

# **CATKing IIT Bombay (SJMSOM)**

## **WAT PI Workbook**

---

### **Congrats for Getting an IIT-B Call!**

### **How to use this workbook?**

This is a consolidation of **26** SJMSOM IIT Bombay, PI Experiences. These are consolidated from various online sources.

SJMSOM IIT Bombay, 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.

#### **Disclaimer:**

- 1.The information provided by CATKing in this document is only for general informational purpose. All information in the document is provided in good faith, however we make no representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, regarding the accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability, availability, or completeness of any information in the document.
2. This is just a repository of the past interview experiences, if a candidate was rejected or approved it was on the decision of the respective panellists and should not be generalized to associate to all such candidate profiles.
3. The views or opinions expressed in this document are only consolidation of student's reviews submitted across various profiles and not personal opinions of CATKing or its team members
4. "The performance represented is historical" and that "past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results".

5. "CATKing is not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for the results obtained from the use of this information. All information in this site is provided "as is", with no guarantee of completeness, accuracy, timeliness or of the results obtained from the use of this information."

6."This site contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. CATKing is making such material available to advance understanding IIM Specific Interview and WAT Preparation.

---



Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

- [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) | ☎ 8999-11-8999 | ✉ [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

## Summary- What IIT Bombay looks for?

- Work experience
- Gender and academic Diversity gives an edge
- Personal Interview Evaluates Candidates on Qualities of – Focus, Clarity of Thought, Learnability, Ethical Dilemma, Ability to handle pressure, Decision making skills, Discipline

### Prerequisite

- Form to be Submitted (Interview)
- Resume (not mentioned, good to carry)
- Original Documents along with photocopies

### 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 SJMSOM experiences of last five years)

- Be completely prepared with anything and everything on the form.
- They will go into details of everything you speak about in the interview. (level1- what do you know about Indian Economy, level2- what do you think about GST, level3- how has GST affected the sector you work in).
- They can ask about your hobbies and interests.
- It is absolutely fine to ask for time before you answer (they often expect you to think about a solution when they ask you about a problem at hand).
- It is fine if you are anxious and you need not portray a brave face being real with your emotions is better.
- Be prepared to answer everything about your work experience or about your favourite subjects if you are a fresher.

## Table of Contents

Interview Experience – 1.....	5
Interview Experience – 2.....	5
Interview Experience – 3.....	5
Interview Experience – 4.....	6
Interview Experience – 5.....	6
Interview Experience – 6.....	7
Interview Experience – 7.....	7
Interview Experience – 8.....	8
Interview Experience – 9.....	9
Interview Experience – 10.....	9
Interview Experience – 11.....	10
Interview Experience – 12.....	10
Interview Experience – 13.....	10
Interview Experience – 14.....	11
Interview Experience – 15.....	11
Interview Experience – 16.....	11
Interview Experience – 17.....	12
Interview Experience – 18.....	13
Interview Experience – 19.....	15
Interview Experience – 20.....	15
Interview Experience – 21.....	18
Interview Experience – 22.....	19
Interview Experience – 23.....	20
Interview Experience – 24.....	20
Interview Experience – 25.....	22
Interview Experience – 26.....	23

## Interview Experience – 1

### IIT-B Transcripts

3 Panelist - 1 prof, 1 iitb prof, 1 alum

GEM - 3Years work Ex - 99.76 - 9/7/7

1. Introduction: Answered
2. Fav Subject : Answered circuits and components
3. Asked about transistors : answered
4. Asked for the diagram of transistors: couldn't answer
5. Asked about seminary conduction and temperature relation : couldn't answer
6. Asked about frequency of gamma, radio, micro waves : couldn't answer, told him about applications, he said I never asked about that
7. Asked about Modulation: answered
8. Asked to draw diagram for fm
9. Grilled about my engineering
10. Asked about my family bg

Thats it

Mine was a shit show,

## Interview Experience – 2

### IIT-B Transcripts

3 Panelist - 1 prof, 1 iitb prof, 1 alum

GEM - 3Years work Ex - 99.76 - 9/7/7

1. Introduction: Answered
2. Fav Subject : Answered circuits and components
3. Asked about transistors : answered
4. Asked for the diagram of transistors: couldn't answer
5. Asked about seminary conduction and temperature relation : couldn't answer
6. Asked about frequency of gamma, radio, micro waves : couldn't answer, told him about applications, he said I never asked about that
7. Asked about Modulation: answered
8. Asked to draw diagram for fm
9. Grilled about my engineering
10. Asked about my family bg

Thats it

Mine was a shit show,``

## Interview Experience – 3

IIT Bombay  
Sjmsom 8/3/25 morning slot

3 panelist M1,M2,M3 all males 1 alumni 2 prof

M1: tmay

M2: since you mentioned about fighter jets tell me different jets india has

M2: what is the diff between 4, 4.5 and 5 gen jets

M2: what is kaveri? Why isn't india able to make its own jet

M3: why was rafale chosen over others? Why not f-16?

M3: what should india do to ramp up production of fighter jets

M1: how many districts are in Gujarat?

M1: who is the governor of Gujarat?

M1: you mentioned about an automation tool on azure please explain whole thing what is it about etc

M2: you also mentioned about low code platform what things have you built in this? Why python for ml and not c++ or java?

M1: what does ur company do?

M2: what is a custodian?

M3: how does fii invest in india? Do they have demat accs do they have some special status?

