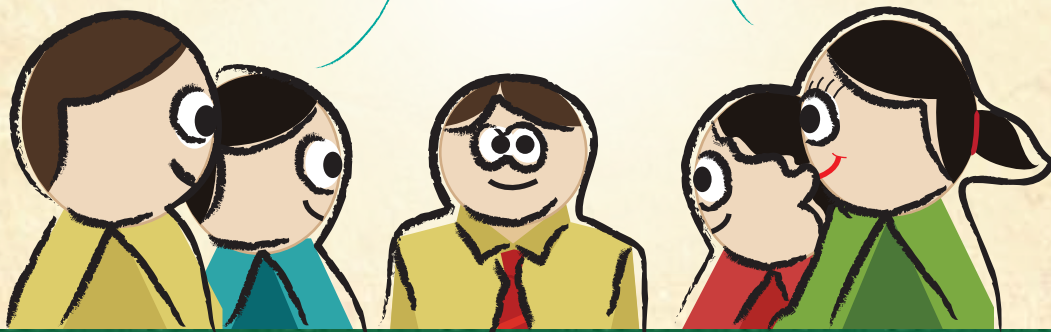


The PaGaLGuY.com
GD-PI ANTHOLOGY
————— 2005-2010 —————

Group Discussion

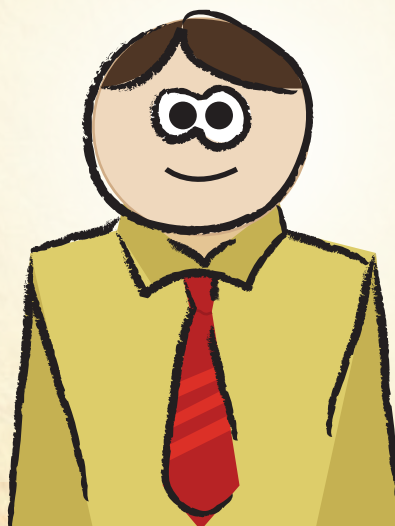


Hundreds of real personal accounts of
Group Discussions & Personal Interviews
during MBA admissions to India's best B-schools



PaGaLGuY.com

Personal Interview



Written by
Loads of MBA Aspirants

Compiled by
The PaGaLGuY MadCapz Group

The
PaGaLGuY.com

GD-PI



Hundreds of real personal accounts of
Group Discussions and Personal Interviews
during MBA admissions to India's best business schools.

In this edition: **The IIMs at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Calcutta, Lucknow,
Indore & Kozhikode.**

Written by
Loads of MBA aspirants

Compiled by
The PaGaLGuY MadCapz Team

PaGaLGuY GD-PI Anthology

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What this book is about

What is a real IIM interview like? What kind of questions do they ask and what judgments do applicants have to make while answering them?

Since 2003, those with real Group Discussion and Personal Interview calls from India's top b-schools have been posting entire and detailed transcripts of their admission interviews immediately after they happen, so that others slotted for later interviews can learn what GDPI is going to be like this year.

This book is a collection of dozens of handpicked GDPI experiences from the country's top b-schools during the admission years 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. In this edition, we have included over 180 GDPI experiences from the admission processes of IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Bangalore, IIM Calcutta, IIM Indore, IIM Lucknow and IIM Kozhikode.

A team of 33 volunteers, who are themselves at some stage of the MBA admissions process, were asked to make the selections based on what seemed most interesting and characteristic of a b-school to them.

Who this book is for

Those with GDPI calls from b-schools included in this book will benefit from this work the most. But the book will be an interesting read all the same for those who are planning to take a go at MBA admissions in the next season and would like to know where the process of cracking a tough entrance exam eventually leads to.

How to read this book

As the book is a collection of 150+ individual discussion forum posts stitched together. Expect a huge variation in writing styles, shorthands and semantic flow. In order to retain the flavour of the story the way they wanted to tell it, we have edited the stories minimally. Without the slang, the occasional Hindi words or the typos, you will not enjoy the transcripts.

A visual guide to reading the experiences follows in the next few pages.

Acknowledgments

Just as the content in this book is a collective effort of the community, so is the editing and collation. A young and enthusiastic team of volunteers from across the country helped compile this book. Their names are,

The PaGaLGuY MadCapz Team - Led by **Rohit Awasthi** (estranged_gnrs) and **Satwinder Singh** (Satwinder)

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Lajwanti D'souza	Editing
Sreeraman MG	Cover Design
Devadatta Sahoo	Made personalized downloading possible
Apurv Pandit	Layout, Editing

Not least, we'd like to thank all the PaGaLGuY members who've been contributing their GD-PI experiences to PaGaLGuY every year. You people have no idea how exponentially helpful your contributions have ended up being to newer MBA applicants over the years.

How to use this book

IIM Bangalore - Year 2007

Interview experience of: [Prahalad85](#)

Venue: IIMB Campus

Date: 26th Feb 2:30 PM

Panel: J Ramachandran (P1) and Sourav Mukherji (P2)

GD: total of 9 ppl... 7m 2f

it was a case study on a reputed college where a few parents complain against a maths prof on his sexual misconduct with students in a special class.. As a principal what actions u take so that the parents are taken into confidence and u don't spoil the career of maths prof (he is a genius, a lot of improvements after he came)

Good discussion with most people participating. Thought I did a decent job too.

PI:

Now for the interesting part

I was the first to be called in

2 Panellists say P1 and P2 and Me(M)

P2: So Prahalad, are u nervous?

M: No Sir

P2: shall I make u nervous

M: preferably not Sir

Both of them smiles

P2: so I can see that u hardly have any extracurricular activities? Was u the typical nerdy person who stuck only to books?

M: sir, I have participated in a variety of events.

P2: but u hasn't won...U don't have that killer instinct or the urge to win

M: no sir, its not that case. I have played club cricket and was a leg spinner.

P2: oh, should we have a leg spinner in our ODI team?

M: Yes sir. I feel there should be a leg spinner as it adds a great variation.

(Looks rather unhappy with that answered. Actually he kept giving me that look throughout the PI)

P2: but all leg spinners barring Shane Warne are mediocre and so are you...

M: reply that it can't be made such a generalized statement.

P1 and

P2: u are a perfect number 2.happy to see someone take all the credit and being the number 2, applauding him. We want leaders at IIMB .not people like you

M: I don't agree that I am a number 2 and tell him that I am a potential leader and have the necessary qualities.

P2: U work in data warehousing that again is a perfect number 2 job. Just helping out the client with the data and he hogs the limelight.

M: well that's the case with other IT jobs as well. We provide services for the client.Atleast my job offers me a scope for analyzing and interpreting data.

P1: u also seems to suggest that u want to be the CEO of a middle level organization. Again not the top

M: tell him that I will take over as CEO and bring it to the top.

P2: WATS Ur family background

M: father works for XXXXX.

EACH CHAPTER CONTAINS GD-PI EXPERIENCES FOR ONE B-SCHOOL

THE GD-PI EXPERIENCES ARE ARRANGED BY FORWARD CHRONOLOGY

USERNAME OF THE POSTER

GD EXPERIENCE

PI EXPERIENCE. EACH EXPERIENCE USUALLY STARTS WITH A SHORT INTRODUCTION OF THE PEOPLE IN THE ROOM.

**The
PaGaLGuY
GD-PI
Anthology**

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Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad

Interview experiences during the admission seasons between 2005 and 2010

IIM Ahmedabad - Year 2005

Interview experience of: **Rahul Abraham Mamman**

Background: B.Com Third Year. Also involved in my family business which includes a pharmacy and a health and beauty store.

Academics:

10Th C.B.S.E 89.2

12TH C.B.S.E 86.4

B.Com 74 (But that's because English and Hindi were added., CGPA would be 8.7 relative to the University topper)

CAT Summary:

OA-99.87,

VA-99.09,

QA-99.7, DI-97.55

GD

First was the GD. There were 2 girls and six guys including me. We were given about 20 minutes to interact before the interview, that was a good experience.

The GD started off well, all of us spoke, contributed and our brainstorming seemed to be good. None of us seemed to be having any problem with each other. All points discussed were good and many were added on to the original points too.

PI

Then came the PI. I was number 8. I had not given my certificate copies yet. They told me that I should provide them at the time of my interview. So everyone had a decent interview with a Major C who apparently, had with 17 years of Army experience and 100 percentile in CAT.

Finally it was my turn.

One of the professors came out and called my name. I went in with a smile and wished them all, they all seemed nice guys.

First question to me (I don't remember who asked me what. I will try and provide below as accurate an account as possible).

Q: What is one difficulty and one good thing about holding the GD PI at this venue, which is a new block?

A: Sir, the good thing was that I could come through the underpass. Though I feel they could have had a straight passage but walking through the underpass was indeed a great experience and there were a lot of things about IIM A in that passage which were really informative. The only difficulty I encountered was that it was too far from the entrance and I did get a bit lost at first.

Q: Are you from Ahmedabad?

A: No Sir, I am from Cochin (The professor seemed a little surprised).

Q: Why did you give IIM A as your centre?

A: It has been my dream to be in IIM A. I have heard through people and read a lot about IIM A. I know it is the best institute and I wanted to experience it firsthand and get the feeling of being here. I also have a few friends in IIM A.

Q: Did you do the same for IIM C?

A: No sir, I have only done that for IIM A.

Q: So what are you doing now?

A: I am in my third year of B.Com.

Q: What is your favorite subject?

A: I m reasonably comfortable with Capital Markets.

Q: What are capital markets?

A: It is the market for the buying and selling of shares and Debentures. It is the market through which the capital for the companies is raised.

Q: What is a stock?

A: It is a certificate giving ownership of the company; the owner can be given dividends when the company makes profits.

Q: Why do people give money for these pieces of paper like debentures?

A: These debentures carry a fixed rate of return and the holders of these debentures will definitely get a certain fixed income in the form of money every year. It can also be of a redeemable form.

Q: But why do they still accept these papers and nothing else is given?

A: Sir, these certificates have legal validity and they can be enforced by law hence it is quite a safe instrument to invest in.

Q: What is the IPO market?

A: It's the market for Initial Public Offering and it is when the company issues shares for the first time.

Q: What is Primary market?

A: It includes private placements and IPO is a part of the Primary market.

They asked me a little more in detail about the differences between Primary and IPO Markets. I told them that this is what I knew and was sure that there is more to it.

Q: What are bonus shares?

A: The shares issued by the company free of cost to its shareholders is known as bonus shares. They are issued sometimes in lieu of dividend when the company has not been paying any cash dividend.

Q: Are bonus shares issued by companies which haven't given any dividends so far?

A: Not only that but it is also issued by companies which have a good deal of reserves after the capitalisation also, even if they have been giving a lot of dividends so far.

Q: Are all share holders treated separately in terms of dividend payouts?

A: No sir. The preference shareholders are treated differently. They get only a fixed rate of return on their shares.

Q: What about the other share holders? Can a particular company not give dividend to a group of the shareholders?

A: No that is not possible. All shareholders have to be given equal treatment and dividend if given, should be given to every single shareholder.

Q: Suppose a company wants to make a fresh issue what will it do?

A: It will have to approach the company law board get its permission and then can issue shares in the markets. It can go in for rights issue where the present owners are given the right to purchase the shares first.

Q: What would your company do if you wanted to list in the stock exchange?

A: First get the approval from the Company Law Board. Meet all legal requirements also approach the stock exchange and get permission so that you can list it on the stock exchange.

Q: What is deferred tax?

A: (I started speaking on accounting tax and stopped and said that I was not sure but I could speak about deferred revenue expenditure is, if needed.

Q: Ok, but what is miscellaneous expenditure?

A: I talked about what it is and how it comes about.

Q: Which head does it come under?

A: I said these are shown sometimes in the balance sheet under the asset side, these are actually fictitious assets.

Q: What counterbalances it on the liability side?

A: I don't know that sir. (I used my hand to show the side on the balance sheet and they joked about it and I smiled too.)

Q: What is your family business?

A: It is a pharmacy in Cochin sir. We also have a lifestyle store which stocks baby care, cosmetics, perfumes and a lot of Ayurvedic stuff.

Q: What is the return on investment?

A: The ROI is about 20 percent.

Q: What are the trade deals given in Cochin for the pharmacy?

A: The pharmacy is given 30 days of credit and also 4 percent discount on ready cash.

Q: What role does the association play in the state?

A: (I talked about the margins we get because of the association)

Q: What is the margin in the other states?

A: Same margins in Kerala.

Q: How does the association help then?

A: It makes sure that we get 20 percent margin on a new product and old margins exist. Also because of our association, we can return our medicines on time of expiry and within three months and get the money back.

Q: Why do you have two different stores, can't you have them together?

A: I talk about numerical reasons and also about two different classes of customers being attracted to different shops.

Q: How does the second store works?

A: I explained it is a volume business with high value low number of bills at all.

Q: How are your margins normally?

A: About 18-20 percent.

Q: So is that what you meant by ROI?

A: I explained saying that it is not what I meant and told them the original ROI was indeed correct.

Q: What do you mean by the Tie and Die method?

A: I don't know about that Sir.

Q: How is curd made?

A: (I gave milk and curd *gyaan*)

Q: Which of it has microbes?

A: Curd.

Q: Are they alive?

A: I think Sir.

Q: What is this process called?

A: Fermentation.

Q: How is it related to the Pharma industry?

A: (I knew about Insulin). It can be used to make red wine capsules. I talked about how the dried powder is made into the capsule form.

Q: What are these used for?

A: For preventing heart diseases.

Q: How is the powder made?

A: By drying it up after the fermentation process.

Q: How it is made into the capsule?

A: The powder is then encapsulated.

Q: What are your other interests?

A: I m a member of the Numismatic Society (They confirmed whether it was about coins itself .

Q: Why do you collect coins?

A: It's a passion, knowledge gathering experience (gave more *gyaan*).

Q: Where do you get the coins from?

A: From the antique shops and also by exchanging with friends in my society.

Q: Which is the oldest coin that you have seen?

A: A BC silver roman coin.

Q: Didn't you pick it up?

A: Sir it was too expensive and I didn't have Rs 3,500 at that time.

Q: Is it still there in that shop?

A: I have not gone for some time to that shop. I'm not too sure sir.

Q: So tell us what have you learnt about coins?

A: Where and which countries ruled others, the cultures for eg. France ruled Algeria...(I really don't know why I said that).

Q: Where is Algeria?

A: North Africa.

Q: What is its currency?

A: Francs.

Q: When did Algeria get its independence?

A: I don't know for sure sir...(One of the panelists asked what was the point in collecting coins if I did not know the date of independence of Algeria. I defended myself by giving information on a lot of commemorative coins and their importance).

Q: What are these double metal coins? (Coins with two colours)

A: I explained to them and then one of the panelists asked me about any contemporary double metal coin that I might know. I talked about the euro and the 2 pound coins which are double metal coins.

Q: Did you win the table tennis title for the district?

A: Yes Sir.

He asked for my certificates, looked at them all and said that I had done extra stuff only in school.

Then I showed him my College (Commerce) stuff but added that since I did not have the certificates, I did not write much about it.

They seemed satisfied I don't know why.

Overall it was a purely knowledge-based interview.

(Converted and Joined IIMA)

Interview experience of: **Vikas Kumar**

Background: IIT Kanpur

Academics: CPI 8.4

99.99 percentile Six Calls

GD

Since we were only six people (2 people did not come 😞) and one did not speak, we had ample time. I made few good entries and would rate the performance as OK.

PI

Three panel members....P1, P2, P3. P1 used to smile a lot, P2 kept looking at my certificates and P3 did not seem to be interested!

P1: So Vikas many IITK students have come today? Have you studied together?

A: Yes sir, everyone has been called today only. No, I have done self study for CAT (lied big time).

P1: Ok. let say I have to find out the number of individuals getting calls from at least one IIM. How will you estimate the number?

A; Sir, I will take the data of coaching institutes, (explained a bit. But I had a flaw in my logic which was pointed out by him). I took some 15 seconds after that) and then said that I would do some sampling. I will make segments of different percentiles and different profiles. Based on the sample I could extrapolate the value.

P1: Smiling, Ok, so what will be the sample size?

A: Sir, since I presume that the estimation need not be very accurate, a sample size of 5% of the population seems good to me.

P1: seemed satisfied. Ok what is the time complexity of quick sort?

A: talked of worst case and average case.

P1: (Then asked me 3-4 counter questions on algorithm time complexity).

A: (I answered all well and confidently (I guess!))

P2: Vikas, we have heard so much of developed economy. What defines an economy as developed one?

A: (I spoke about the Human Development Index)

P2: What is per capita income?

A: GDP/Population later said it's NNP/Population

P2: What is the difference between GDP and NNP?

A: (I Answered correctly)

P2: Name the top 3 country with the highest per capita income?

A: Sir, I do not know but at least one Scandinavian country is there.

P2: What are Scandinavian countries?

A: Norway, Finland and Sweden.

P2: Are you sure?

A: Yes Sir 😊 (later came to know that Denmark is also there)

P2: Name the state with the lowest literacy rate?

A: Bihar

P2: What is the literacy rate of Bihar?

A: 47 %

P2: Female and Male literacy rate of Bihar?

A: Around 35-40 % for females and 55% for males.

P2: Name another basis to distinguish between literacy rates?

A: Since Bihar is quite caste and class conscious, this can be a good basis (wanted further discussion but they had other ideas).

P2: Highest literacy?

A: Kerala

P2: Second Highest Literacy rate?

A: Mizoram.

P2: Highest literacy rate?

P2: What is the literacy rate?

A: Around 90 % (88% is the correct answer).

P2: He did not seem to be satisfied

P3: (wakes up from his sleep) Name two active areas of research in computer science?

A: (I spoke about grid computing and next generation of computers based on AI.)

P3 and P1: What is intelligence or AI?

A: Sir, since I have not done any course on AI, I may not be accurate but I think it is anything that mimics human intelligence should be an intelligent system (what a stupid answer!), and then talked of neural networks which I had heard from my friend at IITK.

P3: Suppose you are sent to a village what will be the power source for your computer?

A: Sir, solar power though I am not very sure?

P3: Why you are not sure?

A: May not be economically feasible.

P3: Ok, go on!

A: Sir, UPS.

P3: How will that be recharged?

A: Sir, solar power.

P3: Any other power source?

A: I can't think of any other source.

P3: Should there be promotion of IT in villages?

A: Yes sir.

P3: Why?

A: Weather reports and cropping patterns.

P3: One can get the same information from newspapers?

A: Sir, but it will not be real time weather report?

P3: (Amused) Do you mean to say that if there is going to rain in the next hour, you will change the cropping pattern.

A: Realised my mistake... and tried to cover it up by talking of getting good market information about the inputs for farming and the final produce.

P3: But if the people are not literate how will they use them?

A: Sir, we can have a system installed for a group of villages and an operator for each system. A villager can approach the operator to get any information.

P3: Ok, give me the speed of the fastest memory?

A: (Did not get what he was saying, took some time and assuming something I came out with some answer after some analysis. Was expecting them to pound me after this but it seemed either they did not know or they were not interested in the answer.)

P3: Integrate $(e)^{(e)^x}$?

A: Was not expecting and did some stupid rough work.

P3: (Quickly taking the sheet back) Do you like maths?

A: Yes Sir.

P2: Why did your CPI decrease in the 3rd year?

A: Talked of my projects.

P2: Can you justify such a steep fall (7.8 in 3rd year and 9.0 in 1st and 2nd year) based on your projects.

A: (Gave some more crap)

P1: Vikas, you got a 38 rank in IIT and 0.1 % merit certificate in English? Which do you think is a greater achievement?

A: IIT has opened lots of opportunities for me (and gave some more crap)

P1: Talk about your personal satisfactions.

A: (Gassed some more).

P1: (Smiling) Thank you!

P2: Ok. One last question. Name the states through which river Kaveri passes?

A: Tamil Nadu and Karnataka?

P2: AP?

A: Not sure, but probably a narrow stretch 😊

P1: (Smiling) what about Kerala and Maharashtra?

A: No Sir

P1: Ok, thanks.

Seeing that they have not offered me chocolates, I started taking one

P2: I am sorry please take two.

A: Thanks sir.

That was it. I committed far too many blunders and was expecting some questions on current affairs, my projects and BTP. This is the only hope after a truly disastrous performance in IIM C.

(Converted the call, Joined IIMA)

Interview experience of: PaGuY

GD:

Case was about a bicycle manufacturer wanting to manufacture racing cycles. Advertisement has Ajay Jadeja saying "This is the only muscle I use" (pointing to his thumb). You are the MD and you have to either change the ad or continue with it. What would you do?

Had a decent GD. Everyone was pretty active but nobody really dominated. Not a fish market but could have become one had people gone one step further.

PI:

(**P1, P2, P3** are the people on the interview panel and **M** stands for me)

Some confusion about my form. They picked up Gaurav's form instead of Saurabh's. Finally resolved.

P1: So Saurabh, now that all confusion about your Blue form is resolved, what are you doing currently?

M: Sir I am doing an internship at *blah blah blah*.

P1: (looking at the form): Why did you leave the other company? You have also taken a paycut? It's almost half your original salary.

M: Sir I would have liked to stay with my previous.

P1: Oh so they threw you out? You were fired??

M: Sir, they were sending me to Israel for a period of 6 months and

P1: So you should have gone *na*. You could have made some good bonuses and saved a lot of money.

M: Yes sir, but that did not match with my long term goal. If I had gone there I would not have been able to appear for the interview.

P1: Oh, you could have gone and just asked us. We could have taken your interview on a weekend. Just come back on a weekend, give your interview and go back. With the technology and communication *blah blah*.

P2: hmm.. but you would have had to come for half a dozen interviews.

M (*just for a second I got confused what half a dozen means 😊*): Yes sir.

P1: No, how much time does it take to fly from here to Israel?

M: Sir I am not sure, but my guess would be somewhere between 7-8 hours.

P1: So you could have come easily *na*

M (*Thought about asking "would you pay for it!"*): Sir I am not sure my manager would have allowed me to come back six times.

P1 to P3: You can take his. I will join in later.

(*Silence. No one's saying anything and I am staring at P2*) (*Then P3 shows one of my certificates from IIMA to P1*).

P1: Oh, so did you visit IIMA for this.

M: Sir, this was the Level 1 competition wherein we had to just give the idea.

P1: But you would have come for the award ceremony.

M: Sir, we were informed late and hence could not make it to the award ceremony.

P1: Oh, so you don't even know whether you actually won or not?

M: Sir,

P1: But the prizes weren't declared immediately?

M: Sir, this was the idea presentation wherein we had to give the business plan summary and based on that, results were declared 2 months later.

P1: Oh otherwise I would have known you.

P2: So Saurabh, have you worked on your idea further.

M: Sir I have talked to a few people about my idea. But I realise that I need to develop business skills before I start my company. I know the technology is good. I know my idea has commercial potential. So I don't want to waste it. I want to market it properly. There are aspects of business I have no clue about hence after acquiring business skills I will start my company.

P1: Oh. So do you have any classmates at IIMA?

M: No sir. But I know a few seniors and a few juniors at IIMA.

P1: Did you talk to them.

M: Sir I've spoken to one of my seniors there and I have also spoken to a couple of IIMA pass outs in my company.

(a big silence again).

P2: So you've done electrical engineering. Have you done any courses on basic Physics?

M (*very reluctantly*): Yes Sir. I've done a course on mechanics and a course on Electromagnetic. (After a pause) and a course on quantum mechanics.

P2: Something to do with theory of relativity?

P2: So Saurabh, a lot of people define Theory of Relativity saying that everything is relative. Isn't that very superficial?

M: Sir, I do not remember much about the Theory of Relativity, but yes.

P2: *repeats the question.*

M: Yes Sir, defining it that way would be very superficial.

P2: So how would you define it?

M: Sir, I do not remember much about it.

P2: OK. Tell me about the Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle.

M: Sir, at the most basic level it says that the product of Energy and position of a particle has an uncertainty associated with it. I do not remember the value of the constant but..

P2: OK. So what's so basic about it? How else can you define it?

M: Sir I am not sure, but uncertainty is associated with some other (quantities) as well.

P2: OK. Who gave the periodic table?

M: (*I thinks for a while*) Sir, I don't remember.

P3: OK Saurabh, you know about the population of India and China. They have highest populations. But there is some difference with their population control policy?

M: Sir, in China they have the 1 child norm. We in India had the 2 child norm. What they say "*Hum do hamare do*" but now we are also moving towards the one child norm.

P3: Any other difference?

P3: In the way they implement their 1 child norm and we our "*Hum do hamare do* "

M: (*Was not really sure it was about the forceful implementation in China*) Blank

P3: Ok Saurabh, now let's say over a period of 25 years China avoids 200 million child births. You know the severe punishments they have and penalties. So what effect will it have on the economy?

M: (Start explaining the inverted pyramids and then talk about productivity (use it in place of product) and then correct it to product). I am assuming that the productivity i.e. the technology remains the same. So productivity is constant.

P3: Is that right to assume it?

M: No Sir. That would be a bad assumption to make. In fact I would like the technology to grow at a good rate. But Sir even if we assume that the productivity has increased, we can safely assume that the needs of the people would also have increased.

P3: So what happens then?

M: (I explains the inverted pyramid again)

P2: Saurabh you've written about these dramatics and cultural events and managing people and conflict resolving. How do you resolve conflicts?

M: Sir, resolving conflicts is all about... Sir actually it is much better to avoid conflicts than to resolve them. If everyone is given due hearing and due importance there will be no conflict.

P2: Yes, but that would be an ideal situation. That doesn't happen in real life. Does it? How did you resolve conflicts?

M: Sir I agree it doesn't happen in real life. I believe in talking to people and making their colleagues and friends talk to them. In fact I was lucky that in this particular case only 2-3 conflicts were there. I believe that one should resolve the conflicts as soon as they come to your notice. Because if a person sulks then he only aggravates the injury. I would talk to him and make him realise the common goal rather than the personal goals.

P1: So what are you working on currently?

P2: He's working for *blah blah*.

P1: Yes, but that is only for a very short period. He's not expected to know much about it. What were you working on earlier?

M: Sir I was working for *blah blah* earlier. Now, I am working for *blah blah* and doing a project for *blah blah* (*It was very clear I wanted them to ask questions about my present work*).

P1: But you've joined recently *na*. We should ask you about your previous job.

P2: What were you doing there? You talk about some presentations, demonstrations, competitive product evaluation? What is this competitive evaluation??

M: (I explained).

P1: OK, so you've done this Dual degree. What is it?

M: Sir, it's a five year course and after 5 years you get both B.Tech and M.Tech degrees.

P1: So what have you? You got an electrical engineering degree?

M (*I am clearly trying to avoid questions on Electrical*): Sir I've done M.Tech in Microelectronics.

P1: But B.Tech is in electrical engineering.

M: Sir, the main.

P1: You must have done some courses in electrical engineering.

M: Yes sir (*very reluctantly*).

P1: So tell me about Kirchhoff's Law.

M: (I explain with paper and pen)

P1: No, don't draw any circuits. We'll do that later.

M: I explains.

P1: So draw any LCR circuit. Put one of them in parallel. Apply AC source. Now apply KVL and KCL.

M: (I write the equations).

P1: So how will you solve these equations?

M: Sir, we can solve it by using Laplace Transforms.

P1: How?

M: Sir, we'll first transform them into Laplace domain.

P1: What is domain? What transform?

M: Sir, currently they are in time domain.

P1: What domain?

M: Sir currently they vary with time. They are a function of time.

P1: That I've already told you.

P1: Don't give me all your domains and stuff. How will you solve it?

M: Sir, we can either solve it directly by solving the differential equations in time domain or by Laplace Transform.

P1: So what sort of equation will you solve?

M: Sir they will be 2nd order differential equations.

P1: How?

M: Sir when we substitute the 2nd equation into the 1st one, we get a double differential.

P1: Anything else about these equations? What sort of a solution do you expect?

M: Sir, something like $e^{(at)}$.

P1: No don't assume anything. Did I give you anything about the voltage? What sort of equation are these?

M: Sir they are linear differential equations.

P1: Anything else about them? You've done a lot of courses in maths. In fact you've a special course on differential equations.

