interview Experience – 4

IIM Indore 05 Mar Morning slot

Venue: Surajkund Faridabad

2 panelist: both male, young

P1: About bachelors degree

P2 : went through my file

P1:

what is six sigma

Why its called six sigma

How do we arrive 3.4 DPMO : told not sure that it was a correct explanation

What is normal distribution: told

Then asked about DMAIC : Told

Choose one topic from maths: i said matrices

They asked me some questions about how to solve linear equations by matrices : answered wrong

Then he asked me about hypotheses testing

Confidence level and its significance

Why type 1 error occurs ( i think i have intermixed these two)

P2: do you know what is absolute and relative grading ( no idea)

P2: in your undergrad the principles of management was your subject ( what are principles of management) couldnt answer

P2: do you follow Gk ( nodded)

P2: CM of rajasthan : told

Vice president of USA : Told

President of UN : Didnt tell

How many loksabha seats in rajasthan : told ( 25)

No workex related questions. They were grilling me on GK and undergrad. 😊

## Interview Experience – 5

vivanta surajkund delhi 5th march

background economics graduate and freshers

2 panelist both male

M1- very polite

M2- intimidating (might be an alumni)

m1: what all calls do you have ?

favorite subject in economics

(I said macroeconomic )

gave me options to talk about any topic

then he asked the relationship between GDP, inflation, interest rate

relationship between interest rate and foreign exchange

asked to choose any topic in maths from 8th-12th,

(i replied algebra)

then gave me options in Algebra

(i replied quadratic equations)

cross question me

m2: grilled me for gk questions based on my city (lucknow)

then asked any world topics I follow

i told them about trump tariffs on china mexico canada

asked me about which fighter jet i would choose for india gave me two options( something related to current affairs)

(i didn't know about it)

asked me about the effect of the tariff on us on an individual level.

give me a situation if i am harley davidson how will it affect me if India imposes tax on import from the USA.

(i gave my answer and he knew it was correct so he tried to jump to the next question without listening entirely)

M1 asked what will be the affect of tariff on Indian IT sector.

m2: asked about my other calls

gave me situation if my IIM K and I doesn't covert then what?

if my K and i convert then what?

then gave me 30 seconds to convince any north indian person to choose iim k instead of i

( i gave 3 reasons)

then he grilled me on 2 points and told me, i talk in very layman fashion, it doesn't feel i have economics background

and asked me to be through with current affairs

then they asked me to leave..

M1 was so sweet that while answering quadratic question I said determinant instead of discriminant, he smiled and told me that he made the same mistake a day before.

## Interview Experience – 6

IIM indore

Venue Faridabad, 5th march afternoon

Chemical engineering background

Panelist: Both male, middle aged

P1: Hi Laksh, you are currently doing your bachelor

Me- Yes sir

P1- Which clg and discipline

Answered

P2- what is difference between entropy and enthalpy

Answered

P2- is there a relation between them. Write it down.

Done

P2- does a pressure cooker involves both heat transfer and mass transfer

Answered

P2- how

Answered

P2- what is zeroth law of thermodynamics

Answered

P2- isn't it first

No sir and answered about first law

P2- second law?

Answered

P2- third law?

Answered

P2- what are the assumptions in zeroth law of thermodynamics

Told not sure but still answered and nearly correct

P1- you have written you are interested in data analysis what have you done.

Told about power bi project

P1- what exactly you do in that

Answered about data visualisation from raw data

P1- you have written about interest in philosophy.

Told i read some books that were somewhat related

P1- which books

Told about richdad, poor dad and thinking fast and slow.

P1- what is thinking fast and slow

Answered

P1- what do we do generally and why?

Answered

P1- other book?

Rich dad poor dad

P1- what was it about

Answered

P1- what should we learn and do from it in real life.

Answered and related to assets and liabilities

P1- you are interested in money so tell the finance minister

Told

P1- last finance minister

Idk sir

P1- current home minister

Answered

P1- current vice president

Answered

P1- last vice president

Idk sir

P1- last president

Answered

Extempore

Trump's tariff are a boon on india or bane

Answered (related to producer's insecurity, fii outflows and stock market impact, also increased competition for our producers in usa) they were content with it

Interview ended

## Interview Experience – 7

IIM Indore

9/9/9 99.26 20 months workex GEM BTech Chemical

2 male professor. 1 No expression throughout (only questions), other minimal questions throughout (only expression as if I was giving every answer wrong) 15-20 minutes

- started with what are you doing currently? Work experience details
  - Told him about the company and kind of work.
  - What do you mean by EDA? How do you perform this? Told the answer with an example of our work.
  - What is multicollinearity? What is correlation? What is linear regression. How is it different from logistic regression. I tried telling them that my workflow doesn't include these. But they still told to give an answer. Explained as I understood it.
  - Why MBA? Told about finance and knowledge I want to have.
  - asked PE ratio, what is dividend, is dividend included in income? How can a company earn dividend. What is debt to equity ratio
  - GK grill - Where do you come from? CM? Any member of parliament? Who was finance minister before this? Who was agriculture minister? mla in your area?
- Thank you. We had a nice conversation.

No extempore. no WAT. Only PI. The entire process took 1.5 hours (including document verification and waiting time).

## Interview Experience – 8

Yaah.. Sure

2 panelists, Both Male

I am from Commerce Background, 7 months work ex

Started by asking work ex questions

Then asked about simple interest compound interest asked to give example

Price elasticity of demand, whether my sector of work has elastic or inelastic demand

There were no current affairs and extempore for me.  
It were GK questions

Rabindranath Tagore was awarded noble price for which reason?  
National anthem and song written by?  
My home place MLA  
My state's CM.. Also asked about MP

Rest of students of my panels were given extempore but the topics were pretty simple.  
Also current affairs topics were regarding : Trump, Ukraine russia, israel war, budget...

## Interview Experience – 9

Location: Delhi

2 panelists: 1 male, 1 female

Most questions until the hobbies part were from the male panelist  
Hobbies related questions were from the female panelist

-TMAY  
-What's OS?told  
-What is language of computers, explain to me like I don't know anything about it?told  
-What is encryption?told  
-What is SSL?didn't know  
-Gave an algebra equation to solve. Did  
-Gave an equation to plot. Couldn't do it fully but asked for a guess and it was right  
-Cm of uttarakhand?told  
-What is ucc?couldn't remember full form fully so talked about what it actually is, what it bagged the headlines for and then they were laughing that I couldn't remeber the full form but were chill about it.  
-what are your interests/hobbies?told  
-Asked about pc building. Had a laugh when talking about it  
-Extempore: music is the language of soul

## Interview Experience – 10

**I had my interview just now**

**Two panelists, one male and one female**

### Questions

- Tell me about yourself
- What's your favourite subject in your bachelor's (marketing)
- I am going to ask you some economics questions.
- Supply and demand, Lorentz curve, difference between inflation and deflation
- What is contract and what is agreement?

- Cm of Assam
- Governor of Assam
- How is governor elected
- How is PM elected
- What are the major drivers of Assam's economy?
- Gave me an equation to solve
- What is the most talked about point of the budget?
- What are the differences in the tax policy of last year and this year?
- What is IST?
- From which location is IST calculated?
- Difference between IST and local time
- Case: If you're in a room without an access to an open area but you do have an window. What would be your point of interference for calculating time?
- Why is Bharatnatyam called Bharatnatyam?
- What are the classical dances of India?
- Extempore topic: Indian fashion

## Interview Experience – 11

**IIM INDORE, Location: ITC, Bangalore, PGP call**

**Date: 14th Feb, 1 PM**

**99.78 percentile, 13 M Work Ex, 10 CGPA, 93.6, 7.44 CGPA, GEM, Electrical Engineering**

### Personal Interview

P1

Greetings

F: TMAY

F: Is your tie special and why?

F: You said you are interested in Geopolitics.... (reading my hobbies from my from) Geopolitics, World Affairs and economics (in a surprising tone)

F: Tell me who is General secretary of UN

A: Fumbled but told

F: What is his job?

A: I said maintaining peace

F: (Laughingly) Ye to miss world wala answer h. He will commit suicide if he gets to know

A: I told his responsibility is to inform General Assembly and Security Council if anything is happening wrong in the world. Gave example of Gaza and how Israel was angry on him

F: Did anything or any solution came up

A: (Smiling) We can't have a solution because someone will veto it

F: Who will veto this

A: USA and his allies. They want a strong Israel to control oil lobby

F: What is the oil lobby?

A: OPEC countries.

F: What are OPEC countries  
A: Couldn't tell the full form. Told what it is meant for  
F: Name some OPEC countries  
A: Told 3 added Russia as OPEC  
F: Where are other countries  
A: Told there are 14 countries (actually 12)  
F: Tell me at least 5  
A: Added 2 more other than the one's she told  
F: Who is crowned prince of Saudi  
A: Told  
F: Why is he a prince and not a king or an emperor? I don't understand  
A: Fumbled but eventually told  
F: Name one female GS of UN? Has there been one  
A: I said I am not sure of the name but there has been one. (Wrong: There's not been one)  
F: Asked other panelist to ask  
M: Your branch is mech or electrical  
A: Electrical  
F: Difference between inductance and capacitance  
A: Fumbled initially but told  
F: What is the use of inductance and capacitance  
A: Told  
F: Who discovered current  
A: Not sure  
F: What is the unit of current  
A: Ampere  
F: Isn't ampere the unit of current?  
A: No ma'am not ampere for sure. (both of us started laughing)  
F: Why ampere then  
A: I said in his honor  
F: What did ampere discover then?  
A: Told the formula  
F: Tell me in English not the formula  
A: Integration of magnetic around a closed in a closed loop is equal to the current passing through it  
M: Name some elements of electric circuit  
A: Told 7, 8 with examples  
F: What is BJT and where it is used  
A: Told with application and example  
F: Gave extempore: Knowledge of Geopolitics is importance to make good business decisions (30 sec to think 1 min to speak)  
A: Geopolitics is also economics. If someone knows that there could be a war between China and Taiwan  
F: Vo to hogi he  
A: So he will know there will be shortage of semiconductors, and he could diversify his supply chain



A: Additionally USA will try to maintain his hegemony (not sure where did I mention this line) in extempore or normal conversation

F: What is hegemony?

A: Told

A: Told religion also plays a role here

F: vo to bhut bada role h

Both said thank you and All the Best

Was a nice interview. Constant smiling with a conversation by both the panelist. 15-20 min

## Interview Experience – 12

**Date: 13 th feb Mumbai interview**

**Personal interview**

**P1**

1. How will you convert nand gate to nor.?
2. Circuit DIAGRAM with truth table?
3. LTE AND 3G difference?
4. How to ball Inswing ? What physics is involved in that..? Who was the famous cricket opening player in 1970's who never scored a century in his 100+ matches ? Weight of the cricket ball? Ishan Kishan issue in Indian cricket team ? BCCI ISSUE IN 2019.. Length of pitch? FIFA wc 2023 footfall and money made... Name 5 Indian football player with their positions
5. Elections held in which states in 2023 .. States along with the cm names...
6. Extempore : Military training compulsory for all citizens..
7. months work ex no questions related to it... Overall Grill interview 🙄

CONNECT | ASPIRE | TRANSFORM

## Interview Experience – 13

**Afternoon slot**

**Panel-4**

**Date:10/9/9, GEF (ECE), 98.14%ile**

**Work ex : 13 months**

**Personal Interview**

**P1**

1. M1: Tell us about your hobbies.
2. M2: So, you're an electronics engineer, tell me what an antenna is?
3. M2: What is a transistor?
4. M2: Have you seen the landline phones that were used in older times that had a wire that went through walls? Even when electricity went out, those phones worked. Think like an engineer and tell me how that happened?
5. M2: Give some examples of transistors
6. M2: What is a BJT?
7. M1: What are the 3 states surrounding Tripura?
8. M1: You mentioned that you've traveled. Where?

9. M1: So, I'll give you a topic now and you can take 30 seconds to think about it and 90 seconds to speak about it. The topic is Conspiracy in India. If you don't know about it, it's a mandatory military training that takes place in foreign countries after the age of 18 but doesn't take place in India as of now.

## Interview Experience – 14

### Personal Interview

**Date: 13/3/24, panel-3( 1 male, 1 female)**

**P1**

1. List the Tribes in MP and what percentage do they hold?
2. What is Honour killing? Which states are known for it?
3. What is your take on Caste based consensus?
4. Tell me the highlights of the Budget. What kind of budget was it?
5. What is your take on Electric vehicles? What type of battery is used in Electric Vehicles?
6. In which state is lithium prominently found?
7. Which brand is leading in terms of EV production? Do they have a market for that currently?
8. What is the controversy regarding Electoral bonds?

**P2**

1. One year back the Taliban and Afghanistan issue was in discussion. Do you remember what happened? How did the Taliban take over? Who was Afghanistan's leader then?
2. What are your views on One nation one election?
3. What are the Current issues in India?
4. What is SDLC?
5. Name the Types of constructors?
6. What is Interface?
7. Difference between Compiler vs interpreter
8. What is Repo rate? What is the current repo rate?
9. What is the Reverse repo rate?
10. What is the full form of Gpt in Chat Gpt?
11. Will AI replace humans? What is your take?
12. How many seats are there in lok sabha and rajya sabha? What is your take on decentralized government? Who is the representative of states? Who is the representative of the city?
13. A lot of questions on current affairs and gk, no questions on work ex or math.

## Interview Experience – 15

**Date: February 2023**

10- 92.5 IIM Indore doesn't consider best of 5

12- 84.46

Graduation – 8.36 -> 76.1 %

NC OBC engineer Male

2.5 years work ex in software dev

2 Panelist's

For GDPI preparation, visit [courses.catking.in](https://courses.catking.in) | 8999118999 | [www.catking.in](https://www.catking.in)

1 M 1 F

P1- You have been with Amazon for quite some time and you haven't switched that's very rare. Started asking questions on OS and Deadlock

-Explained not upto the mark but was able to give convincing answers

P1- application of heap and stack in OS

-Have a few examples and justified their use cases

P1 – Went deep into a few more technical concepts

-Was able to answer some but not all of them

P2- so you do mentorship's for students

-Told about my initiatives book and YouTube channel

P2- Tell us about the guests you called on your channel

-Told them about a few guests and their background

P2 – So do you think Entrepreneurs in India are doing enough Philanthropy

-Asked a clarifying question

-And gave a diplomatic answer

-Some are doing some are not

-But they are creating jobs and value for investors

-Was countered with tell us specific names of these entrepreneurs

-Mentioned Tata Premji and Nitin Kamath

-Had a few counter questions

-Answered them

Extempore topic – Should business owners give preference to stakeholders or shareholders

-Asked a clarifying questions what exactly are they referring by stakeholder's

-Took some time and started

-Answer was diplomatic focus should be creating value and not keeping a particular segment of people happy

-By generation of value both share holders and stake holders can be happy

-Discussion came to Amazon even though interview was over

-I asked, 'Can I pitch in a few thoughts on Amazon?'

-Told them that Amazon does prioritise their customers a lot

Interview

-Was countered with protests against Amazon and worker conditions

-Tackled it by saying that there are reforms happening but it's Amazon preference of Giving more importance to customers over their employees

Overall good interview Interviewers were impressed with a few answers and eventually aligned with what I said!

But IIM Indore does ask questions on academics significantly

So prepare that nicely

## Interview Experience – 16

**Date:** February 2023

96.65

GEM, 4 years of workex 91/86/6.7

2 F panelist

1. Tell me about yourself
2. Why did you leave UPSC
3. What is IOT and application in production
4. Statistical model to derive productivity and longevity of equipment
5. What is the difference between mean, median, and mode and when to use what
6. Three places to visit in Pune
7. Significance of Shivaji and tactics used by Shivaji

Extempore: Understanding recent history is required to make decisions and ensure a better future

## Interview Experience – 17

P1: Good afternoon, how are you doing?

Me: Good afternoon sir, I'm doing good.

P1: Shall we start? (And saw me and I nodded). So give me your introduction. As quick as possible.

Me: Gave a rehearsed answer

P1: Okay, so you are from Chennai. Can you tell me something unique about Chennai?

Me: Sir, Chennai is a metropolitan city and the capital of the southern most state.

P1: stopped me from continuing\* I know this. Tell me something that's unique.

Me: Sir, it was one of the first establishment of British East India company... Spoke about Marina and George fort.

P1: Can you talk about the literature and carnatic music

Me: Sir, since I haven't studied Tamil I'm not sure. But I do know a about the poets like Elango adigal who wrote a story called Silapadigaram...

P1: what about Carnatic music

Me: Sorry sir, I'm not aware of it.

P1: Its okay. Who wrote thirukural?

Me: Thiruvalluvar sir. There is a memorial for him called Valluvar Kottam in Chennai.

P1: Fine. Now tell me why you left your job?

Me: Gave a revised answer.

P1: was it absolutely necessary? Tell me is it necessary for everyone to leave their jobs to prepare for Cat?

Me: No sir, it isn't absolutely necessary to leave their job to prepare for Cat. But I did it to take a break. Fumbled a lot in this question

P1: what did you do in your free time? I hope you did something other than cat prep.

Me: yes sir. I did. I used to be into Agatha Christie's books. I really like her style of writing.

P1: interrupted me\* talk about your fav character.

Me: sir, I really liked Elsa from the book...

P1: nono. Tell me the detectives in the stories.

Me: explains about Hercule Poirot and Benoit Blanc.

P2: okay, tell me about your college

Me: spoke.

P2: who is the current CM

Me: M. k. Stalin

P2: what's his full name?

Me: I'm not sure for Mu, but K stands for his father who was a former CM Karunanidhi

P2: Okay. Do you know who is the Chief justice of India?

Me: thinks for a while. And said I don't know

Can I take a guess?

P2: sure, tell me.

Me: Chief Justice DY chandrachud?

P2: You sure?

Me: I'm not sure. But I remember seeing his name in couple of Articles in Hindu.

P2: okay. Tell me what is CCS?

Me: Told.

P2: Last question. Since you are a girl. You should be familiar with dance.

I smiled. And I knew where it was going.

Can you tell few dance forms in India?

Me: \* i thought he would ask me state wise. So i was quiet.

P2: are you googling or what?

Me: sir. No. I thought you would ask. But that's okay. I'm not very familiar with the dance forms. But I'll try my best

Its Bharatnatyam, Kuchupudi, Mohiniaatam, Katakalli, Bhagra, Gharba and Manipuri.

P2: I expect more.

Me: thinks for a while. Sir I'm sorry. I can only think of this.

P2: what are the states adjacent to TN?

Me: Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh

P2: that's it?

Me: Sir Telangana. But I need to check if the border is being shared or not.

P2; that's okay. Thanks for your time.

Me: thank you sir.

P1: Thank you. and all the best.

Over all it was okayish. Not grilling. And mostly revolve around static GK.

## Interview Experience – 18

23/02/23 ITC Sonar, Kolkata

Panel 2- 2M panelist (both around 50 y/o)

X/XII/Grad- 94/90.6/7.68

GEM NIT D

19 months work ex

M1- Enter the room with documents you feel important otherwise no need of any documents

M1-First asked for my Govt. ID

M2- Tell me about yourself

Started

M1- Only relevant academics and nothing else please

-Okay sir

M1- So top 100 rank in your school? (as I mentioned my rank in boards exam)

-No sir in board exams.

M2- What's your rank in 12th boards (as I mentioned top 1%ile)

Sir top 1000

M2- Okay carry on

After my tmay ended

M2- You don't love your job?

-No sir I love it.

M2- Then why didn't you mention anything about your job?

-Sir I mentioned I am a database administrator.

M1- Okay so you don't love being a database administrator?

-Yes sir I love it.

M2- What do you do in your job?

-Answered

M2- So what software are you using?

-Greenplum

M2- is it for free or we have to pay?

-Sir payable

M2- where is its HQ?

-Us

M2- please don't bluff

-No sir I am sure it is in US.

M2- What is Greenplum database?

-Sir R-DBMS

M2- What is R-DBMS?

-Sir database management system that helps in (M2 stopped me)

M2- You are saying the full form not explaining me, okay so what is 1st normal and 2nd normal?

-Sorry sir I haven't heard the term.

M2- You don't know it being a database admin?

-No sir

M2- Okay so give me an example of your work?

-Sir I extract data for interested parties.

M2- give me an example-

-Sir I run queries to extract data

M2- Give me an example of query. Write it down on paper.

Started writing.

M2 (after 20 seconds) What are you writing? It's not an example. You are wasting my time.