M3: why mba and in which field (said finance)

M1: why finance you are doing great at tech with finance (told wantnto drive innovations in fintech)

M2 : top fintech companies in India said paytm razorpage

M3: how did they revolutionize fintech?

We are done thanks

Overall about 20 mins, chill and friendly panel

## Interview Experience – 4

IIT Bombay 3 panelists

- one of the interviewers went outside to take his call and didn't come back in the entire interview. So essentially only two panelists.

- TMAY

- Why finance

- Why Fund Manager. How come you are interested in this role?

- How did your own portfolio perform during the last 6 months?

- What will you do at IITB apart from fin. Told TT and Singing

- Are you trained in singing? - No

- Who is Rishabh Rikharam Sharma? - No

- Ok we are done. Only 7 minutes. Confused on what to make of this experience

Was second last in my panel. Almost all interviews went for 15 minutes. The interviewer didn't give any chance of redemption I felt after that extracurricular question I made.

## Interview Experience – 5

IIT Bombay

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

- [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

Sjmsom 8/3/25 morning slot

3 panelist M1,M2,M3 all males 1 alumni 2 prof

M1: tmay

M2: since you mentioned about fighter jets tell me different jets india has

M2: what is the diff between 4, 4.5 and 5 gen jets

M2: what is kaveri? Why isn't india able to make its own jet

M3: why was rafale chosen over others? Why not f-16?

M3: what should india do to ramp up production of fighter jets

M1: how many districts are in Gujarat?

M1: who is the governor of Gujarat?

M1: you mentioned about an automation tool on azure please explain whole thing what is it about etc

M2: you also mentioned about low code platform what things have you built in this? Why python for ml and not c++ or java?

M1: what does your company do?

M2: what is a custodian?

M3: how does fii invest in india? Do they have demat accs do they have some special status?

M3: why mba and in which field (said finance)

M1: why finance you are doing great at tech with finance (told want to drive innovations in fintech)

M2 : top fintech companies in India said paytm razorpay

M3: how did they revolutionize fintech?

We are done thanks

Overall about 20 mins, chill and friendly panel

## Interview Experience – 6

IIT Bombay

7 March, evening P1

Personal Interview

TMAY

Strengths and weaknesses

TMA your company

What is the difference between TDMA and FDMA (said don't remember). Asked what is modulation as follow up question.

Name a few top banks in the USA and India.

Why did you choose NIT and not an IIT? The ECE curriculum is more aligned to my interests and in IIT didn't get a branch of my choice. Follow up - Do you use the learnings now? Said no. Follow up - So if you retrospect, then was it a correct decision? Said peer learning was good. (Could have elaborated more)

What other calls do you have?

## Interview Experience – 7

Question:

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

- [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

New experiences:

1. What is the meaning of your name?
2. Is there currently any elections in West Bengal?
3. What is smart grid?
4. Do I play any sports?
5. Sports as a career
6. What is chicken's neck?
7. Discuss about the nuclear plant captured by Russia.
8. Name some nuclear plants in India.
9. Do you read the newspaper?
10. What are economic indicators?
11. What is the difference between GDP and GNP?

### Interview Experience – 8

P1: "Okay so let's start with tell me about yourself"

Me: I was so glad to get the first most comfortable question. Gave him my rehearsed answer.

P1: What is the difference between Capitalism and Socialism?

Me: Did not exactly know the difference but gave an educated guess.

P1: What is Cloud Computing?

Me: Gave the definition along with the example of AWS and how Netflix went all in with their data to be stored in AWS.

P1: Since you mention Netflix, have you heard of the recent conflict between Netflix and Zoom?

Me: I had no idea. Told him that.

P1: Alright no problem. Can you tell me how many regions are there in Maharashtra? Not districts, regions like Konkan region?

Me: Konkan was literally the only region that occurred to me then and he already used that as example so I told him that I did not know.

P1: Okay, do you know who is the leader of Opposition in Maharashtra?

Me: Was so nervous after missing two consecutive questions that I said Rahul Gandhi (I was thinking leader of opposition at Centre level). Immediately corrected it and said Devendra Fadnavis (sigh of relief).

P1: (Smiled) Okay, I'm done

P2: So, you said you're a debater. Pick any topic of your comfort and argue on both sides

Me: Finally, something in my lovely comfort zone. Picked the topic that was appearing at most places i.e. the pros and cons of the work from home scenario. I went on about the impacts on mental health, productivity, economy, lessened burden on urban cities, etc. They seemed satisfied.

P2: What would you say are your three strengths?

Me: Again, something I was prepared for. Listed public speaking, socialising, positive attitude as three strengths with anecdotes to support each.

P2: Which field are you interested in?

Me: Sales and Marketing

P2: Sales or Marketing? Do you know the difference between the two?

Me: Gave a prepared answer.

P2: Okay great, what other calls do you have?

Me: Told

P2: Alright, I am done

P3: Okay so I have seen you can debate on anything, tell me what topic would you like to discuss. IT or Business?

Me: Business

P3: (Laughs) Why not IT?

Me: "No sir, of course I would answer IT related questions if you ask"

P3: Alright, very basic question which you must have done in 12th standard itself. What are the features of OOPS?

Me: Knew this very well, answered at length

P3: Okay good. In the context of covid-19 comment on profiteering vs ethics?

Me: Spoke about the scenario for good context, then did a stakeholder analysis and came to a conclusion where most parties were being benefited.

P3: Who has been the best sales man of India improving our image during these times?