P1: Do you remember simple equations?

M: No sir.

P1: Why is this equation simple?

M: (I say nothing)

P1: OK. Tell me about your other method. Don't give me your domains and transforms.

M: Sir can I take a minute to think?

P1: Yes but don't take more than 1 minute.

P2: (walks out).

P1: Do you mind sharing with me what you are writing?

M: Sir we will first multiply the whole equation by e^{-st} and then integrate with respect to it.

P1: Tell me 2 properties about Laplace Transform and then you can go. (pauses). OK Tell me one.

M: (I say nothing)

P1: No? OK you can go. Take your toffee.

P3: Best of luck for the other interviews.

M: Thank you sir. (I forgets to pick the toffee)

I know it wasn't a good interview. Just hope they were not just testing the subject knowledge.

(Converted, joined IIMA)

Interview experience of: khotahimachalli

Academics:

10th--88.4 CBSE

12th--90.8 CBSE (PCM)

GRAD (BE Electronics)--till now 80 %--university topper

CAT--99.77--A B K only due to 89 in DI.

PI:

So now, something about my PI. There were 3 persons, (no female) on the panel 😞 I will refer to them as **SI** (for the South Indian chap around 36 yrs old, bearded 'n' all. He ushered me in and then was absent for about for 5 mins.

ONG (for the old person who seemed like a nice guy, very soft spoken and intellectual looking, probably a *Bong*. **MTE** (for the moustached tech expert, should be around 47 years of age asked loads of question on technology.

Oops! forgot to add myself 🇮🇳 **KH** (for khotahimachali)

Now I entered the room dot at 11 o'clock and too my seat.

ONG: so Mr. Kaushik you have come all the way from Nagpur to Delhi??

KH: Yes Sir I have (shhh what a first question)

ONG: Why??

KH: Sir, Mumbai which is nearest to Nagpur, is not a center (*are kisi ko malum hai kya why??* 😊)

MTE: (Interrupts in between) what about Ahmedabad??

KH: I discussed about how Delhi is known to me since I am from Himachal Pradesh and have been to Delhi loads of time, it is also near (some 3.33 hrs)

ONG: So what is your Final year project on ??

KH: (*Mare gaye..though earlier sacred 🇮🇳 lambs had talked about this particular ceremony at the altar, so was prepared*) Image Processing Sir.

ONG: Very interesting! Being a mechanical engineer why did you take it??

KH: Sir, but I am an electronics engineer!(*what is this* 😞 ???)

ONG: Oohhh. Will ask about the project later. At this moment tell us about some latest developments in the electronics field??

KH: (*Yaar, I cannot describe in words how glad I was on being let off the project thing*)in communication or core electronics?

ONG: Anything, do you know about nanotechnology??

KH: No Sir

ONG: Heard of N-log, it is a company

KH: Naah

ONG: Ok. Ok. Tell me about Bluetooth

KH: Well, I know about Bluetooth, IrDA, ISDN....First of all let me tell you about Bluetooth..(*blah blah blah*

loads of gyaan 🇮🇳 for around 4 minutes with them appearing quite interested though I myself had started getting bored. In the meantime, SI came in and asked for my certificates from MTE who had gone through them earlier. Taking this opportunity MTE barges into the interview.

MTE: So which subject did you like the best??

KH: (*Ab bakra katega:grab:*) Microprocessors..

MTE: why??

KH: Because I like it. (I said something about it being contemporary).

MTE: Contemporary. (Looks at other panelists with an evil smile playing on his lips)--so what latest processors do you know about??

KH: told them about RISC ones like PAT-100, supersparc and others.

MTE: what about P4??

KH: Sir I know not much in detail just the basic architecture.

MTE: Go on

KH: (I told them about bus and address lines..was asked some on bus-what it is and some more..don't remember exactly)

MTE: So do you have any idea about the number of transistors on the chip of P4(this followed because I said something about VLSI)

KH: Sir I don't know exactly but around 10^{12} I guess

MTE: Give me some name for that quantity?

KH: Million, Billion

MTE: Some other

KH: 1000 giga??

(The panel laughs)

KH: (Sheepishly now) I recall it vis tera

MTE: So what is the size of the chip??

KH: Around $5\text{cm} \times 3.5 \times 1\text{mm}$ (just said some numbers) actually the processor chip looks like (and showed them by drawing in the air the approx size)

MTE: (From my aerial drawing) are you sure that much is 5 cm??

KH: No sir I think I was wrong 🙄 then, it is around 1.5 inches

MTE: how much is an inch??

KH: It is 2.54 cms (*now I am thinking yeh kahan aa gaye hum!!!*)

SI: Also in your form you have said that you filling this form is no small fry (this I had given in the accomplishment question)

KH: Yup Sir, (gave SOME gyaan ABOUT IIM a being great institute and as a third person you rely on surveys and that recently it figured in top 100 of world...)

SI: Which survey?

KH: I do not recall sir

SI: Anyone will say anything to you and you will believe it??

KH: *Naah (am I that a moron 🤡)*. I read in a reputed magazine and just cannot recall the name of the survey company.

MTE: So 10^{12} transistors on 5×3.5 area chip!!!

KH: Yes sir, use of VLSI and nanotech enables that

MTE: Ok, take this piece of paper and calculate how much area each transistor will get??

KH: (I did it and got something like 10^{-16} for each)

MTE: What is the radii of an atom??

KH: I do not know exactly but somewhat in range of angstroms.

MTE: So what is an angstrom??

KH: Around 10^{-10} cm

MTE: So we are getting less area than an atom. How do P4 people make it happen?

KH: Sir as I mentioned earlier I do not know much about P4 --we only studied 8085 in my college 😊 (Smiles around the panel)

SI: You still study 8085??

KH: (With a shrug--*oye mai ki karan je college ke pas paise nahin hain:huh: ??*)yup we do?

ONG: Can you tell me about its architecture?

KH: (*I again go on a rampage for around 2 minutes and lots of questions were asked in between about multiplexing of buses and the lot. I would not dare to mention here nahin to baki junta maregi. Electronics guys can PM me if that interested...*)

SI: So, in your form you have written one of your favorite authors is ENID BLYTON??

(*the whole panel is again smiling--am I a joker ?*)

KH: Yes sir she is 🤡 🤡 !!!

SI: But she writes children's books

KH: Sir I am still very much a child 🤡 and besides she writes really great.

SI: So which series of hers do you like best?

KH: Famous five

SI: Can you name them?

KH: (I did that)

SH: So are these books good for children??

KH: Yes sir they are.

S: Explain

KH: Well, as a beginner (*blah blah and ended with that she writes about food a lot and children love food...*)

SI: Do they really??

KH: Well Sir, I like and still do a lot 🍪🍪 and my friend circle did..

(*again smiles all around--mai aisa kyun hoon??*)

SI: So do you know any author of children's books from India??

KH: Uhhhhh there is this author who lives in Mussorie --yaahh Ruskin Bond

SI: Is he an Indian?

KH: Yup he took Indian citizenship long time back...

SI: Any other?

KH: nahh

SI: Well there has been someone who has been in the news recently regarding Indian citizenship

KH: Yup it was Tasleema Nasreen.

SI: Who is she?

KH: (I gave stuff about her and talked about the controversy about her book..seeing the look on **SI**'s face said --"but I do not know the name of her book" 🍪)

(*again smiles all around--man I am fed up of this*)

SI: So you have written in your form about heat stroke (I had given some stuff about how in Nagpur I usually get heat strokes once every year--this in response to some problem question).

Can you explain to me about it??

KH: (Gave some gyan about what happens to me when I have it)

SI: Not about general public, the theory behind it?

KH: (I gave some crap about heat flow and all in the end said I did not know. I just have loads of headaches... 🍪)

(*Look at each other and decide the poor chap has had enough...*)

ONG: So you may leave now--(*points to the toffee bowl--now I have a question while I was waiting for my turn everyone had said that they were giving chocolates so I was waiting for some Dairy Milk or atleast a Perk, but these were plain old Eclairs--sheesh*)--take some. **MOI TAKES ONE**

ONG: Come on take one more..

KH: (I cannot say I hate Eclairs --so take 2/3 more and leave after doing the usual BS)

It took 21 minutes and 38 seconds and I liked it--the panel was nice and helped me along. I kept my mug beaming with smiles at times and never stressed out.

Also would like to mention one thing. M father saw some IIFT seniors rushing to their classes with dry bread pieces in their mouths and not even a dollop of jam or sauce in it and sheesh talking of breakfast, **bread**..Yuk I hate bread... peeps n is this the scenario in B-schools that you do not get time to eat properly even..*mujhe dar lag raha hai*. I love my food.... and it seems if I get through any B-school I am going to disappear in thin air--my father was having a good laugh over it all the way back ..

(Converted, joined IIMA)

Interview experience of: **cattysylvester**

Academics: I scored a 98.88 %ile in CAT (EU 99.54, Q:96.35 DI: 71.92).
 X : 91.4%
 XII : 89%
 Graduated last year. B Com (H). Aggregate of 66%.
 No work experience.
 Decent extra-curricular (but no Qs asked: huh:)

Hey everyone,

I had my IIMA GD and interview today at 2:00 pm. It seems today was a day reserved for the non-engineers as all the people I met were either with commerce or economics background. This is going to be a long post, so I better get right to the point.

I was in a group of nine people; I was at number 4. Three girls, rest non-girls 🧑. The case was a simple one with not too many figures. X comes to India in 1947, starts a sweet shop. He sources his raw materials from two close friends. Business is successful. Costs increase over the years, but X does not increase prices very much; so profits are dipping. X's son Y is an MBA grad or something. Last diwali, X hands over family business to Y. Y immediately switches to two other suppliers who offer him good discounts. Y's daughter Z has a party at school. Y provides packed sweets for 270 kids. By midnight, 30 have fallen ill and are hospitalised. Principal and parents are up in arms. Former threatens legal action against Y. What should Y do?

I began the GD and outlined a basic structure for discussion. We discussed the long term and short term remedies pretty well. I brought in a couple of not very-original-but-as-yet-unstated ideas. Group tended to get a little repetitive especially after one girl suggested we summarise the remedies. I don't think we were expected to summarise but one can't have a debate over that in the course of a GD, right?

In fact, after a couple of minutes of diversion, I stupidly ended up suggesting the same thing (shooting myself, I tell you!). Anyway, our time was up and we were asked to summarise. Despite all the warnings at PG, I still couldn't finish mine! :huh:

Anyway, exit group and long wait for the interview. First guy from my group was asked the hundred-rupee-note question! Amazing...Don't IIM profs know about PG?? Anyway, he was also told to get both sides of his degree certificates photocopied, so all of us also rushed to do the same. I think we all had a pretty good time waiting. Of course, there was the usual excitement as soon as someone came out of the interview room, but otherwise we kept joking around and pulling each other's legs in the waiting area. Candidate number 3 was real fun and brought everyone's stress levels down. (Thanks, R! Too bad you got stress-interviewed yourself!!)

Anyway, time for me to go in. Three member panel. (L to R)South Indian Smiley Chappie (**SISC**), Main Guy (**MG**), and Boring-but-Decent-Guy (**BDG**).

Me: Good Afternoon, Sirs

SISC: Have a seat.

I do so and say thanks.

MG: So you've heard from others about the interview?

Me: I smile

MG: Yes, no or maybe?

Me: Yes, sir.

MG: So how are you feeling- better or worse?

Me: Much the same (smiling)

SISC: So you did the corrective action too?

Me: Oh, you mean the photocopies? Yes, Sir.

SISC: What subjects did you score highest in?

Me: Financial management, accountancy, costing and some others that I liked but did not score as well.

SISC: Oh, you got _ (high) in costing and ___ (low) in management.....

Me: Yes, and ironically I like management!

MG: You had a paper on management concepts?

Me: It was actually 'Management concepts and practices'

MG: What concepts did they teach you?

Me: Well, more about development of management thought and about managerial functions like planning, organising, directing and controlling.

SISC: Why didn't you do a job after graduation?

Me: Sir, I thought about that and decided I had to gain some more knowledge to be able to work at the jobs I want to work at.

MG: Okay, what is activity-type/level costing?

Me: (*Taking some wild guess*). Do you mean operating costing? (Explains the same)

MG: Okay, taking your example, how would you account for costs of a hospital? Say, there are four nurses, one receptionist and one doctor?

Me: Consider costs like heating, lighting, electricity, rent of building (darn, just remembered---forgot to mention stationery), salaries of employees, cost of medical supplies (depending on patients etc..)

MG: Anything else?

Me: (*I thinks and mumble*) Don't think so...

MG: And you divide this by the total number of beds?

Me: Not necessarily, could divide it by number of occupied beds too (I explain why)

MG: What if there is an ICU ward?

Me: Oh, you mean there are different kinds of beds?

MG: Yes.

Me: Some costs would be common, and others can be charged accordingly.

MG: What about doctor's salary?

Me: Could be allocated on the basis of number of beds in each ward.

MG: Any other basis?

Me: Time spent in each ward (gives example and explains)

MG: What is a 'run-on-a-bank'?

Me: (*I looks clueless*)

MG: Not heard of bank run?

Me: No Sir, I'm afraid I haven't.

MG: heard about the budget? What is this fiscal deficit? Is it good or bad?

Me: (Wildly guessing) A small level may not be bad as it indicates we are a developing nation and have developmental expenses; on the other hand, a growing deficit may mean we are not planning financing of our expenditure properly. So it has both good and bad elements to it.

MG: What is FDI?

Me: (*I give the full form and explains in layman terms*)

MG: What about when Indians invest abroad? What is that?

Me: It's FDI for the respective countries.

BDG: Okay, why did you drop one year? (I have a 'discontinuity' problem)

Me: *(I give some standard answer, mentions things like 'it was a rebellious mistake', 'I was a passive follower of advice rather than active decider', 'IT was booming then')*

BDG: It's not good now?

Me: Well, it went through a slump but it's doing much better now.

(SISC has been scribbling a standard costing question all this while and hands me the sheet and asks me to account for the variance in profit)

Me: (🤔) *totally zapped--can barely remember chapter, let alone formulae!, borrows SISC's pen)*

SISC: *(Seeing that I have turned to stone) You can think aloud.*

Me: *(I do so and gives some simplistic explanation combined with some very slow arithmetic)*

SISC: So, only these two factors for variance?

Me: *(SISC almost leads me to the next factor and I thankfully mention that too. I mumble something about having done this an year ago and not being so good at it now, all this with an apologetic smile)*

BDG: You have mentioned that you took a part in an anti-pollution thing... Is there anything going on about pollution these days?

Me: Yes, sir. Kyoto protocol has come into effect recently.

BDG: What is that?

Me: *(I explain)*

BDG: What will implementation mean?

Me: *(explains)*

BDG: Have all countries signed it?

Me: Actually, USA hasn't which is ironic since it's the biggest offender.

BDG: Is Delhi more polluted now than it was, say five years ago?

Me: Don't know in terms of actual data but state government has taken steps like conversion to CNG, planting trees etc.

BDG: But with highways etc. allowing more vehicles, aren't emissions increasing?

Me: *(Thinking of Delhi) But highways are necessary for development also. I think the problem could be migration too....*

BDG: *(interrupts) What?*

Me: Migration, sir

BDG: No, no. I'm talking about the nation not Delhi.

Me: Okay.

BDG: So you think pollution is a price we pay for development?

Me: *(Couldn't have framed it better myself) Yes, sir; it seems so.*

BDG: Is it necessary to pay this price?

Me: No Sir and that is why we try to reduce pollution as much as possible.

BDG: How? Can you think of examples?

Me: Sir, I believe in China, cycles are given a lot of importance as modes of transportation (actually don't know this for fact, wonder if it's true?) Also, automobile companies are now developing solar charged vehicles etc.

BDG: What can governments do?

Me: Give more incentives to auto companies to keep developing eco-friendly vehicles...

BDG: If you are a manager in an MNC, will you go to work on a cycle?

Me: No, Sir. I would use a solar powered vehicle! 🚲

BDG: Oh, you have that kind of money? We don't get that much!

Me: Well, I'll be working in an MNC, so maybe (I smile) It also depends on what cost the company is willing to manufacture such a vehicle at.

SISC, BDG and MG look at each other and say 'Okay, thank you'

Me: (Getting up) Thank you, sirs. I hope to see you again. <smile>

EXIT

Did not convert the call, joined SIBM Pune

IIM Ahmedabad - Year 2006

Interview experience of: **snova**

Gave my A GD/PI today...putting just the PI here..me very tired..case study *koi aur daal dega*...my case study wasn't good.

Profile

Final year B.E. student in CSE from MBM Engg College, Jodhpur (affiliated to Jai Narain Vyas University.)

Academics

X - 83.8%
XII - 77.2%

B.E. I - 74.88 II - 75.83 III - 76.00 (consistent huh?)

CAT percentile

QA - 97.15%ile,
VA - 99.77%ile,
DI - 93.33%ile
Overall 99.77%ile

Extra- Curriculars - Not many prizes but I took part in many events and initiatives.

First things first, I look like a kid..and that's what they probably thought when they saw me. Also, my case study performance wasn't good...was a bit nervous and shaky there..I was the 3rd in my panel..other two guys had OK interviews..mostly techie ones.

But because of my nervous *bachcha* look..and high fundas in my form, they decided to stress test me.

3 guys.. SB (Sincere Boodha), KM , GS (Green Shirt). They were sitting left to right in the conference room in above order.

GS - So you are from Jai Narain Vyas University..who was Jai Narain Vyas?

Me - Former CM of Rajasthan.

GS - When did the university get its name?

Me: 1962..err..it was founded in 1962, at that time called Jodhpur University..and name was changed sometime in the 1970s
(GS was least interested).

SB - Who was Girija Vyas?

Me - I am not sure but she was from the Congress. (*which turned out to be correct*).

SB - Did she have any relation with Jai Narain Vyas?

Me - I have no idea (I was then told that she was his daughter probably).

SB - Where was she from ?

Me - I am not sure but Rajasthan only. (She is from Udaipur...so at least I am not wrong)

GS -What are your long term goals?

Me - Try to fart about why MBA.

GS - Now tell me your long term goals..

Me: I have not formulated what I am gonna do after my MBA.

GS - But what are your long term goals?

(this happens a bit..but GS is simply not listening to any funda I am throwing..he is simply cutting me again and again).

(I knew now that they were trying to stress me out..maine kaha beta yahan funde maarne se kuch nai hoga...aaja aukaad par...dropped all pretensions.)

Me - Sir I want to do something for the society in the long run.

GS (*now he listened...saying the truth always has that effect*) - You have done a lot of events in college..do you think college life is like real life?

Me - Yes sir.

GS - Are they exactly the same?

Me - No sir they are not EXACTLY the same..

GS - So..you agree that college life is like real life but its not exactly the same..or are you saying its different?
(ek baar bol to diya ki they are not exactly the same..!!)

Me - Sir from what experience I have had, I do believe they are close and related..but not exactly the same.

GS - How are they same?

Me - Real life also involves dealing with people and all...(this is a sort of funda and his interest drops).

GS - Have you watched the movie Rang De Basanti? (I had an intuition that somehow I may be asked that question, but hadn't prepared or needed to prepare anything as such)

Me - Yes Sir.

GS - So the college life..like yours, and its the same in the movie..is that like real life? (here he starts mocking..and does that a lot during the interview, me reminded of aamir's dialog - "university gate ke is paar hum life to nachate hain..aur us paar life humko nachati hai")..you say you have done a lot of things in college, designing posters, websites, and organising things...they must also have done that..dance parties and all? How is that gonna help? (He is almost laughing).

Me (*now serious, and looked directly in his eyes at one point*) - Sir I have never organised a dance party. I started a students club to help my college mates..most of my college mates are from small towns and they can't speak well in English, and that hampers their performance in Campus Interviews. Though I don't have very good communication skills either, but I am better than them and held GDs and sessions to help them and that gave me a lot of satisfaction and then I realised that I wanted to do something for the people. (yeh hui na baat..now he stopped laughing..).

SB - Only for the people or for yourself too?

Me (*smile*) - Yes sir for me too.

Now KM breaks in..

KM - So you said you want to learn about businesses.. (*This was in my forced why MBA fundas*)..how can business help the society?

Me - Sir business creates jobs and wealth...gave example of Narayan Murthy's Infosys Foundation.

KM- Do you think all businessmen are like Narayan Muthy?

Me - No sir..but still...

KM - Do you think you can be like Narayan Murthy?

Me (looked at him and said honestly) - Maybe I can.

KM - Why not go for politics or an NGO or something like that..

(beech beech mei GS koi comment maar maarke hansta ja ra tha..but he was trying to psyche out the wrong guy)

Me - (*Was saying something about no interest in politics...but ate it midway..he too wasn't interested in that...*)then said maybe I will go for an NGO..told about how other guys from IIMs had gone for NGOs..and even an NGO needs management..people management, finances have to be managed..told something about how a structured education would help me in that...they finally are a bit convinced..maybe at my forced use of the word structure

KM - So what type of business do you want to start to help people?

Me - Haven't decided that yet sir...I want to learn more first..

KM - What will you learn in management that will help you?

Me - Told people management type fundas and structured education types.

KM now shifts to academics...

KM (*looking at first year mark sheets*) - hmm..Engg mathematics, electrical engg, civil, mech..

Me - Sir they are 1st year mark sheets..

KM - Ok I will not ask chemistry then..(*huh??*)

KM - Ok did you have a course in management, I cant find it.. (I knew it would come..and wasn't prepared, I had studied that subject in 1.2 days before exam)

GS (*with a smirk*) - Was it an elective? Did you take it?

KM - But I think management course is compulsory.
(*mujhko kuch bolne doge?*)

Me - Yes sir it wasn't an elective..it was a compulsory subject.

KM - So what did you study in it? (*yeh to poochana hi tha*).

Me - Sir only the basics..the various types of organizations...ABC Analysis (*again knew they would ask that*).

KM - So tell us about ABC analysis..

Me - It is about categorizing things into A,B and C levels of priority..I don't remember much..

GS gives some fart examples about classifying various things into ABC...and laughs...I too smile and make no response as such.

KM - So which subjects did you like in BE? (*abb mara beta, again hadn't prepared this well..what a nut I am*).

Me - Told about discrete math and basic LOGIC part of digital electronics.(*my logic is ok..so I was hoping they would catch that..they didnt*).

KM - But what about your core subjects?

Me - Sir but discrete math is a core subject..and it's used in all high level design in CS.

KM - Okay what is predicate logic?

Me - (could not articulate the answer well..this was one time when I was in a fix in the interview...I should have prepared DM better, clearly said that I cant give a precise definition)

KM - Did you study graphs in DM?

Me - No sir.

KM - Ok, which language uses predicate logic?

Me - Prolog.

KM - Tell me the differences between prolog and C.

Me - Some fundas about high and low level languages...discussed a bit on that..rule base and all that...but was never very convincing.

KM - Okay have you studied databases? What about 3rd and 4th Gen languages?

Me - (Didn't remember about 3rd Gen languages, told about database languages being the 4th level languages)

KM - Why are they different?

Me - They have added facility to manage databases..

KM - But if I add a library to C, even that can be a 4th generation language then, we can always use structures to manipulate databases in C.

Me - Sir but in C that would be a lot more complicated..structures are complicated..4th generation languages are not that complicated and one can easily manipulate databases through them.

KM - What all languages did you learn in your course?

Me - C/C++, CORE Java and prolog.

KM - That's all?

Me - Yes sir..

(*ab SB ki baari..he was also trying to laugh a bit*).

SB - So what do you do apart from organising events?

Me - I enjoy reading (This was there in the form too).

SB - What do you like to read? (*abb aayi ball mere paale mein..so I thought*)

Me - I read Philosophy..mainly Indian Philosophy. Vedanta. Swami Vivekananda's works basically.

I guess this is what they wanted..they pounced on me...all three of them started questioning and mocking me regarding philosophy..laughed again and again..but I kept my cool..smiled ..I talked about all knowledge coming from contemplation..scientific discoveries made through contemplation..Newton, August Kekule.. ..GS said why don't you go and sit under a tree and learn there..we should have one tree for every student at IIMA...and laughed..but at many times his laughter was forced and deliberate.. I was cool..like *zabardasti haskar kyun energy kharaab kar re ho*...I know you are faking it and I won't be psyched out...I smiled and played along..logic breaking down, quantum physics, wave particle duality etc sab discuss kiya..they tried their best to break me..but didn't happen and at one point I gave my final answer with some force..and they suddenly accepted it and became silent...then asked about some other books..I talked about Godfather but wasn't very convincing here...again they tried to psyche me out..do I have any Godfather type person in my family? have I been like or been with a person like the Godfather? (*I smiled and said no*)..I stuck to my point..like I learned this and this from the Godfather and that's it.

I guess that was the end..they offered me a toffee and I left..I had left my pen behind..

KM - you may want your pen also.

Me - Saying Thank you sir again and again to everyone and leave.

Felt very good after the Interview was over...I had actually prayed for a stress interview, I knew I wouldn't get stressed..they tried a lot to psyche me out..and I never felt the faintest hint of stress (*compare this with the situation in my campus interviews where I had my hands shaking and tongue faltering*) ..I never felt that these were IIMA profs..they were just good as any bunch of guys to me..I was cool and smiling throughout and put my points well and was reasonable..esp in my social work thing and philosophy...and in both these areas, they finally accepted what I had to say..at times I was a bit forceful..but never angry or loud or disturbed..whatever natural force my personality may have..it all flashed there..and then they had to listen.

But now looking in retro..I am worried about the acads part..that's what IIMA stresses on most. I am OK on paper..performed consistently in BE exams...but I guess nowhere by IIMA standards..

Here's a quick analysis -

-ves - Acads, case study performance was bad,short term goals not clear, not from a hotshot college.

+ves - OK CAT percentile (99.77), confidence and coolness in the interview, acads consistent on paper, good extra curriculums in organisational activities.

real tired now..*khana bhi nahi khaaya hai*....this was long, but that's my humble token in return for all the help I have taken from PG.

Interview experience of: **keviv**

Hi all,

The IIM saga for me began today.

I was amongst the few to be a part of the first day first show at IIMA.

Venue: IIMA KLMDDC annexe.

Time: 9:00 AM

Panel: 2

My profile:

Fresher B.Tech ICT (Information and Communication Technology), DA-IICT, Gandhinagar.

CAT percentile : 99.97 %ile

Calls :BLACKI

Case study:

There were 9 people in each panel (2 ladies in my panel). 4 moderators sitting in one corner each of the room and observing us. There was a round table with number tags indicating our positions. They first checked our admit cards and then collected our forms and the photocopies that they had asked for in the call letter. Thereafter, the general instructions for the case study were given - 5 minutes to read, 20 minutes to discuss and 5 minutes to summarise. Summary to be written in running format, not in points. We were given a write-up with the case, a pink page to note down our points and a ruled page to write the summary. In the end, all three of them were taken back.

The case:

Bharat had subscribed for a recently launched Tech magazine (launched in Dec. 2004). But I was asked to wait for 2 months before he could receive the first issue. Moreover, in Jan 2005 he was told that he would have to pay more for the magazine as the costs had increased. Bharat felt that this was unfair as he had already paid for the subscription and any price rise thereafter should not affect him. He threatened to take the distributors to the court. The distributors are in a fix because if Bharat is paid a refund, other customers will ask for the same. Moreover there cannot be a double pricing policy. So what should distributors do?

Very peaceful discussion. Everyone was able to speak whenever he/ she wanted. Not much digressing from the topic. But the points raised were also very general. None of the points was such that the group hooked on to it and discussed it for some time. In fact, with 5 minutes more to go, one of us almost brought an end to GD but saying that "in the end we have agreed that...". Fortunately, a new point came up (courtesy: yours truly) and the group could discuss further till the moderator asked us to stop.

The interview started within 10 minutes of the GD. I was the second person to be interviewed. And so I had no pre conceived notions of the panel. Went inside with butterflies in my stomach. But the panel soon made me comfortable. In the beginning, when they were stuck on one question, I thought that they were planning for a stress interview. But nope. They soon became very jovial. They were laughing all the time and therefore today, for the first time in an interview, I too smiled. Really, very cordial panel.