Me politely- Sir this is the example you asked me

M2- You are not getting my point and just going by terms like data data data big data and all. everything is data around here.

(Tensed I looked into M1's eyes)

Okay M1 will ask you now.

M1- So draw me a graph of  $1/\ln x$

Drew the wrong one

M1- Draw that of  $\ln(x)$

Drew the right one

Said: Sir, I made a mistake in the 1st graph

M1- then make it right

-I tried to but could do half right only

M1- So who is the FM of WB?

M1- Who is the former FM of WB?

M1- FM of India

M1- Former FM of India

M1- Meaning of your company

Ans: It is a constellation of stars

M1- why are you asking me. I asked you.

-Gave the ans.

M1- where is its HQ?

M1- What are your hobbies?

Ans: Sports and singing

M1- Classical?

M1- What is Rabindra Sangeet?

M2- Difference between Carnatic and other regional music and Rabindra Sangeet?

M2- I don't have any knowledge so even if you bluff I won't understand.

M2- So that's all from our side. Thank you and best of luck.

## Interview Experience – 19

**Date:** May 17, 2023

IIM Indore PGP & PGP HRM Interview experience.

Profile: Non- eng | Fresher | Female

X/XII/Grad/CAT'22 : 9/9/8/92.66%ile

Date & Venue : 15th March 2023, Welcomhotel by ITC, Delhi

2 male panelists both seemed to be in their mid 40s

I entered the room and exchanged greetings with them. They didn't ask me to sit at first.

- Sir, may i sit ?

P1 : (Smiling) Yes please. It's for you only.

P1 : So xxx, where are you from ?

- Sir, i am from Lucknow.

P1 : Okay. xxx, tell me about yourself in short.

- gave the well prepared short introduction.

P1 : You completed your graduation from ?

- Sir, University of Lucknow

P2 : Which college ?

- Sir, from University Of Lucknow itself.

P1 & P2 both : Okay from university itself.Great!

P1 : xxx, when did you complete your graduation?

- Sir, in Nov 2021

P1 : November! isn't that a bit too late.

- Sir, actually due to covid pandemic everything was delayed and the university didn't even provide us with the placements due to the same reason. So, i had to take a gap to be sure of my field of interest.

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P2 : What is your field of interest?

- Sir, general management or marketing.

P2 : Suppose, if i open amazon( i don't know why he said amazon) to order some pizza, then if i use some other app it shows me pictures of pasta, pizza etc. What is this algorithm called ?

- Sir, i know that it is a part of digital marketing and social media marketing but i am sorry i don't know the name of the algorithm.

P2 : It's okay, no issues.

P2 : You are shortlisted for both PGP and PGP - HRM. What is your preference?

- Sir, my interest is more inclined towards PGP than PGP HRM.

P1 : Why so ?

- Sir, as a fresher i would like to explore things in the first year and then choose my specialization accordingly.

P2: Are you familiar with the curriculum?

- Yes sir. As far as i know, in the first year we study subjects relating to general management and we have to choose electives relating to specialisations from second year onwards.

P2 : You follow any HR ? HR manager of the business world ?

- No sir, sorry.

P2 : No issues. You know the basic of HRM right?

(Nodded) Yes sir.

P2 : What is the work done by HR ?

- Sir, the human resource manager is concerned with finding the right candidate for the right job. The major tasks done by them include - Sourcing and screening of candidates, conducting job interviews, making salary slips of employees, giving rewards and remuneration.

P2 : Only these tasks are done by them ?

- Sir, i am only aware of these tasks. There are several other tasks which are done by them.

P1 : So xxx, what did you learn in these past few years?

Told them about the initiatives i have been heading and the PORs that i have held.

P1 : Aren't you too young to work for an NGO ?

- No sir, i think there's no such age limit to serve for the betterment of others in society especially animals who can't even speak for themselves. I think all the skills that i have developed by working there will help me not only during my post grad but also post MBA.

P2 : xxx, are you good in maths ?

- Sir, i won't lie. I am not that good.

P2 : How will you manage things and subjects requiring quantitative skills inside an IIM then ?

- Sir, i was the topper of one of my 6th sem subject Mathematical modelling and scored a 100/100 and this shows that i can do well in maths too. I am willing to do anything i can to become better at doing things which i can't.

P2 : Okay xxx, what subjects have you studied in your grad ?

- Sir, principles of management, managerial economics and a few more subjects like advertising and sales promotion.

P2 : Okay so if i am an owner of a B2B firm so which methods of advertising would you suggest ?

- Sir, advertising can be oral or written but since written advertisements are kind of outdated right now so, i would suggest going for digital ads, TV , digital marketing.

P2 : Okay that's fine but how should i attract the consumers?

- Sir, we can provide them with short term incentives of sales promotion like lucky draws, buy 1 get 1 free (Quantity gift/Product combination)etc to make immediate purchase of the product.

P2 (to P1) : She said managerial economics as well. Would you like to ask her something?

P1 : Yes yes. xxx, what is price elasticity of demand?

- explained with the help of formula.

P1 : What is the range of price elasticity?

- Sir,  $> 1$  to infinity. ( I was wrong. It's 0 to infinity)

P1 : So what would be the relationship b/w price elasticity of substitute goods? +ve or -ve

- (Took a few seconds) Sir, +ve

P1 : Positive , why ?

- Sir, for example if we take tea and coffee. If consumer price of coffee increases, demand for tea will increase . Hence, a +ve relationship exists.

P2 : What forms of markets have you studied?

- Sir, perfect, monopoly, monopolistic and oligopoly.

P1 : Okay what do you know about perfect competition market?

- sir, perfect market doesn't actually exists.

P1 interrupts in b/w how can you say so ? What is one assumption of it which doesn't seems real ?

- Sir, one such assumption which can't be real is that sellers and buyers have perfect knowledge of the market.

P1 : Okay why?

- Sir, because if i take an example of me being a consumer/ buyer. It's not i like i have information or i am 100% aware of each and every product that exists in the market.

P2 : So do you know the current affairs? (I nodded) So, tell me about something apart from Russia Ukraine, SIVB , G20

- Sir, Khalistan movement.

P2 : Okay what is it about ? What's happening and what has happened because of it ?

I explained the whole timeline starting from Jarnail Singh Bhindarwale to Amrit Pal Singh and how he threatened the home minister - Amit Shah.

P2 : Do you know the ministers ?

- Yes sir i do know the CMs and a few more council ministers.

P2 : Who is the foreign minister?

- Mr Subrahmanyam

P2 : What's his last name?

- Sir Jaishankar, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar

P1 : Are you not sure ?

- Sir, i am sure.

P2 : Who is the education minister?

- Sir, Mr Dharmendra Pradhan.

P1 : Do you know about Wajid Ali Shah ?

- Yes sir, he was the last nawab of Lucknow. His reign ended in 1856. There's also a zoo named after him in Lucknow.

P1 : When did he die ?

- Sorry sir, i don't know.

P1 : Do you know he was a musician?

- No sir, sorry.

P1 : (Looks at me with a poker face) No ?? You don't know ?

- No sir, sorry i didn't know. I will look it up after the interview.

P1 : So xxx, we will give you a topic followed by 30 secs time and then you will have to speak on it.

(I was the first in my panel so, i was not 100% prepared for an extempore. But i composed myself and nodded) Okay sir.

P1 : You can use the pencil and paper in front of you to jot down the points if you want.

P1 : Ready ? (Nodded) Universities should give political exposure to its students. You can speak for or against of the topic. It's up to you.

I spoke pretty confidently. Talked about how crucial it is for students of this generation to be not only good in academics or sports but also in political aspects as they are the future of our country. Also spoke on how exposure should be given ; certain amount of restrictions should be there. It must be made sure that they don't misuse their authority or power to dominate others.

P2 : Okay great. I think we are done here. Thankyou xxx. You can leave now.

P1 : Please close the door on your way out.

- Okay Sir

P1: (Smiled ear to ear) Thankyou. All the best!

\*Overall, it went really great. They were not grilling at all and knew how to initiate conversation or how to make the candidates comfortable. Didn't mock if one didn't know an answer.\*

## Interview Experience – 20

**Date: April 2023**

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There were 2 panelists – M1 and M2. I'll refer to myself as S.

M1: xxx, tell us something about yourself.

S: (Talked about my hobbies, PORs, internships, etc.)

Questions from Commerce:

M1: What is Operating Leverage and Financial Leverage?

S: Answered.

M1: What is the effect of higher Financial Leverage on EPS?

S: Answered.

M1: Suppose a Company wants to invest Rs. 1,00,000 and needs to raise funds for it. Which out of Equity or Debt should be chosen to finance the investment, provided the company is not heavily leveraged?

S: (Got confused between concepts a little and couldn't answer clearly).

M1: What is Beta?

S: Answered

M1: What is SML and CML?

S: Answered

M1: Suppose workers of a construction company go on a strike. Would that be systematic or unsystematic risk?

S: Unsystematic Risk since this issue doesn't affect the entire construction industry as a whole. Also, it can be eliminated to some extent by sitting down with stakeholders and finding solutions to the grievances of the workers.

Questions on elementary Mathematics:

M2: Draw graphs for  $y=x$ ,  $y=x^2$  and  $y=|x|$ . Are these functions continuous?

S: Answered

M2: If there are 100 people in a room and each one shakes hands with everyone else, how many total handshakes will we have?

S: Answered

M2: Given a sequence: 1,2,3,...,49, how do we find their sum?

S: Answered

Extempore:

M2: What are your interests and hobbies?

S: Talked about reading novels with the themes of women empowerment, feminism, and powerful female personalities of the past and present.

M2: Okay, so we are giving you a topic to speak on. You will have around 30 seconds to gather your thoughts and then about 1.5 minutes to speak on it.

You don't have to agree with this topic, personally, but you still have to speak in favour of it.

The topic is, "Technology has done more for the Feminist Movement than women speaking up for the cause."

S: Dividing this into two parts:

Women speaking up: There have been a few examples where speaking up has had a negative impact on the cause, mainly due to differences in ideologies, race, cultures, incomes, etc. Thus, speaking up has, sometimes, backfired due to intersectionality and diversity.

For e.g., in 2017, around the time when Donald Trump had his inauguration, women around the country decided to do a "Women's March". However, the overall impact of the movement was diminished due to an internecine disagreement between White women and the minority women, wherein white women were advised to support but leave the raising of important issues to the marginalised sections of women as they have a much more vivid idea of the oppressions and biases towards the community. This didn't go down well with the majority of white women who felt they were being side-lined.

Benefits of Technology: The most recent example of technology giving an impetus to the cause of Women Empowerment is the "#metoo movement". The MeToo movement was started in 2006 by Tarana Burke. However, with there not being enough technological prowess at the time, the movement couldn't reach many people. Fast forward to 2017, the Harvey Weinstein misconducts brought the movement back into the limelight and it picked up throughout the world with women coming up with their stories of misconduct and harassment. The reason for this global reach was the internet connectivity which brought stories from around the world to people and gave them the strength to speak up themselves.

(Note: I personally don't agree with the topic because it diminishes the contribution of the amazing womxn and allies who have championed the cause by their sheer bravery and courage to speak up. But, as my panelist put it, I had to behave like a lawyer and agree even when I didn't.)

M2: Okay. Thank you, xxx. All the best!

Verdict: Converted.

## Interview Experience – 21

10th April 2023, Vivanta, Dwarka, New Delhi:

99.72 percentile in CAT | GEM Profile | B.Tech in CSE | Work ex of 19 months [considered till date] | 3 months at Infosys and currently on GeeksforGeeks as MTS (technical content, DSA) | 10th/12th/Grad – 93.42/91.0/83.4

Time: Reporting time was 1 pm, I went at 12:45 pm. Got out of the interview around 3:30 pm

Interview [No WAT]: There were 5 panels. I was the 2nd person on Panel-5 [15 persons in each panel]. There were 2 panelists – one female (F) and one male (M). Both middle-aged. The interview was around 10-11 min.

M called me in and the interview started

Me: Greeted them “Good afternoon”.

[They greeted back, Have a seat]

F: Introduce yourself.

Me: Answered as prepared.

F: So your hobbies are mainly related to sporting activity.

Me: Said that I was engaged in sports from childhood and that remained with me throughout.

F: Why you left Infosys?

Me: Told the well-prepared answer.

M: Please tell us about your job profile in the current company.

Me: Told them about my job profile and responsibilities.

M: So is it an editor role or reviewer?

Me: It consists of both the responsibilities.

M: Do you hold any stake like stock share in the company?

Me: No.

M: So what is the difference between article and blog?

Me: What I think is that Blog is mainly related to our experience or our opinion and mostly an informal way of telling things whereas articles are more fact based and concised forms of telling about something.

M: Which subject in Computer science your are comfortable in?

Me: As I am currently engaged with the subject DSA, I am more confident in that.

M: Name some sorting algorithms, just the names.

Me: Said [I missed Heap Sort]

M: And Heap Sort

Me: Yes Heap sort is also there [and we both had an exchange of smile].

[Here M & F both were about to ask something at the same time and had a mix up. Finally M asked]

M: What is this big Oh and small oh in algorithms?

Me: Answered that it is a mathematical way of determining the run time complexity of algorithms.

M: Are they related to worst case or what?

Me: We can express any of the three [best, average and worst] types of complexities using them.

M: Can you explain why the time complexity of Bubble sort is  $O(n^2)$

Me: Explained in detail.

F: What is algorithmic bias? [She Google searched the question before asking]



Me: Answered

F: Can you give any example

Me: Provided an example

F: So you chose the current company because you like to be in teaching role or?

Me: As I have mentioned earlier that I had a bit of knack for teaching and I used to be part of such clubs in my college, So partly yes because of that and partly due to the attachment that I forged while doing my internship.

F: Why then MBA?

Me: Told well prepared answer.

F: 5 years ahead in the line you want to be in a leadership position or in position with executional responsibilities?

Me: I obviously want to be a leader.

F: Do you have any new idea in your mind?

Me: Currently I don't have any such ideas, but I will keep my eyes open and if I find out something that is suitable for me I will obviously try to execute that.

F looked to M, both nodded and they said me the interview is over. Me and both the panelists wished each other good day and I came out.

Verdict: Converted

My suggestion to anyone is to be confident in your answers during the interview and have your facts and reasons ready for any of the decisions that you have made or willing to make.

## Interview Experience – 22

**Date:** February 2023

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Below is the profile and experience of one of the students who has done Mechanical Engineering Graduate from NIT Surat and has given an IIM Indore interview.

Profile - X/XII/B Tech: 95/95.6/84.7/CAT- 99.07, currently working in RIL.

There were only two panelists present during his interview, both of whom were in their forties. They started the interview by asking the student for a brief introduction, including his hobbies, interests, strengths, weaknesses, work experience, and so on. They used to frame other questions about him or his subjects based on the student's responses. They also evaluated his general knowledge, current events knowledge, and mental alertness.

You must review your bachelor's course material, remain informed about world events, see a basic understanding of the nation's economy and finances, and be extremely knowledgeable about your professional experience. Make it a habit to read the newspaper on a regular basis.

## Interview Experience – 23

Since, this was my second last interview, I was kind of not in the mood to give this one. But, I still went for it since, it's one of BLACKI.

This year there was no WAT in IIM Indore.

Date: 12th April, 2023

Venue: ITC Sonar, Kolkata

Profile:

Female, General Category

Class 10: 95% (CBSE)

Class 12: 93.17% (CBSE)

Grad: B. Tech (ECE) from SRMIST, Chennai, 91.75%

CAT'22: 99.68%ile

Work Experience: Software Tester for 3.5 years in State Street Corporation, Bangalore.

Panel: 2 Males (M1, M2)

M1: Why did you even come for this interview? You have calls from every IIM and you're going to go to ABCL anyway. So, why waste your time as well as ours?

Me: Told that I haven't received the results of any the IIMs and IIM Indore is one of the top B schools in the country so if I get Indore, I'd be more than happy.

M1: Maybe your interviews didn't go well that's why you came for today's interview.

Me: No, Sir. I actually don't know how they went. Few things I couldn't answer. Few I could. But, I couldn't read the panelists' faces.

M1: You can't know everything. So, if I give you a spot admission right here, would you take it?

Me: I would definitely take it and stop going for other interviews. And probably sleep at home.

Both were laughing.

M2: You are based out of Bangalore then why did you opt Kolkata as your interview centre?

Me: I was working from home when I filled the CAT form but then most companies started calling their employees back by the end of the year.

M2: You must be traveling a lot to give these interviews. How much money did you lose?

Me: Sir, I have lost count of the amount of money I have spent on flight tickets and cabs. But, it's worth it if I can get in any of these prestigious colleges.

M1: You still spent so much for Indore interview. Now, I'm sure all your other interviews went bad. A lot of candidates with profiles similar to yours have skipped Indore.

Me: Sir, I did not want to take chances. And as I have mentioned, IIM Indore is a very prestigious B school so I wouldn't have missed this interview.

M1: Isn't it too late for you to do a 2 year MBA? You already have a 3.5 years of work experience. Why not go for an executive MBA?

Me: Sir, I am a year younger than my peers so I feel I'm still young enough to pursue a two year MBA. I would require few more years of work experience to be a proper fit for an executive MBA in my opinion. But, at this point, I feel I should take a break from working and diversify my portfolio. Also, I love attending classes so a 2 year MBA is my last chance to experience a classroom.

M1: What? You like attending classes? How much attendance did you have in your UG? Don't tell me you like giving exams as well.

Me: I had 80–90% attendance in all my subjects in UG. Sometimes even 100. And I do like to give exams because they give adrenaline rush. Also, there's this big question of whether I'll do well or not. And I love those last minute panicking.

At this point, both were laughing uncontrollably.

M1: You might be attending classes because you had a boyfriend. I know. Also, first time, I'm hearing that someone likes to give exams.

Anyway, do you remember any of your UG subjects?

Me: Basics of Digital electronics, Wireless Communication and Electron devices.

M1: Then I will not ask those. But, which book did you read for digital electronics?

Me: Morris Mano, Sir.

M1: Did you complete it?

Me: Sir, I read parts of it and rest ppts shared by the profs.

M1 to M2: Today's engineering kids just survive on Ppts. They never read a book!

M1: What is oscilloscope?

Me: (couldn't remember at all so took some time) That screen where it shows the current or voltage graphs for circuits.

Both started laughing.

M1: You don't remember oscilloscope?! What is embedded systems?

At this point, a man came in to serve them food.

Me: Told.

M1: Do you want some food? Have you had lunch? Do you want water? You look like you could use some water.

Me: No, Sir. I'm okay. I don't want to steal your food. xD

Both were smiling.

M1: What does optical fiber do?

Me: Told.

M1: What is the diameter of an optical fiber?

Me: I don't know, Sir.

M1: Take a guess. Point to any of the round objects here which you think is of the same diameter as an optical fiber.

Me: Pointed to a random pen. (I did not have any idea of the diameter!)

M1: You sure?

Me: No, Sir.

M2: How does an optical fiber work?

Me: (Couldn't remember it initially but M2 helped) Told about total internal reflection (TIR).

M2: Draw the diagram of TIR in optical fiber.

Me: Drew.

M1: Why is light considered a signal?

Me: Told.

M2: What are your hobbies?

Me: Told about k drama, novels, poetry writing and my Instagram page.

M2: Now time for extempore. Topic is Instagram is a waste of time. 30 seconds to think and 1 min to talk.

M2 was smiling.

Me: Told that if not used with proper measures can lead to wastage of time. But, Instagram also provides a platform for like minded people to connect. Gave the example of how my skincare page had helped me cure my rampant breakouts. Also, mentioned the impact on studies due to over usage of social media in general.

M2: Who is the president and vice President of India?

Me: Told.

M2: Who is the supreme commander of Indian military.

Me: President

M2: You sure?

Me: Yes, Sir. It's the President.

M2: Who is the Chief Justice of India?

Me: DY Chandrachud.

M2: Kept asking before him.

Me: Could only answer till NV Ramana.

M2: Name 5 female CMs.

Me: Told more than 5. But had mentioned Sushma Swaraj for her short stint.

M2: For which state, Sushma Swaraj was the CM?

Me: I don't know, Sir.

M2: Name 5 female business leaders whom you like.

Me: I said there are 2 who I like because I read their stories. Those are Falguni Nayar of Nykaa and Whitney Wolfe Herd of Bumble. Other women leaders are Savitri Jindal, Leena Nair and Kiran Majumdar Shaw.

M2: What did you like about Falguni Nayar and Whitney Wolfe Herd?

Me: (Was waiting for this question for so long) Gave the prepared answer.