Me: Adar Poonawalla--

P3: (Interrupts) Why not our honourable PM?

Me: Yes of course sir--

P3: (Interrupts again) No, Adar Poonawalla is also acceptable. Just elaborate it for me

Me: "Sure sir", Spoke of how Serum Institute of India attracted a generous amount of spotlight during these times and he being the CEO was the face whenever SII was mentioned worldwide.

P3: Okay great, you can leave.

Me: Thank you so much sir!

## Interview Experience – 9

**Profile: GEM Chemical Engineering Fresher**

**10/12/Grad/CAT - 89/80.2/77.1/99.74**

1. How does a refrigerator work?
2. What is Bernoulli's equation?
3. How does a ball swing?
4. Why MBA without work-experience?
5. Which other calls you have and what will you choose?
6. What is NASDAQ, SEBI? What are functions of RBI?
7. What do you know about Lance Armstrong?
8. Tell us about Malala.
9. Who is the CEO of HSBC bank? Why was it recently in news? Who is the director of HDFC bank?
10. Who is the architect of Chandigarh?

## Interview Experience – 10

**Profile: GEM Chemical Engineering Fresher**

**10/12/Grad/CAT – 87.4/75.4/67.6/99.56**

1. Tell us something about yourself.
2. What was your final year project? What did you do in it?
3. Why India is not a developed nation?

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

- [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) | ☎ 8999-11-8999 | ✉ [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

4. Why corruption is so rampant in India? How can it be curbed?
5. Tell us about the development of microprocessors in the past two decades.
6. What is the difference between i3 and Core 2 duo processors?

## Interview Experience – 11

**Profile: GEM Computer Science Engineering Fresher**

**10/12/Grad/CAT – 78.2/66.8/67.6/99.82**

1. Tell us something about yourself.
2. What project are you working on?
3. How many people were there in your project?
4. Did they all do equal work?
5. Which language did you use and why and what did you do specifically?
6. Tell us about Indian Economy.
7. What do you think is the future of companies investing in India?
8. Are they creating demand or are they fulfilling demand? Is share market taken into account while calculating GDP?

## Interview Experience – 12

**Profile: GEM Electrical Engineering Fresher**

**10/12/Grad/CAT – 94.5/92.6/67.6/99.2**

1. Introduce yourself.
2. Why not M. Tech. and why MBA?
3. What are the problems with India's power distribution?
4. How has Gujarat addressed this problem efficiently?
5. How can Solar energy be used to solve the problem of energy?
6. Name some companies working in the sector of Solar energy.
7. How can you integrate your Engineering knowledge with management?

## Interview Experience – 13

**Profile: GEM Computer Science Engineering & 8 months' work-ex**

**10/12/Grad/CAT – 85.4/68.4/70/99.4**

1. Introduce yourself.
2. What was your job profile?
3. What are the problems in supply chains of food and subsidy distribution in India?
4. How can IT help in controlling it?
5. What is data warehousing?
6. How can large data be integrated?
7. What problem does Aadhaar card solve in supply chain?
8. Which are the most developed states in India? Which states have the largest growth rate in the past 1 year?

## Interview Experience – 14

**Profile: GEM Electrical Engineering, Jadavpur University & 4 months' work-ex**

At first there was this introduction about SJMSOM by the first year students of SJMSOM.

This was followed by WAT (200 - 250 words max) and Summarising of a given passage(max 3 sentences and 50 words) each carrying 5 marks and total time given for both being 30 minutes.

This followed document verification. Take xerox copies of all the documents self-attested. Also, take a xerox copy of your identity proof.

PI: 2 profs, 1 was SJMSOM prof. who teaches Management of Technology and another was some prof. from another department. They made me very comfortable. Asked me to introduce myself and then my strengths and it's real life example, why SJMSOM?, some questions related to industrial training I did like how much grid connected power is there in India, capacity of a generator, efficiency of power plant, what is the problem which power sector in India, what steps can be taken to improve. And then some questions related to final year project I did. That's it! It was very decent interview.

Suggestions: Know everything that is related to your project, industrial training and any other certificates you will be giving in the file. They were just looking one certificate after the other and asking questions. Nothing that was not related to the file.

## Interview Experience – 15

Ma'am: What is it that you do...you have written something about analysing issues and all....explained

Sir: What is your domain of work?...told

Ma'am: What is your approach to solving these issues?...told

Ma'am: Gave a question on probability?...Solved

Ma'am: What is the difference between mutually exclusive and independent? Got a bit confused here with my explanation but tried giving an example...

Ma'am: Drew a leaf and asked to find out the approx. area of the figure?...Solved

Ma'am: What are your hobbies?...told

Ma'am: Last book that you read?...told

Ma'am: What do you think about AAP?...gave them my opinion.

Ma'am: Asked sir if he has any question.

It took around 10 minutes.

They were smiling and all and were very calm but they didn't ask much.

I don't know what to make out of it.

## Interview Experience – 16

There were 2 professors in the interview.

Prof 2: So, you come from the Shipping industry. But let's start with you. Tell us about yourself

I've talked about my schooling, college, job (2.5 years of work ex) and why I want to do an MBA now.

Prof 1: Hmm. So, what do you want to do after you finish your MBA?

I've told him honestly that I am not set in stone and open for options, but probably more into operations since I've been working in that field.

Prof 2: Okay. You've come from Andhra Pradesh. Tell me about the demographics of Telangana and Seem Andhra.