Four people. Sitting on one side of the round table. However, only 3 of them asked questions. The fourth one was sitting slightly further from the table, looking at me all the time, smiling and noting down something.

Interviewers: P1, P2, P3

P1: Yes ____, what is Dhirubhai Ambani doing (me from Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of ICT)

Me: Sir, ..(with an astonished look on my face)

P1: Yes, Yes, I know he is dead. (Bursts out into laughter. I too smile).

P1: So what are his sons doing?

Me: Sir, they recently parted ways.

P1: So whose side you are on?

Me: Tried to be diplomatic. Both are good and blah blah.

P1: No, but I want to know that if the brothers declare tomorrow that all DA-IICT students have to declare their allegiance towards one of them, whom will you choose?

Me: In that case, I would go with Mukesh because I find my personality more similar to his than Anil's.

P1: And what makes you think so?

Me: Sir Anil is highly enthusiastic and dynamic. Mukesh is calm, patient, confident blah blah ..

P1: So you are not dynamic?

Me: Sir, I believe in taking up one task at a time and doing it in the best possible manner.

(Here P3 chips in).

P3: You said Mukesh is cool, calm and so are you too. But cool these days also means dynamic. As you people say "Cool dude". Which cool did you mean? (*laughter all over*).

Me: Sir, I meant Mukesh has a cool temperament.

(P2 looks at the mention of the prize I had won in an event called crossword. But thinks that it is something about the bookshop crossword. He asks me whether I am a member of the crossword. When I refuse and explain him about what crossword actually is, he again bursts into laughter. He laughed a lot during the interview)

Now comes P2. Tech guy. Asked me only academics. And never seemed to be convinced.

P2: You studied ICT? Did you specialize in anything?

Me: Yes sir, CT.

P2: How does an analog telephone work?

Me: Didn't know exactly. But told him about the carbon resistance in the microphone changing due to vibrations of the membrane when we speak, thereby changing the current in the wires. (*I think that the concept is correct but could not give a very technical explanation*).

P2: What is the EMF of the battery used at the exchange?(Before that I had mentioned about the central batter exchanges).

Me: High because they supply power to several subscribers.

P2: You said that there is the variable carbon resistance between the two wires connecting the handset and the battery. So I should get a spark when I short the two wires. But I don't

Me: (Clueless here)

P2: Ok. How does a call reach from here to Timbaktoo.

Me: Told about the exchanges, trunk lines. regional exchanges. etc.

P2: How many exchanges are there in India? Any guess?

Me: No idea. But may be around 200 in each state. So around 5000. (*Totally clueless here too*).

P2: Ok. you have studied networks?

Me: Yes sir.

p2: Tell me, what network topology will a telephone network be?

Me: Mesh topology.

P2: Heard about tree topology? (I think the mesh answer was wrong. Tree was the correct answer).

Me: Explained it.

P2: Network topology of BSNL?

Me: No idea.

P1 is back into action.

P1: You never felt curious?

Me: (Kya bolta? Dekhte raha unhe).

P2 back to acads.

P2: You seem to be good at probability. (*Asks me a probability question.*)

Me: I gave the answer. He wasn't convinced.

P1: How were the cellular operators in a region decided in India?

Me: I told them about the spectrum auctions and the policy of maintaining a minimum and maximum number of operators in a circle.

P1: Why is there a minimum limit?

Me: For competition.

P1: Why maximum limit?

Me: Too much market segmentation. Problems in spectrum allocation as spectrum is limited.

P1: Number of cellular operators in Gujarat (Here, due to one of my answers there was again a round of laughter. I used that time to count the number of operators).

Me: 2 CDMA. 4 GSM.

P1: Name them.

Me: Named.

P1: Why CDMA and not GSM?

Me: Explained the difference between the two.

P1: Why only two for CDMA?

Me: told them..

P1: Which countries use CDMA? Which use GSM?

Me: Answered.

Passes the baton to P3.

P3: Tell me about your other interests.

Me: Sir, reading and writing.

P3: What do you write?

Me: Articles for college magazine, daily diary, blog.

P3: What was the last article in the magazine?

Me: About my experience with CAT.

P3: Why would anyone want to read that?

Me: blah blah.

P3: What did you write?

Me: Told.

P3: When did you update your blog? Last blog?

Me: Told. Also told them about a bloggers community in our institute.

P3 jokes that we should check his blog there and then to see if I was telling the truth.

P3: Why blog? Why not just talk with people in your institute?

Me: Blog without borders. Interaction with people from far off places and all that stuff (*seemed convinced*).

P3: Looked at one of my certificates and asked me about that event.

Me: Answered.

At that point, our college festival "Synapse" came into picture. So P2 asked me about actual meaning of synapse.

I gave them the definition (the connection between nerve fibres) and told them that is all I know.

P1 again chips in.

P1: Do you watch movies?

Me: No.

P1: Why?

Me: I am slightly impatient (haha. Earlier, in one of the answers I had said that I am patient. thank God they didn't notice this). Can't sit through 3 hours of a movie.

P1: Last movie?

Me: Terminal.

P3 is back.

P3: Which book did you read last?

Me: (last book I read was Fountainhead but after reading PG threads, didn't have the guts to tell that to the panel as I am not that well-versed with Rand's philosophy). Told them about Kiran Bedi's book that I am currently reading.

P3: Why that book?

Me: Told them that I prefer biographies.

P3: Why not Gandhi, Nehru's autobiographies?

Me: Read Gandhi's. Nehru's could not complete.

P3: A few general questions about jails.

P3: Ok, take your chocolate and you can go.

Me: Thank you.

So, this was all. No Why MBA? Tell me About yourself? Do you want to ask us something? Strengths and weaknesses? None of these.

Lasted for about 30 minutes. In fact never realised that I was in for 30 minutes. I thought they hadn't asked me anything. So when they said "one last question", I was surprised. It was only after I was out that I came to know that mine was one of the "long" interviews.

Was quite happy after the interview, though later, on analysis, I found nothing special about my interview. Did not give good answers to some questions. But most of the time, it all seemed to me like a casual chit-chat. We all were laughing a lot. It was much better than all the mocks that I had given. The panel was very good. Whatever might be the outcome, I enjoyed the process.

Next is K on 21st at Mumbai.

All the best to all.

Cheers,

Vivek

Interview experience of: HAHAAH

Puys,

My IIMA GD/PI experience..

Profile:

CAT percentile - 99.84%ile (QA - 99.62%ile, DI - 98.15%ile, VA - 98.20%ile)

Education:

Class 10 - 92% (CBSE)

Class 12 - 87% (State Board)

B.Tech Elec - 7.90 CGPA (IITM)

Work Ex - 7 months so far - K.P.M.G (Management consultancy)

GD- Case study on "Should gambling be legalized?" Pros & Cons of the casino gambling industry were given. A nice discussion. The group on the whole was good. Coherence was maintained. Did pretty well, made 4-5 points. 20 minute discussion.

PI - Interview Panel comprising of 3 members - Labelled as "X"
- Yours truly - A

(After being escorted in a dignified manner)

X: Did you have tea outside while you were waiting outside?

A: No sir, I avoid tea, managed to munch a cookie though. (*Smiles all round*).

X: So Mr. Gurunath, Tell us about yourself.

A: Spoke briefly about my educational background, interest in math, science as a student, engineering, work & ended by saying I am outdoor enthusiast etc.

X: So what does K.P.M.G do?

A: Spoke about the different functional departments. , ended by saying we are involved in Power Sector Refers in A.P.

X: Ahh, Power reforms...what is unbundling?

A: Corporatization of Generation, Transmission & Distribution wings of a State Electricity Board. & making separate entities out of them.

X: Why has it been done?

A: To bring about more accountability & efficiency...(*elaborated here*).

X: Okay, how has K.P.M.G been involved in it? And what is your role in it?

A: Spoke about what all we have done in A.P. Then went on to speak about my role....Tariff Pricing strategy team & implementing a new Power Market structure in the state.

X: How do you go about doing it? How do you know at what rate the sales will grow? How do you do sales forecasting?

A: Spoke about several models used to make sales forecasting including taking into account like G.D.P, per-capita, trend analysis & other economic performance parameters.

(At this point, one of the X plants my reg. form in front of a guy & points to my interest - Maths)

X: So how do you verify how good a forecast model is?

A: Sir, I will either carry out a variance analysis over the data or use regression.

X: Okay, Now if I give you 5 numbers X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4 & X_5 & their forecasted values Y_1, Y_2, Y_3, Y_4 & Y_5 tell me how will you go about doing the analysis.

A: Sir, I will take the difference $(X_1 - Y_1)$ etc & take a weighted average of the squares.

X: Okay, what if you take the Modulus of the difference & take the mean?

A: Thought, said something about accuracy of deviation not being captured properly in the latter case...(*Then continued to think*).

X: Okay, tell me what is power factor?

A: It is the angle between the KW phaser & VA phaser in a power triangle. (*Drew & showed it to him*)

X: What is its physical significance?

A: Talk about the fact that it gives the actual power that gets transferred in a power circuit. Resistance, Reactance blah blah.

X: What is reactance?

A: Tell them about Inductance & Capacitance..usual explanation

X: What is that?

A: (*Confused*)....as in what is an inductance & capacitance sir?

X: Yes !

A: Gave them an explanation about the fact that energy gets localized in them. Capacitance stores energy & Inductance absorbs reactive energy.

X: Okay, what is the exact difference between them?

A: (*WHAT !*)....Sir, Capacitance has 2 plates separated by a dielectric medium which has the capacity to store charge, whereas Inductance is just a coil which localizes energy & absorbs reactive power.

X: Okay, you must have come across this term right...."elasticity effect". Tell us something about it.

A: Blah Blah...talk about the fact that if tariffs are reduced the demand might go up. This is the elasticity effect.

X: Did you factor it in your computations? (Tariff strategy)

A: Yes Sir, I factored that in the sales but not in the tariff values. (Elaborated here)

X: How did you go about the tariff setting process?

A: Spoke about the power sector reforms, alternative generation threat blah blah. Computed the alternative options available to consumers & the fact that they might make a switch from government supply to private supply.

X: So why is it that not many people are making the switch?

A: Sir, several reasons...Not core competence, lack of fuel linkages, licensing headaches, environmental clearances, ash disposal etc. Spoke about how fuels like coal & gas were being rapidly consumed.

X: Okay, what according to you is the main reason of the power crisis in the country.

A: Spoke about the 3 parts Generation, Transmission & Distribution. It is a vicious cycle. No one wants to invest in generation due to the lack of payment security, which is not there because of the inefficient distribution sector. High losses in the distribution sector should be first tackled.

X: How will you do that?

A: Spoke about the lack of metering in agriculture, lack of feeder separation for industry & agriculture, skewed tariff structures resulting in high cross subsidization etc.

X: Who generates power in the country today?

A: Central sector - 35%, state - 55% , Private & captives - rest.

X: How much is the nuclear generation in the country?

A: 3%.

X: Do you think it will go up in the future?

A: Spoke about the prospects considering the Indo - US deal. I feel in the short term it is unlikely to go up as coal will be the dominant fuel. But with time, it will go up. Spoke about the infra needed in the nuclear sector, BARC's 3 pronged approach & high thorium reserves.

X: What are the other forms of generation?

A: Hydel, renewable like wind, bio gasses, solar.

X: Do you think they are viable? Give me an approximate cost to set up a solar plant vis-a-vis say a coal plant.

A: It might not make financial sense now sir, but one will HAVE to switch over to ensure that we are not energy deficient. Spoke about the distributed generation in rural areas.

X: What about the financial viability?

A: Nuclear - 20 crores/ MW, coal - 3.5 crore/MW.

X: So how will it happen?

A: Spoke about the Carbon credit system & incentivising such generation plants by giving tax holidays & other fiscal incentives.

X: Tell us something about you final year project.

A: Blah Blah.

X: What is the difference between Beach volleyball & Normal volleyball?

A: 1) No. of players. 2) The dimensions of the court - 18 by 9 vs 16 by 8.3) Block is counted as a touch in Beach volley whereas it is not in normal volleyball.

X: What about the ball?

A: Maybe it is made up of a different material to drain of the sand quickly.

X: Okay, do you know Mr. Ashok Jhunjhunwala?

A: YES !

X: What has he done in life?

A: (*smiling*)...Sir, he has revolutionised the telecom industry by bringing about changes in the costs relating to the wires & etc.

X: What has he exactly done?

A: (*Raising an eyebrow*)....As in a patent or something sir?

X: Something like that...

A: I am not too sure of the name sir. I did not specialize in communications.

X: Okay, heard of CORRECT?

A: (Fucking shit...how did I forget that)...Of course !!...It slipped out sir. (smiles)

X: Smiling...take a toffee.

(took & buzzed off !!)

That's it folks....25 mins

Interview experience of: arati

Mine went quite bad...

Profile : BE Electrical Engineering from SPCE Mumbai University.

Academics : 61% aggregate...pretty low.

17 mnths of work ex with Infosys.

CAT percentile : 99.80%ile

Calls: LACKI and XIRI HR and MDI.

20th Feb, 9:00 AM, Panel 1.

We were the first group for the 9:00 am slot. The GD was a case study on "Should gambling be legalized ?". It went decent I believe. Don't remember making any stellar contributions, but at least I think I was heard once in a while. Thankfully, not a fish market. Some guys didn't contribute, but those who did seemed civil. Hey, and remember they asked us to write down the GD summary, summarize the discussion and not the case. And do that fast because they give you only 5 minutes. Especially for us IT people, who can type a lot faster than they can write, 5 mins is too less.

Now the PI...

ahem ahem...NOT GOOD...I think I came across as someone with a very closed brain....and more importantly I came across as someone who is quite an idiot.

Three guys....centre *mein tha* this diptesh ghosh....he is apparently a quant guy, I don't think I can narrate what exactly happened...but I do remember a lot of blank stares into space....I lot ahem, umms, hmmm, I don't know, mumble mumble...more mumble mumble...etc

anyways....the quant guy asked me this.....

QG: I will give you some data, I went to country A and asked 5 people their incomes and this what i got [3.1, 2.9 , 4.2some completely random set of values in this range] and I went to country B and asked 6 people their incomes and this is what I got [another random set of 6 values]. Which country has higher average income?

Me: Sir first for any comparison I need to know if the units are standardized?

QG: Yes yes, I have done that.

Me: Sir how many people does each data point represent, for eg this 3.1 how many people belong to this group so that I can take a weighted mean...

QG: These are 5 individuals, I have randomly selected.

Side guy chips in : Look, you can never go and ask everyone in a country what their income is...for eg if I want to know which company pays higher Infy or Wipro can I ask every one their pay packets?

Me: Sir, but you would check at entry level, then find out how many people, then check how many people at mid level with say 3-4 yrs exp then check....decibel dropping n mumbling.....

QG: Yes, ok, so now can you say who has higher average income.

Me: (*very stupidly and uncertainly once again*) Sir what would their populations be in comparison sir...

Side Guy (*gets exasperated*) Ok ok...leave that ...(he moves on to ask me stuff about my extra currics etc...)

QG: If you hadn't done engineering and testing and all that then you would have been able to answer this...

Side Guy asks me about this Youth Parliament certificate that I have.....by this time my confidence is pretty much in the negatives.....

Side Guy : What are the synonyms for the word Parliament?

Me: More blank stares....mmm...ahemm.....random words I uttered....

QG: She seems unwilling to make guess even.

[every one laughs...I think wtf..might as well laugh too...]

Side Guy : We have parliaments at state level na...what are they called?

Me: Legislative Assemblies.

Side Guy : Then some stuff about dhabhol....very ordinary pedestrian answers on that as well...

Last question get from third guy : When you go out and someone asks you how was this interview what would you say?

Me [*summoning last bits of courage*] : Sir I believe it went well, except for my unwillingness to guess.

Once again every one laughs...I join in.....I think if there's a parameter for comic value.....I would score there....they laughed a lot during my interview.....!!!!

I am skipping out a lot of stuff they asked about my work [*I do UI testing on the windows OS*] and OS's in general, lots of stuff about Microsofts history where I did more random mumbling/staring/fumbling etc

Apparently I was in there for 20-25 mins...but I don't quite remember talking that much....chalo..this one down the drain....have iim-call on the 14th....3 interviews to go then...hopefully should get better by then....but I genuinely doubt.

best of luck to every one else....

Interview experience of: **Vinamra Srivastava**

okey dokey.....am back from ahmedabad and presenting to you the detailed description :

Date/Location : 20 feb, 9 am @IIMA

CAT percentile: 99.41%ile (VA :99.5%ile, QA :93.35ile, DI:93.3%ile)

XII:91.8% (CBSE)

X: 89.4 (CBSE)

BE Computer, Pune University, 73.3 %, Distinction and college topper in all 4 years.

Extra Curriculum : Pretty good and diverse.

Calls : BLACKI, MDI(PGP&HR), NITIE, SJMSOM, IIFT, IMT(G).

GD

Case study about should gambling be legalized or not. We were 10 people and it was one of the most peaceful GDs I have ever been in. Quite surprising after the slam bam I saw at the Mumbai IMS achievers workshop. Everyone got a chance to speak, though i guess a couple of people remained quiet throughout. I spoke 5-6 times with ok content , nothing great. but still decent. In the end, we wrote the summary of the discussion for 3-4 min.

PI

Was the first bakra of the morning to be cut. PI started barely after 5 minutes from the completion of the GD. One of the professors came out, called my name and took me in. Same panelists that were there for the GD. I call them P1, P2, P3 (P3 came after a while).

P1: So, how are you doing ?

M: Am doing fine sir, thank you.

P1: So where are you put up ?

M: Sir I stay at Pune and came here a day before and I am staying at my uncle's place.

P1: So what does he do ?

M: Sir he is a consultant in the paper industry.

(So far so good me thinks....till.....).

P1: So tell me about how India is doing in the paper industry ?

M: (Why isn't my uncle working somewhere else.....) Tried to answer some generic stuff.....

P1: (*Cutting me*)....ok tell me this, How about the world ? What kind of country do u think will do well in a paper industry ?

M: Well sir, there are few basic requirements for a paper industry....raw material (*he asked which one, said cellulose is basic*), infrastructure, robust manufacturing industry....said how robust markets are necessary for import/export.....mentioned how my uncle goes to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Syria to set up paper mills, indicating the need there....so on...

(Dunno if he was convinced or not....but my my...no introduction, no nothing..straight to the point..aur point bhi kaunsa...paper industrywhatever I spoke was common sense and some minute facts...pata nahi what must he be thinking)..

OK moving ahead.....

P1: So where are you working? What do you do there ?

M: Sir, am working at.....asked me what my software does.....explained...said how has it helped our customers, took the example of xyz company n explained.....I explained well, but he didn't seem convinced and kept on cross questioning me and telling me that he is still not convinced...I could have done better here....Bit of my fault as well. l.....Should have explained better.....

Now P2 takes over..and the academic specific barrage starts

P2: Let's talk of searching and sorting....what is complexity ?

M: answered.

P2: What is time complexity of bubble sort ?

M: (*My first big goof up. Said the wrong answer*) Though I had told them I don't remember clearly and am not sure but I guess it is this.

P2:He raised an eyebrow and asked me to why is it called bubble sort (*Good question I must say*)

M: I don't know sir !

P2: Can you explain it ?

M: Yes sir. Explained.

P2: See so you have answered it yourself. Since.....that's why it's called bubble sort.
(Oh yeah...smiles all around)

M: Oh yes sir..now that makes sense.

P2: Ok, you have done AI and UNIX as electives..can u tell me about them ?

M: Started of with AI...explained nicely.....spoke at some length here....

P2: Draw an AND-OR graph for us.

M: Took an example and drew the tree and explained.

P2(*looked convinced but.....*): For the game of Tic-Tac-Toe, how will the tree look ? Draw n explain....

M: :(Started off....but got stuck....tried but again got stuck....tried explaining but to no avail.

P2 (*With a sarcastic smile*): Is this how a Game Tree is drawn ?

M: Sir, I guess so, but I don't recollect the details.....

P2: Ok, what did you learn in UNIX ?

M: Explained.

P2: What are the various scheduling algorithms ?

M: Explained the CPU scheduler algo.....

P2: In SJF, how is the next CPU burst calculated ?

M: Answered something but I knew it wasn't proper...they ratified it by smiling and contradicting me.....

P2: Write a function..gave me a quadratic equation.....draw the graph without plotting any points..

M: Drew the graph..

P2: So will it be symmetric ?

M: No sir.....it's not an even function since.....hence it will not be symmetric.

P2 didn't probe further on that.

Now P3 comes into action.

P3: Is gambling legal in India?

M: Sir, I guess not.

P3: But I saw an advertisement of sikkim lottery in the newspaper the other day..

M: oh yes sir.....I think few state governments have legalized it.....some more on it...

P3: (*while going through my form*): Ok, so sports and music are your interests.....suppose you win the 10 lakh Sikkim lottery, how much will u actually get ?

M: Sir, leaving the 30 % tax, I will get around 6.5-7 L...

P3: On which out of two will you spend it?

M: Sir, am I allowed to spend on myself or not?

P3: No no....on the field, not on yourself..

M: Sir I will pick up sports.....explained nicely why....

P3: Which sports ?

M: Again a good explanation there...

P3: 7 L is a small amount to start off an academy, so tell me the exact steps u will perform to spend it.

M: Took an example of a supporting a tennis academy in pune and explained nicely.
(He seemed convinced, no more probing.)

P3: Ok, May u win that lottery and all the very best with it...(smiling)

M: Sir, I don't think I will buy that lottery, but anyways thank you so much. (*Smiles all around*)

P2: Please take some toffees.

M: Picked up a melody from the bowl....thanked them and walked off...

Time : about 25 min

Whatever happened at the PI, the fact remains that talking to such a great eminent panel was indeed an experience of a lifetime.....hoping for the same at other IIMs.

+ points : Pretty good academics, Pretty good extra currics, Was confident throughout the PI, was smiling and relaxed, accepted whenever I didn't know....explained well whatever I knew...all of them looked through my file which I think is my strength with bundles of diverse certificates....so that was good.

- points: goofed up to some extent in few academic questions (answered all initially correctly, but when they went deep, got stuck in quite a few of them) , 1 academic answer completely wrong (time complexity of bubble sort *wala*...how stupid of me....I knew the answer but gave the wrong one there), didn't explain the paper industry too well....

So all in all I will rate :

GD: Avg-Good

PI : Avg.

Getting reminded of the ghayal song : "sochna kya jo bhi hoga dekha jaayega..... "

IIM Ahmedabad - Year 2007

Interview experience of: **symbolved**

Venue: Ahmedabad 16th Feb 2007 9: 00AM

Qualification: Electronics and Telecommunication engineer

Work-Ex : 2 years sales and marketing

CAT Percentile:

DI : 97.02 %ile

Quant : 95.45 % ile

Verbal : 99 %ile

Aggregate: 99.2 %ile

So IIM Ahmedabad interview... actually that's been a dream in itself let alone converting it. I reached at 8:40 am. A little chilly. 23 people were there in my slot and we were divided into 3 batches (8 + 8 + 7). At 9:05 a.m. we were given the cases. Around 5 people were evaluating our Group Discussion(GD). I was in panel 2.

We had a case study about Zimbabwe's Agriculture Finance Corporation(AFC). AFC was facing problems because they had computerized their systems without proper transition. Public, media and government were all complaining. What should AFC do?

Good case, I thought, lots of points and angles to discuss with very little calculation. In all, 5 minutes to read, 20 minutes to speak and 5 min to write a summary. However they gave less time to write and most of us were not able to complete.

Overall our GD was good. At least 6 people including me spoke well. Indeed no fish market... in fact there were sorry thank you n all.....

After GD, we were called for Personal Interview (PI). I was number 8 on my panel infact the last one. I was not asking everyone about how their interviews went otherwise it would have put unnecessary pressure on myself. I just kept on revising some academics and other stuffs.

There were 3 people in my panel. Prof 1 (P1), Prof 2 (P2), Prof Academics (PA), Me the student (S)

P1: Please come Pratik, have a seat. Give me your file.

S: Obliges

P1: So you seem to be a great guy... yes...?: (almost laughing)... so much in the form.

S: (What's happening? stress?) : Yes sir very feebly....

P1: so you demonstrate bones, right?

S: (What's that?) I am sorry sir?

P1: You have written it here...

S: Sir that's "Bone Densitometer "... it's a product I used to sell when I was working at XYZ Ltd.

P1: What does it do?

S: Long blah blah ...mentioned about osteoporosis, a bone disease because of lack of calcium, smoking and other stuffs...

P1: (Pointing towards P2) should take lecture from him about smoking.

At this moment, All of us have a light laugh.

P1: So what should a patient with low calcium eat?

S: Eggs and milk preferably.

P1: I am vegetarian and consider milk also to be non vegetarian.

S: Calcium supplements are available off the counter.

P1: No medicines for me.

S: (Just forgot banana)... vegetables.

P1: Which ones?

S: I don't recollect sir.

P1: Ok anyways... so you were in sales for 2 yrs before you left.... did u like the experience?

S: Loved it.

P1: How were your targets set?

S: blah blah blah...

P1: What is ARPU?

S: I don't recollect sir (ohh: its average revenue per user)

P1: What were your 3 major learning's at blue star

S: blah blah (did decently)

P1: How do you define success for a salesman?

S: blah blah

Over to P2

P2: so you were in Medical Electronics?

S: Yes sir.

P2: So what is telemedicine?

S: Lots and lots of blah blah (lucky yaar, had read a lot about this while working)

Then P2 went into more more specifics of the same... examples... did well

Over to PA

PA: So you are an electronics engineer?

S: Sir, electronics and telecommunications engineer.

PA: OK, (he structured this question very nicely in layman's language)... how does a mobile switch to a particular frequency?

S: Explained the process...

PA: Ok, what is the difference between transverse and longitudinal waves?

S: Gave some points, not satisfactory.

PA started getting into very basics of waves... 3d, x y z axis... almost 5-6 min faltered at least 30-40% of the time... :(oh man if I could have 12th physics book with me that time ... however, tried to smile still...

PA: Lets move ahead.... difference between light and radio waves?

S: Sir light has dual nature and...

PA: wait, consider only wave

S: sir both are electromagnetic waves... however light has much higher frequency.. it is used in optical fibers with much better band width...

PA: hmmm...ok

P1: Ok Pratik,, i think that will be enough... please take your certificates.

S: Thank you sirs...

P1: By the way what calls do you have?

S: Sir A, C, I, K.

P1: OK thank you

I was almost leaving.

PA: Please help yourself with a toffee.

S: Thanks sir.

Again the same feeling what I had after K interview... no idea how did it go...almost 35 min

As for suggestions... do your academics strongly from a practical point of view... e.g. for me it went into GSM CDMA from a basic phone call... and this was seen in lots of interviews...

So small dream of appearing for IIM Ahmedabad interview over... fingers crossed for big dream.

Stay good puyas.

Interview experience of: Hemant Dujari

Venue : Kolkata

Date : 26th Feb 2 P.M.

CAT Percentile : 99.46

X: 81.62 (West Bengal Board)

XII : 75.8

Qualification : CSE (8.21) Institute of Engineering and Management

Work Experience: 19 months (IT)

Case Study: Case study wasn't very impressive for the entire group as there wasn't much points ... but I think whatever it was I performed relatively well...

Personal Interviews (PI)

3 Profs P1, P2 and P3 and poor soul me **M:**

M: Good Afternoon Sir (to each of them)

P1, P2, **P3:** Good Afternoon

P1: Ok Hemant, so u did graduation in CSE from which college?

M: Answered

P1: Is it a Govt. College?

M: No Sir.

P1: Ok, Tell me the courses that u have studied.

M: Data Structures, DBMS.

P1: Ok , Why do we need Databases?

M: Answered.

P1: Wasn't convinced.

M: Explained again.

P1: Ok, How is the database implemented?

M: Flat files with a logical abstraction.

P1: Major properties of Databases?

M: Said something.

P1: No, No ACID property

M: Sir that is for the Transaction Management in Databases.