M2: Okay. I think we're done.

Interview lasted for around 20–25 minutes. Very chilled out panel. Was actually having fun.

Verdict: Convert!

## Interview Experience – 24

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M2: Male

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Me: I would definitely take it and stop going for other interviews. And probably sleep at home.

Both were laughing.

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M2: You are based out of Bangalore, then why did you opt Kolkata as your interview centre?

Me: I was working from home when I filled the CAT form, but then most companies started calling their employees back by the end of the year.

M2: You must be traveling a lot to give these interviews. How much money did you lose?

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Me: Morris Mano, Sir.

M1: Did you complete it?

Me: Sir, I read parts of it and rest PPTs shared by the profs.

Both started discussing the modern student's reliance on PPTs.

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Me: (couldn't remember at all so took some time) That screen where it shows the current or voltage graphs for circuits.

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Me: Pointed to a random pen. (I did not have any idea of the diameter!)

M1: You sure?

Me: No, Sir.

M2: How does an optical fiber work?

Me: (Couldn't remember it initially but M2 helped) Told about total internal reflection (TIR).

M2: Draw the diagram of TIR in an optical fiber.

Me: Drew.

M1: Why is light considered a signal?

Me: Told.

M2: What are your hobbies?

Me: Told about K-drama, novels, poetry writing, and my Instagram page.

M2: Now time for an extempore. The topic is "Instagram is a waste of time." 30 seconds to think and 1 min to talk.

M2 was smiling.

Me: Told that if not used with proper measures can lead to the wastage of time. But, Instagram also provides a platform for like-minded people to connect. Gave the example of how my skincare page had helped me cure my rampant breakouts. Also, mentioned the impact on studies due to over usage of social media in general.

M2: Who is the president and vice President of India?

Me: Told.

M2: Who is the supreme commander of the Indian military?

Me: President

M2: You sure?

Me: Yes, Sir. It's the President.

M2: Who is the Chief Justice of India?

Me: DY Chandrachud.

M2: Kept asking before him.

Me: Could only answer till NV Ramana.

M2: Name 5 female CMs.

Me: Told more than 5. But had mentioned Sushma Swaraj for her short stint.

M2: For which state, Sushma Swaraj was the CM?

Me: I don't know, Sir.

M2: Name 5 female business leaders whom you like.

Me: I said there are 2 who I like because I read their stories. Those are Falguni Nayar of Nykaa and Whitney Wolfe Herd of Bumble. Other women leaders are Savitri Jindal, Leena Nair and Kiran Majumdar Shaw.

M2: What did you like about Falguni Nayar and Whitney Wolfe Herd?

Me: (Was waiting for this question for so long) Gave the prepared answer.

M2: Okay. I think we're done.

Interview lasted for around 20–25 minutes. Very chilled out panel. Was actually having fun.

Verdict: Convert!

## Interview Experience – 25 ●

**Date:** 20th February 2023

**Profile:**

Female, General Category

Class 10: 94% (ICSE)

Class 12: 92% (ISC)

Grad: B. Tech (Computer Science) from NIT Trichy, 87%

CAT'22: 98.2%ile

Work Experience: Software Engineer for 2.5 years at Amazon, Hyderabad.

**Panel:**

M1: Male

F1: Female

M1: Your academic record is impressive. Why do you want to transition from a technical role to pursue an MBA?

Me: While my time at Amazon has been incredibly enriching, I've realized that I want to contribute to the decision-making process at a more strategic level. Pursuing an MBA will provide me with a broader skill set, allowing me to bridge the gap between technology and business.

F1: Amazon is known for its intense work culture. How have you managed the work-life balance, and do you think it'll be different in an MBA?

Me: The work at Amazon has been demanding, but it has also taught me effective time management and prioritization. I believe an MBA will bring its challenges, but the focus will shift from individual technical tasks to collaborative problem-solving, potentially offering a different work-life balance.

M1: Your CAT score is good, and you probably have other interview calls. Why do you specifically want to join IIM Bangalore?

Me: IIM Bangalore's reputation for academic excellence and its emphasis on innovation align with my career aspirations. The diverse student community and the strong industry connections make it an ideal choice for me to broaden my perspectives and enhance my skills.

F1: Let's talk about your work at Amazon. Can you share a specific project or achievement that you are proud of?

Me: Certainly. I was part of a team that implemented a new order fulfillment system, improving the efficiency of the process by 20%. It involved coordinating with multiple teams and understanding the end-to-end process. The successful implementation not only increased our team's efficiency but also positively impacted customer satisfaction.

M1: Impressive. Moving on, how do you handle stress and pressure in a professional setting?

Me: In a high-pressure environment like Amazon, I've learned to stay calm and focused. Prioritizing tasks, seeking support from team members, and maintaining a positive mindset have been crucial. I believe these skills will be transferable and valuable in an MBA program as well.

F1: If I were to ask your colleagues about your leadership style, what do you think they would say?

Me: I believe they would describe my leadership style as collaborative. I prefer fostering an environment where everyone feels heard and valued. In my team, I often encourage open communication and appreciate diverse perspectives to drive innovative solutions.

M1: Let's discuss your extracurricular activities. What do you do outside of work?

Me: I am passionate about promoting STEM education, especially among underprivileged children. I volunteer at local schools, conducting coding workshops and mentoring students. It's a small way for me to contribute to building a more inclusive future.

F1: That's commendable. Now, a hypothetical situation. If you were the CEO of a tech company facing a major ethical dilemma, how would you handle it?

Me: I would prioritize transparency and communication. Engaging with key stakeholders, including employees and customers, to understand their concerns. Collaboratively developing a solution that aligns with the company's values and ensures long-term sustainability would be my approach.

M1: We're reaching the end. Where do you see yourself in the next five years?

Me: In the next five years, I envision myself in a leadership role where I can leverage my technical background and MBA education to drive innovation and contribute to shaping the strategic direction of a technology-driven organization.

F1: Thank you for your insights. We appreciate your time.

The interview lasted around 30 minutes. The panel seemed genuinely interested in the candidate's experiences and aspirations.

Verdict: Convert!

## Interview Experience – 26

**Date:** 5th April 2023

**Profile:**

Female, General Category

Class 10: 97% (ICSE)

Class 12: 95% (ISC)

Grad: B.E. (Mechanical Engineering) from VJTI, Mumbai, 86%

CAT'22: 99.5%ile

Work Experience: Project Engineer for 3 years at Larsen & Toubro, Mumbai.

**Panel:**

M1: Male

F1: Female

M1: Your academic and CAT scores are excellent. Why the shift from Mechanical Engineering to pursuing an MBA?

Me: While my engineering background equipped me with strong analytical and problem-solving skills, I believe an MBA will provide me with a holistic business perspective. It will allow me to leverage my technical foundation in a managerial role, contributing to the strategic aspects of decision-making.

F1: You've been a Project Engineer at L&T. Can you share a specific project that challenged you, and how you handled it?

Me: Certainly. I led a team in the implementation of an automated assembly line for a critical component. The challenge was integrating cutting-edge technology with existing systems while minimizing downtime. I initiated cross-functional collaboration, ensured comprehensive training, and monitored progress closely. The successful implementation not only improved efficiency but also reduced production costs.

M1: Impressive. Moving on, with such a strong engineering background, why do you want to pursue an MBA instead of progressing in a technical career?

Me: While I thrive in solving technical challenges, I've realized that I want to contribute to larger organizational strategies. An MBA will equip me with leadership skills, a broader understanding of business dynamics, and the ability to drive innovation. I see it as a natural progression to align my technical expertise with managerial responsibilities.

F1: Your work at L&T must have involved collaborating with diverse teams. How do you handle working in a cross-functional environment?

Me: Working at L&T involved constant interaction with teams from design, production, and quality control. Effective communication, understanding each team's objectives, and fostering a collaborative culture were essential. I learned to appreciate diverse perspectives, bridging the gap between technical and operational aspects to achieve common goals.

M1: Your CAT percentile suggests you have other options. Why specifically IIM Ahmedabad?

Me: IIM Ahmedabad's reputation for academic rigor, the diverse peer group, and the case-based learning approach make it my top choice. The institute's emphasis on innovation and leadership aligns with my career aspirations. Additionally, the expansive alumni network is invaluable for continuous learning and professional growth.

F1: Let's discuss your extracurricular activities. Have you been involved in any social initiatives or community service?

Me: Yes, I have been actively involved in a local NGO focused on skill development for underprivileged youth. I conducted workshops on basic engineering concepts and provided mentorship to help them explore technical careers. It's my way of giving back and encouraging diversity in the engineering field.

M1: That's commendable. Moving on, how do you deal with unexpected challenges at the workplace?

Me: I believe in a proactive approach. When faced with unexpected challenges, I gather relevant data, collaborate with the team to analyze options, and formulate a well-thought-out plan. Effective communication and flexibility are key in adapting to unforeseen circumstances while ensuring minimal disruption to project timelines.

F1: Let's talk about your leadership style. How do you inspire and motivate your team?

Me: I believe in leading by example. I encourage open communication, value each team member's input, and acknowledge their contributions. By setting clear goals, providing constructive feedback, and recognizing achievements, I aim to create a collaborative and motivated team environment.

M1: We're nearing the end. Where do you see yourself post-MBA, and what impact do you hope to make in your chosen field?

Me: Post-MBA, I aspire to take on strategic roles in the manufacturing sector, possibly in operations or business development. I aim to bridge the gap between technology and management, driving sustainable and innovative solutions. Ultimately, I hope to contribute to the growth and competitiveness of the organizations I work with.

F1: Thank you for sharing your insights. We appreciate your time.

The interview lasted around 30 minutes.

Verdict: Convert!

## Interview Experience – 27

**Date:** 10th March 2023

**Profile:**

Male, General Category

Class 10: 94.5% (CBSE)

Class 12: 91.2% (CBSE)

Grad: B.A. (Hons) Economics from Delhi University, 85%

CAT'22: 99.1%ile

Work Experience: Business Analyst for 3 years at McKinsey & Company, Gurgaon.

Panel:

F1: Female

M1: Male

F1: Your academic scores are quite good. Why did you choose Economics for your graduation, and how has it shaped your career choices?

Me: I've always been intrigued by how economic principles influence decision-making. Economics, with its analytical framework, not only deepened my understanding of the world but also honed my critical thinking skills. It has been a solid foundation for my role as a Business Analyst.

M1: You've been at McKinsey for three years. What motivated you to transition from a consulting role to pursue an MBA?

Me: Consulting has been an incredible learning experience, but I believe an MBA will provide me with a more holistic perspective on business operations and management. It will equip me to lead strategic initiatives and make impactful decisions, moving beyond the advisory role I currently play.

F1: Your CAT percentile is quite high. What sets you apart from other high-achieving candidates?

Me: I believe what sets me apart is not just the numbers but the diverse experiences I've had. Working with clients across industries at McKinsey has exposed me to multifaceted challenges, enhancing my problem-solving skills and adaptability. I'm not just a set of scores but a professional with practical insights.

M1: McKinsey is known for its intense work culture. How have you managed to maintain a work-life balance, and how do you think it will change with an MBA?

Me: It's true that consulting demands long hours, but I've learned to prioritize tasks effectively and delegate responsibilities when necessary. I anticipate that the MBA workload will be demanding, but the collaborative nature of the program might offer a different dynamic, allowing for a more balanced approach.

F1: Let's delve into your consulting experience. Can you share a specific project or challenge that stands out to you, and how you overcame it?

Me: One challenging project involved restructuring the supply chain for a client in the retail sector. The complexity stemmed from coordinating changes across various departments. I took a data-driven approach, conducted cross-functional workshops, and developed a phased implementation plan. It not only streamlined the supply chain but also improved overall efficiency.

M1: Impressive. Moving on, what skills do you think are crucial for a business leader in today's dynamic environment?

Me: Adaptability, strategic thinking, and effective communication are key. The ability to navigate uncertainties, make data-driven decisions, and lead diverse teams is essential. Continuous learning and staying abreast of industry trends are also crucial for staying competitive.

F1: You've mentioned effective communication. Can you share an instance where you had to communicate complex ideas to a non-technical audience?



Me: Certainly. I worked on a project where we had to present intricate data analytics findings to a client with limited technical knowledge. I adopted a storytelling approach, using relatable examples and visuals to convey complex concepts. It ensured that the client not only understood the insights but also felt confident in implementing the recommended strategies.

M1: Let's shift gears a bit. What do you do in your free time? Any hobbies or interests?

Me: I have a keen interest in photography. It serves as a creative outlet for me, allowing me to capture moments and perspectives that often go unnoticed in the fast-paced consulting world. It's a way for me to unwind and appreciate the beauty in everyday life.

F1: Great. Now, a hypothetical scenario. If you were to lead a team facing a significant challenge, how would you motivate and guide them to overcome it?

Me: I would foster an environment of open communication and collaboration. Understanding each team member's strengths and weaknesses, setting clear goals, and recognizing individual contributions would be key. By instilling a sense of ownership and shared purpose, I believe the team can overcome challenges collectively.

M1: We're nearing the end. Where do you see yourself in the next five years, post-MBA?

Me: In the next five years, I envision myself in a leadership role, possibly in a technology-driven firm. I aim to leverage the strategic insights gained from an MBA to drive innovation and contribute to shaping the future of the organization.

F1: Thank you for your thoughtful responses. We appreciate your time.

The interview lasted around 25 minutes. The panel seemed genuinely interested in the candidate's experiences and aspirations.

Verdict: Convert!

## Interview Experience – 28

Date: 15th March 2023

Venue: Taj Lands End, Mumbai

Profile:

Male, General Category

Class 10: 92% (ICSE)

Class 12: 94.5% (ISC)

Grad: B. Com (Hons) from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, 87.3%

CAT'22: 98.5%ile

Work Experience: Financial Analyst for 2 years at J.P. Morgan, Mumbai.

Panel:

F1: Female

M1: Male

F1: So, you're a finance guy. Why the sudden interest in pursuing an MBA?

Me: I believe an MBA will equip me with a broader skill set and strategic thinking, allowing me to contribute more effectively in managerial roles. It's a natural progression from my current role.

F1: Your CAT score is impressive, and you're likely to get calls from other top B-schools. Why IIMs?

Me: While I have immense respect for other institutions, IIMs are known for their rigorous academic curriculum and diverse peer group, providing a unique learning experience. Also, the strong alumni network is a major draw.

M1: You've worked at J.P. Morgan for two years. What made you choose finance, and why J.P. Morgan?

Me: I've always been fascinated by the intricacies of financial markets, and J.P. Morgan, being a global leader, offered me the exposure and challenges I sought. It provided a steep learning curve and allowed me to work on complex financial models.

F1: Your academic scores are good, but not exceptional. Do you think this might be a hindrance in a highly competitive environment like IIM?

Me: I believe my academic journey reflects consistent performance, and I've compensated for any perceived shortcomings through practical experience and extracurricular activities. I understand the competitive nature but believe my varied experiences bring a unique perspective to the cohort.

M1: You've mentioned extracurricular activities. What do you do outside of work?

Me: I am actively involved in a local NGO that focuses on financial literacy for underprivileged children. I conduct weekly sessions to impart basic financial knowledge and skills. It's a way for me to give back and apply my skills beyond the corporate world.

F1: That's commendable. Let's switch gears a bit. Can you share a challenging situation you faced at work and how you handled it?

Me: Certainly. There was a project where we had to analyze the financial viability of a potential investment. The data provided was inconsistent, and the team was under tight deadlines. I took the initiative to coordinate with different departments, verify the data, and presented a comprehensive analysis within the deadline. It was challenging but taught me the importance of effective communication and problem-solving under pressure.

M1: Impressive. Moving on, what's your take on the recent economic policies introduced by the government?

Me: I believe the recent policies reflect a strategic approach to boost economic growth. However, the success will depend on effective implementation and adaptation to evolving global dynamics. It's a delicate balance between stimulating growth and maintaining fiscal discipline.

F1: Good insights. Now, if we were to ask your colleagues about your leadership style, what do you think they would say?

Me: I believe they would describe me as collaborative and adaptive. I tend to encourage open communication and value diverse opinions. In a team, I believe everyone's perspective is crucial, and I strive to create an environment where everyone feels heard and motivated.

M1: We're nearing the end. One last question - where do you see yourself in the next five years?

Me: In the next five years, I see myself in a leadership role within a multinational corporation, contributing strategically to its growth. I aim to leverage the skills gained from an MBA to navigate complex business challenges and drive innovation within the organization.

F1: Thank you for your responses. We appreciate your time.

The interview lasted for about 25 minutes. The panel seemed engaged and interested in the candidate's perspectives.

Verdict: Convert!

## Interview Experience – 29

**Date:** April 2022

Two interviewers, M1 and M2.

I entered, and after clarifying my name and commenting that I have an unusual surname,

M1: So tell me a little about yourself

Me: well-rehearsed answer (was interrupted in between when I said that I read for pleasure)

M1: So what kind of books do you read? Favorite authors?

Me: Answered

M1: No Indian authors? Are they not good enough for you? (Please don't make my mistake, always name an Indian author!)

Me: Answered something (not very satisfactory)

M1: So where do we start from...micro or macro?

Me: Micro

M1: Draw the cost curves of a firm in the short run

Me: Made

M2: How does price discrimination work?

Me: Answered. (there was a lot of cross-questioning on this, they asked for real-world examples)

M1: Tell me everything that you've done in micro (basically asked me to divide the entire micro syllabus into sections)

Me: (I could somewhat do that but fumbled a lot because my mind was sort of blanking)

M1: Now onto macro, so what have you done on macro?

Me: (Somehow, I forgot all about ISLM curves - which were easier concepts - and blurted out-) Foreign exchange system

M1: So how do we represent foreign exchange? What is the current USDINR forex rate? What does foreign exchange rate mean?

Me: Answered everything. (They tried to confuse me about how forex is represented, but be clear)

M2: Why was the budget date shifted?

Me: I don't know

M1: What is NAIRU?

Me: I don't know (a huge blunder, probably the only thing I'm really embarrassed about from the interview)

M1: Who is the Chairman of World Bank?

Me: Couldn't remember, said that the MD is Anshula Kant

M2: Started asking questions about whether the CEO of the company is an employee or not

Me: I said yes, he's an employee. (a LOT of cross-questioning on this, tried to confuse me and convince me that CEO is not an employee, but the fact is that even the CEO of a company is an employee)

M1: Okay, you may leave now.

Thanked and left.

## Interview Experience – 30

Life doesn't often offer you a second chance. And for the unfortunate lot, sometimes not even one. I realised the latter when during my IIM Indore interview, I was torn apart, mutilated and made to curse the fact that I had so much fun in college. Could have done with a little bit of studies or common sense as the panel often preferred to quote. To start with I had a decent case study. The case was about 1 page on an A4 size paper. It was a long and boring story about a village dude who started a business without any work experience and then got screwed due to various factors. His family was a peculiar one with most of the names having a prefix Ram (with due respect). They epitomised collective failure. I started the discussion and put in a few points here and there. For a change, this one was the most decent of GDs I have ever attended (and I have attended a decent number in the sense that everyone got a chance to speak. Nobody was ridiculed or cut short. Not even the guy who suggested that one of the long term solutions for the farmer dude would be to produce hydroelectricity in the village using the nearby river water. I mean come on...give the guy a break...he is already down with debts. We shouldn't be making fun of him. Anyway the GD was for about an hour including the writing part. I was called 4th by the interview panel. The 3 people before me were not asked a single academic question (remember the stuff about the unfortunate lot). I knocked and entered. Here is how it went.

Me: Sir, May I come in ?

Panel : Come in xxx. Please close the door behind you.

Me :Yes Sir (closed the door very softly and entered. There were 2 people. One bald, tall and athletic. The second one was more of the prof types). Good morning Sir (to each).

Panel :Goodmorning xxx.Have a seat.

Me :Thankyou Sir.

Panel :So whats been happening?

Me :[Thoughts:What about the normal:Temme sthng abt urself stuff].Sir,we all have been actually waiting outside eagerly for our interviews.

Panel :(smiles):Oh yeah,so how is it outside?

Me :[Thoughts:So u really think we have been waiting!!!].Sir,as soon as somebody comes out of the interview,we ask him about his experience and the questions that he was asked.

Panel :[laughs]:So what was the feedback till now?

Me :[smile]:Sir everyone feels that the panel is cool and they had a good time[as if!!!]

Panel :[laughs again]: So you want us to be hot now??