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

- [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

Explained the population density of parts of Seem Andhra, Hyderabad, Telangana in general. Talked about the area size comparing with the state of Tamil Nadu.

Prof 1: What are the no. of Lok Sabha seats in undivided AP? Told.

Prof 1: So how many seats are they going to be in Telangana and Seem Andhra? Explained how the no. of constituencies stress more on population than area, and derived a rough figure. (They seem to be satisfied)

Prof 2: Tell me about your job profile. Told. (Prof 1 left.)

Prof 2: Tell be about your company and why it is in shipping.

Explained the group's founding years, it's assets value. Also told why it is in the shipping business. (Prof 1 came back )

Prof 1: Tell me about Shipping industry. How is Pipavav yard doing?

Told. Explained the Chinese strength and how Indian yards in general is doing. Threw some numbers.

Prof 2: Let's say you are the finance minister of this country, and you want to increase the GDP. What would you do? Take your time, jot down points and explain how they would impact on the GDP..

Talked about opening up the economy – FDI/FII investments – increase in the GDP.

Discussed the misplaced subsidies. Stressed that subsidies are good, but they shouldn't be bleeding. Will ask the respective ministries to come up with decent methods to prevent the pilferage – Less fiscal deficit – sign of good economy.

Empower the institutions. Like the courts, ECI, CBI, RBI to be more independent and implement the rule of the land. Prof 1 pitched in and said, 'what about CAG, Lokpal'. Told them they should also be part of it. This will increase the faith for the investors that the country is safe and reliable.

Prof 2: I want to see immediate growth. What would you say to the RBI being a Fin Min?

Told about how Rajan refused to decrease the interest rates despite the Chidambaram's insistence. Probably will ask the RBI to lower the interest rates to increase the liquidity and will boost growth.

Both of them were smiling and said the interview was over! 10 minutes max! It was very casual. One of the prof is the HoD.

## Interview Experience – 17

**Profile: GEM ECE Fresher**

**10/12/Grad/CAT - 94.3/90.3/86.7/98.41**

Panel 5 - All male - 2 alumni. 1 professor (SOM). Panel had finance prof. so all candidates were asked a good number of questions related to finance and also economics.

IIT-B usually segregates you on the basis of your graduation stream. So, all the candidates in your panel will be from your graduation stream only (ECE grads in my case)

3rd March, 2021

1pm-6pm (slot no. 2)

Actual interview time - 3:00-3:20pm

Introduce yourself - Tell us about your Hobbies and ECs

In between I started talking about my family background they cut me in between and said only Hobbies and ECs

What change can be done in examinations for blind so that scribe is not needed?

What is Half wave and Full Wave rectifier?

Can you draw the diagram for both?

What is aqua regia? What are its components?

Newton's laws of motion? How many laws are there?

So, you want to study Finance - why?

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

- [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

Do you invest in stocks?  
Which stocks have u shortlisted?  
Have you chosen stocks purely based on your gut feeling?  
Where do you get information about the debts/revenue of a company? balance sheet, income statement or cash flow statement?  
Do you know about GameStock? #Gamestonk haha  
What is short selling?  
Is inflation good or bad?  
What is CRR, SLR?  
Do you know what's Repo Rate?  
Raising capital through equity or debt - which is better? Pros and Cons for both?  
Which one has tax benefits?  
Do you know about time value of money?  
Will value of 100 rupees increase or decrease in the future?  
Okay Mr XX. We are done. You may leave now.  
Interview went on for about 20 mins. Panel members were not smiling and had a serious expression throughout.

## Interview Experience – 18

**Profile: GEM candidate**

**CAT 2020: 99.1%ile**

**10/12/Grad: 95/92/70.5**

**Work experience: 2+ years as a commodity derivatives trader**

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Length of the interview: approx. 30 minutes

The platform used: Gather + Zoom (I loved how they tried to simulate the exact offline experience through the gather platform)

Note: They grouped the candidates with respect to their graduation and their area of interest/work exp. (In my group everyone was from a civil engineering background and their interest area was Finance)

Panel: Therefore, our interview panel had 4 panellists: (P1 to P4)

P1: Alumni

P2: IIT-Bombay Civil engineering professor

P3: Alumni

P4: Finance professor at SJMSOM

Interview

P1: Tell me about yourself?

Me: Told

P2: Tell me about your final year project?

Me: Sir, I don't remember much, but it was around the structural modelling of a Dam.

P2: Ok, so tell me about the various forces dam has to resist?

Me: (thought for a while) sir stress, and tensions, bending moment (don't know what I was saying), Sir force exerted by the water

P2: You mean hydrostatic force?

Me: Yes Sir

P2: What is the force profile

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

• [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

Me: Sir, it will increase proportionally with the height

P2: Is it constant or what?

Me: No sir, due to the weight of the water, it will increase proportionally with height

P2: Ok, so where will be the resultant

Me: Sir, the force will act at a height 2/3rd below the surface of the water

Why?

Me: Sir force profile is in the shape of a triangle, so the centre of the area is at that height.

P2: Dam modelling based on the stress model or the strain model?

Me: (no clue) sir, stress-based

P2: No it is strain-based, no problem

P3: Tell me about your work at futures first

Me: told

P3: Your biggest failure and learning from it?

Me: Told an anecdote from my trading career and learned the importance of patience and bla bla bla....

P3: You are working as a derivatives trader, pursuing FRM, CFA, then why do you need an MBA?