P1: What is atomicity in ACID?

M: Explained.

P1: What is C?

M: Consistency.

P1: No it is Concurrency.

M: I agreed ;((it is consistency).

P1: Ok explain Concurrency control.

M: Explained in detail.

P1: Explain with example.

M: Explained.

P1: How is it maintained?

M: Serialization

P1: Which Locking protocol does Oracle use?

M: Sir I don't know. I work in Sybase.

P1: You should remember all these things?

M: Sir, I have been working for last 18 months so I am not very sure.

P1: Ok what Locking protocol does Sybase Use?

M: 2 Phase locking.

P1: How does it work?

M: Explained.

P2: Means all locks at one go?

M: ... and all unlocks at one go.

P3: It seems you don't have any weakness.

M: Sir, I have.

P3: But you haven't written in the form.

M: I have written I would be very satisfied if I can improve my presentation and communication skills.

P3: But that's not a weakness.

M: Sir I interpreted it as a weakness.

P3: Ok Hemant what are your other interests?

M: Badminton.

P3: Ok If I say that margin is 20% and the mark up is also 20% . Are they the same thing?

M: I thought for some time and then said sir if CP is 100 then for 20% margin = 20 and mark up = 120 (wasn't confident).

P3: Sure?

M: I hope I am. I think it's the answer.

P3: Ok ...

P2: Ok Hemant, Suddenly P3 interrupts .. Ok let me tell u the answer to the previous. Question ... Margin = 20 and Mark up = 120

M: Sir Mark up is 120.

All Started laughing including me

P2: Where is McLean Island?

M: No Idea.

P2: Where is Windward Island?

M: It seems keeping the present context in mind ... it should be in Caribbean.

P3: But every island is in Caribbean.

M: No Sir.. Island can be anywhere.. it can be in Indian Ocean, Pacific ocean anywhere

P3: Caribbean is in Pacific?

M: No Sir it is in Atlantic.

P3: What is Luxemburg.. A country, a city?

M: A country.

P3: What is its capital?

M: Luxemburg City.

P3: How is that possible?

M: It's the same case as Singapore and Singapore city.

P1: Ok Hemant, I want to store few numbers in a data structure but what we want is just that the access should be done from it after the entire insertion is done .. Which data structure should be used?

M: Sir ... I mean ... do I need to write the code ...?

P1: No no which data structure?

M: Sir I would go for trees.

P1: Which tree?

M: BST.

P1: But it can be worst performing?

M: Yes sir in worst case it can be $O(n)$.

P1: Then?

M: Sir I would opt for Balanced trees.

P1: Which balanced trees ?

M: Sir AVL, Splay

P1: What are Splay trees?

M: Explained.

P1: What is the time complexity for searching in AVL and Splay trees?

M: $O(\log n)$.

P1: Insertion?

M: $O(\log n)$.

P1: Ok Hemant let's move on to OS.

M: Yes Sir.

P1: Explain Dining Philosophers Problem.

M: Explained.

P1: Solution.

M: Said something.

P2: Ok Hemant what have u studied in mathematics?

M: Algebra, Trigonometry, Calculus etc.

P2: Tell me the application of these branches in CSE?

M: Told something.. Couldn't tell the application of Calculus.

P2: Ok, so what are the matrix properties that we use in CS?

M: Sir additive , Multiplicity ...

P2: All these problems can be told by a child even.

M: :-o

P2: Tell me something more ..

M: Blabbered something.

P2: So you don't know?

M: Sir I know but I am not able to interconnect If you can tell me the property I can say something for sure ..

P2: Have you heard of Eigen vectors?

M: Sir heard ... but don't remember anything.

P2: You told you know.

M: I am not sure about its applications.

P1 to P2 .. They are not taught these things in under graduation level .. it is a post graduation course (usage of matrix properties in Computer Science).

P2: Ok

In this conversation I told something about transposition of matrix.

P3: Where is this transposition used?

M: Sir in graph theory.

P1: What is graph?

M: Tried to link it to trees.

P1: I m a layman ... now explain me graph?

M: Drew the diagram and explained.

P1: How is graph represented in the computers?

M: Adjacency matrix.

P1: Draw the adjacency matrix for this graph.

M: Drawn.

P2: But this can be done using 4X4 table also.

M: Sir but matrix representation makes it easier to compute.

On retrospect I think I could have done better on this end ... I knew a lot more but somehow couldn't think there.

P2: Ok Hemant you studied Combintorics?

M: Yes sir

P2: I am giving you an unbiased coin and you have to select three of us randomly tossing the coin.

M: Sir I can go for multiple trials.

P2: Sure.

M: Sir I would like to toss it twice and depending on the outcome I will select one person.

P2: but there will be 4 outcomes

M: Sir I won't assign one outcome to anybody.

P2: No it doesn't work that way.

M: Ok sir , then I would go in for 2H, 1 H 1 T, 2 T so no ordering will be there.

P2: No I want all of them to be selected with the same probability, and then your solution will be in problem.

M: Yes sir.

P3: What will be the problem in your solution?

M: Sir the probability for HT will be different.

P1: He is partial to P2 ,as he has asked the question ... laughter all around ...

M: Well sir then ...

P2: ok ok leave it.

P2: Ok Hemant should US Have attacked Iraq?

Then we discussed on it for 4-5 minutes

But at last I said .. "Sir I am not saying that one should not attack at any circumstance but I don't think that attack here was desirable."

I think he took this statement as a contradiction to my statement made earlier. Though I initially made clear that is it necessary to take a stand. Don't know how it will go for me ...

Overall a very interesting experience ... could have done a lot better ... but no point in repenting ... there were other questions interspersed which I don't remember ...

I would cherish this interview for a long time Though I think I haven't fared very well

Guys pour in your vies ... about how was the performance ... guys waiting outside told that it lasted for more than 40 mins ... but I felt that I have been just in and out ... very very cordial panel .. No stress at all except the questions and few rounds of laughter

Chalo next gearing up for FMS and IIMC.

Interview experience of: amanonArun

Date: 6th March
Venue: Bangalore Monarch Hotel
Time: 9 AM
Panel: 1

Profile

10th 88.6%
12th 91.0%
Qualification: B.E Information Science and Engineering, 81.1%
Work-experience: 31 months as on date in IT firms.

GD

The case was about some Mr. Mandy, in-charge of UP region for a company dealing in Stocks and Post office deposits (or something like that). His company has acquired some new companies with many offices in rural areas. The investments from rural areas account to 81% of the total investments as some rich guys there invest large sum of money. But the pay structure is different in both the companies with the people in the new company getting more pay. The people in old company also start asking more pay. Also, due to some recent CBI charges against some of the rich people in rural area, the investment from there is expected to be very low for the next 6 to 12 months. So, what should Mandy do??

(I have tried to provide the summary of the case. I might have missed out on many points. The case was for one full A4 size sheet)

5 minutes to read the case 15-20 to discuss it and 5 minutes for summary.

Overall a pretty cool GD. Everybody participated. I came in some 4-5 times with one original point. There were lot many suggestions, but the GD was not structured. So most of the times we kept on discussing the same points.

After around 15-17 minutes, they stopped the discussion and asked us to write the summary. I was in the middle of a sentence when they asked us to stop. So I had to stop there. Back to the waiting room and the wait starts.

I was the last one in my panel (I am thinking of starting a research to find out what is it with my name and being last or the last but one person in all interviews till now). So had a long wait of nearly 2 and half hours.

PI

There were 3 professors, P1, P2, P3 and Myself.

P1 comes to the door and lets me in and goes out for a minute. I walk in, wish the panel and take the seat.

P2: So, you had to wait for a long time. Can I have your certificates?

Me: Yes Sir (Gave him. He passed it on to P3)

P2: So what did u hear about the panel outside?

Me: Sir heard that the panel is very friendly and most of the questions are based on what is written in the form and about hobbies.

P2: OK, so you have done your BE in Information Science and Engineering. Is it close to computer science or is it close to electronics?

Me: Computer Science sir. Actually only one or two subjects differ between us both.

P3: Us meaning who?

P2: Information Science and Computer Science.

Me: (Smile)

P3: How can information be science? Science means there should be some basic theorems and axioms and laws. Like physics has Newton's law. So what is the basic theorem of Information Science?

Me: (what's that!). Sir basic theorem of Information Science??

P3: Yes.

Me: Sorry sir, as far as I know, I can't remember studying any basic theorem for information science.

P3: So how can u say it is science?

Me: (Arre yaar...yeh kya ho raha hain. I have already finished studying, now u r asking why it is named so) Sir it is close to computer science, so the name.

P3: Computer science has basic theorem and laws. Tell me that.

Me: (what's that?)Sorry sir. I don't know.

P3: So you haven't studied that properly.

Me: (Smile)

P3: (to P2) sorry you were asking something. Continue.

P2: So u had worked in ABC for X months?

Me: Yes Sir.

P2: Then you have worked in XYZ for the past X months?

Me: Yes Sir.

P2: Reason for leaving ABC is blah blah.

Me: Yes sir and explained it to him.

P2: So tell me 3 things which you have learnt in XYZ which you wouldn't have learnt if you had not joined XYZ.

Me: (eh!) Explained him something.

P2: How do you put it in one phrase?

Me: Put it in a phrase.

P2: Ok, so what are the other two?

Me: (Thought for about a minute). Told him one or two other things which he refused telling that you might have learnt it in ABC also.

Me: Sorry sir... I couldn't think of anything else.

P2: That is ok. So how do you spend time off from work?

Me: Watch football and F1 on TV, play them and comp games.

P2: So how do you keep in touch with the current topics, news?

Me: I read newspapers, watch news and internet.

P2: Tell me something which happened in the recent past, which affects you.

Me: (Thought for 5 seconds), Sir recently the stray dog menace.....blah blah.

P2: How does it affect you?

Me: Blah blah...

P2: OK, apart from that?

Me: Sir elections in Punjab, Uttarakhand.

P2: How does it affect you?

Me: It doesn't affect me sir. It is just GK.

P2: OK anything else?

Me: Sir, Budget.

P2: How does it affect you?

Me: Blah Blah, Income tax, blah blah, Educational cess increased.

P1 and P3 together: So do you have to pay more tax or less tax next year?

Me: More tax Sir.

P3: So you don't want to join an IIM this year? If you join where will you pay tax?

Me: (Arre Phas gaya). Sir even then, I will have to pay tax for the three months.

P1: That will not reach the limit set for the IT exemption at all.

Me: (Good .. at least he agrees I am being paid less. Tell it to my manager). No sir, but the tax is deducted at source. So it will be deducted anyway and I will receive lesser salary.

P3: That you can anyways claim back. Good, just shows that you are thinking.

Me: (Hurray!).

P3 (to P2): Sorry again you were asking something.

P2 looks at P1

P1: So you have participated in science quiz in your college.

Me: (Uske baare main mat poocho) Yes sir.

P1: Was it during engineering?

Me: No sir, it was during my PU.

P1: Oh 11th and 12th is it??

Me: Yes sir, 11th and 12th.

P1: So where was it organized and why?

Me: Sir XYZ college had their annual cultural and tech fest. So it was organized there.

P1: So what type of quiz was it? They go on asking questions rapidly and you answer is it? You know there are many types of quizzes.

Me: Yes sir. But this was normal quiz with multiple rounds. Had visual rounds, rapid fire etc etc.

P1: So what do you think? These quizzes will they help the students to understand a subject completely or they just propagate superficial knowledge?

Me: Sir depends on the level. If it is some local club or some other quiz, superficial knowledge is enough. But once you move up the level to national or state level you need to have in depth knowledge on the subject.

P2 starts again.

P2: So do you watch movies?

Me: Yes sir, occasionally.

P2: Have you watched Pyar ke side effects?

Me: (eh!) No sir.

P2: Have you watched Mallika Sherawat on Karan Johar's show?

Me: (crazyyyy) No sir, I missed that episode.

P2: So I can't ask you anything on it.

Me: Sir I have seen some parts of it which they showed in between the advertisements on some other shows.

P2: Leave it.. have you watched Guru?

Me: No Sir. Sir the last movie I saw was Salaam-e-Ishq (Go ahead and bash me up for seeing it)

P2: That's a pretty old movie.

Me: (look around). Sir I saw it last month.

P2: Yes it is pretty old.

Now P3 starts

P3: Arun, I am actually impressed by your marks in engineering.

Me: (Hurray).

P3: Good, you have 125 in this subject Applied Mathematics 2. What was it?

Me: Sir, it had graph theory.

P3: Graph Theory...Good. So what is the degree of a node?

Me: Sir, it is a long time since I studied. I think it must be the number of links from the node.

P3: Yes, arcs.

Me: Pardon Sir?

P3: Arcs ... the links are called as arcs.

Me: Yes Sir, the number of arcs.

P3: So what is a node with odd degree and a node with even degree?

Me: Sir I think odd number of arcs and even number of arcs.

P3: OK, What can you tell us about the number of arcs in odd degree in a network?

Me: (eh!). Sir... I have studied long back, can't remember... but I think it occurs in pair

P3: In pairs?

Me: Sir, the numbers of nodes of odd degree are even in number I think.

P3: Can u prove it?(Gives me a paper)

Me: Sir, I'll try, but I don't remember ...

P3: No need to remember..give it a try. Why have 125 in it. So u must be good.

Me: (Why did I get 125???) OK Sir,

I start drawing a network

P3: I don't want example. Proof. You can use example to clear your thoughts.

I try some more and tell him one or more thing. He asks me to prove it

Me: Sorry Sir, I am not able to.

P3: OK, you have good marks in Analysis of Algorithms too. So what is the measure for how good an algorithm is?

Me: Sir, time complexity.

P3: What is time complexity?

Me: Told. But he doesn't look satisfied.

P3: No, that is not what time complexity is.

Me: Told him something else.

P3: No.. ok leave, you might have forgotten.

Me: (sad)

They look at each other.

P1, P2, P3: Thank u. You may leave.

Me: Thank you sir.

P3: Take some toffees. Since you are the last person and you have waited long take all the three toffees in the bowl.

Me: Thank you sir, one is enough for me. Thank you.

Now, I don't know how the interview has gone. I got screwed in the academics I think. Just keeping my fingers crossed.

Interview experience of: [prem_ravi](#)

Here goes the most awaited first & last GD/PI experience of my life

Profile

Xth Std:61%
XIIth Std:90%

BE: (smile)

Work ex: 7 years.

Extra-curricular: Sung twice in AIR, Cultural Secretary (College), Health Secretary, Ball Badminton - 3years Gold medal, Poetry, Floor Coordinator-emergency response team (office), Member - 4 Voluntary Blood Donors Associations.

GD Experience

Case Study: There is a village which has native farmers & 30 years back some herders have settled in a portion of the village which was not cultivable. The herders who have settled some cattle and also did a little cultivation.. Now the govt. is planning to make a canal for irrigation across the herder's settlement which may make the land fertile & the farmers want to take this land. There is a rural jurisdiction which is formed to look into the interests of people. The herders are scared that they may be outcasted by the farmers.. what should the farmers do?

My contribution: I came in as the 3rd person and said why don't they both settle in mutual ways which was accepted by the group and discussed on length. I came in about 5 - 6 times. The points I said were, why don't we think about the water available with the farmers which decides whether they actually need water, the herders can look at other villages as example to look at...Overall it was an average GD with some fish market in between...Infact everybody else were freshers & started asking all silly questions in the beginning of GD which made the panel irritated and even said this is the most fugitive team I have ever seen.

Now Comes PI

Was the 6th guy to be interviewed...

Guys before me were interviewed for 20-30 minutes ranging from technical to general knowledge to practical applications to extra-curriculars (in that order).

There were 3 professors in the Panel (Panel 2).

An Old Professor (OP).
A Jolly Professor (JP).
A Silent Professor (SP).
Your Uncle (Me).

OP: You have mentioned singing and Tamil poetry?

Me: Sir, I sing songs in multiple languages and write poems in Tamil.

OP: Prem, Can you sing a song for us?

Me: Sir, I have a sore throat, still I will sing.

SP: Oh, if you can sing we will be happy, can you sing a Tamil song?

Me: Sir, I would love to sing a Telugu song & here it goes (Telugu song for 3min)

OP: Before 30 years, there was an instrument called tambura, now we don't have such an instrument, so how do you guys manage to match up to the scale?

Me: Sir 30 years back a singer's voice was the most important thing, but now technology is so enhanced that we have ways to record the music alone & the singer can actually adjust his voice.

OP:(seemed convinced).

OP: What made US to attack Iraq?

Me: Sir, US proclaimed Saddam Hussain to have killed 100's of people and landed up killing 6 lakh Iraqis.

OP: But why Iraq?

Me: It is because of the oil which US wanted and also US said Iraq is a nuclear country (Not Sure about the answer).

OP: Is Iraq a terrorist country.

Me: I don't know.

JP: Tell me about your work.

Me: (abh aayaega maza) Blah Blah Blah.

JP: But GOOGLE map is also a GIS software.

Me: Gave additional features of proper GIS software and when I used the word Google earth, JP said thanks for reminding me the right word.

JP: Can you explain with example?

Me: Explained with a customer's application.

JP: Do you sell only products?

Me: No Sir. Explained with our tie-up with ISRO to do a project in Prime Ministers Office.

JP: Do you remember mathematics?

Me: I hardly remember Sir (with a smile).

JP: Then there is no point in questioning you on mathematics (with a smile).

JP &

OP: Thank u & take a toffee.

Me: Thanks and stood up.

SP: Do anybody report to you?

Me: Sir, there was a trainee who had finished training & left now & I am looking for one more guy.

SP: Thank you.

Uncle takes a toffee & walks out.

Overall it was for 13-14 minutes. I have a feeling that it was a predetermined Interview..Either I am in or out even before the Interview started. Anyways life has to move on & I thank GOD that today I have attended the most prestigious Institute's GD/PI. Now I request fellow puy to post their candid feeling (Please)

But I have a nagging feeling ...No questions like" why MBA after 7 years", what value addition you will bring to the batch type of questions..Like didn't want to know much about me. That's where I feel my fate is predetermined...Let's see its now getting back to studies or never. Request puy to pray for your Uncle..

Meanwhile after my PI, I was explaining my exp to other guys when JP came & said to the 7th participant "come I will ask u different set of questions".....hmmmm....

IIM Ahmedabad - Year 2008

Interview experience of: rohan4185

So the **A-day** had arrived.

All the hard work, wishing, praying, pleading was going to be called into action. I was pretty much calm (*thank God, humans can't see the future* 🙏) but my mind knew what was at stake and the previous 24 hours were terrible.

Profile:

10th 87%
12th 90%
MBBS 72%

CAT: 99.95 (all calls)

8.15 a.m. I left home and walked down to the campus. gee yea..walked down 😊. Just 2 minutes and I was guided to the venue by two very helpful gentlemen.
At the center, people kept themselves occupied with two contentious issues "what is Ref No.?" and "Will there be a case study?" PGites were not bothered with either of them 🙏. For the record, **Ref No** is the Roll No. and there is **no Case study**. There is however, an **essay writing** on a general topic.. You have 10 minutes to think and write, at the end of which papers are mercilessly snatched 🙏. 10 minutes is a good idea.. 30 at Lucknow was simply too stretched, topic was **worsening female to male ratio in India**. Then they categorically said 20 mins per candidate on average for the interview and pretty much followed it, slightly exceeding at times but never less.

My turn came at 10.20

There were three profs who asked questions and a fourth who just observed 😊. (*woh char aur me aadha.. bahut nainsaafi thi*) 😊

P1,2,3 from left to right..

P2-senior most, most cordial, pleasant to talk to nodded at answers 😊.

P1- who leads the operation stress on me, assisted by P3.. setup was like CBI grilling a convict.. playing on people's minds.. one is nice to you.. one is harsh... two people talk simultaneously to you demanding answers.. blurting soft abuses at you completely wrecking the psyche..

P2 took my HR (5 mins)..

P3 checked my general awareness and academics (7-8 mins).

P1..... Took me apart!! For full 15-20 minutes I tried to brave the storm and verbal volleys and whether i was successful April will tell. All the while when one was asking, another was reading the data form in full detail and also listening (*as we'll see* 🙏 *and the third professor was seeing the certificates..*)

P2: interview started with tell me about yourself which I took 1-2 mins to answer without being cut off. few chitchats regarding my college, hospital where I work..

P2: what role do you see yourself playing after management.

..

P2: name some corporate hospitals

chief of Apollo

Me: Read but forgot

P2: corporate structure of Apollo Listed co.

Me: Yes.

P2: so does it have a board of directors

Me: yes

P2: difference between corporate and general hospitals

Me: 1 minute lecture

(P2 satisfied and hands over to P3)

P3: countries which have a better sex ratio than India (continuing from the essay topic)

Me:...Sri Lanka.

P3: why?

Me: literacy to an extent

P3: why?

Me: smaller country, easier for them to achieve higher literacy (crappy point).Easier to govern.

P3 started asking a question and stopped and said did you say Srilanka is well governed?

Me: No sir. Easier to govern.

P3: ever been to sri lanka?

Me:. no sir 🙄

P3: other countries with a favorable sex ratio?

Me: Scandinavian countries. Norway Sweden

P3:do Norway and Sweden have PNDT act?

(its a law in India which I'd mentioned n the essay.. the law banning prenatal sex determination by sonography etc.)

Me: I can't say sir.

P3: tell me about this dengue. How does it spread? Why does it come back every year? What's with the U.K.doctors right now (Indian doctors in U.K.)

Me: told what I knew

P3: something more recent. A new development.

Me: Sorry sir, haven't read

P3: tell me about Bombay. Raj Thackeray.

Me: took the maximum time to answer this question.Had to choose between diplomacy and fact. Went with the fact.. Said raj is wrong

(a signal to P1...he is all yours) 🙄🙄

P1: so how many from your batch are thinking about alternative careers

Me:4 of us

P1:why did you decide to stick your necks out

Me: because I had the courage

P3 interjects: this is not the Indian army ..

All laugh out and me too. These were ominous signs of what was coming..

Me: Yes sir. But to go against fixed mindsets, go against norms requires courage, I have not given any of our postgraduate entrance exams, I had to take a call and I chose CAT. I have staked 2 years requires courage.

P3: you have written here your salary is 40,000. Is that annual? 🙄

Me: yes sir. It's my stipend.

P3: pretty meager and what will a doctor earn.20k, 25k? And here. You'll earn lakhs..so why don't you say that?

Me: sir that's definitely a reason, I would have mentioned it as the second or third reason.

P1: I call it opportunism

Me: sir the opportunity was available to everyone who wanted to take it..

P1: so how did you decide for an MBA?

P1: what is the analogy between an operating heart surgeon and a manager

Me: he has to plan well

P1: ah!..Plan..Define planning

Me: mumbled 2-3 words

P1: define team.

Me: group of people. Team readiness preparedness to...

P1: Have you heard of contingency? Define

Me: started something

P1: Listen. Don't be a cowboy. Every time you take out a pistol and start firing. Listen to the question, let me finish, think and answer

Me: sorry sir, I'll do that now.

P1: Does everybody in the team know what they have to do? Is it a formula?

Me: pretty much everybody knows and went on for 15 seconds. (*First chance to speak.*)

P1 asked few more questions and cut me when I started to speak..

P1: Haven't you heard of an operational plan

Me: Yes sir, there's a protocol

P1: you should be knowing all this. You are a doctor. You should be telling me all this. come on! You are disappointing me..

Me: gave a meek smile. Sir lets take a specific example. A patient of myocardial infarction comes, he is taken straight to the OT.. There's no time to plan there. It's a pretty much standardized procedure, all members of the team know their task and it goes pretty much smoothly until something goes amiss. Then they all spring into action.

P1: (*mimics*) So they spring in action (*laughs sarcastically*)

Me: sir if it's an elective procedure, planning starts much before.. Patient asked not to eat, drink overnight. Morning OT should be sterilized and ready on time.

P1: so the surgeon will do that?

Me: no, he'll delegate but it's his responsibility in the end.. (*Grilling went on.*)

P1: Have you heard of diffusion? Where in human body?

Me: digestion, respiration

P1: define

Whole definition was correct. Made a small mistake towards the end which he picked up. (*mentioned 'across a semi permeable membrane, which is not a must. God! They're so sharp*)

P1: if I inject a drug into my vein is there diffusion?

Me: first no, immediately yes.

P1: how long does it take to spread throughout the body?

Me: 2-3 mins

P1: depends on?

Me: drug, volume of blood in body, Cardiac output

P1: yes. Now you are talking some sense.

(*I was relieved*)

P1: can you derive the 2-3 minutes take a paper and pen

Me: tried but couldn't. I said diffusion would likely follow some complex mathematical models (*no idea what makes me blurt out such things*)

P1: ahh.. You're speaking some big things, define mathematics

(*I smiled*)

P1: no, define it

Me: mathematics is the science of..

P1: science? I say it is a language

Me: (*thought for 5 seconds*)(*nodded*) said yes sir you can say it's a language

P1: so you agree with me..

Me: yes sir but its also a science

(*in between he'd glanced at the watch.. gives over to P2*)

P2 asks me about thermometer working and said does the initial level of mercury determine final temperature?

Me: said no, explained

P2: you mean if first patient has a temperature of 106 and then you give to another patient whose temperature is 105, will mercury contract?

Me: yes sir

P2: yes?

Me: yes

Then there was a controversy regarding a certificate of mine.. (*With P1*) explained the case. Finally said sir, you can choose to disregard that certificate and what I have written in the form.

That's it. Thank you Rohan. Nice talking to you (*P2 and P3* 😊)

(*and then the ultimate blooper..*)

P3 held his hand forward i went forward for a handshake. He said take a toffee. Can somebody beat that! 🍬



Me: took one toffee.

P3: no no take two

By then i was in no condition to argue. Took two!

(The call was converted)

Interview experience of: [arpitshah10](#)

Had the big one today morning.....didn't sleep at night because of tension. Kept awake thinking about possible interview questions

Profile:

X: 94% ICSE
XII: 94.33% maharashtra state board
BE: Electronics and instrumentation, 9.94/10, till third year
Work Ex: Nil
CAT: 99.94 OA....BLACKI

Reached the centre, Monarch Luxur, Bangalore, at 8:40, around 20 minutes early.

Prof called out names. Was put in first panel. Third in line for the interview.

Essay started at 9 sharp.

Topic: Financial viability of IPL.

Thought I did fairly well here, had some points, mentioned about comparison of IPL with soccer's English premier league and how it was generating money etc.

Interview started at 10:30

Was nervous as hell. One professor ushered me inside.

Panel: 3 Profs, m1, m2, m3, myself I

(as I went in, I find all three engrossed deeply in my certificates)

M2: have a seat

(I sat)

M1: so you must have got some feedback from the earlier candidates.

I: no sir, the waiting room is in a different floor from the interview room, so I didn't meet them.

M1: so you are at a disadvantage since u don't know what we asked earlier

I: no sir, the candidates who came before me were the first and second candidates, even they must have not had any idea

M1: okay, but even u didn't get an advantage by waiting

I: I agree sir.

(m2 takes over now)

M2: so your surname is shah

I: yes sir

M2: tell me something about the historical evolution of the surname shah

I: *(what the hell is going on... the first question I don't have an idea.....)* sir, I am not aware of the historical evolution as such, but I know that ancient rulers of Persia were called shah of Persia

M2: but that was in Persia. How did it come to India?

I: maybe the Persian king invaded India at some point in history.

M2: okay, tell me some kings who actually invaded India

I: Mughals from Mongolia, Alexander from Greece

M2: I am sure Alexander was never called a shah.

(all three laughing crazy now)

I: I was just giving examples of invaders, maybe shah of Persia also invaded like them

M2: are you sure Mughals are Mongols

I: yes

M2: tell other famous Mongol kings

I: Genghis khan, Timur. Current descendants of the mughals still name themselves after timur

M2: so when did Genghis khan come to India

I: He never came, his descendant Babur was the first mughal to come

M2: okay, but that still does not explain the shah fact, how it came to India

I: I am not aware sir.

M1: the earlier shah of Persia was a Muslim

I: yes sir.