Me :[join the humour.Give a sheepish laugh]:Sir I would prefer you to be cool[all smiles]

Panel :So you are from NIT Jamshedpur.

Me: Yes Sir.

Panel :Was it an NIT when you entered or REC?

Me:told him about the fund a of RIT,REC and NIT...the older prof didn't get the concept.I explained properly.Infact the bald guy had to help out to explain the older guy[plz note my bias against the old guy.It is justified as you would come to know towards the end of the experience].

Panel :xxx you have used some business jargon in your form.Doyou have some business connection?

Me :[I swear to God I dont know even an iota of business.And I had used none in the form which I had filled only on the night before.Maybe some jargonin the case study].No Sir.

Panel :Business connection doesnt mean that you own a business.

Me :Yes Sir i understand.I have been with TCS for the last 2 and a half years and I have written a few documents like SRS[one thing that mycollege taughtme-hawa].I might have picked up the language from there.

Panel :So xxx you have mentioned in the form that you would liketo take up writing sports articles as an alternative career.

Me :Yes Sir.

Panel :Can you name the sports magazine by Hindu publishers.

Me :[after some thought]:I dont know Sir.

Panel :Can you name a few sports magazines?

Me : named atleast 6...they had to stop me.

Panel :Can you name the Sports journalist from IIM A?

Me :Yes Sir.Its Harsha Bhogle.

Panel:Can you name a few others?

Me :Yes Sir.Andrew Leci,John Dykes,Paul Masefield(named the entireFootball focus panel).

Panel:[from their blank expression,came to realize that they hadntheard even one]:So who is your favourite and why?

Me :Sir Paul Masefield because he is objective in his match analysis.

Panel :So you mean to say that a sports journalist should not bebiased.

Me :Sir he can have his favourites like Liverpool in the case of PaulMasefield[hawa].But when he does an analysis and presents it to thepeoplewatching the show or reading the article,he should be objective.

Panel :Who is the vice president of India?

Me :[that is like continuing a conversation in good flow]:HamidAnsari(within a quarter of a sec.Reason being I had rattified this in themorning)

Panel :Who is the President?

Me :[There are moments in ur life wen u are flabbergasted bysimplicity.This was one of those...10 secs gone ...God please save me]

Panel :[in an uncontrollable fit of laughter]:This is fantastic.We hadased 3 ppl earlier the name of the vice president.Believe me nobodygot it right.But cmon.

Me :[Assholes wait]:Sir I now its a lady whose name starts withP[everybody including me is laughing by now after about 15 secs...Sir its Pratibha Patil.

Panel :[after controlling their fit]:Well we understand.It happens in theheat of the interview.So you have been born and brought up in Nagpur.

Me :No Sir i have been born and brought up in Dhanbad.I did my 11thand 12th from Nagpur.

Panel :What is special about Dhanbad?

Me :told them about coal and my father being in Coal India Ltd

Panel :And what about Nagpur?

Me :[Here I would like to specially thank people likeKapil,Kartik,Madhur,Debu,Jagan,Ani...Nagpur was a unanimousfavourite tourist destination amongst us]:talked about oranges,Zero mile-center point of India etc etc

Panel :[interrupting]:So Nagpur is the apital of Maharashtra?

Me :[No you dumbass!! I just didnt knw the President answer]:NoSir.The capital is Mumbai.But Nagpur is also called the Winter Capitalof Maharashtra becausethe winter sessions of the parliament take place in Nagpur.Panel:Parliament?

Me :Sorry Sir,Vidhan Sabha.Though many of you would beg to differ,this was the good part of myinterview.From here the old guy took over from the bald guy.I somehow get the feeling that he had a predetermined opinion andbias against me.From here on,panel refers to him.

Panel :[taking a look at my mark sheets]:How does a refrigeratorwork?

Me :[took atleast 10 seconds to summon the courage]:Sir arefrigerator has a refrigerant which circulates and absorbs heat toproduce the cooling effect.

Panel :[looked at me for some time...as if some bolt hit him.One of myfriends says that probably that was too technical for him]:Can youname a fewrefrigerants?

Me :[after pretending a lot to think]:Sir I cannot think of one at themoment.

Panel :[in shock]:OK..Can you tell us about a few properties arefrigerant should have?

Me :[Can I?Ofcourse I can.took abt 7-8 secs]Sir it should have a highlatent heat of fusion because it has to absorb heat.

Panel :Which state is a refrigerant in?

Me :Sir in fluid state?

Panel :Why ...cant it be in gaseous state?

Me :[See you are as dumb as Iam]:Sir gas is also a fluid.

Panel :Are you sure?

Me :Yes Sir.

Panel :[frustrated]...So what kind of materials a refrigerant canbe...LPG?

Me :[Dont you understand I dont knw a thing abt this]:Yes Sir.

Panel :Ok.Do you own a bike?

Me :[Ppl who knw me wud tell u tat I have had a history with bikes andinterviews.My knowledge in Automobiles is slightly less than myknowledge aboutthe fridge]:No Sir.

Panel :What?You have been woring for the last 28 months .How doyou commute then?

Me :Sir shared auto.

Panel :[smiles]:Thats good.So you have ever SEEN a 2 wheeler?

Me :[resisted the temptation to say No Sir]:Yes Sir.

Panel :Have you heard of EMD or EFD or sthng...I dont remember whthe said...

Me :No Sir.

Panel :Ok.In a 2 wheeler what do u mix with petrol?

Me :[after a lot of thinking]:Sir,oil.

Panel :Why do we mix oil?

Me :[after further thought]:Sir for lubrication.[I came to realize that it wasnt the smartest of answers]

Panel :Lubrication of what xxx?

Me :Sir the piston and the cylinder.

Panel :[almost begging for mercy]:So you think that the entire petroland the oil goes inside the cylinder.The cylinder would burst.

Me:[decided not to say anything else on the topic]

Panel :xxx cmon you are a Mechanical Engineer from NITJamshedpur.

Me :[thoughts:That is the reason Sir]

Panel: Ok tell me which is your favourite subject.

Me :Sir Thermodynamics.

Panel :How many laws are there?

Me :Sir 4

Panel :Which are they?

Me :Sir 0th,1st,2nd and 3rd.

Panel :[Expeting a better answer]:Can you name them

Me :Started with 0th law.Thankfully knew it.

Panel :Can you give a practical example of it?

Me :Sorry Sir.Cant think of any at the moment.

Panel :Ok.First law.

Me :Told.

Panel :Application?

Me :Talked about turbines[God knows why].said Mechanical energygets converted to kinetic energy.

Panel :Mechanical energy?

Me :Sir Potential energy to kinetic energy.Also talked about sthng likerotational energy somewhere.

Panel :What is rotational energy?

Me :Sir its a form of kinetic energy.

Panel :And Mechanical energy?

Me :Sir Potential Energy and Kinetic Energy are forms of MechanicalEnergy.

Panel :Sure?



Me :Yes Sir.

Panel :What are the types of turbines?

Me :[I wudnt have been able to answer that even in college]:SorrySir.I dont remember.

Panel :xxx...NIT Jamshedpur...[sarcastically]??

Me :Sir Iam sorry but I just need to brush up a few things.I have losttouch in the last 2 years.

Panel :We are asking you very basic things which any mechanialengineer would know.And you are from an NIT [NOT AGAIN!!!]...Youmust have had theseRefrigeration labs.

Me :Sorry sir we didnt[Fuck!!!]

Panel :[Smiles]But there must be other labs.

Me :Yes Sir.

Panel :Havent u heard of Kaplan Turbine,Francis Turbine...

Me :[as if I knew it all along]:Oh yes Sir.I just need to go through theconcepts once.

Panel :Ok.What are you working on?

Me :Told them about Product Life Cycle management confidentially.

Panel :Can you show us the steps.

Me :Asked for a piece of paper and explained.Gave the example of anautomobile industry.

Panel :Is it applicable only to an automobile industry?

Me :No Sir.It was just an example.

Panel :Can it be used in the software industry?

Me :Yes Sir.Explained the waterfall model.

Panel :Can you draw a graph about the Lifecycle of a product?

Me :[bewildered look]

Panel :Have you heard about the S curve?

Me :No Sir

Panel :You must have had a training before you started your project.And there must be documents.

Me :Yes Sir.But I didnt come across the S curve.

Panel :OK 1 last question.He had a mineral water bottle in front of him.He showed the recycling sign in it and asked me what it meant.

Me :[I didnt know the answer.I took a long time to think.Actually throughout the period I was thinking whether to curb my natural instinct or again say a sorry sir.Ultimately I gave in]:Sir Iam not sure but I think it might be a symbol which shows the genuinity of the product.

Panel :After a long pause.xxx you are good[really??] but you reallyneed to work on your academics.If you were from some other college we wouldnt have asked you all this.But you are from NIT Jamshedpur[ONE MORE TIMEAND I WILL MAKE YOU ATTEND ONE OF THE LECTURES IN MYCOLLEGE:A.K.JHA MAYBE].

Thank you.Meanwhile I had been playing with a pencil and it had fallen right under the bald man's shoes.I took permission to take it.He asked how it reached there.I felt like saying Destiny.I just said 'It fell down now sir'.I took it and left the room with the thought:if only he had been from my college.

## Interview Experience – 31

Interview Date: 17 February 2022. (IIM Indore)

X/XII/BS-MS in Physics (Ongoing) – 10/96.2/9.6, Fresher.

It was an online interview. I haven't read many IIM interview experiences for someone from a research background. So, might be useful 😊

P1: Old, P2: Relatively young

P1: Which IISER campus are you from?

AT: Pune

P1: It is very surprising that someone from such an elite research institute wants to do an MBA, why?

AT: Answered a well-prepared answer while acknowledging that it is a prestigious position to be in.

P1: Let us talk about Physics. Suppose you drop a paperweight and feather on the moon, what will happen?

AT: Assuming there is no atmosphere on the moon, both objects will reach simultaneously.

P1: Is there an atmosphere on the moon?

AT: No

P1: So, why assume anything?

AT: Sure Sir, both will reach simultaneously.

P1: What happens on earth?

AT: On earth, there is friction due to the atmosphere and so, objects will experience friction and feather will reach late.

P1: Is there no gravity on the moon?

AT: It is there, it is one-sixth of that on the earth.

P1: Okay, suppose I measure the height of a person lying on the floor and standing, what should I keep in mind?

AT: (I had no idea) I blabbered about trying to relate it to gravity, but also said that it will have a negligible impact.

P1: Yeah, that is fine. But, what should you take care of other than the number while measuring height?

AT: (After thinking a bit) Units?

P1: What else? (He was trying to help me here)

AT: (Finally, I got the right thing) The least count/errors are what he wanted to hear.

P1: Tell me the difference between the validity and reliability of a device.

AT: (I had no idea) I was confused by the terminology. But, still told a few things. (He intervened and again helped a bit). Finally, I got the sense that validity is what we called accuracy in our labs and reliability is precision (he was not happy with the word precision) and I explained it nicely. But, it was a good discussion.

P2: When I was a kid, whenever I used to put something in the water, it used to come up. Why? Will it always happen?

Explained relative density. Mentioned Buoyancy.

P2: What is Bouyancy?

Told.

P2: So, what will be buoyancy at different heights?

More if we are deeper (Wrong answer, it is constant throughout. I don't know if he noticed it.)

P2: Where are you originally from?

Jamnagar.

P2: Do you know which is the largest port in India?

I don't know about India, but Mundra port is the largest in Gujarat. (It is even that of India).

P2: Largest coastline in India?

Gujarat.

P2: Suppose there are four rooms and two of them have gifts. We both open two doors, what is the probability of you getting a gift and I not getting it?

Calculated and told it correctly.

P2: What formula did you use?

I just found the relevant event and divided it by the total number of possible events.

P2: Have you heard of conditional probability?

Yes sir, got it, sir.

P2: Tell me any three current news.

Russia-Ukraine Problem, Hijab issue and IAS deputation issue between centre and state?

P2: What is Kremlin?

Told

P2: Extempore: Should the student in India be not allowed to do more than one master's?

Spoke against it. After three lines, he cut me and said we are done, you can leave.

Verdict: Converted in the first round.

## Interview Experience – 32

**Profile :-** X - 10 CGPA(CBSE), XII - 95.6%(CBSE), B.Tech (CSE) - Govt Engineering College Thrissur - 7.74 CGPA(KTU), 20 months work-ex at TCS, CAT percentile - 98.6, General Engineer Male.

Indore was the only call I got from BLACKI, and it was also my first interview. Due to COVID, it was online. Now one thing that most of these review posts fail to mention is how different an online interview is.

You will be staring at a black screen titled waiting room for hours on end, and suddenly you will be admitted in the interview room. It is a bit disconcerting because at least in offline interviews, you get time to compose yourself when you enter the interview room. But in an online setting, it goes from zero to a hundred in a second. In the Indore interview, they were kind enough to let me know 5 minutes prior that I would be admitted into the Zoom room. It helped a lot.

Panelists : Two professors, both male. Let's call them P1 and P2. Both of them looked like they had reasonable experience.

P1 : Asked me to introduce myself. Picked up on my official designation in TCS and asked me to describe about that. I spoke on this for about 2–3 minutes, describing my work.

Then, he asked me if I was comfortable in mathematics. Of course, I replied that I was. He asked me to prove that the sum of angles of a triangle are 180 degrees. Honestly, I was flummoxed here. I had no clue. I drew a triangle on a paper, and tried to do something using the external angle property of a triangle. He gave me hints and all, but I do not think I was even close to the answer. After 3–4 minutes, P2 said it was okay and started asking questions.

P2 : Most of his questions were G.K. based. First, he asked me if I had ever been to North India. Then he gave the names of a few places and asked me if I knew the connection between them. I knew that they were all pilgrimage sites in North India, and I replied as much. I still suspect there was more to it than that.

He then asked me to name two Congress ruled states, as well as all the seven sisters. He also asked me why CAA-NRC was such an issue in the North-East. Then, he asked me to estimate the amount of money it would take to build the Ram temple. I stated an amount that I had read in the newspaper. But I think he wanted me to do a guesstimate on it (If you are not sure what a guesstimate is, do Google it. Knowing that you can do even a basic guesstimate exercise will be a huge advantage in an interview. I suspect most people learn it only after coming to a B-school).

P1 : He rounded up the interview asking me to give an extempore on the topic - 'The Importance of Freedom of Speech'. I spoke on it for about 2 minutes.

All in all, I thought the interview went well. Apart from the maths question, and the Ram Mandir question, I felt that I answered all questions well. The interviewers very rarely grill you. It honestly felt like they wanted to get to know me, unlike a few other interviews. So my suggestion would be to stay calm during the entire interview process. Also, read extensively on all the current topics in the news. You should be able to articulate these very well.

Result : Waitlisted, and converted in the second movement. The movement of the waitlists in Indore will be comparatively big because of the high intake. I think there were two or three waitlist movements even after I converted.

P.S. : I had forgotten to wear the collar button during the interview, whilst I had worn the tie (it was my first time wearing a tie). P2 pointed it out to me at the end of the interview. He was just smiling when he did so. This just shows that you don't need to pay too much attention to what you wear. How you perform is much more important.



## Interview Experience – 33

**Date:** 21st March, 2022

**Time:** 3:45 PM, Online mode

**Background:** 10= 89.33% ICSE, 12= 89.33% ISC, Graduation = 9 CGPA with Honrs in Sociology

**CAT%ile - 99.60**

I was kind of surprised to even get a call from Indore after not getting shortlisted by Lucknow. This was my 9th interview this season and also the smoothest one. :D

2 panelists: **Both male (M and N). And me (P)**

After checking my govt id, **M asked me to tell them something about myself very quickly.**

*Told.*

**M: So Prachi, you have done BA in Sociology. Why MBA now? Don't you think you will be able to contribute to the society better by going for UPSC?**

P: Sir, Sociology as a subject gave me an insight into how the society functions, its cultures, values and practices. However, one perspective that it did not cover was business. The knowledge I gained through my UG course felt somewhat incomplete without learning about the business side to it. Also, my family has a business background, hence, I always had the lineancy towards it.

*M asked me what my family business was and that was about it.*

**M: Okay I am going to give you a few puzzles and I need you to solve them for me.**

1. ***There are 2 containers, one of 5kg and another of 3kg, both without any markings on them. You also have a bag of salt. How will you measure out 7kgs for me?***
2.  ***$(x-a)(x-b)(x-c)....(x-z)$ : What will be the first two terms of the expansion?***
3. ***There is a river which can only be crossed on foot. You have been given certain data about its depth, namely the mean, median, mode, standard deviation and variance. Which parameter would you go for?***

I was able to answer the first two correctly and pretty quickly too. For the 3rd one, I said I'd go for mode as that would tell me which level of depth is occurring most number of times.

**M: Why not go for standard deviation?**

P: Sir, I cannot recall its formula, hence, I did not go for it.

M: **That's not required. Just explain SD in layman's terms.**

P: Sir, I am unable to recall that also. Really sorry.

(Realized that mode was the wrong answer after the interview. I used the wrong logic there :/)

I cannot recall what M asked me after this but either way, he seemed satisfied with my answers and I was feeling good about the direction the interview was going in.

N enters the scene and now begins the rapid fire.

Here are the series of **questions he asked about Sociology:**

1. **Your favourite sociological theory** (Said Emile Durkheim's functionalist perspective)
2. **How is it different from Talcott Parson's Functionalism?** (Gave the example of their almost similar but differing views on religion)
3. **What is the difference between Parson's and Robert K Merton's view on Structural functionalism?** (Told him that I was unable to recall the precise difference but tried to cover it up by giving an overall generalized view)
4. **What is Karl Marx's contributions to sociology?** (Mentioned the labour value theory, False consciousness)
5. **What was his conflict theory about?** (Answered satisfactorily. Bourgeoisie and Proletariat)
6. **What was the assumption he had made before writing about this conflict theory?** (This one I got wrong. Talked about the false consciousness and how the Proletariat will eventually overthrow the Bourgeoisie. It was actually how every individual is a profit-seeker)
7. **What is the difference between class and caste?** (Gave a satisfactory answer)
8. **What is symbolic interactionism?** (Explained with help of exxamples)

After sociology rapid fire, there were questions on Kolkata that eventually moved on to current affairs

1. **What is the other name of Howrah Bridge?** (Are you kidding me?!)
2. **What is the other bridge that runs parallel to it?**
3. **Who is the CM of West Bengal?**
4. **Which party does she belong to?**



5. ***What do you know about the State elections that happened in 5 states recently?***  
(Explained everything to the T :D)

**N: Okay Prachi. Since you are from the sociology background, the extempore topic for you is: Caste System in India. You have 30 secs to think and you can speak for 2 mins.**

I started with BR Ambedkar's Annihilation of Caste, moved on to the reservation that was introduced for Scheduled castes post independence. Talked about how reservation is a temporary solution to the problem and has been kind of reinstating the difference between different castes in India. Ended on a hopeful note about how as the youth of 21st Century India, there is scope for a lot of progress and hope for a casteless society.

Said Thank you to both the panelists and left the meeting.

*I said it was the smoothest interview so far not only because I was able to answer almost all the questions but also because it was challenging and fun in its own way and I tried to remain as calm as possible.*

*Interview Experience – 34*

**Profile (Male) 10th/12th/Grad: 10 CGPA / 95.8 % / 66 %**

**Undergrad: B.com(H)**

**Professional Degree: Chartered Accountant (CA)**

**Work Experience: 8 months in a PSU**

**Duration: 20 mins for Interview and 20 mins for WAT**

**Date & Time: 24 March 2022, 02:30 PM**

**Location: Online VC**

***Extempore (15 sec to think and 1.5 min to speak)***

Views on Netflix, Amazon Prime and other OTT services

***P1 and P2 (Both Male). I will call myself A.***

**First round of questions started by P1**

**P1: Tell me something about yourself briefly.**

**A:** Gave a prepared answer, highlighting more of my academic achievements since I hardly had any extracurricular activities or hobbies to show.

**P1:** Why MBA?

**A:** (Told them the well rehearsed answer) Want to become a consultant, the work is dynamic and diverse, want to learn fields other than finance and so on.

**P1:**

Why not practice as a CA?