Me: Told

P2: Ok, tell me about any major event that took place in commodity(any)?

Me: mentioned WTI crude oil prices going below zero and explained why.

P2: Asked about one of the technical terms regarding the GOLD commodity trading that I had no idea about.

P2: You talked about the trading differences in future values. What's the name for that?

Me: Sir, we call it spreads

P2: Basis?

Me: Sir spot vs future is the basis, but the difference b/w two future prices are spread

P2: OK

P4: Tell me 2 differences b/w futures and options

Me: told

P4: Do you know the valuation for futures?

Me: told

P4: Different types of derivatives trading in Indian markets

Me: Commodities derivatives on MCX and stock derivatives on NSE/BSE, both futures and options

P4: Ok, do you know when was derivatives trading introduced in India and what was introduced first?

Me: No sir, I do not have the idea about the same, but between futures and options, futures would have been introduced first

P3: Given your profile around trading, why didn't you go for a degree like MFE and not an MBA

Me: Sir I was intrigued by derivatives as a financial service, catering to so many players like commercial buyers/sellers, hedgers, etc. So basically, I explored as well as want to learn more about other financial services and not just the trading aspect..... For this MBA better than MFE

P3: Can you explain the recent market crash in Indian markets:

Me: Explained

P3: Can you brief me on what subjects will you be learning in your MBA?

Me: Marketing, Finance, Operations management, IT management, etc. And explained how these courses will help me pursue my goals

## Interview Experience – 19

**MBA 2021–23, 5th March 2021, Online Interview**

**10/12/Grad/Percentile: 95/97.2/92.7/99.6**

**BTech Computer Science (DTU), Working as Software Engineer at UnitedHealth Group since July 2020**

Interview (3 Panellists, 3M , 10–12 mins)

Panellist 1:

Why does India have less product-based companies as compared to other countries? (Extensive discussion on this)

What steps can colleges take to foster research in India at their level? (Extensive discussion on this)

Panelist 2:

Major-project based question.

Data protection laws in India.

Database Normalization ( Detailed discussion with examples )

Panellist 3:

Three major infrastructure projects going on in the country.

Atmanirbhar Bharat

Pros and Cons of budget 2021

Vice president of India

IIT Bombay has one of the best and most comfortable interview process. They use a platform 'Gather' wherein SJMSOM campus is replicated. The interview panels are well balanced wherein students are asked academics, current affairs and other resume-based stuff equally. The process was very smooth and surely a memorable one :)

5th May 2021: Converted!!

## Interview Experience – 20

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Location: IIT Bombay

Slot: Morning

I stayed at IIT Bombay hostel. It was provided for a minimal fee to the call-getters. Even though it was cheap, the stay wouldn't be world class. Don't expect other worldly accommodation. Also, IIT Bombay is huge. Early in the morning they have bus services that take you from your hostel to the Interview location.

Don't miss that Bus! Can't state this enough.

Writing Ability Test

Topic 1: Conservation efforts for wildlife protection and what has the government done to improve the same.

OR

Topic 2: Few central agencies have been given the right to private data at any given time. Do you think this is right?

Personal Interview:

3 panellists. Two alumni, one professor. Let's call them A1, A2, and P1. All male.

Me: "Good morning, sir"

All say good morning. Point me to sit.

A2: "So what is the difference between a King and a Samrat?"

Me: "Sir, Samrat means King of Kings!" (Feels proud. This has started good!)

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

- [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

A2: "But when have we ever had a king of kings history. Nowhere in Indian history have we ever seen a King of Kings?"

Me: (Oh No!) "Sir I think it has to do with hierarchy. Like in the Maratha empire we had Nizams and under whom there were Peshwas." (Mumbles)

A2: "What is the difference between Nation and Nation-state?"

Me: "I don't know sir."

A2: "Is India a Nation or a Nation State?"

Me: "I don't know the exact difference sir. So, I don't know."

A2: "Is Israel a nation or a nation-state?"

Me: "I don't know sir."

A2: "What do you know about the Israel situation?"

Me: "I know that there is an ongoing war between Israel and Palestine on Israel annexing areas of Palestine in a series of wars."

A2: "Do you think Israel is a developed nation? How have they developed with so many enemies around them?"

Me: "I think it has to do with how they (Jews) have been treated in history. Historically, where ever they have gone, they have experienced ills and evils from people of other faith. So, they had no option but to develop for survival."

A2: "What is this called? This hatred for Jews? There is a term for that."

Me: (Thinks Antisemitism. Maybe not.) "Sir I can't recollect right now."

A2: "Who has the control of the Gaza Strip?"

Me: "Sir, I think Israel."

A2: "And what's the issue with west-bank?"

Me: "I think there is a wall (Refers to Jerusalem) and there is an issue on which country have right to that."

A2: "Okay. What is India's stand on the Israel issue?"

Me: "I think India hasn't categorically taken a stand. We have good foreign relations with Israel. They are our 3rd largest arms importer. But Unlike US, I don't think we have made an official statement here."

A2: "Where does your father work?"

Me: "Sir he works for a company called Phil Coals Benefication pvt. Limited"

A2: "Coal?"

Me: "Yes"

A2: "Okay. What is Lignite?"

Me: "Sir it is a kind of coal."

A2: "What kind? Low grade or high grade?"

Me: "Low grade"

A2: "Where is Neyveli coal fields?"

Me: "Sir I don't know the exact location but should be down south."