M1: mughals were also Muslim

I: yes sir, but Akbar was influenced by Hinduism

M1: okay, but he didn't convert to Hinduism, did he?

I: no sir he didn't

M1: then these shahs and kings are Muslim, how come you are Hindu, even Shahrukh khan is Muslim

I: (didn't expect this coming, he made a good buildup before screwing me with this one) I am not aware sir, maybe there were some Muslim shah's who converted to Hinduism along the way

M1: can u name any of them?

I: no sir

m1 looks satisfied now

M2: who was nadir shah?

I: (sorry i don't know look)

M2: what was the peacock throne, who stole it?

I: not aware sir, maybe British took it since they took many treasures from India

(M2:looks scandalized)

I: was just guessing sir, actually i don't know (later i find out it was nadir shah who took it, what an awesome fool I am)

m3 takes over now

M3: so you read novels

I: named a few

M3: u started reading now because u got calls or u read earlier

I: I read earlier

M3: which author did u start off with?

I: Enid Blyton.

M3: oh. so u read books like famous five and secret seven

I: no sir, I read his fantasy books, not detective stories

M3: name some of these fantasy books

I: I have forgotten the names sir, though I remember the stories

M3: how can u forget what u learned and read at school days

(gives me school principal angry look)

M3: okay talk about the US elections

I: *am internally ecstatic.....*blah blah blah blah blah

M3: what did Obama say today morning about Indian American voters

I: didn't read newspaper today morning sir, had to leave early for the interview

M3: u should read paper everyday, if I were u I would have read paper on the morning of an interview

I: *(apologetic look)*

M2: you came in merit in 12th board exam

I: yes sir

M2: this certificate u got proving it is from college not board

I: yes sir

M2: then u might be 9th(that was my rank) in college, not board

I: no sir, was ninth in Mumbai, but board didn't give certificate, college did. *(I thought this was true at the time. My biggest blunder. Actually board also gave certificate. Found this out later. Took wrong certificate to interview.....hope this doesn't cost me too dear)*

M2: if u were in merit, there must be some newspaper photo

I: yes sir, its at home

M2: can u send it to IIM Ahmedabad, we would like to verify whether u were actually in merit *(he says this with a smile) my marks prove I must have been in merit*

I: okay sir, will do

M1 takes over now.

M1: so you are electronics and instrumentation

I: yes

M1: differentiate electrical, electronics and instrumentation

I: blah blah

M1: explain how temperature in air conditioner is controlled

I: *having never studied this....guessed something...later found out it was partially correct*

M2: i think that's it.....thank you, have a toffee

I: *took toffee...thank you sir*

Interview experience of: [avi_mba](#)

Date: 25th Feb
Time: 9:00 am
Venue: Monarch Luxur, Bangalore

Profile:

10th - 95.6
12th - 93.5
Grad- BTech (IIT) with 8.75/10
Work-ex - 18 months in mobiles
%ile - 99.86

Essay: Old film music: Remixes or Creative ability. I had no clue what to write here. Wrote something for 9 min.

Interview: 3 members, two gentlemen (P1, P2) and a lady (P3). P2 was out and came much later during the interview. The Panel was extremely cordial and made me feel no stress. Although I made many bloopers, I didn't feel bad after the interview.

Me: May I come in?

P1: Yes, come in.

Me: Good morning Sir, Good morning Ma'am

P1, P3: Good Morning, Please sit.

P3: So, tell me what do you do in your spare time?

Me: Ma'am I read magazines, play sports and watch a bit of TV.

P3: So you must be aware about current affairs.

(Me wondering what she will ask, but she gave me a googly)

P3: So tell me one.

Me: The Nandigram incident. Although large-scale violence has stopped, HC verdicts are still coming.

P3: Ok. Tell me more about Nandigram, is it the same as Singur?

Me: No, Ma'am Singur is not an SEZ, Nandigram was a proposed chemical hub by Salim group, the area under consideration is much larger.

P3: So Singur issue is resolved now?

Me: To a certain extent. Farmers have been compensated and work is going on in the Tata factory. Still some political opposition is going on.

P3*(looking satisfied)* So what is your opinion? Is it right to take away the farmer's land?

Me: spoke from a balanced point of view. Need to compensate them enough, both long-term and short-term; how agriculture needs growth and India's economy depends a lot on it; about the need for the govt to monitor sale of lands [I was actually surprised they gave me so much time but I didn't take a stand]

P3: So what about the Sardar Sarovar Dam? Do you feel it's right?

Me: Gave info on Sardar Sarovar, how Gujarat needs the project again didn't take a stand.

P3: *(Smiling)* I want to know your opinion on it. If someone takes your house and asks you to shift elsewhere, what will u do?

Me: *(thinking I can no longer be neutral)* I gave an example from personal life, about Burrabazar in Kolkata, and things the govt needs to take care before shifting it.

[Finally, she looked satisfied]

P1: Do u know what is IMEI?

Me: blah blah.

P1: The full form of it.

Me: I am not sure sir *(big blooper, I was really supposed to know this).*

P1: But you have used it to create some application. Do you just code and don't want to know what it stands for?

Me: I reiterated about how I used it, and why it was important. Told IMEI is 15 digits.

P1: Are u sure its not 17 digit?

Me: No Sir, it isn't.

P1: Is there any proposal to make it 17 digit?

Me: I don't know about it [*checked later ... there is some thing on 17 digits as well ... man these people know their stuff*]

[*P1 and me talked about my work-ex, it depends a lot on my profile and hence not mentioning it in details*]

P1: So, what's LZW algorithm.

Me: (*hoping he will not ask the full form again*): Its a compression algorithm(*Explained.*)

P1: Is it lossless or loss?

Me: It's a lossless algorithm sir.

P1: Are u sure?

Me: Yes sir, I am sure.

P1: Then how to they compress 200kb images to 50kb. Is it lossless?

Me: No Sir, LZW is not widely used in Image Compression (*another blooper, I remembered after the interview, LZW is used in GIF images*). The most popular standard JPEG uses both lossless and loss compression. (*Explained*)

[*Meanwhile P2 entered. I had mentioned two of my research papers in achievements and there was some problem proving it. I offered to show them on the internet. The matter was settled*]

P2: So you like football.

Me: Yes sir [*but India ke baare mein mat poochna*]

P2: So which states are good in football in India.

Me: Kerala, West Bengal and Goa.

P2: I see... so you are from Bengal. Tell me why only these states follow and play football?

Me (*stumped*) I don't know sir.

P2: Think.

Me (*thinking*) I don't know sir. Talked about salt lake stadium in Kolkata and how it's a consequence and not motivation.

P1: Its not called salt lake stadium, its some blah blah krirangan.

Me (*Oh my god!, this guy knows more than me*) Yes sir, but we call it salt lake stadium.

P2: So, why only 3 states play football [*smiles all around*]

Me: I don't know sir. I can't see a common factor between the three states.

P2: Ok. So why is salt lake called so?

Me: I don't know sir (*ye kya arbit question hai*)

P2: Ok. Who was Agrasen.

Me: Mr. Agrasen ?

P2: Mr. Agrasen???

P1: Its Maharaja Agrasen, isn't it?

Me: Nods

P2: So Rex Agrasen [*smiles all around*]

Me: Maharaja Agrasen was blah blah .Had 13 kids, talked about gotras.

P1: 13 or 18?

Me: Sir, I think its 18. [*Checked later, it was indeed 18*]

P1, P2, P3 look at each other. Ok, thank you. Please take a toffee. I took 1 Melody.

P3: So you remember the ad of Melody?

Me: "*Melody hai chocolaty, dekho kitni chocolaty*" (*I nearly sang*) It was the slogan Ma'am.

P3: So are there more flavors of Melody?

Me: I only had chocolate Ma'am.

P1: Isn't "*Melody khao khud jaan jao*" the tag line?

P3: Both are the slogans.

[*Everybody was smiling*]

P3: Melody has more flavors. I know for sure it has strawberry flavor.

Me: Ok. Ma'am.

P1, P2, P3: Thank you.

Me: Thank You.

P3: Good.

Me: (Pleasantly surprised, did she say Good???) Thank you mam.

Feedbacks welcome. Hope this helps the Bangalore junta.

Verdict: Converted.

Interview experience of: **tigersvenom**

Profile:

10th =90.8

12th = 87

Engineering in Computer science BE from VTU = 77

Work Experience : IBM ISL 18 months

CAT percentile :- 99.62

The big day

Essay to be written : Variety is the spice of life

Interview:

3 Professors 1 lady prof (LP), 1 Mid age prof (MP), Old Prof (OP) and yours truly moi.

MP : Asks me to get inside the room and tells that he is going to take a break :-)

ME enters the room

Moi : Good afternoon

(OP) asks me to take my seat

(LP) Looks at me and then starts looking at my Blue form

(OP) Reviewing my certificates

LP: So u do Tea - Tasting (My hobby)

Moi :Yes

LP :Do you also do wine tasting ?

Moi: NO *(gives me a disgusting sort of look)*

LP: I will ask you about wine tasting? Tell me some type of wines ...

Moi: Madam I have heard of Red wine and White Wine.

LP :No give me the name of a Brand of wine gives an example ...

Moi :Madam I have heard the name Chateau *(I pronounced this in my desi style. she smiles and corrects my pronunciation saying this is how French pronounce)*

Moi : Please pardon me for my poor French

OP Chuckles and both LP and OP start laughing

LP: So you are from Darjeeling *(Moi native place)* Tell me how it got its name ?

Moi : Spoke about King Dorjee and the way it got its name

LP: Do you follow current affairs

Moi : I try to keep myself updated

LP: Tell me about Nandigram and Singur issue

Moi : Blah blah

LP: You are Bengali and that is close to Bihar ? Tell me about the history of Bihar and why is it famous? *(Are ab Bihar kyon)*

Moi : Nalanda university, Bodh Gaya Patliputra Chandragupta Mauraya etc

LP: Did you forget Ashoka ??*(Kyon baacche ke jaan le rahe ho)*

Moi : Yes even he ruled around the Bihar region .

LP :Can you tell me the name of the region he ruled?*(Yeh kya ho raha hai)*

Moi : *(Top of my head)* parts of Bihar and modern day UP and Orissa mentioned somewhere Takshila ..

(LP is satisfied)

(Moi relieved)

LP: Contrast Kerala and WBengal

Moi (Ab kya karoon) Kerala has higher literacy rate

(Cut By LP)

LP: Don't tell me about literacy. something else (*ab kya sunna hai ..*)

Moi : (*Looked at OP he is lost in my certificates folder. no help*)

HMMM (*pause*) spoke about better governance in kerala and the fact that Kerala has better made use of its resources.

LP: (*Comes at me sharply*) what do you mean by that .. Kerala has made better use of resources by sending its people to Middle east??

(*OP starts laughing ...he is amused*) (*Closes the file and now he starts listening*)

Moi : I mean tourism, spice industry.

LP: AHH... tourism what do you know about Tourism. Tell me about difference between Tourism in Kerala and Goa . Tell me the amount of revenue each one of that gets

Moi: I do not know the data about both states but tourism is well developed in both states . GOA slightly better

LP : You told me that you follow current affairs it was in news all over you never saw it ?

Moi : Sorry madam I must have missed it ...

(*LP*) *Gestures to OP to proceed (MP) is now on the table*

(*OP*) *gives me a function of Y in terms of X and Z and asks me to differentiate it .*

I do that then goes into concepts of partial differentiation derivatives maxima minima ...asks me to get the maxima and minima for the curve in question. I do a bad job at this and then he says ok

let me make life simpler for you. He reduces Y as a function of X

ahh ...I get a new lease of life I explain him maxima minima and critical points and he asks me to certain

whether a critical point is maxima or minima I tell him the wrong answer but then I asked him for a moment and calculated

I find that my previous answer is wrong I tell him . He says that you gave me a different answer before ..I tell him that my memory failed me but as per concept this is the answer he agrees with the answer and hands me over to MP

MP Quizzes me again on the maxima minima concept and then asks me about point of inflexion ..??

Moi : I do not know about it

MP: Can you tell me about Taylor Series ?

Moi: Sir I cannot recall it . Since we in CSE never had to use mathematics extensively It has slipped of my head.

MP tells me about research that is done on memory and why neurons keep information and when they miss it . Tells me that if you do not exercise your neurons your brain will become dead?

Moi: I say that at work my manager insures that my neurons are always in motion

All three professors start laughing

MP: What is the best way to remember and retain information ?

Moi: I talk about anagrams and creating pattern for information and trying to remember it

(*MP*) : *looks satisfied*

LP: can you tell me what that technique is called that you described ?

Moi: Anagram.

LP : Its called mnemonics anagram is a component of it (*ah thanks*)

MP: So where do you work ?

Moi: sir...

LP: He works at IBM

Moi: Sir I work at IBM Rational

MP : so your division at IBM is Rational and other divisions are called Irrational ?

(*all start laughing*)

Moi: sir

LP: One second .. In psychology you are divided as rational and emotionalSo he is rational and all other people in IBM are emotional.

HAHAHA all start laughing (what a PJ . Even I join in the laughter are IIM ka interview hai... ganda joke hai to kya hua ..sab haanso ...)

Moi: tell them about rational and that IBM acquired it

MP :was it a local acquisition or global ?

moi: Global

MP tell me about few local acquisition of IBM

moi: Cognos, Daksh

MP: Any other acquisition by IBM

moi: cannot remember

MP :have u heard of a company called netsol ?

moi: no sir

MP :so what are your hobbies ?

moi :Sir tea tasting and social computing

LP :Sir he is a tea taster

MP :Tell me a few tea gardens names around Darjeeling ...

moi : blah blah

MP :what type of tea is grown there ?

moi: blah blah .

MP :What is Cooch behar famous for ? (*Cooch behar is a place close to my home town*)

moi : Not sure but yes Maharani gayatri devi is from cooch behar

MP :Whom did Maharani Gaytri devi marry ?

moi: Do not remember the name Sir, but some prince in Rajasthan

OP: Is Maharani Gaytri devi from Cooch Behar I thought she is from Jammu ?

moi :No sir she is from cooch behar

MP :Why do these princesses always marry prince ?

moi :I guess that is more to do with royalty and heritage and they want to be associated with family of royal birth

(MP Sort of satisfied)

MP :That's it Thanks

Thank you

Interview experience of: Rohit.Sinha

My IIMA experience:

Date:26 Feb, 9:00

Topic: Conquer Himalayas

I wrote about figurative and literal meaning. Then I wrote about Helen Keller, Mahatma Gandhi and Tenzing Norgay-Edmund Hillary in 3 different paras. Then concluded.

Interview

P2: So you are from Patna. Patna to Surat to Bangalore. Now Ahmedabad!

Me: Smiling

P2: So you really want to come to Ahmedabad

Me: Yes sir! Very much!

P3: So what's your salary!

Me: some big number.

P2: What do you exactly do!

Me: I work in storage. There is 4 terabytes data in the world and somebody has to store it, retrieve it and back it up. We are those guys. I work on the network part of the link between host-network-storage.

P2: So you are a maintenance guy!

Me: No sir! I write the code which maintenance guys use.

P2: Looks like you look down on maintenance!

Me: I am just explaining my job sir! I don't look down upon them. In my company they are treated on the equal footing.

P2: No I think It is what you think!

Me: I insist sir that I was just trying to explain my job nature, not pulling others down.

P2: So define and draw a network.

Me: Network is a mesh of nodes. *(drew (host-switch-router-gateway-tcp/ip-storage)and explained!)*

P2: looks like incomplete. All of them are not connected.

Me: drew a square and made all the sides and the diagonals.

P2: good! What is the degree of the node?

Me: Nodes it is connected to!

P2: Give me a generic statement for the nodes with odd degree?

Me: They will always be even in number.

P2: Prove it.

Me: I will use induction. *(Proved.)*

P2: I am not satisfied. Why are you using only 1 node Use multiple nodes.

Me: Sir! This is induction and if I have proven it for n+1 I have proven it for n+2 also.

P2: keeps on arguing!

Me: *(accepts defeat graciously.)*

(And then my mobile phone rings and they all scoff at me)

Me: I am sorry sir. I just wanted to keep track of the time.

P1: so what language do you use!

Me: erl sir!

P1: Tell me some other scripting languages!

Me: Rose, Python sir!

P1: Can you use shell also!

Me: Yes sir! We can use grep,awk and sed. But I don't remember it.

P1: How many types of shell are there?

Me:Ksh,Bash

P1:What are their full forms!

Me: I don't know sir but I can tell you the implementation difference.

P1: What is the difference between Windows and Unix?

Me: Windows is a not open source and Unix is.

P1: Is Unix open source or Linux?

Me: Sorry sir! Its Linux.

P1: What else!

Me: Windows are more desktop friendly, unix is more client server. Windows use APIs which are not exposed to the user but in unix is all file based and user can customize it according to himself. (Security-not convincing).

P3: So have you seen anything negative in your work?

Me: There are cases where you have to make a choice between your personal life and your professional life but you make a judgment on the importance of the issue.

P3: you are evading the question. Confront it.

Me: I had IIM-I interview in the evening and the same day I had a release so I went to the office in the suit and fixed all my bugs and went for the interview.

P3: that's not negative.

Me: Then I have not faced anything negative in my work sir.

P3: So your life has been all rosy!

Me: Oh no sir! I have a 2 year drop after my +2. I had a severe family crisis and had to mentor my brother to a good career. Then I got a second division in my engineering but the very fact that I failed there I succeeded later.

P1: What are the strikes going on in the country?

Me: Truckers, Movies and Doctor's strike.

P1: Which one is national!!

Me: Trucker's strike.

P3: Is it right way to express your grievances?

Me: No sir! But if the grievances are genuine then it has to be brought forth. But there are other ways. (*Gave them example of Japan when union only produced left foot shoe.*)

P3: But it was 40 years back!

Me: Indeed it was sir!

(All smile)

You can go and take a toffee!

Me: I am sorry for my mobile going off sirs! It was mistake! I saw P1 sir scoffing at me.

P1: you would have done the same thing.

P3: What is past is past.

I leave and see P1 still looking at me admiringly (*god knows for what reason*) and hear P2 saying "nice chap".

God knows what does that mean!!

Interview experience of: [rjt163](#)

IIMA PI experience: My longest post in pg (and by some margin)

When - 26th Feb, 2 PM.

Where - Monarch Luxor, Bangalore.

Why - CAT %ile - 99.89 🎓

Profile: B.E in IT from NIT, Durgapur. Currently working in software domain, **Work-ex** - 1.5 years.

Essay topic - Business - Ethics vs. Laws. :*Sleepy: (Mujhe khud nahin pata main kya likhke aaya hoon)*

PI

The panel had 3 profs, and 8 students. I was the 7th in the group

They had told the average duration would be around 20 minutes, but the first few had their PIs for almost 30 minutes 🙄

My turn came at 5:10 PM, (*2 and a half hours wait karne ke baad :x*)

Everyone was having a decent interview, not too bad, not too good, the profs were cordial, chilled interview, and there were some jokes (*read PJs*) cracked in between ;-)

Three profs, all male 😊 P1, P2 and P3.

Me - M :*smile:*

P1 guides me in, I wish them all good evening.

P2: You must be having a fair idea what are we asking, what the other guys are saying?

M: Something on academics, and general stuff.

P2: Why MBA?

M: (*I don't think anyone else was asked this question: what.. 😊 bla bla, to move up in my organization*)

P2: Have you ever felt you lack some skills - in your current job, give me an instance.

M: Sir, *abhi to nahin*, but as I move up, I will require them.

P2: Was Narayan Murthy an MBA?

M: (*IIMA ke interview mein yeh sab: sarcasm*) No Sir, only B.E.

P2 : Nandan Nilekani ?

M: Don't know about him.

P2: He is the CEO of infosys.

M: Yes Sir.

P2: Sure

M: Yes (*Yeh maine kya bol diya*)

P2: Have you studied statistics?

M: (*Kya bolu*) Sir, in 10 and 12th

P2: (*Laughing*) Engineering ? What did you study in math in engineering?

M: (*They had my mark sheets, so they knew there was math in a lot of semesters*) Sir, there was differential equations, integration, probability (*nahin nahin, yeh sab kya bol raha hoon maine, ab kya hoga :eek:*)

P2 : There must be statistics also, you had math in so many semesters

M : (*Haan hoga to sahi*) Yes sir.

P2: Do you remember it?

M: A little bit.

Laughter all around (He forgets the things) 😊

P2 : Gives me a problem to solve - Say there is a pole, and there are houses at a distance of x_1, x_2, \dots , x_{10} from that pole, you have to place a fire station, where will you place it ?

M : Such that the mean distance of the station from the houses in minimum.

P2: Write the equation ?

M: *Kuch to mods lekar equation likhi*, and then said the distance of the fire station (x) will be such that this equation has minimum value.

P2: *Haan haan*, derive the formulae.

M: (*Formulae - konsa formulae - yeh sab kya ho raha hai - :eh:*)

P2 : Ok, lets assume that instead of mods, we have squares (*ab derive kar*)

M : Sir, we will differentiate the equation, and solve it to find the minima.

P2: *Han haan*, but i want the formulae.

M : don't know

P2 : (*chalo jane do*) Which other calls you have ?

M : All 6 IIMs 🇮🇳

P2 : All?

M : Sir, all IIMs except Shillong

P1 : Did you apply there ?

M : No.

P1 : Then why are you expecting a call (*and laughter again*). 😊

P3: Why did you apply to all 6 IIMs ?

M: (*CAT form mein option hi kahan tha 1 particular IIM ko apply karne ke liye :sarcasm:*) -Because IIMs are the best.....

P3: *nahin nahin, yeh nahin pooch rahe hum log*, why did you apply to all 6.

M: (*kyon kiya, haan, samjha which way the interview is going now, probability*) Sir, to increase my chances.

P3 : That's to increase the probability :sly:

M : Yes sir.

P2: Say, 6 IIMs have probabilities of conversion as 0.1, 0.2 ,, 0.6. What is the prob you will convert atleast 1.

M: (*Ha ha, isme konsi badi baat hai* 🇮🇳) $1 - 0.9 * 0.8 * \dots$

P2: What basic principle you have used here?

M: Sir, converting at least one will be 1 minus converting none.

P2: No no, basic assumption you have taken here?

M: Total probability is 1, *so agar conversion ki 0.1 hai to nahin hone ki 0.9 hogi* 😊

P2: (*dhakkan*) I am not asking this?

M: (*To fir kya assume kar diya maine* 😊 , *haan , yaad aaya, and now I know whats the next question*) Sir, I assumed the events to be independent.

P2: What if they are dependent?

M: Errrrrrrrrr

P2: Are they dependent?

M: No sir, independent.

P1: They are dependent on you CAT score (*another PJ, and everyone starts laughing again*) 😊

M: Sir, we will require the conditional probability.

P2: yes, derive it.

M : (*Kya derive karoon, 6 events, sab dependent, kaise hoga*)

P2 : (*He seemed to read my mind*) Let me make it simpler, lets have only two IIMS - A and B, with probability as 0.1 and 0.2, dependent, now derive.

M : Write down an equation, at least one will be $P(A \text{ intersection } B) + \dots\dots$
But we will require the conditional probability sir.

P2 : Finally seems satisfied.

M : (*Chalo jaan chhuti is se*)

P3 : Which company you work in ?

M: XYZ, deals inbla bla

P3: What's your designation ?

M: Subject matter expert.

P3: What's that ?

M: Just a designation, at the entry level.

P3: Haven't you tried to find out what it means.

M: Sir, that a person is an expert in the subject

P3 : But how can he be, when he has just joined.

M: Sir, during interview they must have looked for certain skills ;-)

P3: What is an expert?

M: Someone who knows everything about the field.

P3: In which field are you an expert?

M: Networks, OS, DS and algorithms.

P3: What's the diff b/w information and knowledge ?

M: (*yeh to aata hai mujhe* 🤔) bla bla.....knowledge is how to use info.

P3: Or you can say how to efficiently use info.

M: yes sir.

P2: So that means a person who uses the info most efficiently is the most knowledgeable person in the world
(*laughter again*) 😄

P3: Tell me something about the spectrum war.

M: telecom operators shifting to 3G. Spectrum being scarce.

P3: Why so, who holds it?

M: Army.

P3: What's 3G, what's this 1G, 2G, 3G.

M: 1G is analog.

P3: Just tell me the diff between 2G and 3G.

M: 2G - voice, 3G - data.

P3: Ok, now towards the spectrum war.

M: No clear policy, results in chaos, explain in detail (*yeh to padke gaya tha*)

P3 : What's the solution ?

M: Gave a decent solution 😊

P1: (*all this time he was examining my certificates, checking everything I had written in the form*)What's Durgapur famous for?

M: (*About to say steel plant.*)

P1: Other than steel plant.

M: (*he he ab bolne ke liye raha hi kya :huh:.*) Sir, rice cultivation and.....

P1: Isn't it famous for coal.

M: Sir, coal is towards the dhanbad sector.

P1: Why rice there, why not wheat?

M: Land more suitable for rice.

P1: Why? (:sly:)

M: (Sir engg karne gaya tha wahan, yeh sab thode pata hoga)

P1: Is Durgapur an old city?

M: yes Sir.

P1: Who founded it?

M: (yeh kisko pata hoga) 😊

P1: Is it a planned city?

M: Yes sir.

P1: How can it be, when its an old city?

M: Most of the construction coming up recently only.

P1: Compare Pune and Durgapur.

M: bla bla.....

P1: (About my hobbies) -What's this Barclay's premier league?

M: Sir, EPL, renamed this year.

P1: What's Barclay?

M: Bank.

P1: You have written you follow cricket and football. You only follow, you never lead? (:grin:)

M: 😊

P1: How much land in J&K is under Pak control?

M: (ohh...?) 😊

P1: What's Udhampur(my hometown) famous for?

M: Sir, Mata Vaishnoo Devi shrine there.

P1: Isn't the army headquarters there?

M: yes sir, wo bhi hain.

P1: What's the area of the headquarters?

M: (Did he seriously expect me to know this, yeh to wahan army walo ko khud bhi nahin pata hoga) No idea

P1: Is it the largest headquarter in Asia?

M: Don't know about Asia, it's the largest in India.

P1: Is there some army thing in Bangalore?

M: (Kal hi to land kiya hai yahan) - Pata nahin.

P1: Whats this place in which interviews are going on?

M: Infantry road.

P1: Ringing some bells?

M: yes sir, army se related hai.....

P1: Whats infantry?

M: (ohh...?) 😊

P1: Ok, we are done, take a choc and leave.

VERDICT: Converted

IIM Ahmedabad - Year 2009

Interview experience of: [pushkar84](#)

Profile

Acads:

X: 92%

XII: 93.67%

Undergrad Major - GPA/%age : 8.33

Work-Ex:

NIL/Sector - Number of Years : IT 10 months

CAT %ile:

Aggregate : 99.81

Any other special thing about u: Left job and cleared foundation exam of CA (after Engg.)

Essay:

Topic: Indian women should take up their husbands' surname after marriage

Time: 10 minutes

Any Other Details: very little time. Only wrote about history, what it symbolizes and that surname doesn't show the degree to which she has adjusted to her new family. Maybe she can use both - past and present.

PI:

Panel Members Intro: No idea. G1 G2

Questions:

G1: What is the meaning of Pushkar?

Me: told

G1: Meaning of your father's name?

Me:

G1: Tell us the history of Nagpur.

Me: blah... blah.(start with kings)

G1: That's it? After that?

Me: blah blah.industries/oranges

G1: What's the difference between orange and sweet.. umm..

Me: sweet lime?

G2: sweet lime is green, orange is orange 🍊

Me: 🍊

G2: Do you watch cricket?

Me: Yes

G2: Which cricket do you watch?

Me: Test, one days, T20

G2: T20. IPL?

Me: yes I had watched IPL.

G2: Just a few days back they did all this *tamasha*. How do they value the players? Any parameters?

Me: Performance in the subcontinent, domestic performance, strike rate

G2: Did WI come in the subcontinent in the past year?

Me: No

G2: Then?

Me: performance against different teams, venues, economy rate, etc.

G2: Suppose g1 has taken 8 wickets for 80 runs and me 2 wickets for 20 runs then?