**A:** I do not really have an interest in the traditional fields of auditing and taxation.

**P1:** What are S and C companies?

**A:** (I could not understand the question and P1 told me that I should have been aware about it being a CA)

**P1:** How can a company book sales in previous years?

**A:** It depends upon the terms of sales. If the terms are that sales will be recognised when goods are delivered, then delivery date will be taken and if terms are ex-factory then sales can be booked when goods are dispatched

**P1:** What is fair value accounting?

**A:** It means measuring an asset or liability at its market value.

**P1:** How is goodwill increased?

**A:** Through purchase of 1 company by another or merger and acquisition.

**P1:** What are mergers and acquisitions?

**A:** Told them the definition.

**Q9.** Difference between mergers and acquisitions?

**A:** Told the basic difference and gave examples.

**P1:** What is a Joint venture?

**A:** Gave the definition

**P1:** Is Joint venture required to have 50-50 partnership?

**A:** Not necessarily. They can also have 51-49 like partnerships.

**P1:** Difference between JV and mergers?

**A:** JV are formed for a specific purpose while mergers are for the entire company business.

**P1: What is the difference in terms of their parent's shareholding?**

**A:** (Could not answer satisfactorily)

**P2**

**P2:** I will ask some general questions

**P2:** Previous name of Delhi?

**A:** Shahjanabad

**P2:** What are seven wonders of the world?

**A:** (Could only answer a few)

**P2:** In which longitude and latitude does India lie?

**A:** I don't know sir

**P2:** How is time zone determined?

**A:** No idea sir

**P2:** Have you heard of the international date line?

**A:** No sir

**P2:** What is a black hole?

**A:** Black holes have no concept of space and time and they have very high gravity.

**P2:** Do we have anything similar on Earth?

**A:** Nothing of this sorts exist on Earth.

**P2:** What about Bermuda triangle! What is the difference between black hole and Bermuda triangle?

**A:** Black holes are different since they have no concept of space time.

Interview Experience – 35

Interview Experience – 36

**8th March 2022**

Reporting time : 4:45pm

Waiting 45 mins

BTech (Chemical Engineering-2021)

Work Ex = UnAcademy (Content Manager)

2 Penalist M1,M2 = (35 to 40 age)

M1: Tell me about yourself

M2: What's your role/Job profile in UnAcademy?

M1: Extempore = Future of Edtech sector (30 sec to think, 2 min to speak)

M2: Difference between Content and Content? (as they are heteronyms)

M1: What are carbohydrates?

M1: What are Amino Acids?

M1: What are Fatty Acids?

M1: What are Bio-Molecules?

M1: What is Detergent and its chemical composition?

M1: What are the soaps and chemical composition of soap and detergent?

M1: What's your favorite subject? (Said thermodynamics)

M1: Ok, I won't ask anything from it and gave a devil's smile

M1: Difference between refinery and distillation?

M1: Is distillation used in the refinery?

M1: what is coal tar?

M1: What is Bio-Diesel?

M1: Constituent of Bio-Diesel?

M1: Current rate of Crude oil?

M1: what is OPEC?

M1: Full form of OPEC?

M1: Countries in OPEC?

M1: Is the US and Russia is a part of OPEC?

M2: Ok, you have done a course in Economics, so tell me, what is a cartel? (I said I don't know, they said it is elementary, you have done a course you should know this)

M2: what do you write, what kind of blogs do you like to write?

M2: What is the significance of Chernobyl right now?

M2: Does the Russian army invade Chernobyl?

M2: Is chernobyl is still working?

M2: Tell me what happened in 1986 in Chernobyl?

M2: Tell me the historical significance of Chernobyl and its link with the USSR?

Ok, you can log off now.

(overall, it was more on a roasting side, I didn't answer many questions, they asked are you sure after each question to create more pressure)

**Verdict: Converted**

## Interview Experience – 37

**Date: 18th March 2021**

Time slot: 10:00 AM, Actual: 10:25 AM – 10:45 AM, About 20 minutes

Panel 5: 2 Males

Background: CA with 2+ years of GenMan experience in a startup

(Amicable panel, but they were taking a lot of pauses between questions, almost as if they weren't sure what to ask. Do keep your ID proofs ready for verification at the beginning.)

M1: (after I showed them my PAN) Tell me Aakruti, what do the letters in your PAN denote?

AF: Sir, I am unsure of the first four letters but the fifth one denotes the name of the assessed. That is why in my case, it is F.

M1: Very well. Introduce yourself.

AF: (did the spiel, he seemed very interested and was reacting to stuff – 'ooh nice', 'impressive')

M1: That is a very versatile profile you have Aakruti.

AF: (unsure what to say, because compliments in an interview do sometimes lead into difficult questions) Thanks sir.

M1: So, you are a CA, when did you qualify? (Answered, 2019) And you're from Poddar college in Mumbai, that is a very good institution. What year was that? (Answered, 2017)

Who are you working with right now? (Answered, Xtreme Media. Had already spoken about my profile and a couple projects I had handled there.)

M1: That is quite a leap, from being a CA to doing work that is not traditionally that of a CA.

AF: Yes sir, it was a conscious decision on my part. My parents are entrepreneurs and they have always been a big influence on me. After article ship, I decided I needed to have a more holistic experience and do a deeper dive into business ops.

M1: Wow, impressive that you see entrepreneurship as a goal. Why do this course at all? You should start up and then come to IIM Indore to recruit people, not the other way around. (Everyone laughed)

AF: But sir, while these two years have been invaluable in shaping my goals, they have also made me realize that there exist quite a few work points, both for me as an individual and as a potential leader. Looking at the journeys of the businesses I have been exposed to, my parents' and my current employer, I do see areas where a management education would enhance my abilities to tackle those situations better. Hence the decision for this course.

M1: Alright. You seem quite focused. Can I ask you some commerce related questions?

AF: Sure sir.

M1: Rapid fire: (could answer all of these, someone up there likes me.)

(1) Tell me what PE Ratio is (MPS/EPS – uses, what it denotes)

(2) What is the Modigliani-Miller Theory (capital gearing has no effect on earnings)

(3) The other day, I overheard a CA and a person who worked in PE talking to each other. PE guy said, "You CAs only look at ROI, ROE, ROCE and all. But we look at multiples – 5x, 10x." Any idea what he was talking about? (Answered that since this is a PE professional, he's most likely referring to the EBITDA multiple of a startup. Explained why this is a better metric for startup valuations, and that we would have to look at the exact industry he was referring to, to infer more about it.)

(4) What is a Long Form Audit Report (LFAR)? Spoke about the context of bank audits, detailed asset analysis and vulnerabilities. Did not know much about format etc., did not tell him this.)

(M1 passes the baton to M2, whose internet is glitchy.)

M2: Hello Aakruti. So can you tell me a bit about 'pumping profit'.

AF: Sir I haven't heard about this term but, what I can infer is that it refers to the overstating of profits to show better than actual performance, a sort of window-dressing.

M2: Have you heard about Toshiba?

AF: Yes.

M2: Toshiba had been involved in pumping of their profits a while ago.

AF: I'll read up on this sir.

M2: Okay, do you know about what happened at Enron (answered that I was unaware of details, but it was a case of whistleblowing on the top management over window-dressing the company's results). What about the chit fund scam in India? (Said I knew what it was but would need to refresh the details.)

## Interview Experience – 38

Panel - 2 male professors and 1 alum

25 - 30 min interview

1) P1: Tell us why MBA and how did your interest develop? (Told)

2) P1: Give an example where a bio innovation did not reach the market? (Said I know 2 but would give you the Indian example - Florida Tilton's biofilm inhibitor and how it gestated for about 5 years before her company got a grant to productize the innovation.

3) P1: So you are saying that these ideas gestate for some years but eventually make it to the market right? (Said that it is not true with all novel innovations and gave example of what R.T.Krishnan, IIM B director had said in 2004 conference and also how IIM B had helped such bio innovations to scale up their businesses in 2020).

4) P2: So what is biofilm? (Told)

5) P2: If I ask you to sell it to Apollo hospital, how will you do it? (Said that Apollo won't be new to this problem as it is faced by every healthcare facility so I won't need to convince much as it is a novel product)

6) P2: But still, how will you do it? (Said that as I am a microbiologist, I would show them through an experiment wherein I will take a used catheter, swab, and plate the microorganisms from it and analyze how many pathogenic and virulent organisms are present on it as well as other instruments. The data will speak for itself).

7) What problems are you likely to face if you have to sell the biofilm? (Told about the price and if there is the competition who has used cheaper ingredients and has a better product then I will have to improve my product)

8) P1: What is CAGR? (Told full form)

9) P1: How is it different from the growth rate? (Told the layman meaning first with their permission and then gave the textbook definition).

10) P2: How do you calculate it? (Told how to derive the formula through rearrangement of the terms in Compound Interest)

11) P2: Gave me a sum and said if you know then okay, else leave it. (Said I don't know Sir)

12) P2: You have mentioned Kiran Mazumdar Shaw and Kalpana Saroj. So are they both on the board? (Told how Kiran Shaw was before but now Dr.Shetty is there in her place and Kalpana Saroj continues to be on the governing board).

13) P2: Why did you mention Kalpana Saroj, she is not a bio entrepreneur? (Told how her background inspired me as she went through a lot of hardships in her life and helped Kamani tubes reach success).

14) P2: What is synthetic biology? (Told)

15) Why is it called 'Synthetic' biology? (Gave a generic answer)

16) No...why do you think it is called 'synthetic'? (Told how we are engineering something which isn't natural but man-made through biological means)

17) Good. So that means it makes humans God? (Said No....it is a popular debate surrounding stem cell research but we are far from it and it does not make us God as we are not even close to success).

18) P2: So you have stated Zymergen. Any other genetic engineering-related discovery you know? (Said no).

19) P2: I will give you a hint - Insulin. (Yes Sir. Explained the full process of how DNA from the pig is used and E.coli plasmid is used as E.coli replicates faster and we can mass-produce insulin in a short span of time).

20) P2: Have you heard about homulin? (No Sir).



21) P1: Tell me about the stages of vaccine production. (Explained 3 stages and even stage 0 and why do we perform them).

P2 joked about how I am talking about vaccines only and asked me to say insulin in place of vaccines as insulin was his favorite).

22) P1: Tell me in detail. Science answers should be precise. (Told which people do we select for the phases and how are they divided. Also talked about the double-blind study).

23) P2: Asked me about some specific terms. (I said I don't know) P1: You have studied pharmacology right? (Said no Sir, I haven't I know all this due to my interest but I haven't studied as a part of the syllabus).

24) P1: So what do you do apart from your study? (Told about Bharatnatyam, teaching and cultural committee).

25) P2: So you must have joined the NGO a few months back so you can have something to talk about in the interview right? (No Sir, I have been volunteering for a year now and my mother used to work for that NGO and they were in need of a teacher so I joined them as well).

26) P2: How did you get admission to your college? (Asked if he wanted to know how my interest developed or what was the process ?)

27) P2: No, on what basis do you get admission? (Told 12th HSC marks) P2: You have 92%, so you must not have faced a problem getting admission anyways. (I said yes Sir 91.54 % and I smiled)

28) I don't know where your college is? Why this college? (Answered both)

29) P2: What after PGP? (Told)

30) P2 : You have mentioned a hangover cure so what do you think can be the difficulties if I want to sell it? (Told about how the higher price would make it affordable to the upper-middle class and high-income groups only but as the demand rises, the cost can be brought down. Also mentioned how some people would harbor some misconceptions or fear about probiotics).

31) P2: Have you heard of Thermon company? (No Sir)

31) P3: Tell me about how major countries handled corona. How they could have done better? (Talked about America, India, China, and while I was explaining how China should have informed the world beforehand....P3 cut me and said this is from the news)

32) Tell us from a biology perspective. (Said that honestly, the big countries did not do that well as compared to smaller countries like New Zealand, Cambodia, Vietnam, and even some African countries - I explained their methods and what they did better. I also said that as African countries have had an experience of handling Ebola, they fared better than expected. I even added that as they are poorer, the population has been exposed to much more pathogenic organisms and has a better immune response).

33) P3 - Is there a scientific basis for that claim? (Told about the ASTREC study FROM TATA Memorial Hospital and how they proved the same about Dharavi slum).

34) P3 - What is the mRNA vaccine and how is it different. Why is there so much buzz around it calling it a novel method? (Started explaining how it differs from traditional vaccines and mentioned how difficult it is to find and study the exact sequence responsible for the spike protein formation and how storing mRNA is another major hurdle. I also mentioned how HGP was a relatively recent event and we are yet to learn a lot more).

35) P3 - How can you say HGP is recent? (Told how from a biology point of view, HGP - 2011 is relatively recent as it took 9 years to improvise upon that and discover the Crispr-Cas9 system even though we had the genome sequenced).

Do you have any questions for us? (No Sir) Thank you. You can log off now.

**Final Verdict:** Couldn't Convert

## Interview Experience – 39

IIM Indore Panel 4

Engineering Male Fresher

10 CGPA/93.33/8.55

Two Panelist (Male P1, Male P2)

Poor me (Me)

P1 - Tell me about yourself

Me - memorized answer

P1 - Another mechanical engineer

P1 - Explain fractional distillation

me - Explained

P1 - State 3rd law of thermodynamics

Me - Explained

P1 - What is disorder Ness?

Me - Told

P1 - What is randomness?

Me - Unorganized form of energy associated with the system

P1 - who is the chairman of Adani Enterprises Limited

Me - told

P1 - Pick a pen and paper draw a graph of  $xy = 5$

Me - Drawn and told them it a rectangular hyperbola

P1 - How can we cover the other two quadrants...?

Me -  $xy = -5$  will cover the 2nd and 4th quadrants.

P1- How about all the quadrants together??

me - using mod sir... we can cover all the quadrants.

P1 - looked satisfied.

P2 - Why do you want to do an MBA?? You are in a good company that is related to you field?? Why not keep working?

Me - Explained well prepared answer

P2 - Who is the CEO of FB?

Me - Told

P2 - CEO of Google?

Me - Told. he is also the CEO of Alphabet.

P2 - What is Alphabet?

Me - Explained Briefly

P2 - Okay. Do you know about Peace Prize??

Me - yes Sir

P2 - The prize is given after whose name??

Me - Told

P2 - Do you know anything about him??

Me - Not much.

P2 - What all peace prizes are there??

me - Peace, Literature, Physics

P2 - and???

Me - there are many more, but I don't remember all of them

P2 - Name any one Nobel Prize winner

Me - Kailash Satyarthi. Nobel Peace Prize

P1 - Who is the CJ of India?

me - I don't remember his full name. but I know it Mr. S A Bobde. his term is about to end.

**extempore -**

Death penalty or capital punishment

## Interview Experience – 40

### Profile:

GEM fresher, Chemical Engg.

Panel 3

2 panelists

Asked me about the courses I have in my current semester.

Asked me what was the topic of my college project.

P1:

1. Started to ask me about the Manufacture of Catalysts for reactions and fertilizers.

Told him that these haven't been taught to us.

2. Is Haber's process exothermic or endothermic & why?

3. Explain the energy of a reaction in terms of bond energy?

4. Do we need to supply heat for Haber's process or is heat released from Haber's process?

5. What is the type of bond present in Nitrogen & Hydrogen?

6. If I leave a block of Sodium in air, what will happen? Will there be any reaction and if yes, what will be its nature (exothermic or endothermic)

7. What will happen if I leave the block of Sodium in Chlorine?

P2:

1. What do you know about the WhatsApp crisis and why are people making noise about it?

2. Extempore: How did child labor start? How is it happening in India? How will you put an end to it?

3. If you're the manager of a company, how will you try to put an end to child labor?

## Interview Experience – 41

**Profile:** BTech CSE fresher.

Panel number 5.

P1, P2 both male. P1 and P2 both in 40's.

P1: By any chance do you happen to have watched the movie UP.

No sir.

P1: Okay then, Introduce yourself.

P1: You should not try to give us this coached introduction. We don't like these coached answers. Be more natural.

Me: I haven't even gone for a single mock interview and they call this coached.

P1: What specific type of novels do you read.

P2: Name some work of George Orwell apart from animal farm.

P1: Name some novels that come in to this category of allegorical fictions.

P2: What do you know about Russian revolution (I said I don't know much about it.)

P1: Then how did you understand Animal Farm. It is not possible to understand it without it?

I was speechless. Lost my smile and got nervous.

P2: Please Just don't mention it if you have watched the movie and haven't read it.

Justified it by saying that i have done both. Talked about pigs and all of us laughed.

P1: Forget about the George Orwell thing it's okay. Let's go the academics part.

P2: what are your favorite subjects.

(I said DBMS, OOPS, Blockchain.)

Basic questions on them.

P2: okay name three sorts and their worst-case time complexity.

(I mentioned four) got grilled.

Luckily was able to tackle most of it.

P1: You must have learnt something about electronic chips and IC's. Name a few and brief us about them.

I mentioned a few.

P2: That's it (like he wanted me to name more). Okay what is microprocessor.

Answered.

P1: You mentioned about food. Extempore on difference in food habits of different parts of the country.

30 seconds to think.

P2: Suppose i want to buy Singh(groundnuts) where should i buy it from. Bhavanagar,jamnagar,rajkot.

Don't know.

P2: If i want to eat Lilo chevdo where should i go.

You'll get it here in Surat as well.

He said NO. Suddenly i realise that p2 is a Gujarati.

I suddenly say.

Vadodra jagdish farsan.

P2: This is common about us Gujaratis we laugh when we talk about food.

P2: There is a common saying in Gujarati about food of Surat.

I recalled and said it.

Thank you, you may leave.

## Interview Experience – 42

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**Venue:** Hotel Vivanta by Taj, New Delhi

### **Profile:**

X (CBSE 2012) 95.00 | XII (CBSE 2014) 95.40 | B.Tech. (Mechanical Engg.) NIT Raipur 86.20 (As per CAT application) | GEM Fresher

Extra-curricular: University rank 3rd in 'Vid'-Diploma in Tabla, AIR 4 in 'Quad Torc'- quad bike manufacturing team event, Intra-state and inter-college winner in quizzes, Inter-zone winner in group singing, International and National rank holder in Maths, Science and English Olympiads.

### **WAT Assessment:**

Every year 10 million Indian youth add up into working population, but most of the youth is unskilled and is unable to cope up with technological advancement in the world. What skills, according to you, should be imparted to the youth under the skill development programs? (300 words, 30 minutes)

### **Personal Interview:**

Three male panelists A (Alumni, age around 30), B and C (Professors).

A opened the door and welcomed me in.

PANELIST2: Tell us something about yourself.

Candidate: \*Spoke about under graduation, academic and extra-curricular achievements, hobbies including surfing through maps\*

PANELIST2: X, so you are a mechanical engineer. Differentiate between work and heat.

Candidate: Sir both are forms of energy...

PANELIST2: (Interrupting) No I want a proper definition.

Candidate: \*Couldn't answer very well\*

PANELIST2: Suppose that you have a younger brother and he is entering the first year of mechanical engineering. How would you define work and heat to him?

Candidate: \*Again tried, though not very successfully\*

PANELIST2: The definition of work and heat forms the basis of which law of thermodynamics?

Candidate: First law.

PANELIST2: What does it state?

Candidate: \*Answered\*

C1: How will you differentiate between petrol and diesel in terms of their chemical properties?

Candidate: \*Answered, though they wanted more distinguishing parameters\*

PANELIST2: How will a pressure drop occur across pipe?

Candidate: Sir there are various parameters- change in area of cross-section, velocity change or a vertical height drop.

PANELIST2: OK assuming a constant cross-section, constant velocity and no height difference. Then will there not be any pressure drop?

Candidate: Sir there can be a pressure drop due to friction.

PANELIST2: Exactly. That is what I wanted to know. So why does friction result in pressure drop? How is that expressed mathematically?

Candidate: \*Wrote the equation, though not very sure of the constant terms\*

PANELIST2: Are you sure?

Candidate: (Changed the constant term and said...) Yes sir. (Though on verifying afterwards, I found out that I was correct the first time!)

PANELIST1: You said you are interested in automobile. What are the different types of chassis?

Candidate: Broadly speaking there are two types of chassis- Conventional and frameless. \*Gave a brief detail\* Sir I would like to add here that my final year project in college is based on the study of chassis of Indian vehicles and optimizing it.

PANELIST1: Tell us more about the project.

Candidate: \*Told that we are trying to design a chassis with maximum possible energy absorption capacity on impact during accidents based on the current Indian SUV chassis. Also added certain details\*

PANELIST3: Alright. X I will be giving you a topic to speak on. You will have 30 seconds to think and 90 seconds to speak. Alright?

Candidate: Yes sir.