A2: "What do you mean by down south?"

Me: "Sir the states which speak Dravidian languages"

A2: "Not the states below Tropic of Capricorn?"

Me: "No sir. And I think it's Tropic of Cancer?"

A2: "Tropic of Cancer passes through which states?"

Me: "Sir definitely through Chattisgarh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh etc."

A2: "Okay do you watch Bengali Movies?"

Me: "Only Satyajit Ray."

A2: "Name 3 Satyajit Ray films?"

Me: "Ganashatru, Shakha-Proshaka, Hirok Rajar Deshe."

A2: "Who is the protagonist in Ganashatru?"

Me: "Soumitro Chatterjee"

A2: "What is Soumitro Chatterjee famous for?"

Me: "Sir acting only."

A2: "Okay tell me three other actors who have played Feli Da?"

Me: "Sir I know their faces. Can't recollect their names right now."

A2: "Okay how many forms have Byomkesh Bakshi been written in?"

Me: "Sir I don't know. I only know of the Doordarshan show of that name."

A2: "Okay you are a marketer, right? For Reckitt Benckiser? Name Reckitt Benckiser's most famous brand."

Me: "Sir Dettol."

A2: "Aah! You are in Luck"

Keeps Dettol Sanitizer in front of me.

A2: "Now what is Dettol's tagline?"

Me: "Be 100% Sure"

A2: "And also kills 99.9% germs right."

Me: "Yes"

A2: "Okay. So now suppose people of Germany are called Germs and you need to market this product in Germany. How would you do it?"

Me: "(Completely Stumped!) Sir people from Germany are not called germs." (Laughs Nervously)

A2: "Haan. But this is hypothetical right?"

Me: "Yes sir. I would translate the entire packaging into German. Solves for germs."

A2: "Okay and that would be which P?"

Me: "Place"

A2: "Not Positioning?"

Me: "No sir. Positioning is superiority like Be 100% sure. That."

A1: "Okay Samrat. Suppose there is a pond which has a patch of lotus in it. The patch doubles every day. Now if the pond is completely full-on Day 50, When will the lake be quarter full?"

Me: "Sir, Can i calculate?"

A1: "Yeah. Go ahead!"

Here I mess up royally. The series they meant was 1, 2, 4, 8 and I thought 1, 3, 9, 27... Regardless. I got confused between the series.

A2: "Okay this unitary method won't work. Give us an approximate."

Me: (Aware can't answer correctly) "Sir 25."

A2: "Okay."

A1: "What did you do in Infosys?"

Me: (Random Mumbling on Business Intelligence, Teradata etc.)

A1: "What is Infosys's Robotic arm called?"

Me: "Sir I don't know."

A1: "What was the issue with Panama's acquisition?"

Me: "Sir to bridge the gap between TCS and Infosys Vishal Sikka thought of acquisitions as the way forward. The Board of directors did not agree and they had a falling out. There was also the issue with Vishal Sikka's salary."

P1: "Okay Samrat. 3, 4, 5, 12, 13. Tell me something special about these numbers."

Me: Tries for Prime. Failed! Tries for AP. Failed! Tries for GP. Failed! Tries for some multiplication factor. Failed!"

P1: "Okay I will make it easy for you. Write down 3 4 5 and 5 12 13 and now tell me."

Me: Struggles for a moment then all of a sudden it clicks.

"Sir these are Pythagorean triplets."

P1: "Ahhh! Now you got it."

A1: "Okay Thank you Samrat!"

As soon as I get out of the interview room the answer to the lotus question hits me. 48 days. But it's too late now! The nerves got the better of me.

I feel it's gone. No way they will take me now.

Result: Wait listed 34 General.

## Interview Experience – 21

**CAT : 99.33%**

**General Fresher Candidate**

**B.Tech. in Chemical Engineering**

M1: Can u introduce yourself to us

M1: As a fresher, why not take experience before getting into an MBA program

Me: Sir I know that it's very cliched for everyone to answer that they will absorb the concepts with a better pace, I personally know that any sort of gap in your studies be it a minor gap reduces your pace to absorb the concepts. Moreover, I believe that as a fresher, I will be free from any preconceived notions and will bring fresh perspectives on the table and discussions in a class.

M1: So, what makes you different from other candidates and what will you bring in to your peers in the class

Me: Gave points

M1: Why MBA now???

Me: Gave a prepared answer and spoke for a minute or so comfortably as they didn't try to cut me anywhere in between.

M2: How is gasoline prepared

Me: Gave a detailed answer of all the products out of a distillation column etc...

M2: So, if you take one Kilo litre of crude oil, what will be the percentage of the various components in the product

Me: Sorry sir I am not aware of the percentage of the components but told about the composition.

M2: How is the price of petrol determined.

Me: Gave the exact distribution of taxes, commission with the figures as well :)

M2: What is Excise duty

Me: Told

M2: What is the price of one barrel of oil now and how many litres of oil constitutes one barrel.

Me: Told the figures.

M2: What is Wet natural gas

Me: Sorry sir, I haven't read upon it but told about natural gas.

M1 takes over again

M1: So, who is the governor of Gujarat

Told

M1: Who is the CM of Gujarat

Told

M1: Who was the former CM of Gujarat and where is she now.

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

• [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

Me: Sir Anandiben Patel was the former CM and she is currently posted in MP but I can't recall the post.