Me: Number of overs?

G2: Both of us have bowled out.

Me: Economy rate wise, you are better. If we are talking about one day cricket...

G2: (*irritated*) T20!

Me: OK. Then G1 is better. Wickets are important.

G2: (*shrugs with a triumphant smile... because I changed my answer*)

G1: Have you read about some article about this rating and all?

Me: No

G1: You're an electrical engineer. What is Nyquist plot?

Me: talked about gain/transfer function.

G2: I am a layman. I don't understand this gain and all. He is an Electrical engineer and keeps on talking about Nyquist whole day. Please explain.

Me: try talking in terms of gain.. input output.

G2: OK radio is a system. What is input? What is output?

Me: Electrical input/battery and Radio signals = input, output = sound

G2: Now gain?

Me: Output/Input.

G2: But output is sound? How can you divide?

Me: (shocked)

G2: Think another system and answer.

Me: Transformer.

G2: step down transformer?

Me: yes. input = 440. output = 220 V. Gain = 0.5

G2: yes. now?

Me: Now? Plot the magnitude and phase?

G2: Phase? Where is phase?

Me: OK we can take a phase shifting transformer. (:confused:)

G2: OK that will be a straight line? Phase is changing and magnitude is constant.

Me: Yes. (shocked)

G2: Can you tell me what is Bode plot? B-O-D-E?

Me: told Log of Magnitude and phase of gain

G2: Use of log?

Me: Larger frequency range

G2:OK (*another victory for G2. pokes G1*)

G1: (*just smiles thanks to their brutal victory*)

Me: 🤔

G1: OK You are into final stage of CA?

Me: No. Got Inter in May.

G1: You wasted one engineering seat.

Me: blah blah

G1: 4 attempts at CAT?

Me: Yes.

G1: Plot your percentile against attempt

Me: *(Did it)*

G2: Linear?

Me: Not quite.

G1: Now draw the absolute scores. Let's say for 75 questions?

Me: Don't remember my previous scores.

G1: *(smiles)* OK

G1: You will join your father's firm. You won't raise capital, borrow money, hire people, build infrastructure. How is this MBA gonna help you?

Me: talked about managing resources like article clerks in office. (Say core competency)

G2: What is core competency?

Me: Inclination and Expertise in a particular field. We can track performance over a period of time.

G1: We don't have a software by which we can teach you to manage resources.

Me: talked about consultancy, project financing, etc.

G1: You like to work out right? Body building and all?

Me: no body building. just love to keep myself fit.

G1: Tell us some Indians who're into body building and all.

Me: Dara singh

G2: Classic, eh? If you call him now, he won't be too proud of his body.

Me: Karnam Malleshwari (shocked)

G2: Which drugs is she taking now?

Me: *(??? :confused:)*

G2: You take steroids?

Me: No Sir I don't.

G1: Tell us some more from olympics asiads may be?

Me: I don't know.

G1: Do you read too?

Me: Yes. Read Prey by Crichton/ Branson's auto bio

G1/G2: OK. We're done.

Me: *(stand up to leave)*

G1: You don't have any certificates to show right? Got certificate for this 6th rank in SSC?

Me: I do. *(still standing and opening up the display book to show them)*

G2: *(sees the certificates.. it's in marathi. His looks say he doesn't understand where's Sixth written. passes it to G1)*

G1: There. that's 6th.

G2: What is this pre designed software contest? Sit sit.

Me: Had designed a game. Can I draw and explain?

G2: I don't know if you can draw.

Me: *(shocked)* Sorry May I?

G2: Yes

Me: *(drew and explained)*

G2: That's very interesting!

Me: Thank you.

G1: So you touched 100%ile?

Me: No. Almost there though.

G1: Left by?

Me: 0.19

G1: That's nice.

Me: (hmm) 🍬

G1/G2: OK We're done. Take a toffee.

Me: (takes alpenliebe) Have a good day.

G1/G2: You too.

Me: Thank you.

MISC.

Any other relevant detail.

40 mins of absolute mayhem-destruction-ityaachaar

Verdict: Selected

Interview experience of: **Maruti1986**

Profile:

X - 87

XII - 88

GPA - 6.29, IITB CSE

Work Ex - 6 months in software

CAT % -

QA - 99.98

DI - 99.55

VA - 97.89

Total - 99.97

Any other special thing about you: Maths Olympiad and NTSE

Also started a football e-magazine around 2 years back with some of my friends, it has a dedicated reader base of around 1200 now.

Hobbies : Indian Philo, football, reading fiction

Essay:

Topic: Obama will bring change, but only to USA

Time: 10 mins

Any Other Details: Time is very crucial. My advice to people is to start as early as possible after thinking of a structure and points. No point waiting for a couple of minutes to dissect what you are going to write point by point.

PI:

Panel Members Intro: 2 members, one of them (Prof Sandesh, I think) was supposedly the in-charge of admissions. Both were very chilled out and no stress

The two profs A and B and me, M

Questions:

A : Whats is your actual name is it Venkata or Maruti or Vamsi or Kiran

M : Kiran Sir

A : Ok, do you watch movies?

M : Yes sir, sometimes

A: Do you watch old Telugu movies?

M: Yes sir, quite a few.

A: Have you heard of the movie Maro-charitra? Can you sing us a song from it?

M: (*shocked*) I know the movie Sir, a Kamal Hassan starrer, but I don't recollect any songs from it.

A: Come on there is a song, starts with #@#@

M: Sang a couple of lines

A: Who wrote the song?

M: answered

B: Ok tell us about your work and projects

M: Answered

B: What is OOPs?

M: Answered

B: Why is it so hyped about?

M: Answered

B: What is heap sort and its time complexity?

M: Answered

A: You stated Indian Philosophy as your hobby, name an Indian Philosopher

M: Talked about Charvaka and Adi Sankaracharya

Then had a brief discussion about my essay and Obama.

A: We are done, do you have any question?

M: Yes Sir, in the criterion for shortlisting candidates for gd/pi, there was no normalisation of 10th and 12th marks. Don't you think it is a little unfair?

A: (Got upset) Now is not the time to ask such a question.

M: Ok sir

A: Here are your certis, you may leave now

M: Thank you sir.

Okayish interview, but screwed up with that question in the end

VERDICT: Converted

Interview experience of: ashvek_ambe

14th Feb opening slot IIMA

PROFILE:

Xth= 91.2%

XIth=91.17%

B.Tech= Electronics, 8.67 CGPA

WORK EX-:

Derivative Trader with XYZ firm since last 7 months

CAT percentile=

QA 98.XX

DI 95.XX

VA 97.XX

OA 99.28

Panel = P1 = Prof. Satish deodhar

P2 = Prof. Chetan soman

Hobbies = Sports (Football n cricket), Traveling and Cooking.....

Started off with an essay...we had to write on 'Existing educational System quells the creativity in children', got just 10 mins could write about 2-3 points.....gurukul system,its advantages ,alternate forms of career like sports, arts, music should be taken seriously, existing system does not give weightage to consistency.....Altogether an Okayish effort.....

Then we were asked to wait for our turn in the interview...I was the 6th in my panel.every interview lasted 25-30 minutes...finally, after a long wait, my turn came...2 panelists, both wearing casuals and smiling...

Interview divided in three parts.....

part 1=(arbit)

P2: XYZ, u have an unique name, what does it mean?

Me: told about meaning in sanskrit etc....

P1: on your form your father's name is also spelt differently, what is the reason?

Me: told that my father born in goa during the portuguese rule and so.

P1:so u r originally from goa?

Me: yes sir, father migrated to mumbai because of work etc.

P2: *(the girl before me also had goan roots, so they asked me the same question)* can u tell us the approximate years of portuguese rule in India?

Me: about 400 yrs, from mid 1500 till 1969.

P2: are u sure it was 1969?

Me: It was 1961-62.....(it is 19th dec 1961)

P1: any major event happened in 1962?

Me: yes sir, Indo-china war.....

P1: so it would have been a double whammy for the Indian govt in 1962.....

Me: told that goa liberation movement being populist, resolved amicably, etc.....

P1:are u sure army action was not use?

Me: yes sir.....*(mistake.....air force navy both played a part)*
(told abt hyderabad and kashmir)

P1:Ok, which other places were portuguese colonies?

Me: i think pondicherry..(:eyepop)

P2: or was it French?

Me: oh yes sir, not pondicherry, daman and diu.

(Between they asked me to name a famous religious leader from pondicherry. Bombed!!)

P1: what abt *aamchi* mumbai, portuguese or british?

Me: told about how it was portuguese, then gifted by them to the britishers as dowry in marriage.....(🙄)

P2: what is your mother tongue?

Me: Konkani...

P2: can u name some common words in konkani having their origins in portuguese language?

Me: told about couple of them , also told about a food item which made them laugh.....

(the conversation revolved around these things for the next couple of min)

part 2(work-ex)

P2: for the past 7 months, u have been working as a derivative trader, so y trading after electronics?

Me: blah blah.....novel opportunity, didn't want to get into IT sector, engg helped in developing analytical skills etc.

P2: u managed a profit of %@)) pounds, how come?

Me: talked about recession and how it is an opportunity to make profits but u have to be disciplined and blah blah.

P2: diifference b/w recession and meltdown.....

Me: told something..

P2: countries in recession?

Me: UK, US and Eurozone

P2: so who declared recession in UK?

Me: prime minister Gordon Brown....

P2: what was his role in the previous govt.

Me: minister but cant recollect the portfolio.....

P2: previous PM

Me: Tony Blair....

P2: which political party they belong to?

Me: Labour party

P2: any previous famous PM from Labour party....

Me: don't know *(was gonna say margaret thatcher)*

P1: U talked about recession, when was the last time US faced such a phase....

Me: 2000-01 dot come bubble, but the circumstances were not that grave.....

P1: Describe your work-exp.

Me: told .

P1: you said something about volatility in the markets? Explain in simple terms

Me: told in technical terms was asked to be more generic.....explained as percentage change per day.....

P2: have u heard about variance?

Me: I m afraid no sir.....

P2: standard deviation.....

Me: told.....*(looked convinced)*

part 3(acads)

P1: what is your favorite subject?

Me: digital circuits.....

(was told that the subject is also studied at xii th level, defended saying it is much in detail etc etc.)

P2: ok, explain the functioning of an AND gate in practical terms, may be for this interview process....

Me: sir, its like even if one of u reject me, I wouldn't get selected. thus only if u both selected me.....I can get a convert....

(smiles all around 🍷)

(now comes the acads part where I mess it up a little)

P1: tell me y steel utensils are not used in microwave oven, while glass are used.....

Me: told about deformity and heat bearing capacity.....

(was probed further on this cud managed to somehow say some thing then discussion strayed to radios and frequency ranges.....why FM stations operate locally and other have greater reach.....couldn't answer convincingly.....gave some gyaan.....)

P1: u have secured 91% in Xthdo u think it was easy.....highest may be around 95?

Me: yes sir highest is around 95.....but I guess sir with average preparation, 85% seems achievable.....but thereafter every increase in a single percentage requires huge amount of effort.....if i speak about my score, unofficially I was ranked 22nd in mumbai division.....

(Looking at each other)

P2: I guess we are done.....

(was still looking through the form, p1 said I mentioned very general hobbies :confused:.....and asked me the food item I previously mentioned was a self created or not.....gave explanation)

P1: u may take a toffee as u leave.....

took an alpenleibe and thanked them and left.....

overall mixed feelings.....not quite sure about some answers.....but on a whole quite satisfied.....

Next in line IIM B on 24th.....

All the best to fellow PUYs.

Interview experience of: Believe

Hi Puys!

Had my interview in the afternoon slot in Monarch Luxur, Bangalore today.

PROFILE:

Acads:

X - 90.2% (CBSE)

XII - 91.6% (CBSE)

Undergrad Major => B.E. E'n' TC (Pune University) 65.46%

Work-Ex:

Sector- IT for WXYZ Bank

Number of Years - 1.5 yrs

CAT %ile:

DI - 99.79

Quant - 98.08

Verbal - 98.48

Aggregate - 99.86

Any other special thing about

A few extra curricular stuff, mainly dramatics...

Acted in a movie too (character role...about 15-20 mins in length)

Essay:

Topic: "Both men and women need to gender sensitivity courses."

Time: 10 min

Any Other Details:

Started writing as soon as I got the topic, and I think everyone must do the same.

Had 2-3 points, compared the topic to professional domain, personal relations and finally said courses may not be needed per se, since its a course of maturity of society (*emancipation of women types and blah blah*)

PI:

Panel Members Intro: They didn't introduce themselves but were clearly in their early 40s or late 30s.

As usual will call them P1 and P2.

P1 was continuously slumped in his seat like he was in a drawing room.

P1: so how is the info flowing outside. Is everyone coming and telling you what questions are being asked?

Me: (*kind of stumped*) no sir...people are generally in a hurry to leave.

P1: So IT for XYZA bank, what exactly is it about?

Me: Cost cutting blah blah...efficiency crap crap.bank moving towards own IT

P1: But have u heard of ERTY bank's IT...etc etc

(*apparently this bank moved from its own IT infrastructure and then started outsourcing it....sold of the IT arm which is now a popular independent IT Firm*)

Me: (*fumbled a little here....gave a couple of dumb answers*)...sir may be the banks have diff strategies (*though should have added that my bank is more IT intensive thus needs more spending in IT*)

P1: so what kinda banking regulations do you stick to in designing ur software?

Me: (*let the whooping begin*)...sir ...ahem....aha

...story..mahabharat...ramayan....sarbane oxley regulations. Sorry not aware sir. I am not involved in designing. Happens at much higher level of management....we just get requirements and we convert to software.(*whatever I said i kept it going....gave some story all the time..*)...finally *chhod diya*....

P1: what tech...???...where r the servers??...how are u connected to them...

Me: (*Bas beta...ab toh kissi ka baap mujhe nahi bacha sakta*).As400...HK...Sheffield UK....direct....bull fart....blah shit....(sir i ll drop my pants...u guys have a nice time...but hey.... kept smiling all through out)

P2: (*suddenly outta his slumber*)so u passed out from so n so college....this is only for Army kids??

Me: yes sir. Earlier there was a rule that all pass outs need to give SSB and join the army if selected...now that's not there....with so many people dying to join army.

P2: really???...people want to join army???

Me: yes sir. as army kids .once you are used to the army life....you would love that....and would want to continue....

P2: but u were not interested...??

Me: no sir ...I wasn't.(*leave it at thatplease*)

P1:hmmm...engineering in EnTC and working for XYZW Bank....is it outta choice??...or was it forced on u ...and u had to take it....??

Me: sir (*once upon a time*) around my 3rd yr of engg. I decided I wanted to do my MBA...so I realized a job in a bank would gimme an insight into financeI had a job from asdf-sys software giant....but decided not to join....

P1: so did u learn anything about finance....

Me: not really all about finance but I know more than most average engineers would know....especially about Credit Cards...

P1: so tell about credit cards ...whatever u have learnt.(*around this time P2 had gone back to his slumber...would get up once in a while and turn a page in my file*).

Me: Issuer ...acquirer....visa mastercard(*explained fairly well*)

P1: so which part of the business has more meat....acquirer or issuer?

Me: sir it depends on your resources.both have plenty of opportunities....but u need to have resources to be able to enter into any of these parts....for eg as acquirers...u could make money by.....(*and I patted my back for it*)...

P1: so issuers don't have that much meat??

Me: no sir....there u make a lot of money when the customers default...

P1: what if they don't default??

Me: then u increase their credit limit and then they will default....

otherwise some banks charge a 3-4% service charge....but considering the competition most banks wont....in fact where ever banks are both issuers and acquirers....they offer perks such as Cash back to the customers...based on the profit an issuer makes based on being the acquirer....

P1 seems almost done...looks at P2..

P2: so u do a lot of script writing and other dramatics stuff (*my hobbies had that*)...

Me: (*beta agar abhi capitalize nahi kiya toh....ussi floor se kood jaana.*)

yes sir....used to do it in college...have been very passionate about dramatics...in fact have acted in a movie as u might have seen in the resume....

P1: (*jumps outta his seat*)...what ...a movie....tell us about it

(*bas shuru*)....40 schools....director's second movie.....my role....blah blah ...bull shit.....

P2: so u do u think in today's scenario.theatres & plays don't have the same kinda audience....??..with movies n all???

Me: no sir...a person who respects dramatics as an art will still go to a theatre...like if u wanna appreciate a painting...u will go to an art gallery if u really respect it...else just check on the net....basically...theatre is art. movies are entertainment.....

P2: so tell us about some popular theatre directors....

Me: (*stumped again*)....story...fart...bull shit....but sorry sir not aware....

P1: Who do u think is a good actor....one whose style u like in today' movies....

Me:Kamal hassan....irrfan khan...blah shit...bull fart....

both seemed almost done at this stage...

P2: has anyone ever told you that u have a resemblance to a cricket commentator?Not harsha bhogle.....

Me: *confused:* no sir never....oh but I can figure whom you are pointing at....

P1: Charu.....

Me: (*jumped outta my seat*)...yes sir Charu sharma.....I can see what makes u think so....he does other sports too....etc etc....

P1: ok take a chocolate n leave....

MISC.

I think overall was pretty ok....not about the answers i gave ...but was quite cool and composed....hope wasn't too cool....

if it wasn't for that movie.....I might as well have left my pants in the interview room and walked out....

so overall...feel there is a shimmer of hope....

but I have known IIM-A interviews to be highly unpredictable....so no guesses.....time to prep for the rest now....

VERDICT: Converted.

Interview experience of: [Go_GetIt](#)

Date: 22 Feb 09, 2 pm

Place: Hotel Monarch Luxury, Bangalore

PROFILE:

Acads:

X - 87.33%

XII - 91.2%

Undergrad Major - 76% (B.tech ECE)

Work-Ex:

NIL/Sector - 42 months in Airbag/Crash sensing division of an auto components company

CAT %ile:

DI - 96.9 %

Quant - 96.02 %

Verbal - 98.5 %

Aggregate - 99.47 %

Any other special thing about you

Town 1st in Xth, a paper presentation in BE, National level project plan submission, 3 awards at work.

Essay:

Topic: "studying pure science is a waste of time"

A good attempt, explained that pure science has no place for creativity, personal experience and so on.. Not enough to solve the contemporary problems. quoted satyam scam 🇮🇳 and farmer suicide issues and explained ..

Any Other Details:

The complete PI is on work ex, Hobbies and interests. No standard questions like tell me about yourself or why MBA or technical questions though they asked tech questions on work ex.

PI:

Panel Members Intro:

No introductions were given. Both of them are middle aged.. think around 40. P1 came out and called me inside, P2 read my file some 10 times... P1 didn't even look at the file.

Questions:

P1: So, you work for xxx, what did you do in last 3 years.

Me: Worked on crash sensing algorithms, calibrations , simulations.. blah blah ... and more blah..

P1:How do you sense a crash?

Me: Sensors at the front and sides of the car. accelerometers based on vibrations of the car and deceleration

P1: what are the critical factors in selecting a sensor .

Me: High sensitivity ..

P1: You said, it is based on vibrations if my car goes and jumps into a huge pot hole ... it generates vibration.. Do u deploy airbag??

Me: No sir. The frontal sensor detects the vibration.however other sensors give very little signal. so based on this also differentiates this from a crash.

P1: Explain the accelerometer functionality..

Me: Piezo electric sensor variable capacity .. blah .. blah ..
(P2 is still going through my file)

P1: what are the types of errors that you see in airbag system

Me: blah ... blah ..blah .. (every time I say something he asks me more and more ... I finally gave up).

P1: have you heard about Type 1 and Type 2 errors
Me: No sir [*Think he was expecting this as answer...*]
(*P2 is still going through my file*)

(*A lot more discussion on crash sensing .. I think it doesn't make sense for most of you, if some one is interested PM me*)

Finally P1 takes over ...

P1: So, you are town 1st in Xth, how do you know that, they don't give these details, do they?
Me: There are few schools in our town and so we know it blah.. blah

P1: So what are your hobbies...
Me: Cooking .. 🍳

P1: Jumps outta his seat.. what Cooking.. (*All smile..*)

P1: what do you cook?
Me: I am from guntur region of andhra lots of spicy food.. I cook lots of chutneys...

P1: what else?
Me: Curries, pulav, biryani ...

P2 joins in ...

P2: chutneys .Hmm.. How many types of tomato chutneys can you cook?
Me: 3 or 4 types..

P2: Explain the procedure for 2 chutneys..
Me: blah .. Blah...
[*A lot more questions on cooking and restaurants..*]

P2: What else.Do you read books?
Me: No sir.Very rarely I follow politics 🍳🍳

Again P1 and P2 jump out laughing

P2: so which party will get affected by chiranjeevi's party in andhra?
Me: Telugu Desam and gave reasons..

P1: which region ...
Me: Coastal, will not affect telangana.. Gave reasons..

P1: What is the possibility of post election alliance in Andhra?
Me: Blah blah ...
[*Some more discussion on andhra politics ..*]

Finally ... P1 and P2 .that's it we are done ..

Me: Thank You sir ... (*I haven't seen any candies over there .. expecting one ..*)

I think the interview lasted for around 20 mins ..
No questions on long term goals or why MBA? Don't know what to take out of this .. fingers crossed..
Good Luck Guys ... Hope you all convert the calls..
and please do PM your comments/opinions...

Verdict: Converted

IIM Ahmedabad - Year 2010

Interview experience of: **Abh Gupta**

My interview took place at IIFT, Delhi in the evening slot on the 14th.

Profile :

X - 90.4%

XII - 93.2%

College - 82.44% (NSIT, Delhi)

Work Ex - 33 months, Software Developer, Adobe Systems

CAT % -

QA - 99.24

DI - 99.24

VA - 99.65

Total - 99.94%

Any other special thing about you (like Olympiad, NTSE etc.) :

NTSE, JSTS and some more. Top 20/50 positions in Elementary, Junior & Senior Olympiads. Some more awards for B. Tech. Project

Hobbies : Reading, Sketching, Driving.

Essay Topic: Child artists are an exploited lot today

Time: 10 mins

Any Other Details: Around 40 people in all came in that slot. We were grouped up into 4 batches. Each batch had a different panel. The batch of 10 was first asked to sit in a room and write an essay for 10 minutes. After which we were told to wait outside for our interviews. Interviews were taken in some random order, not alphabetical or anything.

PI Experience:

There were 2 panelists in my case and they both looked quite cool. I had been chatting a lot with some college juniors in the same batch of 10. That relaxed me a lot. A LOT. And writing the essay (no matter how badly I wrote it), also helped me cool down.

Also, I was the 5th to be interviewed by my panel. And the guys before that were all talking about how acad heavy all the interviews were. I tried my best not to think about it and go with the flow. Plus, it helped that I was having fun chatting 😊

Let us call the panelists P1 & P2.

P1: (comes out of the room and calls for me. Also holds the door open for me.)

Me: Thank You Sir and Good Afternoon.

P1: Good Afternoon

Me (to P2) : Good Afternoon sir.

P2: Good Afternoon

Me: May I take a seat sir?

P2: Yes, please sit down.

P1: (to P2) I will just go and wash my face. Be back in a mo.

Me: (*thinking that P2 will wait for him, but he starts nevertheless*)

P2: So. Tell me what you do when you are not working.

Me: One of my passions is reading especially the works of Tolkein & Agatha Christie. For the last 1.5 years I have also been spending a lot of time working for an NGO that is involved in running some schools.

P2: Tell me more

Me: (I talk a bit about this NGO, where the schools are, my role, yada yada)

P2: So where do you operate out of? Your own building or on rent?

Me: Told him

P2: And have you taken over some other school or is it a green-field school?

Me: *(Thinking a green field school? Does that mean a new initiative from scratch? Most probably!)* Told him the details.

(In the meantime P1 has come back and has asked for my file. He is flipping through it)

P2: It seems to me that your vision is not clear. Do you get satisfaction out of working for this NGO? *(P1 nodding vigorously)*

Me: Of Course etc etc..

P2: Then why do you want to pursue an MBA? Is it that your parents are pressurizing you, your friends are pressurizing you to work while you want to work in the education sector? *(P1 still nodding, more vehemently now)*

Me: Sir, my long term vision is And this is how working here is aligned with it.

(Don't know why I said that. I had a much better answer in mind. But, never mind..!)

P1: I agree *(with P2)*. Your goal seems to be lacking clarity. Then he rambles quite a bit.

Me: Sir, an MBA will also help me impact the society. My current job role is limiting my impact. I'll get more visibility, make more business contacts etc etc. A lot was said here.

P2: I don't understand how you get visibility from an MBA. And how will that help anyway. For instance, differentiate between Narayan Murthy & Baba Amte's efforts.

Me: *(I was prepared for that. Had a good example in mind as well.)* Told how Narayan Murthy is also serving the society by creating so many jobs. Jobs lead to income. Income leads to education for children. And that is what I am also doing. And gave him my example and prepared reasons also. P2 looked convinced. *(Or at least I thought so then. Now, in hindsight, it could also mean that forget this chap, he is a goner..!)* Nodded to P1 to take over.

P1: So, tell me more about the innovations you have been involved in at your job. *(Had written about that in the form)*

Me: Told him about two.

P1: Wanted to understand the two.

Me: Told him that due to confidentiality reasons I can't tell him about the first. Told a bit about the latter.

P1: But isn't this idea similar to

Me: Told him the differences

P1: *(Not satisfied. This idea had a patent angle to it)* What are the pre-conditions to be met before filing a patent?

Me: Told him about one pre-condition I knew at my work place.

P1: So can you file a patent for a technology that uses open software.

Me: Depends on the licensing. Also gave some gyaan about product patents being the norm and not process patents etc. *(Was happy with my answer then, not so anymore)*

P1: OK.

(Again vigorous nodding among the two. Then some inconsequential talk that I can not remember)

P2: Well, that is it. You may leave.

Me: Thank You Sir *(to both)*

P1: You may take a toffee.

Me: *(Took one)* Thank You sir.

That is it. A interview over & done with. Was weird as it was different from the others till then. To sum up, no acads asked. Just work-ex & hobbies.

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of: [adiG](#)

Venue: Hotel Kenilworth, Calcutta
date: 22nd March

Profile:

10th: 88.4% CBSE
12th: 93.2% CBSE
CAT 2009: 99.88%

BTech in EE: 8.47 (IIT Kgp) final year student

Essay topic: Business houses should take greater social responsibility.

I was the last person to be interviewed in the entire morning slot. So perhaps my interview was a bit short because of that. Two professors: P1 and P2, and me (M)

Interview:

P1: So, you are an electrical engineer, a pretty rare species these days.

M: hehehe...smiled

P1: Tell me, what is the difference between a motor and a generator.

M: A motor converts electrical energy to mechanical energy and generator does the reverse. *(pretty easy question, answered confidently)*

P1: ok, what is the difference between a series motor and a shunt motor .

M: answered confidently and explained using a paper and a pen.

P1: say, I have two grids, one is 100MW and one is 400MW. Under what conditions can I connect these two grids.

M: Their frequency needs to be same and in case they are not same, then we can convert them to DC and then connect them using an HVDC link and then convert back to AC to one of the frequencies.

Then the voltage magnitude of both the grids need to be same.

Then the voltages need to be in phase.

(explained the synchronization in phase using pen and paper)

P1: Do you remember maths.

M: yes sir, the maths that I have applied in my engineering and the basic 12th maths.

P1: You have studied laplace transform?

M: yes

P1: what is it why is it used in differential equations?

M: It is a mathematical operator that transforms an equation from time domain to frequency domain. Used to solve differential equations as it converts them to algebraic equations.

P1: (wrote a differential equation) Write the laplace transform of this equation.

M: done

P1: say i give u a function $y = f(x)$, how will you find the laplace transform of y ?

M: Sir, can I assume that x is a function in t ?

P1: ok, do that

M: then $y = f(x)$; $x = g(t)$, eliminate x to get $y = h(t)$. Then find the laplace transform of y .

P1: ok, what is the mathematical definition for Laplace transform?

M: wrote correctly. *(profs seemed satisfied so far)*

P1: how is it going?