PANELIST3: As the chief minister of Chhattisgarh, speak on the prospects of Make in India in Chhattisgarh. Candidate: (After thinking for about 20 seconds) \*Spoke about Bhilai Steel plant and development of allied industries, vast natural reserves and its sustainable mining and refinement, booming infrastructure opportunities especially since Chhattisgarh is a new state, great connectivity in the form of airport and railways which shouldn't create logistical problems\* (Was about to finish when A interrupted saying that 90 seconds were over)

PANELIST3: So you spoke about Bhilai Steel Plant and you have mentioned in the form about your internship there. So tell us when was it created?

Candidate: \*Answered\*

Then there were a few more questions on BSP about their products, specialty etc.

PANELIST3: Accha you said that there are reserves which can be mined and processed. And you talked about Aluminum and Bauxite. So how are they mined and processed?

Candidate: (Confounded as I had never read anything related to mining of Aluminum or Bauxite) Sir I am not very sure about the process.

PANELIST3: Then how did you mention about it?

Candidate: Sir I know for sure that BALCO (Bharat Aluminum Company Ltd.) carries it out in the state.

PANELIST3: Okay what is iron?

Candidate: \*Answered\*

PANELIST3: What is the difference between iron, iron ore and steel? Which among them is the purest?

Candidate: \*Answered, though not very well\*

PANELIST1: Okay you had said that you know about maps.

Candidate: (Hesitatingly, as I had merely mentioned surfing through maps as my hobby) Yes sir. I like to go through maps in my leisure time.

PANELIST1: So when was the first map made?

Candidate: I don't know sir.

PANELIST1: Accha what are the types of maps?

Candidate: Sir physical and political.

PANELIST1: Are ye to baccho wala answer ho gya.

Candidate: (Smiled. Didn't know what else to do!)

PANELIST1: OK, which major parameters define a map?

Candidate: Sir, latitude and longitude.

PANELIST1: OK. Does the equator pass through India?

Candidate: No sir.

PANELIST1: Then which major latitude passes through India?

Candidate: Sir, Tropic of Cancer.

PANELIST1: What is its specification?

Candidate: Sir 23.3 degrees north.

PANELIST1: Now suppose that you are standing on the equator right below India. You start moving towards the west direction. Which countries will fall on your right?

Candidate: (Sir now you have played the ball right into my court!) Sir all the European and North American countries. Starting from Sri Lanka, we have Maldives, Pakistan, Afghanistan and the Middle East. In Africa, we have Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria, Sudan, Western Sahara, Libya and a few more. Then we have the Caribbean islands and Venezuela in the American continent. A part of Brazil falls above the equator. Then we have Hawaii and Marshall Islands in the Pacific. Then back in Asia, we have China, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar among others.

PANELIST1: (Nods) Alright.



PANELIST2: Thank you. Do you have any questions?

Candidate: Sir I had applied for the IPM program of IIM Indore after class 12th and got selected. But as it wasn't very certain whether degrees would be given or diploma and with no batch passing out by then, 2014, I focused on getting an engineering base first. How is the IPM course going to be affected after the passing of IIM bill? PANELIST1: I think now it would not be of any meaning talking about IPM as you have applied for PGP.

Candidate: Sure sir. Thank you so much!

## Interview Experience – 43

IIM Indore Interview: The long one !!

Date: 12th February 2020

Profile: Bachelor of Commerce(H), Panjab University.

Category: General (Female).

10th/12th/Grad: 95%/95.2%/85.6%

CAT: 96.5 Percentile.

WAT Topic: Gender Discrimination In India-Reasons, steps taken and suggestions.

Personal Interview: There were 2 panelists.

P1: Which is your favorite Subject?

Me: Sir I am inclined more towards Economics.

P2 to P1: So, we should ask her questions on Finance.

P2: Alright?

Me: Sir, as you feel comfortable.

P2: What is EBIT?

Me: Answered. (Though because of his south Indian Accent, it took me a while to understand the question).

P2: What is EBDIT then?

Me: Answered.

P2: Okay, So If the former is 20000 and the latter is 22000, then where does this depreciation go?

Me: Sir, It is a non cash expense. It is shown In P/L account to reflect the true picture.

P2: Listen to the question carefully, where did it go?

Me: It is shown as a deduction in the value of Plant and Machinery. Otherwise, the balance sheet would showcase an inflated valuation.

P2: Look, you had 22000 profit in hand and because of depreciation, it reduced by 2000. Where did this 2000 go?

Me: As I already mentioned, it is a non cash expense. It doesn't go anywhere because it does not exist in cash form. It helps us to confront reality. Further gave examples and reasons.

(PS:- He repeated this question for 5-6 times more. I guess that he was trying to check my confidence on the answer I gave.)

P2: What is Provision for Depreciation?

Me: Answered.

P2: What are Reserves and Surplus?

Me: Answered.

P2: Why are they shown in balance Sheet?

Me: Answered.

P1: What do you do in your free time?

Me: Sir, writing for self and helping my father in his business, interrupts

P1: This cannot be called a hobby, leave it!

P1: Tell me all the major Rivers in India starting from one direction?

Me: Recalling the physical map, I did as a child....I started to name few.....interrupts

P2: Do you know Jan Gan Man? It includes the name of many rivers in it. Say it out!

Me: May I please stand?

P2: No no! Say it out as separate lines!

Me: Said.

(P.S:- It is very difficult to recite in the form of separate lines rather than singing it! Try to do so, while you read this!)

P2: Tell me the biggest river? It should only be present in India .

Me: Was not that confident, so refused to answer.

P1 : Name five past woman chief Ministers of India.

Me : Sheila Dikshit- Delhi.

Sushma Swaraj- Delhi.

Mamta Banerjee- West Bengal, interrupts

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P2: She cannot be counted because she is a present CM. Three more!(while counting on his fingers)

Me: Jai Lalitha, Tamil Nadu.

Anandiben Patel, Gujarat.

And Mehbooba Mufti, Jammu and Kashmir.

P1: Good, Are you aware of social topics?

Me: (Saw the extempore coming) Sir, As I mentioned in the starting, I am more inclined towards Economics.

P1 : So, You wont be able to speak on a social topic?

P2 : No sir , let us give her a topic in her area.(Came to my rescue since I was quite optimistic about Economics)

P2 : You have to Speak on Demonetization in India? Gave 30 seconds to think and 2 minutes for speaking.

P1 and P2 in-distinctively saying: You can change your topic now also. We will not deduct any marks for this . You will be marked for what you speak. (Tried to persuade me for 3-4 more mins)

Me: No Sir, I am comfortable with this topic.

Me: Fortunately, I was able to speak for complete two minutes. Beginning with the its date of happening and ending it with the impact in terms of statistical figures, it was the best part of my interview.

P1: Any questions for us?

P2 to P1: oh. Rather she would go to the website, she will find everything there.

Me: Okay Sir.

P1 and P2: Thank You.

Verdict: MR 932.

Lesson Learnt: Be firm on what you believe. More than your knowledge, your presence of mind and confidence help you deliver your best.

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If you do not have confidence in yourself, you can't expect the person on the other side of the table to show that first, and select you the next.

For my MDI Gurgaon Interview Experience refer: Anshul Garg's answer to How was your personal interview experience at the Management Development Institute (MDI), Gurgaon?

## Interview Experience – 44

**Venue:** IHM, Dadar

**Profile:** GEM Fresher

10/12/Graduation 95/89.7/78.7

**WAT Assessment:**

A number of governments in the past have proposed various schemes and measures to improve the condition of farmers. However, 70 years after Independence the plight of farmers is the same. Suggest a few measures to alleviate the suffering of farmers in India.

**Personal Interview:**

The panel had 3 male members (PANELIST1, PANELIST2 and PANELIST3)

PANELIST1: Tell me something about yourself.

CANDIDATE: Answered. Was interrupted within 15 seconds.

PANELIST1: So you're a chemical engineer. Tell me about your favourite subject.

CANDIDATE: Talked about the subject of Plant Design and Economics. Described how the design is done, how the costing is done, profitability analysis as well as about the techniques like HAZOP, SIS etc. Talked about how we got an opportunity to explore industrial disasters such as Chernobyl, Bhopal Gas Tragedy, Three Mile Island etc from a chemical engineering perspective.

PANELIST1: Okay. Tell me about the Bhopal Gas Tragedy from the economic point of view.

CANDIDATE: Tried to explain the financial scenario which was a reason for cost-cutting and indirectly the reason for the tragedy.

PANELIST2: No no this is the finance of it. Tell us about economics.

CANDIDATE: Sir, isn't finance a subset of economics?

PANELIST1: Not exactly, but okay let's move on.

PANELIST3: So are you good at mathematics.

CANDIDATE: Sir I would say I am decent.

PANELIST3: Okay do you remember 12th standard calculus.

CANDIDATE: Sir it is a bit rusty but I can try.

PANELIST3: \*wrote two questions on a piece of paper\*

$\int 3-2|x-1| \cdot dx$   $\int -23|x-1| \cdot dx$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} x-3x^2-9$   $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} x-3x^2-9$

CANDIDATE: Solved both.

PANELIST2: Okay since you are a chemical engineer, you must be familiar with Reynold's Number.

CANDIDATE: Yes sir, I know it

PANELIST2: Okay, explain it to me as if I am a layperson.

CANDIDATE: Tried to give the definition. Explained its relation with turbulence and laminar flow. Tried to explain the laminar flow and turbulent flow. Explained viscosity and density. However, they were not convinced.

PANELIST1: This is still not something a layperson will understand. Tell me the main reason for using it.

PANELIST2: Okay leave that. Let's move on to the non-technical questions.

Where are you from?

CANDIDATE: Sir I was born and brought up in Nagpur, the geographical centre of India.

PANELIST2: Okay. Who is the MP from Nagpur?

CANDIDATE: Nitin Gadkari

PANELIST2: What is his portfolio?

CANDIDATE: Answered.

PANELIST2: Suppose you are walking down the street. You see Nitin Gadkari. You talk to him for 1 minute. You can tell/ask him anything you want. We don't care if you ask for his daughter's hand in marriage \*\*smiles at PANELIST3\* You have 30 seconds to think and 1 minute to talk. Your time starts now. CANDIDATE: \*jotted down all the points in the given 30 seconds and started\*

Before beginning, I must say that asking Mr Gadkari for his daughter's hand would be rude as she is already married... Afterwards, I talked about the Metro in Nagpur and his views on it as Transport Minister. I asked about the situation of the Vidarbha issue which has now lost steam. Talked about the farmers' suicides in Vidarbha and a few questions about the General Elections 2019.

\*All three panelists looked satisfied. \*

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PANELIST2: If you say all this to Gadkari Ji he will say you're the youth. You should give me answers, not questions.

PANELIST1: Okay tell me about the heritage of the Mughal dynasty.

CANDIDATE: It begins with Babur who came to India from Fergana in 1450. He was succeeded by his son Humayun who briefly lost his throne to Sher Shah Suri but regained it and then the throne went to Akbar. After that it went to Jehangir, followed by Shah Jahan in whose reign the Taj Mahal was built. Shah Jahan was followed by Aurangzeb who was the main adversary of Shivaji Maharaj. I do not remember the emperors in between but the dynasty ended with Bahadur Shah Jafar who was a revolutionary in the 1857 Sepoy Mutiny.

\*I could see that all three panelists were really impressed as even I did not expect that I would remember all of this in detail. I was kind a sure that I was in the moment I answered this question\*

PANELIST3: What is the population of Nagpur.

CANDIDATE: Told the figure according to the 2011 census.

PANELIST3: So less? What is the population of Maharashtra then?

CANDIDATE: Sir I don't know that.

PANELIST3: Okay try to guess. What is the population of Mumbai?

CANDIDATE: I don't know sir.

PANELIST3: Guess toh karo

CANDIDATE: Guessed (way less)

PANELIST3: Okay so how many districts are there in Maharashtra?

CANDIDATE: Sir I think it is somewhere around 40.

PANELIST3: So many? Do you think one state can have so many districts?

How many districts do you think are in India?

CANDIDATE: Guessed 300

PANELIST3: So what fraction of India's districts is in Maharashtra?

CANDIDATE: around 1/7th

PANELIST3: Okay then assuming uniform population in all districts, what is the population of Maharashtra?

CANDIDATE: \*calculated\*

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PANELIST3: Now assuming 40 districts in India, what is the population of a district in Nagpur?

CANDIDATE: \*calculated and it was way more than the population of Nagpur that I had mentioned\*

PANELIST3: So... your estimate is way off the actual scene. Where do you think did you go wrong?

CANDIDATE: Sir I am confident about my calculations and the number of districts in Maharashtra so I guess it must be the total districts in India.

PANELIST2: Yes. The total number of districts in India is somewhere around 800 and the number of districts in Maharashtra is 43.

CANDIDATE: Okay sir.

PANELIST2: Okay. Thank you have a good day.

CANDIDATE: Good day to you too sir. Thank you!

## Interview Experience – 45

### Profile:

96/89/80/96.65 (10/12/graduation/CAT)

Final year Mechanical engineering student

General category

### WAT Assessment:

poor quality of education in government schools (30 min 300 words)

### Personal Interview

(3 panelists - all male)

PANELIST1: Tell me about yourself.

CANDIDATE: Talked about Gujaratis being business oriented and so am I. My long-term goal is setting up a business. Then about my logical reasoning skills being good, how it is so etc etc

PANELIST3: Then why wait for long term? Go start a business now.

CANDIDATE: Want to learn basics and have field experience.

PANELIST3: What business you want to set up?

CANDIDATE: Not exactly decided.

PANELIST3: Still. Which one would you like?

CANDIDATE: Probably Automobile.

PANELIST3: Different parts of automobile or what exactly?

CANDIDATE: Explained that can't directly go for large scale production of general category cars. so may be parts or may be high end cars for specific customers.

PANELIST1: Do you know any cars which do not have conventional engine or drivetrain?

CANDIDATE: As per recent technology, tesla cars.

(then PANELIST1 and PANELIST2 scrutinized me over drivetrain of electric cars, which motors are used, why, are they all 4 wheel drive, type of batteries, where they are placed in cars, why etc... all details...could tell about batteries...not about motors)

PANELIST2: asked about Stephen Boltzmann constant

CANDIDATE: explained little bit

now GK



PANELIST1: Do you follow indian current affairs?

CANDIDATE: yes

PANELIST1: In which states elections are due?

CANDIDATE: (thought he is asking about finished one as it was recent news) So named Tripura, Meghalaya, Nagaland

PANELIST1: asked it again

CANDIDATE: sorry sir. Rajasthan, Karnataka, mp

PANELIST1: when

CANDIDATE: don't know exactly... around end of 2018

Then came worst question there could be

PANELIST1: asked about in which states are iim kashipur, raipur, some other 2 names

(My main aim was CAT18. I was taking CAT17 just because I was eligible. So while filing form of CAT17, I made a big mistake and applied randomly for top 5 or 6 colleges that I knew of) CANDIDATE (could sense that winter is coming): Didn't know any of those

PANELIST1: You are applying for iims and dont know any of their states??!! (with disgust)

CANDIDATE: I didn't apply in any of those.

PANELIST1: Why

CANDIDATE: Explained in a way that my main aim was to go for CAT after 2-3 years of work ex as it has too much weightage in top IIMs. I set for CAT this year to get acquainted. But after result I've decided that if I can lend institute like iim indore then I will start mba and so I started preparing for interview then after.

PANELIST3: extempore - gujarat model of development

CANDIDATE: spoke average content

## Interview Experience – 46

### Venue:

Hotel Vivanta by Taj, New Delhi

### Profile:

95%, 85% & 83.33% in 10th, 12th and graduation (Civil Engineering)

## **WAT Assessment**

(300 words, 30 minutes):

Can today's advertisement be accused for misleading the society or not? (Don't remember the exact words of the topic but the question was about this only).

## **Personal Interview:**

Three panelists (X, Y and Z) in my panel. (Total were 5 panels). All males.

PANELIST2: How can we pronounce your name and what does it mean?

Candidate: Sir, it's X and it means love. (Motherly love)

PANELIST1: Which subject is your favorite subject in Civil engineering?

Candidate: Water Resources Engineering

PANELIST1: Any other subject apart from that?

Candidate: Operation Management

PANELIST1: Any other subject?

Candidate: Strength of Materials (though I was not good in it but had to say it).

PANELIST1: What is a phase change material?

Candidate: Thought for few seconds and replied "Sorry sir, I don't remember this term".

PANELIST1: What is Young's modulus and its significance?

Candidate: Answered correctly.

PANELIST1: Which material is more elastic, rubber or steel?

Candidate: Answered correctly (steel)

PANELIST1: Are you really sure about your answer?

Candidate: Yes sir! I'm sure

PANELIST1: Draw FBD diagram of a simply supported beam.

Candidate: Answered but did some mistake.

PANELIST1: What is momentum and moment of inertia?

Candidate: Defined momentum and was going to define MOI but interviewer Y interrupted.

PANELIST2: How long can a bridge survive without any maintenance?

Candidate: Answered

PANELIST2: Which equipment do Civil engineers use in the footing for Metro Construction to protect it from earthquake?

Candidate: Sir, I don't know the exact name of that equipment but the function of that equipment must be to absorb shock from the earth and not let it get transferred to the structure. There is a whole subject called "Seismic designing" which discuss about such type of equipments and engineering.

PANELIST2: Why do we use steel in concrete structures and not just cement and aggregates?

Candidate: Answered correctly (concrete has good compressive strength but lacks in tensile strength which steel provides in it).

PANELIST2: What is the ratio of mixture of cement and other aggregates in a concrete structure?

Candidate: Answered correctly

PANELIST3: Who is our current Highway and transport minister?

Candidate: Nitin Gadkari (Z was surprised by my answer as if he had assumed that I won't be able to answer it).

PANELIST3: How do you know about him?

Candidate: When demonetization took place in India, there used to be long queues on Delhi Highways. At that time, Nitin Gadkari had removed tolls in Delhi.

PANELIST3: (Satisfied by answer said "Very good")

X, now we will give you a topic on which you have to speak for two minutes without break and you can take your time to start. Topic is "Government is coming up with so many big projects (like with projects of 14000 crores on infrastructure). Do you think such projects are really beneficial for our country?"

Candidate: (I was very well prepared with GDP growth data, current GDP of India and GDP of other developed countries as well and I knew how to connect it with the growth in infrastructure specially with electronic infrastructure).

I started speaking without even thinking for a single second.

PANELIST2 interrupted and asked me to think before I speak since I had to speak for 2 minutes non-stop.

Candidate: Sure sir. (Thought for 15–20 seconds) Then started speaking. I was confident with extempore since I had previously won extempore competition.

PANELIST2: Thank you X. You can go.

Thus, my interview ended and the whole day went good afterwards added with a girl proposing in the evening: p

## Interview Experience – 47

**Venue:** Hotel kenilworth, Kolkata

### **WAT Assessment –**

How Ease of doing business ranking is created? What is your opinion on India regarding ease of doing business? What government can do to improve ease of doing business in India?

Decent Write up with proper government initiatives and explanation detailing it's impact on Indian industry. Ended with some suggestions.

### **Personal Interview**

Three panelist PANELIST1 - Alumni, PANELIST2 & PANELIST3 Prof. and M - mere liye.

PANELIST2 - Tell us something about yourself.

PANELIST1 - Told

PANELIST2 - Are you an Economics Graduate?

PANELIST1 - Yes sir,

PANELIST2 - Your Favourite in Economics?

PANELIST1 - Sir, Microeconomics

PANELIST2 - Draw Demand curve and explain it. PANELIST1 - Drawn and explained it Properly (all 3-panelist satisfied)

PANELIST2 - You must have taken some assumptions while drawing it. What are those?

PANELIST1 - Assumptions I took were:

- Income of Consumer
- Taste of Consumer
- Price of complementary and substitute goods
- Number of buyers and sellers in the Market And explained all these properly...

PANELIST2 - what is price elasticity of demand?

PANELIST1 - Price elasticity of demand refers to Percentage change in Quantity demanded of a good with respect to

Percent change in it's Price.

Mathematical expression of price elasticity of demand:

Price Elasticity = (% Change in Quantity) / (% Change in Price)

PANELIST2 - what is income elasticity?

PANELIST1 - Income elasticity of Demand refers to the Percentage change in Quantity demanded with respect to the percentage change in Income of the consumer.

Mathematical expression of Income elasticity:

Price Elasticity = (% Change in Quantity) / (% Change in Income)

PANELIST1 - tell me the equation of the graph you drawn? (he gave me 3 equation)

- $Y = x + 5$
- $Y = -x + 3$
- $XY = 5$

PANELIST1 - Told him the correct option and he seems satisfied.

PANELIST1 - How to calculate the Slope of this Demand Curve (Pointing to the curve I Made)?