M2 again\*//

M2: What is Flash point

Told

M2: What is Fire point

Told ( Sighed in relief for getting easiest questions from my UG :) )

Ok XX we are done...

All the best.

Thanked them and left the meeting...

Was a great experience and the panellists listened to my answers patiently without cutting me anywhere which led me to speak with much more confidence.

## Interview Experience – 22

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Venue: VMCC, IIT Bombay

3 Panellists (All Males)

P1: So Dharmesh, how are you feeling? Excited, Nervous ??

Me: Normal Sir.

P1: Just Normal

Me: Yes Sir.

P1: So, tell us about your life with the academic scores, starting from Class 10th. Me: Informed

P1: So, you sit in AICTE that Nelson Mandela Marg.

Me: Yes Sir.

Tell us about your day-to-day role at AICTE.

Me: Informed about the Quality Initiatives and my role in Policy making, surveys etc. Detailed about the survey of making Chemistry as optional.

P1: So, who analysed the survey. What were the questionnaire and How you analysed?

Me: I analysed. Explained about the questionnaire.

P1: Whom do you report to?

Me: Earlier to Prof. Rajive Kumar when he was not the member secretary and now to Dr. Neeraj Saxena, P&AP Bureau Head.

P2: Why you left Tata Motors?

Me: Informed about my role there and work getting monotonous after a while, opportunity floated by ministry etc.

P1: Dharmesh, I am just saying, listen if one can get bore in 8 months, is that okay ?

Me: Informed that how the work was not very monotonous, the exciting project i was dealing with and the goodness of MHRD Opportunity, my decision of MBA and the perfect time to experiment.

P2: Tell us about exciting things that had happened in any two industrial sectors recently.

Me: Talked about Automobile Sector & Finance. Also briefly mentioned about Yes Bank Incident.

P2: What happened with Yes Bank.

Me: Briefed about NPAs and about Yes Bank unable to raise funds within the stipulated time.

P2: How is that an issue?

Me: Talked about money to give loans etc.

P2: There is something more than that.

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

• [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

Me: Don't know sir.

P2: That's okay.

P3: You talked about FMEA. What's RPN ?

Me: RPN is a number that denotes Risk associated with the process. I just can't remember the full form sir.

P3: But it's a product of three numbers.

Me: Can't remember sir.

P3: That's Okay. Thankyou.

## Interview Experience – 23

WAT TOPIC: Need to choose one among the two topics. Need to write for half an hour.

1. Instead of using GDP as a measure of growth and prosperity, can we use better life index to measure it. Your views on this. (similar lines topic)

2. Smart phone cameras and filters have made the generations look perfect leading to various body issues.

Suggest some ways to combat this such that youngsters don't fall prey to this. (Both the topics on similar lines)

PI

2 Alums and 1 SJMSOM Professor. (No IIT Bombay professor. Lucky me)

1. Tell me about yourself?

2. You mentioned you are hardworking, but your percentage in B. Tech. is a downward graph? ( I justified this saying that it is the aggregate of 2 semesters, depending upon difficulty level of subjects it varies, and some extracurricular activities etc)

3. How T20 cricket is different from test cricket? Why people aren't interested in test cricket? (Mentioned in hobbies)

4. What does a microprocessor do?

5. What is RAM and ROM?

6.what are the fighter jets used in Balakot air strikes?

7. Where do they manufactured in India?

8. Do you know anything about Sukoi?

9. What are the problems that Indian youth is facing? (Mentioned unemployment)

10. Asked what is the source of my data? And some discussion on that.

11. What is NREGA?

12. What is a transistor? (I don't know what happened to me, I was able to recollect transducer, transponder but didn't get any idea regarding transistor)

13. What is a diode?

14. Why can't we use diode instead of wires?

Overall interview is like a kind of discussion. SOM professor is silent most of the time. Alums questioned most of the interview

## Interview Experience – 24

3 panellists - 1 professor from IIT B and 2 alumni

Panellists are very chill and cool. They are joking and kidding with my answers

Final Verdict - Converted

P : Where are you from

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

• [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) | ☎ 8999-11-8999 | ✉ [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

Answered

P : Tell me about yourself

Answered

P : Under graduation stream

ECE

P : What is your favourite subject

Told Digital electronics

P: Tell me something about Nand gate

Answered about its truth table and operation

P: Do you know about adder circuits and can you design them

Told yes I know and I can design

P: Design a 4 bit adder

Started explaining and asked them if I can draw it using logic gates for better design. They accepted it and I have given the circuit using NOR and AND gates.

P: Design it only using Nand gates

Designed but took a greater number of gates and a bit messed up but the panellist helped me with a clue

P: Is this the optimal design or it can be optimised

Told that I did not consider minimum number of gates and yes it can be further optimised

P: Apart from digital electronics, which subject are you interested in?

Told analog electronics

P: Do you know about capacitor?

Answered

P: Can a capacitor change the frequency in the circuit?

Explained in detail by considering the capacitance value and how the frequency of oscillations depend upon it by giving the relation

P: Can a resistor perform same operation?

Told the pure resistive circuit does not vary frequency but if we consider rlc circuits, the "omega" value depends on it

P: Why MBA

Answered

P: A question related to marketing

Told I don't know

P: What are your hobbies?

Answered

P: 5 famous magicians from India

Could answer only few and a 1 min discussion on that

P: Are you ready for a rapid-fire round?