M: Sir, the interview??

P1: yes

M: Sir I think you are in a better position to answer that 😊 *(with a smile)*

P1: smiles, but still, what do you feel?

M: Sir, I think it has gone decently till now.

P1: ok, since morning I have been asking the question to everyone but I not got a good answer. tell me what is government of India?

M: I think the government of India would contain every person of India who can vote, since he has some say in the decision making process. He can elect or remove a representative.

P1: So every Indian citizen is a part of the Government?

M: according to this definition, yes. *(Actually I was very wrong, the Government is executive+ judiciary + legislative, but never mind, since no-one got it correct :P)* Besides, how do we define it would depend on where the definition is written.

P1: So where is this definition written.

M: I am not sure but I think the constitution would define that.

P1: what is the constitution of India.

M: It is a written body that defines the fundamental rights, duties of citizens, then how elections are to be conducted, how different government bodies are supposed to act and how a bill becomes a law.

P1: how does a bill become a law?

M: First it is studied by the cabinet of ministers and then*(P1 cut me short)*

P1: Can only the ruling party introduce a bill.

M: Sir I haven't read about it but I have never seen an opposition party introducing a bill.

P1: what is the role of Indian penal code?

M: It defines the punishments for the different crimes.

P1: I am still not satisfied with your answer about the Government of India.

M: smiles

P1: (to P2) i am done

P2: You wrote in your essay about the human development index, what is it?

M: *(on a back-foot, since was not really knowledgeable about it)* I am not sure whether it is called human development or human happiness index but it is a measure of social development factors that contribute to well being like education, access to health care, gender equity etc

P2: So who develops this index?

M: I am not really sure but I think it is developed by the UN.*(turns out I was right 😊)*

P2: *(draws a function on the paper)* write a mathematical definition of this graph

M: worked it out very confidently *(it was a simple graph)*.

P2: ok *(later @ home I realized, I had done a silly mistake in assuming the function definition, but that was not pointed out. Don't know if I got away with it, or he thought that this is a minor mistake)*

P2: So why do you want to do an MBA, you know people with engineering background look down upon managers, they say bad engineers become good managers.

M: *with a big smile on my face.* No sir ,that's not true. I have seen so many department toppers opt for management.

P2: what's your position in department?

M: In top 10 in a department of 45 students.

P2: that looks good

M: smiles. Then answered the why MBA part pretty confidently.

P2: Where have you been placed?

M: Answered. Looking at the lack of recognition on prof's face, I explained that the company is based in USA and does analytics work for a specific sector of companies and is the global leader in it. Then explained the job role in a more detailed manner. about modeling of market segments, research of past consumer records etc

P2: Then you would be using a lot of mathematics?

M: yes sir, I think so.

P2: your job is good, why do you want to do an MBA now?

M: talked about the different areas that I can study like marketing, finance, operations etc and then take a better informed decision later .

P2: Did you take GMAT?

M: no sir.

P2: why not?

M: I do not want to study in a foreign university, 2-4 yrs of experience, then 2 yrs of studies, then 2 yrs of job outside to pay off debts, not ready for such a long commitment outside India.

P1: But as it is your job is outside India?

M: ohh...I think I miscommunicated, my job is in a US based company's India office.

P2: ok, where else have you got calls from?

M: I have calls from A, B ,C and K

P2: not from Indore, but you are from Indore ? (P2 smiled)

M: Yes sir, I missed out on that

P2: ok Aditya, all the best for your other interviews and take a toffee with you.

M : thank u sir and left.

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of: [Setu_noworneva](#)

I had to post this, not because PI was out-of-the world, but as a note of reminiscence....

Profile:

CAT: 2009 - 99.77; Calls: A,C (PGDM)

Xth: 90.8

XIth: 87.4

B.Tech in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from BIT Mesra %age:75.3

Work Ex:-4months (mfg.)

Date: 30th March 2010

Time: 8:45 slot

Venue: The IIMA campus(and i'm in love)

We were made to sit around a circular table and after initial document verification, they gave us the topic for essay:

Essay Topic: Our Governance and Political System share a deep mistrust for Entrepreneurship.

I wrote the summary of the last book i read, 'Imagining India'...as to how at the start India's Nehru-vian era politicians/freedom fighters were against imperialism and capitalism. India needed hand-holding, socialism was in vogue.

Led to red-tape, bureaucracy etc, no competition leading to same problems that India was fighting for. LPG of 1991, how it changed everything. NRM and Nilekani became poster-boys with the latter being given charge of UID, which can be seen as signs of "deep trust" between them.

Wrote nothing specific, but was satisfied because time was also only 10 mins.

Now came the much-awaited thing. IIMA Interview.

My panel was 4th, I was the second to go, probably Kaal_bhairav was also in the same. The first candidate came out, looked like his dreams shattered, OMG!!

P1: Quiet looking madam.(But she was the one who asked maximum questions.)

P2: Young Sir(*Smiling all the time, probably trying to make everyone comfortable*)

P1 came after 5 minutes or so and called my name, I wanted to correct telling madam that is my surname, but didn't.

Before entering waited for madam to get in, so that I may wish them together, she told ok, go ahead, so wished her, entered, wished sir.

P2: come in.

Me: Thank you, sir.

P2: So how are you feeling?

Me: great...energetic (*the last one sheepishly, just in case i get an opportunity to explain adrenaline et al.*)

P1: give me your file.

Me: yes mam.

P2: So you have been working in L&T, how is it, how long?

Me: Sir 4 months, told about company joined in Nov....recession.

P2: It will be loss for the company..

Me: No sir actually....

P2: How many people were recruited?

Me: Sir in my batch blah blah....in total blah.

P2: Then it will be like leading to chain reaction.

Me: No sir (and a grin).

P2: so tell me why it has been losing so many contracts lately, gave examples

Me: *(I hadn't heard of most of those contracts, i guess because mine is not construction biz. The kind of biz. That comes to anyone's mind when he hears L&T)* Gave them the specific example of Bandra-Worli ..told we quote higher leading to reject but do quality work....blah blah HCC blah.

P2: Compare it with other companies.

Me: did ..but sir actually I am in blah blah.

P2: compare competitors in your own domain..

Me: Did. and sir other verticals of L&T are...

P2: Ok explain them

Me: Explained n market share.

P2: what is verticalization, advantages, disadvantages?

Me: told it may lead to more competitiveness but it may also lead to loss of opportunities for sister org. in case some other company is quoting better price. Need of collaboration competition blah.

P2: Compare L&T and Reliance.

Me: Told Ambani is owner of Reliance

P2: No i am also owner of Reliance(**laughing**)

Me: sorry sir, I mean yes you do, in fact every share- holder is but I mean whenever we hear of Reliance Ambanis come to mind, but in case of L&T people rise through the ranks by working hard.

(and this ownership thing i just after the cruel incident at XLRI, oh my God I shuddered at the thought that his interview will also go tangent, but was saved. for the records my answer was wrong actual difference was they have already gone for verticalization, Rinfra, RNRL etc.)

P2: So if will work hard, you will become the owner?

Me: No sir, but if i will work hard for say 30-40 years, i may become chairman.

P2: Do you actually think things are so simple and rosy.

Me: I don't know sir, but that's what they told me in "Induction". If u work hard here...(sab induction pe dal diya..had no choice)

P2: So u think L&T is managed professionally in a better way?

Me: Without getting into comparison, i think yes it is sir...

P1: So setu what do you actually do.

Me: told.

P1: See what you told does not make much sense to me....tell me have you heard of torrent ?

Me: Mam 😊 torrent , i heard of power, i don't know(...*the first thing that came to my mind was jagjit singh and torrent syrup* 😊)

P1: yeah tell me about Torrent Power.

Me: Sorry mam i don't know much. (Later learnt that Torrent, from thane supplies power to Ahmedabad.)

P1: oh you are not actually from mumbai right. are you?

Me: Yes mam. just been sometime.

P1: ok then tell me everything from the start as to how electricity is generated and how it is glowing this CFL. (All these 10 mins she was browsing through my file, i was wondering there was nothing so extra-ordinary, later I found out mam did the same for everyone)

Me: Mam based on the sources it can be thermal , hydro...

P1: I gave you thermal, now.

Me: 😊, mam the heat energy gen. will drive the turbine and

P1: How will it drive the turbine.

Me: Ma'am it gets heated up and hence higher pressure so when falls, turbine moves.

P1: But how?

Me: (scribbled something on paper) madam PV/T is constant ..hence p-> leads to T-> and vice versa.

P1: ok i assume this is so , now?

Me: step up step down...

P1: hey where is generator?

Me: yes madam explained something..

P1: will have to assume that too?

Me: No madam, explained this time ..

P1: ok but why do they step up step down why not supply directly

Me: told, need to step up, less losses.

P2: but why step down, supply the same.

Me: power loss= v^2/r ...so more heat will be generated, resistance will melt away at such a high voltage.

P1: I have noticed all the voltage levels are this strange multiple of 110, why so?

Me: Sir , i searched for it on internet, there was no single reason but the most common one was related to experiment of Edison. He needed 100 v, assumed losses and hence 110, alter ac and transformer ...

P1: who was Edison?

Me: Sir He is said to have invented or patented 80 or so products including DC generator. system and gramophone,,,er i am sorry it was not gramophone. (i knew all the time i am missing something) Sir Nikola Tesla discovered AC gen System.. **just to add an extra fact, how can i miss bulb **

P2: and He founded a company ?

Me: yes mam, GE, General electric.

P2: why don't we transfer DC, why AC?.

Me: More losses

P2: why?

Me: Mam it can be done for 100-200 m, but not for long distances..*(could not think of the most simple question.)*

P2: Ok how do you step up DC?

Me: Ma'am chopper(OMG!! she gave me an hint, still i didn't catch the earlier question).

P2: It will chop off , and hence can be used for step down, how step up..

Me: I don't recollect madam.

P1: ok what are your hobbies.

Me: Sir I like reading....

*(*No questions *)*

Me: and i like playing badminton and watching docus.

P2: which one?

Me: Sir the last one being Story of India by Michael woods, Download-the story of internet.....birth of Israel-Palestine.

P2: a guy of Hamas was killed recently, what was his name?

Me: don't remember his name sir, told whole story and at last said he was shot.

P2: Are you sure, may be you need to revisit those sections.

Me: Sir I have not watched, I think i have read it somewhere.

(I was wrong, I checked it later)

P1: Tofees.

Took and thanked them.

Came out it was around 10:00, it lasted 20 mins(approx.)

..went TANSTAFL...just roamed around the campus with 2-3 guys, you know it feels amazing, even more than what it seems in pic(*read wallpaper*)

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of: [Nickrox](#)

Sorry for posting my experience so late; it was such an arduous one that didn't feel like doing it....but maybe it'll prove useful to someone; at least for laughs

Hotel Kenilworth, Kolkata, 22/3/10, 9 AM

X: 93.3% ICSE

XII: 96.4% ISC

B.Tech (Chemical Engg), IIT Kharagpur; CGPA: 8.86/10 (Ranked 3/55 at time of CAT)

Percentile:

QA 99.24

DI 99.72

VA 98.7

OA 99.92

Extra-acads: Nothing much. Few quizzes at school and some inter hostel events

Any other special thing abt u: 1 of 4 people recruited by HUL from all over India for its supply chain division this year.

Essay topic: Business houses should take greater social responsibility.

Time: 10 min

Performance: Decent...mentioned about Birlas, Tatas, Jamshedpur, CSR

Interview: My interview was the first of the day
2 profs (P1 and P2)

P1: So how are you feeling?

Me: A bit nervous

P1: *Kyu bhai...khaa thodi jaayenge hum log tumhe*

Me: *<just smiled>*

P1: So tell me about yourself

Me: Blah blah

P1: So have you been placed?

Me: Yes sir, in HUL

<next 15 min discussion was on this, even though i am yet to join>

P2: So tell me why is your salary so high...how do you justify that

Me: *<hadd hai company de rahi hai,aapka kya jata hai>* gave some arbit gyaan

P2: So what will your work be exactly?

Me: After training, I'll be joining supply chain division

P2: What's supply chain?

Me: 4 basic principles-source, plan, make, deliver....explained about them

P2: So what will your role be in all this....doesn't HUL already know where to buy raw materials from

Me: You are right sir, but if a new supplier comes up deciding whether to choose him

P2: *<not convinced>* Hmmm....so tell me what's the probability of a new supplier coming up in a year

Me: *< thought question was rhetorical>* Very low sir

P2: You're an engineer...don't talk in such vague terms. I want an exact figure!

Me: *<totally flabbergasted>* But sir....ill require a lot of data for that; no. of supplier presently used etc etc

P2: So that's your problem, not mine.....

Me: *<what the hell, who says IIMA interviews are feel good>* Tried making some guesses and calculating the probability...eventually gave it up and told the prof i can describe the procedure and variables involved

P2: No leave it....I wanted the value; *procedure mein kya hai*
so....how many factories does HUL have in India
Me: 39 *<finally something i knew, but not for long>*

P2: So describe the operations of an HUL factory.....
Me: *<arey o work ex nahi dekha kya form mein>* Sir i don't have much knowledge about the internal working of a factory

P2: But you're a chemical engineer right....you should know. Describe how soap is manufactured.
Me: Told him the raw material and reaction involved

P2: No that's not enough...describe the entire process involved
Me: Don't know

P2: *Khair chodo*...tell me how will your salary be linked to factory's production
Me: *<phir se salary!>* sir i think it would be a %age of the factory's profit

P2: And how would that profit be calculated?
Me: Total Sales value of final good produced minus cost incurred in production

P2: But wouldn't your salary be a component of the cost incurred....the equation you're stating would become implicit, impossible to solve
Me: *<kuch crack mara hai sir, ab kya bolu main>* yes sir...what you're saying is right...some other relation must exist between salary and factory production.

P1: So why do you think HUL hired you?
Me: Sir I feel that i have a good knowledge of chemical engineering

P1: Is that so...okay tell me what is a reaction?
Me: Defined a chemical reaction

P1: NO...when did I talk about chemicals, tell me about a general reaction
Me: *<hesitating>* Anything which happens as consequence of coming together of certain causes is a reaction

P1: So this conversation we're having is a reaction
Me: Yes sir...our meeting for this interview was the cause and effect is our conversation

P2: Okay tell me about a chemical reaction
Me: Sir for example hydrogen and oxygen...

P1: *<cuts me short>* No, no oxygen that's too simple...one of the components is nitrogen
P2: and the other is cadmium...now explain the reaction
Me: *<kya bigaada hai mainen aapka, nitrogen cadmium reaction kaun karwata hai>* confused cadmium with palladium....said adsorption will occur

P2: Okay....so how does it occur?
Me: Nitrogen molecules get trapped between cadmium molecules on surface

P1: Why do they get trapped....what's the reason?
Me: Sir the resulting product is more stable....tendency of nature to favor lower energy states...

P2: Okay so you're talking about chemical adsorption, do u know on increasing temperature adsorption will increase
Me: yes sir

P2: But the cadmium molecules will get heated up, shouldn't they vibrate faster and force nitrogen molecules out from surface
Me: Sir, you're raising temp of nitrogen, not cadmium

P2: But you aren't cooling cadmium either are you...when heated nitrogen comes in contact with cadmium won't its temp will rise as well?
Me: *<Again, kuch crack mara hai sir>* Blabbered something random

P1: *<Now looking at my form>* so you were district topper in class 12, currently 3rd in dept...do u have

certificates for these

Me: No sir...no certificates are given for these

P1: I can't believe what you've written is correct then

Me: Sir u can see my %age and GPA are very high

P1: No no...that won't do

Me: *<theek hai bhai, mat maano...just let me go>*

P2: *<gives me a graph and asks what it is - It was a langmuir isotherm from catalysis, but i didn't remember>*

Me: Sir I'm not sure...

P2: *<tells me what the graph is>* okay i want you to give me a mathematical representation for the graph *<by now my brain had stopped working, made some feeble attempts, but was told that they're incorrect....actually the graph was $(A*x)/(1 + B*x)>$*

P2: Okay what do you like in chemical engineering

Me: Sir fluid flow

P2: So what all have you learnt in the course

Me: talked about losses in pipes, laminar/ turbulent flow etc

P2: Okay i have a question which has long bothered me...maybe u can help me out?

Me: *<very unlikely, but i can't say no can I>*

P2: When u travel by local train...you must have felt that the air always seems to be coming in, near all the doors and windows. So my question is if air is continuously entering the compartment why doesn't it explode

Me: *<kaise aadmi hai bhai ye prof>* Sir u don't feel the air leaving but it must go out as well through windows and doors

P2: No, I'm a smoker...I've smoked near the doors and windows...the smoke never goes out; it always appears to come in; there must be some other explanation

Me: *<now how to counter that>* said nothing

P2: And even if you consider pressure difference, air inside train is at higher velocity than outside air, so its pressure would be lower. Hence gradient would always exist for air to come inside

Me: *<jahapanah, tussi great ho; i don't think itna funda mere department profs ko bhi hoga>*

P1: You don't have many extra acads, generally people from kharagpur are very good in extra currics

Me: No sir I've participated in quite a few inter hostel events

P1: Hmmm...and what else do you like...reading books?

Me: *<hoping that i can score some brownie points finally>* Yes sir I'm a voracious reader

P1: Favourite book?

Me: Atlas shrugged

P2: When did you read that...in class 12?

Me: *<surprised>* No sir in my 2nd year...

P2: That late.....see when you say your hobby is reading books i expect something better than Atlas Shrugged

Me: *<hadd hai isme bhi maar li>* Started defending the book...

P1: *<cuts me short>* No no the interview has gone quite long, i think we're done. take a toffee and leave

Me: *<formality hai isliye bol raha hu>* thank u sir

Phew what an ordeal...later i found that the interview had gone on for 40 min! The only good thing that came of it was i knew things would only go uphill from here...isse bura kya hoga interview

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of: [Trichy](#)

Hello Puys.... I know I should have posted my IIMA Essay-PI experience much before. It was a kind of stress interview for me and was disappointed. After 5 years, 4 cats, 4 xats, 2 jmets, 3 fmss, 1 nmat and 1 gmat and nearly a 100 mockcats later the WIMWI dream has come true for me...But today I converted and realised that they were actually checking how I was reacting to the situation. I hope this proves really useful atleast for our juniors. Before putting my experience, let me thank pagalguy for all the support for the past 5 years:

My profile is as follows:

X:92.6(CBSE)
XII:90.8(CBSE)
BTech from NIT, Trichy. CGPA: 7.15

Work ex: 2.5 yrs in the Technology side of a MNC bank

I had an AIR of 201 in National Science Olympiad during my school days and was also involved in some CSR activities.

CAT'09:
Quant: 98.33
LR/DI: 97.19
Verbal: 96.50

Overall:99.34

I had my interview on April 4 2010 in Bangalore.

My essay topic was whether Chandrayan was money well spent or an unnecessary diversion of our country's resources.

Please note that I am no way related to Nashik.

Let the interviewers be P and me be M.

P: Tell me the meaning of your name.

M: Told

P: Do you know where is Nashik?

M: Yes Sir, maharashtra.

P: Which river flows through Nashik? How did nashik get its name?

M: I don't know Sir.

P: Connect Nashik, Haridwar, Ujjain and Allahabad.

M: Kumbhhamela Sir.

P: Where was the recent Kumbhmela held?

M: I think Haridwar Sir.

P: Are you sure?

M: Swami Nityananda who was in the news recently was in Haridwar Sir. So I think it is Haridwar Sir.

P: So, you are from Electrical & Electronics Engineering right? Tell me how you can reduce Transmission and distribution losses? What is the formula for Transmission loss?

M: Told

P: Tell me the principle of operation of an Oil circuit breaker.

M: Told. But not very convincingly.

P: So where do you work?

M: Told

P: (They did not ask anything about my work ex. Continued with my acads) You have taken Sanskrit in

your Class X right? (*He had checked my marklist*). So how much of it do you still remember?

M: I do remember but not in touch.

P: What is the meaning of "XXX". (*I don't remember what the word is*)

M: I don't know Sir.

P: Ok. Then tell me what did you like in Sanskrit?

M: I liked Lakaras.

P: Tell me how many Lakaras are there?

M: I know 4 but I don't remember how many are there in total. But I think there are atleast 8.

P: Ok. What were your favourite subjects in EEE?

M: I liked Digital Sir.

P: Why do people generally like Digital over Analog?

M: Did not answer convincingly.

P: Ok tell me what is the formula for Fourier Transforms?

M: Told

P: What is the formula for inverse fourier transforms?

M: I don't know Sir.

P: How do we use Fourier Transforms in reducing harmonics in digital circuits?

M: I don't know sir. (In retrospect, I think since harmonics are of high frequencies and fourier transformation is used for Time:frequency domain conversion, we can easily isolate harmonics. I am not sure though about this answer)

P: You should be knowing this. This is used in LCD TVs.

M: Yes, Sir.

P: What was your final year project about? And what was your contribution?

M: Told.

P: Did you implement it? And did you use any software?

M: Yes Sir. MATLAB.

P: What was the full form of MATLAB.

M: I am not sure. Sir. But I think it is Mathamatical laboratory.

P: Are u sure? Don't guess.

M: I am not sure Sir. (Actually, it is Matrix Laboratories, I think)

P: What is a Lathe?

M: (*Should have answered it is a cutting tool and that it was not a part of EEE.*) It was not a part of EEE syllabus

P: Engineering is not an isolated field. You should have an idea about other subjects also.

M: Yes Sir.

P: What other subjects do you like in EEE?

M: Electrical Machines.

P: What is an impeller?

M: I don't know Sir. (It is actually a mechanical thing. Not taught in EEE).

P: Ok we are done. You can leave.

M: Thank you Sir(to both)

I came out disappointed that they did not ask anything about my hobbies and work experience. I had a head ache for the rest of the day.

The interview lasted 15 mins. They did not smile throughout the interview. But I think holding my nerves and smiling along with my Class X and XII performances + college brand name + work experience did the trick which convinced them to give me the admit.

Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore

Interview experiences during the admission seasons between 2005 and 2010

IIM Bangalore - Year 2005

Interview experience of: [PaGuy](#)

Was in the same panel as khotahimachali at IHM Dadar, Mumbai. My background: Dual Degree Microelectronics. Good Acads. Good Percentile. 6 months workex in elec company. 1 month in a consultancy. Will follow the same standards as khotahimachali. OP, EOP and Moi. OP takes me into the room.

OP: So you must be tired of waiting (I was the 5th one in the group).

Moi: Not really sir.

OP: Oh.. not yet?

OP (to EOP): we'll ensure he's tired by the time he leaves this room (followed by an evil laughter).

EOP: So you are in fourth year of engineering.

Moi (stumped) (I thought one of my profs screwed up my recos and wrote so)): No sir.

EOP: Then why haven't you written your 4th year scores? Or were they not good? Oh my God.. you've done 2 years of postgraduation? (This guy is totally confused).

OP (Before I could realise what was happening): He must have done BSc na.. These days they have 3 years engineering BSC. (I was totally confused by now. First I thought he was confusing BSc with BTech) Later realised that since I have done the dual degree and mentioned 3 year's percentages in BTEch hence the confusion.

Moi: Sir, I have completed my post graduation. I am currently working with blah blah.

OP: Ohh he's the same guy who couldn't even pronounce his company's name correctly during his introduction. So Mr. Saurabh how is blah blah related to Electrical engineering??

Moi: It is not sir. I was earlier working with bababa which was an electrical engineering company and I had 3 months at hand before I started my management course, so I decided that 3 months was too less a time to contribute substantially in an engineering company. I was approached by blah blah for a 3 month assignment which I am currently working on. (Didn't want them to talk about this anymore because this was all that we discussed during my C interview and I felt pathetic after it).

EOP: OK. You say you want to start this VLSI Design company. Do you even know what is required to start such a company?

Moi: Try to give him BS about people and ideas and knowledge.

EOP: Don't you think its a very technical line and you require lot of knowledge

Moi (Doesnt let him complete): Sir I have the basic tech knowledge and now I want to acquire business.

EOP: No. except for this people and stuff what else do you need.

Moi: Give him more of BS.

EOP: How will you design the chips? What will you use except your people ?

Moi: Sir we will use the tools to make chips.

EOP (He was looking for the word tools): Do you know what these tools are? (Basically he meant do you even know how much they cost. Realised that later).

Moi: Yes sir I have worked with a tool making company for 6 months and these these companies make tools. This company makes digital tools. This one analog and that one mixed signal.

EOP: So how will you get these tools?

Moi (C'mmon man you just have to think of buying them. The 4 companies will approach you on their ow. Gave him a quizzical look.

EOP: Who will give you the money to buy these tools?

Moi: Sirr probably some VC.

EOP: What is a VC?

Moi: Explains.

EOP: Can you name one indian VC?

Moi: Sir we can say that now Vinod Dham is a VC. In a way we can call him a VC (Am still not sure).

EOP: So are these any companies coming up in VLSI in India. Won't you be competing with them?

Moi: Sir there are many service companies coming up but I want to start a product company.

EOP: So there are no product companies?

Moi: Sir there are some good product companies coming up in the last 2-3 years like ABC, EFG, HIJ, KLM.

EOP: So won't you be competing with these companies for the VCs money? Tell me why should a VC give you money.

Moi: Sir he should be convinced about my idea.

EOP: Why should he be convinced? How will you convince him?

MOI: Give some BS about why I should be convinced about my idea and then I can convince anyone about it. and that I have 3-4 wonderful ideas and I am sure I can come up with many more in the future.

OP: No.. but why would the VC give you money?

Moi: Sir he needs to be convinced about the profitability.

OP: Exactly. profits.

OP: So what are you doing for blah blah?

Moi: Sir we are currently doing a project for Cadbury. We are doing strategic sourcing. My role in the project is sourcing for their MRO products.

OP: MRO? What is MRO?

Moi: maintenance, repair and Operations.

OP: So what is this sourcing.

Moi explains.

EOP: So can you tell me where you use tunnelling.

Moi (khotahimachali was talking about his train journeys outside and for a moment I thought they were talking about those train tunnels): Sir we use them in flash memories.

EOP: what? use tunneling?

Moi: Sir generally tunneling is considered a negative phenomenon. as in it is assumed to be harmful but these two....

EOP (interrupts): Please explain how it is harmful.

Moi tries to do that.

EOP interrupts: See how can something tunnel? What is this tunneling.

Moi explains what is tunneling. (I was going very fast as this was one topic I was really sure about and was excited at being asked something to do with microelectronics for the 1st time in 4 interviews).

EOP: Do you even know what you are saying. Probably you've got it all wrong.

Moi: Sir I am fairly sure about this topic. I will try and go slow and explain it to you.

EOP: No need to go slow. Your problem is you talk about chapter 1 and then about chapter 21.

Moi: Sir we need to learn the concept of uncertainty principle and quantum mechanical wave mechanics to understand tunneling.

EOP: Ohh you are confused between energy levels and valance levels and .. (it was very clear he had heard someone use these words and was just throwing them at me).

Moi: Explained tunneling to him but am sure he didnt get anything.

OP: So you are working for Cadbury in Bangalore?

Moi: No sir. I am working in Mumbai.

OP: Then how come your address is of Bangalore?

Moi: Sir that is my brother's address.

OP: He's working there?

Moi asked him to repeat

EOP: Is he older to you?

Moi nods.

EOP: What company is he working for?

Moi: Sir he has done his MBA from INSEAD and is currently working as marketing manager for blahblahblah. (I thot the next question would be why don't you do it from abroad as well).

EOP: Ok. Assume I am a VC. Now convince me that I should give you money.

Moi: A little confused and trying to gather my thoughts: Sir I would try to convince you about my product which I has presented at IIMA's business plan competition.

OP says.. we dont care.. you just convince this big VC who's got truck loads of money to give you the money.

Make a 3 minute presentation.

Moi made a presentation about the product saying it had huge market in india and abroad and why iut had a huge market.

OP: Saurabh you should give us numbers.

Moi: Sir I am totally convinced about the product. Its the numbers,, the revenue and market figures and how to market the product which I need to work on and which I intend to learn at IIMB.

OP: Ok, except for making plans, anything else you do?