PANELIST1 - Told The Slope formula

PANELIST1 - X, Today we called 10 students in a panel but 1 is absent then In how many ways we can call all 9

candidates for Interview?

PANELIST1 - Sir, 9! ways (told Instantly without taking any time)

PANELIST3 - Why?

PANELIST1 - Sir, Suppose if I am an Interviewer and I have to Interview you 3 people, Let's call your name A,B,C. If I called A first then I can call either B or C in any order I want. (Further I say anything he told me OK I got it)

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PANELIST3 - Extempore Time and Told me all the rules...and topic... My topic was "Compulsory attendance should be removed from higher education".

PANELIST1 - Told not completely but attendance limit should be reduced which gives students a chance to explore other areas and support entrepreneurship and gives the example of Facebook and Microsoft and elaborated on it.

PANELIST3 - Who drafted The Constitution of India?

PANELIST1 - Sir, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar.

PANELIST3 - Tell me something about Indian Parliament? PANELIST1 - Told about lok sabha & Rajya sabha, How Members of Lok sabha and Rajya sabha are elected.

PANELIST3 - Why Rajya sabha is called Upper House?

PANELIST1 - Told him Sir I don't know the exact reason.... might be because they are indirectly elected representative.

PANELIST3 - What do you mean by indirectly elected?

PANELIST1 - Sir member of Lok sabha are directly elected by people but Members of Rajya sabha are elected by the Elected Members of legislative assembly.

PANELIST3 - who is the chairman of Rajya sabha?

PANELIST1 - Sir, Vice President of India Venkaiah Naidu.

PANELIST3 - Who is the Current speaker of lok sabha?

PANELIST1 - Sir Sumitra Mahajan.

PANELIST3 - which is the opposition party in Lok sabha? PANELIST1 - Sir UPA (later I checked and found it's vacant)

PANELIST3 - Ok we are done.

Told, thank you sir... came out

## Interview Experience – 48

**Venue:** Hotel Vivanta by Taj, New Delhi

### **WAT Assessment:**

What do you think about the rising rates of pollution in India? Discuss in detail, enumerating causes and ways to combat the same (300 words, 30 minutes)

### **Personal Interview:**

Three male panelists A, B and C (All Professors).

Once the previous candidate was out, I knocked on the door and they asked me to come in. This is how our conversation went after exchanging pleasantries:

PANELIST2: Tell us something about yourself.

Candidate: \*Spoke about under graduation, academic and extra-curricular achievements, hobbies including reading and writing\*

PANELIST2: So we will begin with the extempore. Since you mentioned so much about writing, your topic is Indian writers, and whether we have enough of them or not, and the reasons for the same.

Spoke about the lack of exposure to long writing, writing not being seen as a career option, difficulty in getting a book published, etc. Ended by mentioning the some of the great Indian writers like Arundhati Roy, Salman Rushdie. PANELIST2: Nowadays a lot of engineers are writing books as well. Can you mention some? Candidate: Amish Tripathi, Durjoy Dutta

(I don't know what I was thinking to have mentioned these two together :P)

PANELIST2: (Interrupting) What about someone who was an MBA degree as well?

Candidate: Chetan Bhagat?!?

\*Low key cursing myself for blurting that out without thinking, but then I couldn't think of anyone else that time\*

I could see tension lines on B's face that told me my last answer had not gone down very well. Immediately covered up:

CANDIDATE: Sir, we may not approve of him, but he is the reason so many teenagers started reading in the first place.

People who may not be able to understand the depths of a Rushdie are able to enjoy a book because of him today.

Gradually, these people may move to better books, all because Mr. Bhagat gave them the confidence to pick up one.

So he's definitely increasing the number of readers in India, which is a commendable thing according to me.

B seemed better now

All this while, C had been drawing something. Now he hands over the sheet to me. It has an hourglass like figure formed by way of 2 cones inside a cylinder. He asks me to calculate the volume of a particular part, which I do. He now draws up one big cone adjacent to the previous figure and asks me to calculate its volume. I stretch out my hand, asking for my pen, which he is holding, but he refuses to give it to me :P

C1: Do it mentally.

Candidate: Sir I can't.

C1: At least try once?

Candidate: \*Squint my eyes and pretend to concentrate\*

C1: \*Finally hands me the pen and I answer\*

PANELIST1: The elections for 3 states have recently taken place. Can you name all three?

Candidate: \*Evil smiling because I had prepared this one\*

Yes Sir, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Tripura.

PANELIST1: This was an easy one, but what if I ask you the names of the new CMs as well? Would you be able to answer that?

Winks at B and C

Candidate: Yes Sir, For Nagaland it is Mr. Neiphiu Rio, for Tripura it is Mr. Biplab Deb, and for Meghalaya it is \_\_\_\_ (Took the name of some other state minister)

PANELIST1: But wasn't it Conrad-something for Meghalaya?

Candidate: Of course not sir, I am very sure :P

PANELIST2: The sister of Meghalaya's CM is a reknown personality, can you talk about her and her work?

Candidate: (Giving the dirtiest look I could) No sir.

PANELIST2: Thank you. You may leave now

## Interview Experience – 49

**Venue:** Hotel Monarch Luxur, Bangalore

### **Profile:**

X - 9.8 (CGPA), XII - 96.4%, B.E. - 9.72 (CGPA), CAT - 96.32(GEM), Work Ex - 17 Months

### **WAT Assessment**

Marketing is responsible for creation of new segments in the industry. What are your views on this?  
(Time given was half an hour for WAT)

Panelists: There were 3 Male panelists. Lets call them PANELIST1, PANELIST2 and PANELIST3. All of them looked like Profs.

### **Personal Interview:**

(I was fourth in the panel. PANELIST2 called me in)

PANELIST1: Tell us something about yourself.

Candidate: <Told> (Had a well-rehearsed answer for this)

PANELIST1: You must be very sad, Subham. Nadal went out in the semi-finals of the Australian Open.  
(Had mentioned in the intro that I am a big fan of Rafael Nadal)

Candidate: Spoke about Rafa's 2 grand slam wins last year and said that as a fan, it has been a pleasure for me to see Rafa play for the last 13 years.

PANELIST3: Have you read his auto-biography?

Candidate: Yes, sir.



PANELIST3: What are some of the superstitions that he follows?

Candidate: Spoke a lot about this.

PANELIST3: What do you like the most about him?

Candidate: Spoke about his attitude of never giving up, no matter what the circumstances are.

(All this time, PANELIST2 was going through my application form)

PANELIST2: Your parents stay in Jabalpur, right?

Candidate: Yes, sir.

PANELIST2: What is the most famous thing about Jabalpur?

Candidate: Spoke about the Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur which manufactures and assembles military vehicles.

PANELIST2: Do you know any other famous thing about Jabalpur?

Candidate: Told him about the Bhedaghat falls.

PANELIST2: Yes, the Bhedaghat falls. Have you been there?

Candidate: No, sir. But have heard a lot about it from my Mom.

PANELIST2: Your dad is in Defence, right?

Candidate: Yes, sir.

PANELIST2: What do you think about the Make In India initiative? How will it impact our defence forces?

Candidate: Had read a lot about this, both positives and negatives. But concentrated mainly on the positive sides while speaking and said that, it won't be fair to judge the Make in India initiative within 2–3 years. Probably 10 years down the line, we'll see its real impact.

PANELIST2: Tell us one thing in which our Armed forces are self-reliant and one in which they are not.

Candidate: For the not self-reliant part, I mentioned the fighter aircraft, submarine, missiles, etc. acquisition from foreign countries. (I could not think of anything in which our armed forces are completely self-reliant)

PANELIST2: What about the self-reliant part?

Candidate: Sir, I am not able to think of any aspect where our armed forces are completely self-reliant.

PANELIST2: Then, how have we won so many wars?

Candidate: Sir, we have won wars because of our soldiers. Kargil war is a great example of the perseverance of the Indian Army. We were able to move a lot of soldiers in a very short time and from a position of surprise we were able to win the war because of the valiant effort of our soldiers.

PANELIST2: Why do you think Pakistan attacked Kargil? They could have attacked some other place where it was tougher for the Indian Army to deploy soldiers in a short time.

Candidate: Spoke about Operation Meghdoot where we had captured the Siachen Glacier by fooling Pakistan and to take revenge for that, they had captured the heights of Kargil in a similar fashion. Also mentioned that by capturing the heights of Kargil, it was easy to cut the National Highway which connects Srinagar and Leh. This would have given strategic advantage to the Pakistanis.

(He seemed satisfied with my answers)

PANELIST2: You mentioned that you work for Mu Sigma. What are your roles and responsibilities?

Candidate: <Told>

PANELIST2: Explain the concept of insurance.

Candidate: <Explained> (Had mentioned that I work in insurance domain)

(They asked me about insurance for soldiers. I was not able to answer questions on this properly.)

(After this, PANELIST3 pitched in)

PANELIST3: So, which technologies have you worked on?

Candidate: Sir, SQL and Excel.

PANELIST3: What are the different types of join in SQL?

Candidate: Told

PANELIST3: Where would you use a cross-join?

Candidate: Told

(After this PANELIST1 gave me a question in Excel. It was a basic VLOOKUP. Didn't write the entire formula. Just walked him through the solution.)

PANELIST2: OK X. We'll do an exercise now. It is called an extempore. We'll give you a topic and you have to think about that topic for 30 seconds and speak about it for 90 seconds.

(The topic given to me was: India should support the Balochis and the Uyghurs by providing them with arms and ammunition, so that they revolt against their country and form a separate state.)

I told them that India should support Balochis as Pakistan military is doing many atrocities against them. Since, there are not many atrocities being done against Uyghurs in China, there is no need to interfere there.

PANELIST2: OK X. We're done. You may leave now. All the best.

(Wished them a nice day and left the room)

## Interview Experience – 50

B.A. Economics (H) graduate from Hansraj College, University of Delhi

Work Experience: Few months with a management consulting firm

Date: April 29th, 2020

Location: Home (Online Interview)

Time: 4:45 PM

WAT - Scrapped

Before I start, I want to state that my interview was scheduled on 4th April, 2020 in Delhi. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was postponed and then taken online.

I waited nearly an hour past the scheduled time for the panelists to let me enter the virtual meeting room. There were two male professors, P1 (probably in his 40s) and P2 (probably in his mid 30s). P1 started the interview. We exchanged pleasantries and then P1 commenced. I'll denote myself by M.

M - Good Evening, Sir.

P1 & P2 (both together) - Good Evening, Jayant.

P1- We are audible to you, right?

M - Yes, Sir.

P1 - Okay so Jayant, please introduce yourself.

M - (responded with a well rehearsed answer, talking about my hobbies, startup experience, PORs, internships, competitions etcetera)

Economics & technical questions:

P1 - So, you are an economics graduate. What is the difference between monopoly and monopsony?

M - Spoke about how Monopoly is a single seller and many buyer case while Monopsony is the polar opposite case with a single buyer and many sellers.

P1 - Can you think of an example for Monopsony?

M - Explained how labour market could be an example where people belonging to a particular skill set supplying labour (are sellers) and a single company bidding for them (is a buyer).

P1 - Can you think of a practical life example also? Related to day-to-day life?

M - (after thinking for a few secs) explained how e-rick market in North Campus Delhi works as an example when an individual has to board a rickshaw

(Both professors seemed quite happy after my answer)

P1 - What is IS-LM model?

M - (the most expected one) Explained how the same is a Keynesian technique and talked about their derivations when goods and money markets are in equilibrium.

P1 - What is Fisher's effect? Could you explain the equation also?

M - Explained how the relationship among real interest rate, nominal interest rate and inflation rate gives rise to Fisher effect. Then explained the equation further refining the expected inflation rate.

P1- What is the difference between nominal and real interest rate?

M - Nominal reflects monetary terms while real reflects the quantum in terms of goods and services

P1 - You might have heard of MRS being diminishing in nature as a general principle, right? Prove it mathematically.

M - Answered assuming a Cobb-Douglas preference structure and then applying partial derivatives

P1 - Tell me how Solow model was an improvement over Harrod-Domar Model?

M - Talked about Harrod-Domar being a knife-edge cutting model wherein a change in savings rate produces a permanent effect on the growth of GDP, told how Solow improved the situation by bringing in other factors such as labour population growth

P1 - What is normal distribution?

M - the continuous random variable and probability distribution concentrated on mean, then draw the bell shaped curve and explained its properties a bit

P1 - What is a natural monopoly?

M - Explained about how such monopolies have very high establishment costs and then witness the large economies of scale

P1- What are the two major causes for market failure?

M - Concentration of Power (Monopoly) and Externalities

Entrepreneurship and Indian economy:

(P1 then gave a signal to P2 to take over.)

P2 - I can see that you have good command over your graduation subjects. Well, let's shift the topics a bit now. In your introduction, you mentioned that you have had an opportunity of working with a startup from scratch. Tell me what is bootstrap funding?

M - (nervous chuckle) an entrepreneur risking his own bootstraps (money) as an initial source for venture capital

P2 - What is a unicorn? Give some names for Indian unicorns.

M - Startups with valuations over one dollar billion. Gave examples of Ola, Paytm, Flipkart, OYO, Byju's

P2 - Who was Victor Lustig?

M - (sorry, who!?) Sir, I am not sure. I am hearing this name for the first time in my life.

Fun fact: He was a con artist who is believed to have sold Eiffel tower.

(Googled it after my interview)

P2 - You sure are, anyways, who is Elon Musk?

M - Talked about him being a technology and industrial entrepreneur, also spoke about SpaceX and Tesla

P2 - Explain a bit about Tesla cars.

M - Talked about Tesla electric cars providing world's transition to sustainable & clean energy solutions

(Then he named a few US start-ups, I wasn't aware about any of those, so, I requested him that global entrepreneurship wasn't really my side.)

P2 - (Maybe, realising that I have a knack for Economics) What is Economic survey? Who publishes it?

M - Told

P2 - Who is our finance minister and Chief Economic advisor?

M - Nirmala Sitharaman and Krishnamurthy Subramanian

P2 - Explain the theme of recent economy survey.

M - (Feeling relieved that I have had read about it a few days back) Explained how the same focussed on wealth creation alongside the support from government

P2 - Okay Jayant. We will now have an extempore.

You will have 30 secs to think and 1.5 mins to speak.

You topic is - "COVID-19 has disrupted our lives."

M - (woahh, the topic was so simple that on the top of my mind, I felt that I needed no time to think, but still I structured my approach before speaking) Spoken how the same has affected Indian economy, global economy, core economic sectors, personal lives and professional lives. Ended the extempore on a positive note highlighting how it has knitted the whole world in a single thread of unity to fight against the same.

P1 - Any Questions for us, Jayant?

M - Yes Sir. Was wondering how classes and regular activities at IIM Indore shall be proceeding amidst the pandemic crisis, if you could chart out a bit of details, that would be too great.

P1 - Explaining me how online modules are also being tested upon and a part of Term-1 will definitely be going online. Social distancing and other norms shall also be introduced whilst conducting regular classs even in the offline scenario. Rest information shall flow via official communication streams and the same will be adhered as per the government guidelines.

M - Sure, Sir. That was really helpful.

(Then P1 nodded and asked me to exit the meeting room.)

Verdict: Converted

Afterword: I really felt that the interview stressed more on my acads. So, being thorough with whatever you have studied in your bachelor's is a must. I didn't really expect such a smooth conversation, but they didn't grill me at all.

### **Profile**

X (WBBSE 2012) 89.86 | XII (WBCHSE 2014) 88.71 | B.E. (Electrical Engg.) Jadavpur University-8.49 GPA  
(As per CAT 2017 application)

GEM Fresher

CAT 2017 - 98.87 percentile (99.54 percentile in QA)

### **Venue:**

Hotel Kenilworth, Kolkata

### **WAT Assessment:**

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

### **Personal Interview:**

Three panelists, 2 males PANELIST1 and PANELIST3 and 1 female PANELIST2 I had to open the door and get in.

PANELIST1: Almost pouncing after giving me the permission to sit down. So, you are an Electrical Engineer...tell me your favorite topic in Electrical Engineering.

Candidate: Sir, Transformers

PANELIST1: But, I don't want to ask you questions on that... Let's start with power systems

Candidate: \*had no option and so nodded my head\* -Ok, Sir.

PANELIST1: So, tell me do you know anything about buses?

Candidate: I wasn't sure what kind of buses he was talking about and so decided to answer the question with the buses present in a power system. For eg- the PV, PQ buses  
PANELIST1: Describe each of the buses in detail

Candidate: I describe all the buses correctly.

PANELIST1: \*pleased on hearing the answer\* That's right. Take the sheet and can you derive the condition of maximum efficiency of a transformer

Candidate: \*I take the sheet \*

PANELIST1: Are you sure you can derive it?

Candidate: \*Confidently\* Yes Sir, and start writing the equations relating the efficiency of a transformer.

PANELIST1: \*Even before I could finish deriving it\* Stop. I get it..you can derive it...Tell me about the different kinds of transformers you know and also tell me their operating principle

Candidate: \*thinking chalo ab mera area of interest pe aye hain\* Answers all the questions related to transformers correctly and PANELIST1 seemed impressed

PANELIST3 (all of a sudden): You seem to be good with transformers. But I will ask you questions on Series motors

Candidate: \*thinking to myself-Shit. This is not fair\*

PANELIST3: Asked only 3 questions from Series Motors but all were based on his industrial experiences.

Candidate: I could answer 2 of them and didn't have any clue for the 3rd one. \* I am sure PANELIST3 must have been an Electrical Engineer who has worked in the core sector for many years\*

PANELIST3: You are going to be an Electrical Engineer...You should know all these things.

Candidate: Sorry, Sir. I am not good in this topic.

PANELIST1: Leave it, X. Tell me-have you done any project in your final year?

Candidate: Yes, Sir and started describing about the project details on being asked to.

PANELIST1: Got interested and asked a few other questions from my project work which I answer.

PANELIST1 (turns towards PANELIST2): I am done interviewing him. Do you want to ask anything Mam?

PANELIST2: Oh yes. I hope you aware of the recent happenings. Tell me something that has caught your attention recently

Candidate: Told them about the A320 neo air crafts along with the engine failure problems and they seemed interested to know more about the topic.

PANELIST2: It's good to see that you take so much interest in technology related affairs but are you aware of the current happenings in Kashmir? Give me your views on this and the steps the Govt. should undertake to stop all these. Candidate: gave my views on the topic while PANELIST1 didn't seem interested much to hear all this

PANELIST2: Ok, I get your views. Now tell me the number of attacks on Kashmir this year?

Candidate: 3, Mam.

PANELIST2: Tell me the number of attacks last year

Candidate: I don't remember that Mam



PANELIST2: Then tell me the number of attacks in the last 5 years

Candidate: \*sighs When I don't know the number of attacks of last year how can she expect me to remember the attacks of last 5 years but still I answer\* Mam I don't remember the figures of the number of attacks but there have been numerous attacks in the last 5 years and it's like we get to hear an attack at some place in Kashmir every month.

PANELIST2: Ok. Who is the CM of Kashmir?

Candidate: Mehbooba Mufti, Mam

PANELIST2: Thank you. We are done interviewing you. You may leave now.

Candidate: I get up, thank each of them and leave the room.

**Verdict: waitlisted**

## Interview Experience – 51 ●

### Profile:

Tenth:92%

Inter:97.9%

B. Tech:91.11%

Cat :96

Category: NC-OBC

### WAT Assessment

Supreme court decided to have National anthem sung in movie theaters. Does this promotes patriotism? Is it the only way to promote patriotism what is your opinion?

### Personal Interview

PANELIST2: so how you, people are feeling sitting outside what is the situation there?

Candidate: we are fine sir and have a little bit nervousness(smiling)

PANELIST2: what is the talk about us?

Candidate: they said that you are grilling on academics (they smiled looking at one another)

PANELIST2: ok tell me on what topics you are willing to speak lets speak on them only

Candidate: sir I will speak about my hobbies

PANELIST2: do we talk the entire interview only on hobbies???

Candidate: No sir We can consider academics also like..... mobile and cellular communication and some current world issues.

panelist2: So what current issues did you followed?

Candidate: some world issues like North Korea –South Korea problem, Israel –Palestine problem, Trump's presidency and recently about Obama care issue

PANELIST2: ok lets talk about Obama care? what is the fault with Obama care? why Trump want to scrap that? Candidate: Actually according to Obama care every American citizen has to enroll, if they were not enrolled then they will be taxed heavily ...some people may not like to enroll but they are paying heavy taxes for not enrolling and moreover people who were enrolled, thier premium is increasing year by year and this is becoming a burden to people.... if there is any dangerous near death situation then only they were given insurance so people couldn't get its benefits properly even after paying money, and the website designed for this purpose didn't work properly in the initial days of its launch..... so there are several issues in that ...which didn't go well with people and finally some people got frustrated with it.