Told yes

P: Your state

Told Andhra Pradesh

P: 3 rivers which flow from your state

Answered Godavari, Krishna and Penna

P: 5 famous personalities in literature

Was able to say only 3

P : Is there any cricket match going right now( mentioned Cricket in hobbies)

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

• [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

Answered about the 4th test match going on between India and England

P: Give me details of 3rd test match

Answered that it was a Day/Night test and told that it was completed in two days with some stats

P: venue and stadium name?

Answered Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad

P : Who got the highest bidding in recent IPL auction?

Chris Morris sold to Rajasthan Royals

P: amount to which he was sold?

Answered

P: Which other calls both IIMs and Non-IIMs?

Told about my calls

P: Give me reasons why will you choose SJMSOM than other institutes?

Answered with some stats from the SJMSOM website but the panellist was joking again with my answer and shared his view on the previous batch

P: That's it from our side. You can log out and all the best

Greetings once again and left the meeting

## Interview Experience – 25

**10th: 9.4/12: 91% | B.Tech. E&Tc: 8.61 | CAT Score: 97.64 percentile | Work ex of 2 years in BRIDGEi2i Analytics when I filled the form for CAT**

IIT Bombay SJMSOM Interview Experience 2021

Before I begin, they used the "Gather" platform to take interviews, I got to meet new people who were giving interviews and parts of student body. The entire experience was so well arranged that I was more convinced about the institute after attending this. In my panel I had one Professor and two alumnus. Jumping straight into the interview:

Q1. Tell us something about yourself

Q2. Your role at BRIDGEi2i

Q3. What are the offerings of BRIDGEi2i?

So far, this was fairly straightforward and usual suspects in terms of questions asked.

Q4. One of the alumnus asked to sell a lead scoring model to him.

I was startled a bit but I tried. I asked what to assume about who they are and continued. I wasn't doing sales at my job, but I surely was giving a shot at pitching lead scoring in this interview. After a while, sir said but you didn't ask me about the data. And I remember we had spent at least 3–4 mins on this. So, they decided to move on. The other alumni asked:

Q5. Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

When you are in this phase you definitely think about these things, so I shared my view.

Q6. Which conglomerates do you want to work with?

Now here I messed up, I named consulting firms instead. But professor was nice enough to point out and I accepted that it was my bad. This one was a terrible mistake. Probably why I didn't get in.

Q.7 What other calls you have? Which subject would you chose as major?

Overall, the interview went well, the professor was very supportive, but I know my mistakes as well.

Note: It may happen that given it was an online thing you won't understand what the other person is saying, so many factors like noise. In such cases do not worry and politely ask to repeat. And make sure you have a UPS setup with your Wi-Fi router so that there is no power cut during interview. All the best

Online Courses: PAN – India | Offline courses: Mumbai (Andheri | Borivali | Thane)

- [www.catking.in](http://www.catking.in) |  8999-11-8999 |  [support@catking.in](mailto:support@catking.in)

Verdict: I wasn't selected.

## Interview Experience – 26

**Profile: GEM**

**Academics: 10 CGPA | 12<sup>th</sup>: 97 % | 9.3 CGPA**

**Work Ex: Software Engineer | 2.5 Yrs**

Panellist 1:

1. Tell me about yourself?
2. You published research papers? Why do you want to do an MBA when you can easily get into tech field?
3. What places have you have visited?
4. Name the seven sisters' states?

Panellist 2:

1. Tell me about your work? Explain the projects you have worked on?
2. Which language did you use in development? What all frontend and backend languages/frameworks you used?
3. Is Python a OOPs language?
4. Why python is used for ML algorithms?
5. Have you heard about Salesforce?
6. Difference between framework and libraries?
7. What all performance you monitor?

Panellist 3:

1. What is WTC? Which other team has already qualified for the finals?
2. What is the venue for the final? What is the date for the same?
3. In how many ways a batsman can get out in cricket?
4. What all places have you travelled?
5. What is your best travel experience? What all things you consider while travelling?
6. What other calls do you have? Please arrange them?
7. Where are you from? Delhi is a State or UT?
8. Deputy CM of Delhi?
9. The portfolios held by him?
10. What is the number of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and MLAs seats in Delhi?
11. Who is the vice president of India?

Thank You

Verdict: Waitlisted (101-->65-->11->Converted)

Converted

## Legal Disclaimer

The content on all of the pages are testimonials written by candidates online. We try our best to help our students succeed in an interview. However, the information is not applicable in every case and the advice may, as well as not, work for you in the interview.

The views or opinions expressed in this document are only consolidation of student's reviews submitted across various profiles and not personal opinions of CATKing or its team members.

Taking this into account, **all information is for general information purposes only**. We make no representations or warranties of any kind, express or implied, about the completeness, accuracy, reliability, suitability or availability with respect to the information or related graphics contained for any purpose. **Any reliance you place on such information is therefore strictly at your own risk.**

**In no event will we be liable for any losses or damage including without limitation**, indirect or consequential loss or damage, or any loss or damage whatsoever arising from loss of data or profits arising out of, or in connection with, the use of this information. The use is strictly at your own risk.

Information given can link also to other pages and websites, that are not under our control. **We have no control over the nature, content and availability of those websites.** The inclusion of their content does not necessarily imply a recommendation or endorse the views expressed within them.

Our website is hosted with high quality hosting provider and we try to keep it up and running most of the time, using two servers for back it up. However, we take no responsibility for, and will not be liable for, the website being temporarily unavailable due to technical issues beyond our control.

All names used on are pseudonyms. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.