PANELIST2: ok then did he able to scrap that

Candidate: no sir

PANELIST2: why?

Candidate: Sir there are some millions of people who are depending on that and who are benefited from that so if they scrap suddenly without any replacement then it will backfire against them.

PANELIST2: ok do you know about Paris climatic conference

Candidate: I know that the climate conference was held in Paris sir but I don't know the exact data regarding that

PANELIST2: ok does Trump support it or not?

Candidate: No sir Trump may not encourage that policy he encourages more business oriented and industry-oriented ones... If America has to follow the policy laid out in Paris conference then industries get affected, so he will not encourage such things and moreover we can see the case of Dakota pipeline and some other pipeline also..... he again started them..... actually, Obama stopped them because America is considered as big brother and it has to be role model for this policy but Trump felt that industries should be encouraged since it has tough competition from china also at one side so he may not support .... sir

PANELIST3: So do you know math?

Candidate: yes, sir I will try

PANELIST3: ok draw the graph of  $y^2=4x$

PANELIST1: what is that graph?

Candidate: It is parabola sir

Candidate: I drew it then he asked to draw  $y=4x$  in the same graph I drew that then he asked will both of them have area enclosed in it

Candidate: answered it

PANELIST3: Ok how do we do determine the area enclosed in these curves (gave a parabola and straight line)

Candidate: Answered (Inter Math.... didn't expected this in the interview ....)

PANELIST2: ok tell me do you have any female business person whom you aspire and admire so much

Candidate: I don't have any such kind of one as of now.... sir

PANELIST1: ok tell me some famous women business people in India at least in the world

Candidate: Indra Nooyi, C.E.O of Pepsico

Arundhati Bhattacharya, SBI chairperson

Chanda Kochhar, ICICI bank C.E.O

(thought for some time and said) I couldn't think of other names sir

PANELIST2: ok tell me why female C.E.Os are less in number

Candidate: Sir actually female started coming out in the sense they started to be educated probably from the last 100 years or so .....men are there in the fields right from the beginning onwards and moreover if we consider on generation before for example my mother's generation then in those days, parents didn't give much importance for the education of a girl child when compared to a boy in the same house.....what parents thought is a girl will get married and go to some other place, so there is no need of education and a son has to be educated well, but now the situation changed, so now in education girls are treated on par with boys to a large extent. so may be the gap was there at present but in future this will reduce a lot sir and there is a change in the mindset of people from one generation to the next generation. So we can see a change in this trend of women being less in number to women being equal or may be greater in the future .... sir...

## Interview Experience – 52

### Venue:

hotel monarch luxur, bangalore

### WAT Assessment:

The wat topic was 'subjects such as humanities aren't given attention as science takes the limelight. However companies look for a broad base education in their employees. How can universities devise courses to make students more employable.'

I gave points regarding multi-disciplinary courses, Interaction btw working professionals and students during their course, internships and quizzes that should be made mandatory to promote awareness. I also stressed on some subjects such as principles of management and humanities that should also be incorporated in the curriculum.

### **Personal Interview:**

There were 3 panelists. I asked if I may enter the room. When i started to wish them a good afternoon, one of them asked me to take a seat.

PANELIST1: So X, what are you currently pursuing?

Candidate: Answered (I wondered if this was an introduction qn or a straight to the point one. I settled on the latter.)

PANELIST1: So u are a fresher. why not get some work experience and then do mba. why do u want to do an mba?

Candidate:(Heart beating fast!Shit!)Answered that i like quant and wanted to study the business part of how an organization works as i had little knowledge abt that.I also mentioned that i looked under the pedagogy of the b schools and subjects such as quantitative methods for demand forecasting and managerial economics caught my interest(yeah...typical bullshit).

(Calmed down a bit after the fast heartbeats)

PANELIST2: But those are only 2 subjects out of 27?

Candidate: Answered that i liked quant and that was my strength. I also mentioned that i didn't want to waste an opportunity in joining a reputed b school like indore. I stated that i wanted to know the business side of a company as i had some technical knowledge and that it'll help me later when i work.

PANELIST1: So ur strength is quant? We will test u on that.

Candidate (creepy smile)

PANELIST2: What is probability? what is a determinant? what is a Bayes' theorem and how do u write a set which is composed of null sets?

Candidate: Answered. (wrote some on a piece of paper)

PANELIST2: Mm...if u throw that pencil at that clock on the wall, what is the probability that it will hit it?

Candidate (thought for some time): Sir, I think the probability is the ratio of area of the clock(circle) to that of the wall on which it was hanging.

PANELIST2: so the probability is same for u and me? How do u mathematically prove that?

Candidate: (fumbled a bit) sir the ratio should also be multiplied by the accuracy of the person who is throwing it (which can be found by doing the same experiment 5 or any no of times and then the finding the probability, which will give the accuracy of the person.)

PANELIST3: What is the meant by destructive and non-destructive testing?

Candidate: Sir i took an elective as Non destructive testung. So i'll explain that first.

PANELIST3(smiling): That is y we are asking.

Candidate: Answered the qn.

PANELIST3: What is Young's modulus of elasticity?

Candidate: Answered.

PANELIST3: are u sure it is stress by strain? not the other way around?

Candidate: No sir, I am sure.

PANELIST3: Is stress a destructive testing or a non destructive one?

Candidate: Destructive as there is damage to the specimen. (Explained abt how a stress test is conducted using the stress vs strain graph and mentioned the fatigue and yield stresses.)

PANELIST1: What are the processes that a bill goes through in the parliament?

Candidate: answered and said it requires two-thirds majority for it to be passed and then, only the Presidents's signature is required for it to be an Act.

PANELIST1: What if it doesn't get two-thirds? what are the two houses of parliament and what if one house opposes the bill and the other house doesn't?

Candidate: answered the second qn and said that i was not sure with my answer on the first qn.

PANELIST1: what is GST and what will it replace?

Candidate: Answered and mention the 14% criteria (not sure abt this though).

PANELIST3: Do u know any famous Menon since u r from the Menon family?

Candidate(flabbergasted): Sir i know only one...answered.

PANELIST3: What is his name?

Candidate: Answered.

PANELIST3: Ever heard of Krishnan Menon?

Candidate:(didn't know a basic gk qn) Sir, I don't know sir.

PANELIST3: Mm ... We have a generation gap in gk.  
Candidate Return of the creepy smile)

PANELIST1: Okay u can go.  
Candidate: Thank u, sir.

**Verdict: waitlisted**

## Interview Experience – 53

### Venue

Vivanta by Taj, Dwarka

### Profile-

10/12/B.tech= 95/94.8/72.8

CAT- 98.73

### WAT Assessment-

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?

Word Limit- 300 words

Two pages were provided for WAT and written space was provided on three sides.

CONNECT | ASPIRE | TRANSFORM

After 30 minutes, those who were done with the verification process were allotted any one of 4 panels. For rest, invigilators first verified the documents and then allotted panels. I was the last one to be interviewed in forenoon slot.

### Personal Interview

There were three panelists, let's say PANELIST1, PANELIST2, PANELIST3. PANELIST1 and PANELIST2 were in their late

forties and PE were in early thirties, I guess.

Candidate- Good morning, sirs

PANELIST3- So X, give us a brief introduction of yourself.

Candidate- Answered

PANELIST1- So you are from Engineering Physics, how does mobile communication takes place?

Candidate- Our mobiles have microstrip antenna which act as both transmitter and receiver. It send the signals to nearest mobile tower, which further sends the signal to another tower and finally to target mobile.

PANELIST2-What are different types of antennas?

Candidate- The most commonly used antennas are microstrip antennas and helical antennas.

PANELIST1- When you observe a mobile tower closely, what all components it has?

Candidate- Sir, I do not know

PANELIST1-Okay, how do you send your voice across in mobile communication?

Candidate- We send the information via modulation. We can use frequency modulation, amplitude modulation, phase modulation, etc.

PANELIST1- Draw a frequency modulated wave.

Candidate- Drawn and Started explaining when I was interrupted by PANELIST1

PANELIST1- What other subjects did you study in your last semester?

Candidate- I studied Quantum Computing, \*interrupted again by PANELIST1\*

PANELIST1- Explain quantum computing

Candidate- The normal computers which we use have transistors at level, which form a gate to perform various operations. A transistor essentially controls the flow of electrons...\*Was interrupted by PANELIST2\*

PANELIST2- Explain like you will explain to a person with no prior knowledge of it. Candidate- Alright sir, one bit can be either 0 or 1 in a normal computer, and these bits perform various operations. In quantum computer, we have a different type of bit called qubit, which can take both values at once because of superposition. It is probabilistic in nature and by using "n" qubits, function on  $2^n$  normal bits can be performed.

PANELIST3- What is Schrodinger's black box experiment?

Candidate- \*Explained\*

PANELIST1- What was your major project? Candidate- \*started explaining the project, which used Bluetooth to communicate\*

PANELIST1- If my device is 2 kilometers apart from your model, how will I communicate with it?

Candidate- I do not know \*Couldn't recall anything about types of communication systems\*

PANELIST3- Okay, take pen and paper and write- Siachen glacier, Indira Point, Kibithuin, Guhar Moti. Now, what is the correlation between these points?

Candidate- \*I know that Siachen glacier was the farthest point in North, but had no idea about other three\* Sorry sir, I do not know

PANELIST3- It's okay. Write a topic. You'll have 30 seconds to think on the topic and then you'll have to speak for 90 seconds.

Topic- Should organ donation be made compulsory in India or not?

Candidate- \*I told that yes, it should be made mandatory and explained my stance\*

PANELIST3- \* Gave a name of social organisation and told me explain about it\*

Candidate- Sorry sir, I haven't heard of it before.

PANELIST3- Okay, Karnataka Khadi Gramodyoga Samyukta Sangha is the only organisation which is allowed to make one thing, which is it?

Candidate- \*In a jiffy\* Sir it is National flag of India

PANELIST3- Good

PANELIST2- please sign this attendance sheet

PANELIST2- \*suddenly\* What do you know about microfinance industries?

Candidate- \*I had no clue whatsoever, still took a guess, which was somewhat near\*

PANELIST2- Who has won a Nobel prize in microfinance recently?

Candidate- I do not know about it sir as I mostly follow physics related Nobel prize

PANELIST2- Okay who won it for physics recently?

Candidate- Rainer Weiss and Kip S Thorne \*Trying hard to recall the third name but couldn't\*

PANELIST2- For what?

Candidate- They made LIGO which has detected gravitational waves and... \*interrupted by PANELIST3\*

PANELIST3- Kip S Thorne is famous for one more thing recently, what is it?

Candidate- I know more about Rainer Weiss.

PANELIST3- He wrote the screenplay for Interstellar movie.

PANELIST2- Any Indian who has won Nobel prize in physics?

Candidate- Sir CV Raman won it for discovering Raman effect \*started explaining Raman effect\*



PANELIST2- Any other Indian for same field?

Candidate- I can't recall any names as of now.

PANELIST3 asks PANELIST1 and PANELIST2 if they had anything to ask?

PANELIST3- So X, we are done here. Have a good day.

Candidate- Same to you, sir

## Interview Experience – 54

### Venue:

Hotel Vivanta by Taj, Lucknow

### Profile

X (CBSE 2013) 95.00 | XII (CBSE 2015) 95.80 | B.Tech. (Electronics and Communication Engg.) MNNIT ALLAHABAD (As per CAT application) | GEM Fresher

### INTERVIEW

Three male panelists. Let's call them PANELIST1, PANELIST2 and PANELIST3

PANELIST1(35–40 yrs) Associate Professor, PANELIST2(45–50 yrs) and PANELIST3(around 60 yrs)

PANELIST3: So, tell us something about yourself?

Candidate: Gave the well-rehearsed answer which I had prepared beforehand.

PANELIST3: Tell us about the Venezuela crisis.

Candidate: Started telling about the country's economy, the oil crisis and major partners involved.

PANELIST3: What is a communist government

Candidate: Gave the answer but they were not satisfied.

PANELIST2: What is OPEC

Candidate; Answered

PANELIST2: Which nations are part of OPEC and why

Candidate; Listed a few.

PANELIST3: Is Russia a part of OPEC

Candidate: No

PANELIST2: Why it is also a major oil producing nation?

Candidate: Sorry, sir don't know.

PANELIST2: What is the latest controversy about Rafale.

Candidate: Told

PANELIST1: So Akshay you had your bachelors in electronics. Can you design an EVM?

Candidate: Drew the architecture of 8085 and modified it to explain.

PANELIST1 asked a few questions related to the architecture.

PANELIST1: What is the Fermi level.

Candidate: Answered.

PANELIST2: What is quantum tunnelling.

Candidate: told

PANELIST2 asked few questions further but couldn't answer them

PANELIST2: Explain the working of an air conditioner.

Candidate: explained

PANELIST2: Just the last question from me. Draw  $\sin 1/x$

Candidate: Tried but couldn't draw correctly.

PANELIST1: We will give you a topic, you have to think for 30 secs and then speak for 90 secs. Topic was future of smart cities.

Spoke for nearly two minutes. PANELIST1 interrupted me to stop.

PANELIST3 asked about my placement and CTC. Then it was over and was told to send another candidate

## Interview Experience – 55

**Venue:** Hotel Vivanta by Taj, Lucknow

### **Profile:**

Acads 10/12/Grad: 96/97.2/81 (Currently in Final year, Mech, IIT R)

3 Panelists, PANELIST1 (Male), PANELIST2 (Male), PANELIST3 (Female)

### **Personal Interview**

PANELIST1: Tell us about yourself.

Spoke 2–3 lines

PANELIST1: So you want to shift to different stream, What about Mech?

Explained

PANELIST1: So can we ask you mech engineering questions?

Candidate: Yes you can but my mech is not that good.

PANELIST1: What is a turbine?

Told

PANELIST1: Different types of turbines.

Told

PANELIST1: Define Young's Modulus

Told

PANELIST1: What is the young modulus for perfectly rigid body?

Told

PANELIST1: What is differential?

Told

PANELIST1: I am done.

PANELIST2: Ok I am a layman, Explain the difference between velocity and speed.

Explained

PANELIST2: What do you see in a dashboard of a car? Explain about odometer, mileage and rpm Told

PANELIST2: Free fall case mein weighing machine kya reading dega?

Told

PANELIST1 intervened

PANELIST1: I have a follow up question, Explain the working of a simple manual rickshaw.

Wasn't able to answer, explained FBD but in midway stopped that I won't be able to answer that.

PANELIST3: Okay so you said something about Eco, Tell me about RBI Monetary Committee? Told about monetary policy but didn't know exactly who are the members of that committee

PANELIST3: How do you measure inflation?

Told about WPI and CPI

PANELIST3: India mein which one is used?

Told modified version of CPI

PANELIST3: Inflation data kab release hota?

There I made one blunder, I said fortnight, monthly

PANELIST3: Fortnight, are you sure?

Told not that sure but monthly hota, like Month-on-Month comparison hota

PANELIST3: Okay Extempore topic driverless cars can't be implemented in India.

I immediately said Tesla

PANELIST2 starts smiling

Okay so I spoke for the topic. And infrastructure nahi hai India mein abhi toh nahi possible.

PANELIST2: What was your JEE Adv rank btw?

(I had mentioned my JEE Mains rank that was 275 but I had not mentioned my Adv rank kyuki kam thi)  
Told 1819

PANELIST2: Okay X, Thank you very much.

## Interview Experience – 56

**Profile:** Fresher, Electronics and Communications Engineer

### **WAT Assessment**

Topic: Indian women are getting educated in increasing scale, but women in the work force haven't increased in that proportion? According to you what are the causes for this and what steps are needed to remove this imbalance?

### **Personal Interview-**

Three Male panelist (Say PANELIST1, PANELIST2, PANELIST3)

PANELIST1- Introduce Yourself

CANDIDATE- answered (talked about startups and national level tournaments; nothing from them)

PANELIST2- Favorites subjects in UG

CANDIDATE- Control System, Mobile Networks

PANELIST2- why modulation is used

CANDIDATE- answered

PANELIST2- (not convinced) tell more

CANDIDATE- added few things

PANELIST2- Okay move on, what is EM force how is it created

CANDIDATE- answered

PANELIST2- (still not convinced)

PANELIST2- what is integration of  $e^x$

CANDIDATE- answered

PANELIST2- Why is circle's area  $\pi \cdot r^2$

CANDIDATE- (Clueless)

PANELIST2- integration of  $x \cdot e^x$

CANDIDATE- answered

PANELIST2- are you sure, is it correct?

CANDIDATE- yeah

PANELIST2- What formula you used

CANDIDATE- U.V

PANELIST3- what is this formula called

CANDIDATE- answered

PANELIST3- Hobbies

PANELIST3- (Before speaking anything) Ok leave it

PANELIST3- What type of current affairs do you follow

CANDIDATE- Sports, general but not much into politics

PANELIST3= Which sports

PANELIST3- IPL?

CANDIDATE- sure

PANELIST3- First Indian Centurian

CANDIDATE- Manish Pandey from RCB

PANELIST3- why CSK was banned for last 2 year

CANDIDATE- Fixing

PANELIST3- Vice President of India

CANDIDATE- Venkaiah Naidu

PANELIST3- You are from Rajasthan, Who was VP from there?

PANELIST1- Okay Extempore time; Is IPL successful, speak in favor or against

CANDIDATE- Spoke in favor, talked about associate nation players in IPL, Exposure to young players, more leadership

opportunity and skill improvement for Indian players etc.

(PANELIST1 was impressed with extempore)

PANELIST1: Okay you can go now

After Introducing myself they told me to relax but strangely I was hyper for unknown reasons, answered almost all things but was quite nervous and wasn't fluent in speaking So finger crossed and hope for the best.

## Interview Experience – 57

### Profile:

For GDPI preparation, visit [courses.catking.in](https://courses.catking.in) | 8999118999 | [www.catking.in](https://www.catking.in)

Class 10: 95  
Class 12: 87  
Ug: 9.0(till 7 sem)  
Cat percentile: 99.86

**WAT Assessment:**

India's youth is going towards distance learning rather than normal college courses. Discuss challenges and benefits.

Did very well. Wrote enough points in both for and against.

**Personal Interview:**

2 profs, 1 alum

PANELIST1: Where are you from?

Told.

PANELIST1: What is Ranchi famous for?

Told about Dhoni. They said MS Dhoni too (all laugh). Mentioned some famous monument.

PANELIST1: Tell me about current scenario of Jharkhand government chief minister and all.

Told.

PANELIST1: Why MBA?

Answered

PANELIST1: What is a real gas equation?

Answered completely.

PANELIST1: What is atomic number?

Answered partially.

PANELIST1: Is it used for something?

Answered.

PANELIST1: What is X, Y, Z? (some terms related to computer science engg, i assumed)

Said no to all. Didn't even try to answer as I had never even heard those terms.

PANELIST1: Tell me about your final year project

Told

PANELIST1: Can u explain why u choose erp as your project Told something

PANELIST2: SAAS based model. Tell me about cloud computing Told something

PANELIST2: Any examples

Told

PANELIST2: Which all languages u know

Told

PANELIST2: So u are doing coding?

Told

PANELIST1: So wat is your role in your project

Told

PANELIST1: Can u write a code for me for a simple programme using java Wrote on the paper and showed to him

PANELIST1: Any other method like easier way u know?

No

PANELIST2: So u are not gud at programming than?

Told

PANELIST2: Ok. Too much stress. Let me ask you something else.wat u think about cryptocurrency?  
Answered. PANELIST2 seemed impressed.

PANELIST1: What is eigen value?

Answered

PANELIST1: What are matrices used for?

Answered

PANELIST1: Can you find inverse of any matrix?

Answered

PANELIST2: Why not gain some experience and then go for MBA?

Told.

PANELIST2: How relevant experience matters?

Told how experience in IT is only relevant if you go for MBA in the same field. Etc.

PANELIST2: Largest state in India? Second largest?

Answered.

PANELIST1: What do you know about the arab spring?



No idea.

PANELIST1: What do you know about UN?

Said something

PANELIST1: How is it that powerful countries exercise their power?

Told about Veto powers.

PANELIST2: Last question. How many states are there in India?

Answered.

PANELIST2: Ok Thank You

Thank You



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