Moi: Sir dramatics.

OP: Have you done any dramas.

Moi: Sir I have not performed any dramas professionally but I have performed in front of big audience. Gave him loads of stuff about my stories and scripts and stuff.

EOP,

OP: Thanks. Thanks.

Was really really satisfied with the interview. They tried to stress me once or twice but probably they chose just the wrong points to stress me out

Interview experience of: [shatadipsom](#)

Hi guys,

Had my GD/PI at 2.00PM at IIMB today. Reached by 1 without lunch! 😞 GD started exactly at 2.00PM.

My Profile:-

%tile - 99.1

Exp- 1 year Infosys

Background - BE in CS with 69%

12th - 70%

10th - 80%

calls- IIMB

GD was a case exactly like the real case of dhanraj pillay with names changed. Coach of Indian Hockey team in dilemma. Flambouyant forward has attitude problems and fights with referees. World Cup ahead, team doesn't want him, but he can turn a match on his its head. what to do?

I started the GD by isolating the problem. GD was pretty cool. 6 of us there ample time(in fact more than required) for everybody to speak. I came in with points, he needs mentoring, take him in the 16 squad, keep suitable replacements for worst case blah blah blah...I was satisfied with my performance.

By the end of it giant 'chuhas' started jumping in my stomach. So I asked the panel, "sir can I go and have lunch. I am 6th in the interview." They readily allowed. Had egg puff and bananas and came back within 10 mins(a banana in hand!)

Interview:-

Panel- Two cool profs, aged, one was some Ojha(O) and the other don't remember(DN) and Me(M)

O: So what happend to ur lunch?

M: Sir I had it in the nearby canteen alongside the library.

O: So you are a computer engineer?

M: Yes sir(no acads plzzzzzzzz 😊)

O: Ok so u work for Infosys?

M: Yes sir.(Oh! sigh of relief)

O: u have also worked for err...CLI whats this??

M: Sir CLI3L it is a call center a joint venture between ITC Infotech and Cleint Logic.

O: Compare the two companies.(naheeeeeee)

M: (slightly stumped) sir ITC had diversified businesses...client logic is one of the biggest BPO companies, sir I worked there for a very short period so I didn't get to know much about the company.

DN - he has worked there for only a month(thanks good samaritan)

O: Ok tell me about Infosys.

M: Sir infosys is a great blah blah.....consulting....blah blah.....steve ballmer.....blah blah.....non hierarchical.....blah blah blah.....

O: what Infosys is doing seems to be your long term goal.

M: yes sir, it was my goal previously too, but infosys going into consulting and giving end to business solutions has strengthened my belief.

DN: Ok what is this Finacle....CRM...u work on?

O: sir I wil distribute this into two parts....Finacle as a product and CRM as a philosophy...blah blah...sales force automation, blah blah blah.....

DN: How do u do your work?(now what does that mean)

O: could u be a bit more specific sir?

DN: tell me more about the product the market, rivals etc.

O: more gyaan.....blah blah....ICICI.....flex cube, siebel, blah blah blah....

DN: so ur happy with your work?

M: yes sir.

DN: so why MBA?

M: blah blah(off! I am tired of this one!)

O: why IIMB?(here it comes)

M: infrastructure, student exchange, electives, campus in 2 days, blah blah....and honestly sir this is the only institute that has given me a call!

(smiles all around)

DN: you were in jabalpur, then kolkata, then bangalore, can't get it.

M: sir i was born blah blah...

DN: tell us something about Jabalpur.

M: told. and sir one more thing that it is a small place but percentage of good students making it to good colleges and jobs is great.

DN: there are less distractions it seems. (smiles) how many jabalpurians have u found in infy?

M: 5 or 6 sir.

O: Mr som it seems ur quite active in extra curriculars music, poetry, chess, cricket hmmm.....(at last 😊)

M: sir I have always believed that a person should strive for multidimensional development rather than being monotonous so these are not only my hobbies they r more than that, they are passions they are a part of my self.

O: Oh! so tell me about your music.

M: sir I have a diploma in rabindra sangeet and I was the part of a music band for 6 years as the lead male singer.

DN: hmmm.....rabindra sangeet. and your poems are you a revolutionary poet from bengal?

M: No sir I write generally on love and nature would you like to a couple of my works?

(I forward the file)

O: No No its Ok (as if it were a bomb!)

DN: and u have played and won a chess championship at the state level.

M: yes sir.

DN: hmmm....looks at O.

O: we are through Mr.Som

and both of them give ear to ear smiles.....that might mean two things.

1) aaja beta tera hi intezaar tha...tere bina IIMB doob jaega.

2) kitne bhi funde de bacche tere ko nahin lenge! khush hota rah tu...

Can't understand what to make of it...interviews were so cool almost all had decent interviews. But I am happy that it is finally over and I did my best with the single call I had. Rest as sidhu says "nothing happens until the fat lady smiles"!

IIM Bangalore - Year 2006

Interview experience of: [Keviv](#)

Hi all,
 here is my experience with IIMB.
 Date: 22nd March
 Time: 9:00 AM
 Venue: Mumbai
 Panel: 3 (Though there were only two panels on that day)

Profile:

Background: fresher, B.Tech ICT (DA-IICT, Gandhinagar)
 %ile: 99.97
 Calls: BLACKI (done with AKLC)

Case study:

Only 6 people in the group. 1 lady. Anandv and awr also in the group. Vinz was with another panel. The room was very small and so I felt like really sitting in a group for some dinner table discussion. We were given the instructions: 10 mins to think, 15 mins to discuss, 15 mins to write the summary. Summary to be written in running English, with complete sentences, not in points.

Title of the case was "six of spade or pass" which made no sense to me. The case was about an oil company with a name IVL similar to ONGC videsh. The manager KK had a \$3 bn bid proposal on his table for an oilfield in Ecuador. The manager was worried about a Chinese competitor CNOC because it had outbided IVL in past several bids, of which two examples were given in the case. KK felt that CNOC was banking on a rise in oil prices in the future for its not-so-competitive bids to work out. But since last two years CNOC was heavily in the red. In the last bid which was for some \$500 mn, CNOC had approached IVL for a JV. KK was now wondering whether CNOC would do the same this time too? Or would it bid separately. We had to discuss about his plan of action.

Because there were only 6 people, everyone had enough chance to speak. We had a good discussion, with some repetitions indeed. There was one person who did lot of one-to-one discussion. But all in all, very peaceful and civilised and almost all possible aspects of the case were brought up and discussed.

PI:

I was the first person to be interviewed.

Two panellists. They had introduced themselves before the GD began but I forgot their names.

P1,

P2: interviewers

me: yours truly

P1: So, you are studying.

Me: Yes sir. Final year engineering.

P2: briefly describe yourself

me: Answered. Told them about my interest in reading.

P2: So what do you prefer to read?

Me: I prefer biographies/autobiographies.

P2: Which biographies you have read?

Me: Told

P2: Any particular book that inspired you?

Me: yes. Iacocca's and gave my reasons for that.

P2: Any Indian personality who has inspired you?

Me: Gandhi. I was fascinated by his will power. That is something I would like to have in myself.

P2: So you aren't strong mentally?

Me: No sir. I am very strong. But the level of will power that Gandhi exhibited was different altogether. I would like to achieve that level.

P1: what is this controversy about Google earth

me: Told

P1: Who would need sensitive information about our country?

Me: Terrorists blah.

P1: Why did then Google develop such a thing?

Me: Students of geography. Teaching in schools. Traveller's blah. Every technology has good and bad uses...
P2 is back

P2: If you were the security advisor of India, how would you analyse the problem.

Me: A very brief answer.

P2: So simple?? Ok, what do you think should Google do?

Me: Should agree to India's request.

P2: But you being a techie must know that technology cannot be restricted. If not Google, someone else would do that.

Me: Agreed Sir. But Google has the technological and financial soundness and also has an immense reach in masses. So software developed by Google would be better and more accessible to people which would mean an easy option for unscrupulous people. n the other hand, if some secret agency tries to develop similar thing, it wouldn't be as good as Google earth and would also not be available to so many people. So Google should be more responsible.

P2 signals P1 to take over.

I had a project with Reliance Digital world in the area of GIS (Geographical Information System). I had mentioned it in the form in the part time training/work-ex section. It was a pretty interesting project and I was expecting that there would be some questions on it. And there were indeed. P2 and P1 asked me several questions about the project, software's used, outcomes, utility etc. I am happy at least in some interview, this project came up for discussion.

P1: SO vivek, why MBA?

Me: Told.

P1: Why not M.tech?

Me: My reasons.

P1: 5 years down the line?

Me: Gyan

P2 also chips in.

P2: Why not your own company? It takes hardly anything to start an IT company?

Me: Not prepared for this thing. Do not have sufficient knowledge.

P2: So you are risk averse?

Me: Nope. I take risks but only calculated risks. I feel starting a company at this stage would be a blind risk.

P2: But Gujarati have entrepreneurship in blood. Take Dhirubhai Ambani. Did he have any experience when he started on his own? Why not you? (Me a gujju). Has the college education spoilt you? (Laughs)

Me: Attempt to justify myself. Said that I do a thing only after I feel that I am completely prepared for it.

P1: So, you think you are prepared for an MBA now.

Me: Yes sir. I am as good as any other candidate.

P2: vivek you told that you are from a very small town (in my introduction I said that). SO what is difference you felt in yourself now that you are living in a big city?

Me; competitiveness at the college. Resources at my disposal etc. Told them that only after I was out of such a small place which did not even have a library that I discovered my love for reading and in the past 3 years ended up reading lots of books.

P2: How do you find time for reading so many books? Isn't your college schedule hectic?

Me: Told something about being a fast learner.

P2: Didn't write IIT?

Me: Did. Couldn't clear mains.

P2: Why? Didn't go for coaching?

Me: brought in the small town thing once again. Lack of proper guidance. Gujarat board curriculum not comprehensive enough.

P2: How do you rate the students at your college?

P2: How do they admit students?

P2: Question about Placements and Reliance recruiting students.

P2: My placement

answered all the above questions.

P1: When does your engineering end?

Me: Told

P1: Any chance this might be delayed?

Me: Nope. We are autonomous. Our own schedule.

P1: Which university does award you degree?

Me: DA-IICT

P1: You haven't sent your mark sheets along with the form. (Were we supposed to?)Give them now. Give them.

P1: Any questions you would like to ask us?

Me: yes sir. I had one. Now after the GD, I have two.

P2; Go ahead.

Me; if you don't mind sir, what did the title of the GD mean?

P2: Laughs. You find that out. It's an assignment for you. When you come to Bangalore (hey, hey what was that??), tell us the answer.

I too laugh and then ask my second question to which P1 gives me a detailed answer. And then thank you.

This was it. 25 minutes. Completely HR interview. Though I fumbled big time in that why MBA part, all other things were fine.

No acads. Are yaar, koi to acads puchh lo. I prefer that! At least, I can say don't know. In these HR interviews, there are no don't know questions!

Interview experience of: [Babooshka](#)

Venue - M Block(room M14)

Date - 31/03/06-0900 hours

Panel - P1(bearded, long hair, smoked a lot, spoke accent less English...the BBC types and looked like...well, will come to that later) and P2 (youngish, light accent, sardonic grin always in place).

GD: - Case study abt director of Ed insti wondering who among 2 Profs is to be the next Dean. P2 gave the instructions.

1) 10 min to digest case let contents

2) 15 min to discuss - No fish

3) 10 min to summarise. Summary and not your viewpoint.

4) No sms lingo in summary. Should have 6 letters.

5) No bullet points. This is no ppt.

6) Keep the paraphernalia(files) down unless you want to refer to them in the GD.

GD started with 2 Ppl starting together and keeping at it. In the first min we had a mild fish in hand.P1 who was watching stepped in to warn we were not listening to each other. Duel chastened we settled in for a decent GD. Towards the end, P2 stepped in to ask-"so what should the prof do?" Group guided itself to a solution.

Put in decent participation. Coming in whenever I wanted. Thecky thought was the star.

Summary went off w/o any major incident though my handwriting was illegible to say the least.

Came out and chatted with Thecky and Opiate. Had rasna and hogged krackjack offered.

Was the only non engineer in group of 6. 3 Ppl with workex of more than 18 months.

PI - Third in order and went in after Thecky. Thecky and the guy b4 he came out mouthing the word "stress" I am B (bakar).

P2: Why MBA?

B: Current job description. How MBA will help me get exposure/expertise to achieve my future goal.

P2: You have said Ur goal is to b the CFO of an Indian MNC. Care to explain Indian MNC.

B: Flashback as to Indian MNC.Also agreed it is very difficult these days to categorise any company wrt any country.

P2: Name any Indian MNC. Infy?

B: As of now, Yes.

P2: Think you can make a difference in Infy?

B: No. Reason - Infy already has its share of CAs, Engineers and MBAs, Dfficult for me to distinguish myself.

P2: Where do you think you can make a difference...KVIC...which is actually bigger than Infy?

B: Can achieve what I want, in a new company ...also in manufacturing company. Some gyan here.

P1 steps in here

P1: What's unique abt Infy's accounting? They have many firsts to their credit.

B: Have not studied their accounting practices, but is it human resource accounting.

P1: Nope

B: First company to report in US Gaap.

P1: Any other firsts?

B: Dunno :(

P1: They were the first to go in for quarterly results/disclosure. Is it required under US Gaap?

B: Dunno. But required under SEBI norms.

P1: How many standards under US Gaap.

B: Dunno. :(

P1: With your goal, u r supposed to know.

B: Yes, but I have no exposure to it.

P2:How many Indian companies complying with US Gaap?

B:Depends on the number of Indian companies that are listed in the US.

P2:Gimme a number.

B:20-30. But I am guessing here.

P1: Who is the CFO of Infy.

B: Mr.Mohandas Pai.

P1: He is well appreciated, isn't he?

B: Yes, was featured in the latest edition of Business Today as one of the most admired CFOs.

P1: What is Balance sheet.

B: Told

P1: Asset?

B: Told

P1: Liability?

B: Told

P1: Opportunity Cost?

B: Replied with example

P1: Another example?

B: Told.

P1: So where is Bakhra Nangal?

B: Punjab, on Satluj.

P1: Any other speciality?

B: Nehru called it one of the temples of modern India (dunno from where I got that)

P2: He referred to industries, didn't he?

B: Referred to dams and industries.

P1: Any other speciality?

B: Built with Russian help.

P1: What abt Bokaro plant?

B: Also built with Russian help.

P1: Capital of Turkmenistan.

B: Ashkabad (mispronounced it terribly)

P1: Wrong.

B: Okie

P2:Where are Ajanta and Ellora?

B:Maharashtra.

P2: M'Rashtra is a big place. Where in M'Rashtra?

B: Guessing. Coastal. Northern part.

P2: Eyebrows raised.

P2: Any 3 states in American midwest?

B: Haven't been there...guessing...Milwaukee, Nevada.

P2: Nevada?

B: Guessing.

P2: Any city in Nevada?

B: Las Vegas

P2: Where does Nile originate?

B: Lake Victoria

P1: What is privatisation?

B: Told

P1: What is divestment?

B: Told

P1: So what is the difference between privatisation and macroeconomic stabilisation??

B: Started off with privatisation.

P1: So, is privatisation = divestment?

B: Nope, divestment is a part of privatisation. Illustrated with examples of Modern Food, Balco and arbit.

P1: What was the consideration in case of Modern food?

B: Dunno.

P1: Don't you think divestment is just a ruse of the govt. to bridge the fiscal deficit?

B: Yes, It has been referred to as selling of the country's silverware.

P2: What kinda books do u read?

B: No specific likes. Recent reads include - Freakonomics, Straight from the gut, Snapshots from Hell, an Economics textbook etc.

P2: Do you badly want to get into IIMB?

B: I don't want to get into IIMB badly. Yes, I do want to get into IIMB very much.

P1: First time you taking cat?

B: Nope

P1: So is it second, third, fourth...

B: Second (...now...now ...what was that???? :)

P1: Why?

B: Work pressure. Come in at 8am and get out by 10pm.

P2: You wud be a disaster in HR.

B: Grin.

P2: Do you think it is ok to work so hard.

B: No issue at this age. Get to learn a lot.

P1: Your referees seem to have written a lot abt you in the weaknesses.

P1: Reads out stuff all of which points to my habit of overworking/overloading.

P1 and P2 look at each other

P2: Okie that's it.

B: Sir (to P1), can I ask a question?

P2: Yes?

B: Are you Sam Pitroda by any chance. Asking as there are bets outside that you are him.

P2: Nope.

P2 and P1 grin.

B: Thanks for the opportunity

stumble out (literally) after 20 minutes

Verdict - Honestly, no idea. At the end of it all, I came out feeling good which is surprising, given the number of "dunnos".

PS - Phew, have edited my post 5 times, as I keep remembering Q&As. No more edits.....

Interview experience of: [Yogesh Patwari](#)

The **Big BANG**-alore

Season ended for me with a **BANG** . Had my IIMB GD/PI today at 'The Kenilworth' at 2:00 PM.

My Profile:

Final yr B.Com from St.Xavier's College, Kolkata..

Part-I: 73.5% (overall)

XII: 86.2% (State Topper)

X: 87%

plus CA PE-II completed in May'05

PE-I: Rank 27

PE-II: Rank 39

CAT %ile = 99.45

BLACKI calls

+ves : No Geography, No History, No Stress

-ves : No gud questions at all... we just had a general-type discussion---> the kinda questions which don't have perfect answers and u r expected to throw in a lot of gyaan.:eh:

Result: Cannot evaluate performance... dunno if my wavelength matched with that of the profs...!!!

Panel Description:

One middle-aged, cordial prof (Prof1)

One young, smart prof with a laptop (Prof2)

Group Description:

There were 3 groups of 7 members each. In my group, one guy thought he wud rather miss the bus.. so 6 guys in my group.

GD: Not Good :huh:

Read:10 mins... Discuss:15 mins... Summarise:15 mins...

It was a case about '**BAT**'----> long-lost brother of 'CAT' . Well, it was about IIBs who conduct BAT for entrance into their colleges. A particular non-profit organisation with 25 employees is in charge of conducting the test, processing answers and generating score-cards. Prof Mani, in charge of this body, is in dilemma. He realises that the number of munna-bhais taking the test (B bole to Bio-medicine) is increasing at a healthy rate of 12%. This year 1 lakh applicants took the test. But upgradation of infrastructure required for meeting future demands... two options: small-scale, low-cost OR large-scale, high-cost with automation...? Crap case... had a decent discussion though. On an individual front, did not perform well..:lookroun: not many entries... non-descript performance.

Summarised well though... broke up into paras and wrote a decent summary... (the young prof was continuously typing something on his laptop thruout the GD... and, yes, told that our writing skills wud be tested in the summary)

Interview: Dunno

I was the second last guy to be interviewed.. everybody before me had cool intrvws.. Avg Duration: 20 mins..

(I don't remember the exact sequence of questions asked)

Enter, wish, sit...

Prof2 confirms my ranks and marks...

Prof1: You have pretty good score in 10th.. why took commerce, not science?

Me: Hailing from a business family, perhaps inclination towards commerce.. had Book-Keeping in 10th.. enjoyed accounting.

Prof1: Parental Pressure?

Me: No... decision was upto me.

Prof1: So, from early age...took ur own decisions...
I smiled.. {--->}

Prof1: Yogesh, how wud you rate the performance of the group in the GD as well as your own performance..
rate both on a scale of 1 to 10.

Me: (Oh, how I hate this question.... try to act smart) Sir, I think the group as a whole performed really well..

Prof1: No, no, first give me ratings.. then justify.. (Prof2 smiles at this)

Me: umm.. I think the group can be given a score of 8 on 10... told why.. As for me, it's really difficult for me to evaluate my own performance.

Prof1: In life, u have to do many difficult things...

Me: Okay, then 4-5 on 10... Told that I feel didn't do too well...

Prof1: What are the criteria for evaluation in a GD?

Me: (Only if I'd known that!!!)... Told had to evaluate both group and individual performance... for group-->
Content, group dynamics... for individuals---> Content, initiative and group behaviour.. Elaborated on this...

Prof: Put urself in our shoes... what wud u analyse first... group performance or individual performance...

Me: (Oh man, where is this leading...eh: if I were in ur shoes, I wud admit myself!!) Sir, I believe that individual performance is a function of group performance... xplained...

Prof2: Isn't it the other way round?

Me: Sir, individuals may score as regards content but group behaviour is more important...

Prof1: Can it happen that a particular group has a high score than another but a member of second group has higher score than a member of first group? (Gave me paper and said draw a model and explain)

Me: Told... Yes, Possible... explained with diagram.

Prof1: Can it happen that all members of second group get more than members of first group...

Me: As regards content... possible... but not in group behaviour.

Prof1: Think again...

Me: Sir, to me it seems unlikely... however, I'm not sure.

Then Prof2 asked me about not continuing with CA... Handled this well...

Prof1: Do you follow the stock market?

Me: No, sir.

Prof1: Follow general business trends?

Me: Read newspaper...

Prof2: White ones or Pink ones?

Me: (smiling) Sir, white ones... The Telegraph...

Prof2: You had a project in college on 'Call centres- HR Angle'---> what were Ur findings...

Me: Told... a few follow-up questions on attrition, our group recommedations etc... Handled perfectly well.
As a matter of fact, wanted to talk on this in all my intrvws (as it's something unique for commerce undergrads) but was quizzed only in IIMI earlier on this...that too not directly on the project... felt satisfied.:satisfie:

Prof1: How do you analyse a company's financial position?

Me: (It was a very broad question... thought 'ab to poora interview isipe hoga') Gave a very general answer by highlighting different points of view for analysis...gave so many enticements to grill me on.. Thought wud be asked to go in details... but Profs did not delve into this..: dontgeti:

Prof2: What are Ur career goals? Do you have any idea about the type of companies that come for recruitment at IIMB...?

Me: Yes, told... considering my background I wud like to get into a financial services company... Then I talked about my objectives... mentioned want to do something for society... this caught Prof1's attention.

Prof1: What way can you do something for society? : Dontgeti:

Me: Talked abt adopting villages... told had read an article on same... CSR...

Prof1: Isn't that the duty of the Govt?

Me: Yes, but we need to do our bit too...

Prof1: Why wud employees want to do this?

Me: Co. wud pay them as they pay any other employee... a separate deptt. Can be formed for this... elaborated...

Prof1: Wouldn't it be better if we have a central agency for rural upliftment and corporate donate funds...

Me: Talked abt how donations made now too... but corruption, long bureaucratic channel... the money is embezzled... no benefit reached to those for whom it is meant...need for proper implementation. Co. shud actively try to help...

Prof1: Extra burden for Co? No competence in this regard...

Me: Can recruit competent people... not much burden for big corporate...

Prof1: Ideally, Co. shud donate funds and monitoritss use...

Me: True, but not done so now... I feel active participation by cos wud give better results.

That's it.

Interview experience of: [Shrutz](#)

Yes, I know there's no use of me posting my IIMB experience... because, well, IIMB PIs are over. Nevertheless, for all those who follow in our footsteps and wondered "Hmm, wonder how IIMB PI treated Shrutz?" (Hoping there will be some!), here's my misadventure chronicled in great detail. Yeah, this is Shrutz in IIM-B. Hang on to your seats, people, this is a wild ride!

Yeah, I hope you fellas know the yada-yadas.

Profile

A poor little fresher from College of Engineering, Trivandrum doing her 4th year Applied Electronics & **Instrumentation**. (You will see why)

Marks up to S6: 84.42%

Xth: 87.6% (438/500) CBSE

XIIth: 95% (475/500) CBSE

What other info did I put in the Sop Hmm.. Family background, hobbies (unusual by the violin thing I keep getting asked on), extra-currics

good organisational thingies (yeah, that's how I speak, thanks for asking), strong co-currics, good acad record.

Why MBA? Same old' crap Oh come ON, aren't I just a fresher?

I got there bright and early for a 2 o'clock GD on 4th April at 12:30 pm and flashed my customary 29 teeth (too much info, do we ask? Our panel had 5 people, because one guy decided to skip the Gee-Dee, Pee-Eye process at Bee.

GD was a case study. Went on these lines.

The case was about the '**BAT**', the Biomedical Aptitude Test, conducted by the 10 IIBs *ahem* for admission into their institutes. A not-for-profit organisation called the **BES** with 25 employees is in charge of conducting the test, processing applications and generating score-cards. The integrity of the test depends upon these staff. This year the test had 1 lakh takers and for the past 3 years the numbers have been increasing at 12% per annum. Prof Mani, in charge of this body, is in a dilemma. Without up gradation of the facilities, the test will be impossible to conduct. So, he has 2 options in front of him...

1) A 15 lakh low technology upgrade that will be easy to get approved by the Board of Directors of the IIBs, will enable him to keep the staff with a little training, be able to process 2 lakh applications.

2) A 1 crore technology-specific upgrade that will cut the staff to 5, enable the BES to process 3 lakh applications, pay itself off in the way of salaries by 4 years, but well, is expensive.

Anyway, a rather self-evident case, nevertheless, we had to discuss it.

I began the GD (well, a very chivalrous guy let me)

everyone let the others speak and well too... Do the maths, 15 minutes and 5 people. We had periods of silence in the middle when everyone was staring at the paper with nothing to say. Repetition of points was rampant and we couldn't conclude satisfactorily.

Not a very good GD, I summarised okay.

I was last into the GD, so the two panellists grinned at me after informing us that the PIs would be in order and would be around 20 minutes each, so if we wanted to go out and refresh ourselves, we could. They added (to me) "You're going to have the benefit of most of the information. You're the lucky one."

I could only weakly grin back.

PI Experience...

It was around 5, when I was called in. The person in front of me was the only other fresher and was asked about npn & pnp transistors, and I was explaining about it very enthusiastically when the two panellists left for a refresher and told me to wait (again with a wide smile)

After 5 minutes, they came back and went into the room, M13, without a word. Sometime later, the lady popped her head out the door and motioned me, the poor little sacrificial lamb...

Well then, I got in.

I had scarcely taken 2 steps in when the gentleman Moorthy (GM) said "So, Susan, I hope you talked to all of them."

"Good evening sir, yes I did." I nearly sat down before I remembered and got up.

He looked up and asked me to sit. Meanwhile the Lady Moorthy (LM) also sat down.

With a grin he asked me, "So, what questions do you expect here?"

"Hum, sir nothing really." I was trying hard to evade the question.

"Oh, come on Susan, you've talked to the people in front. What did they say?"

"Well, sir the person who came in front of me had a similar background. You asked him acads. To the others, you asked general questions."

"Okay, so what do you expect?"

I smiled.

"Susan, you have to expect something!"

I decided to be slightly flippant. "Well sir, if I did tell you what I expected, you wouldn't ask me those questions. That would imply what happened here would **not** be what I expected anyway."

He smiled and nodded his head yes. "Anyway, tell us what you expect!"

If that's what he wanted so badly, I'd give it to him. "Okay, sir. Acads"

"What in acads?"

"Hum, Electronics."

"What in electronics?"

(Why does this feel like a kiddie-game?)

"Circuits?" I shrugged.

"What in that?"

"Digital Electronics."

"What in Digital?"

"Sir. Generally Digital Electronics"

"Come on, I can't ask you generally anything or the definition. You have to tell me something specific"

"Well sir, digital circuits, say counters, gates that sort of thing"

He smiled (GAH) and said "Okay, Susan. So tell me...."

LONG PAUSE PURPOSELY INSERTED TO LET YOU KNOW HOW BUGGED I GOT AFTER THIS

"...What is Instrumentation?"

I must have looked like one of the most surprised girls this side of the Nilgiris. "Okay, sir. Well, Instrumentation is a branch of engineering that deals with measurements and measuring instruments, control systems. We have subjects like Transducers, Sensor Systems, Digital Instrumentation Techniques..."

"Okay, tell me what are the requisites of a good instrument?"

I blabbered the usual.

"No, that's with respect to the gauge. I want a basic detail."

I talked about hysteresis, creep et al.

"Have you heard of the principle that a measuring instrument shouldn't interfere with the measure quantity"

Realisation dawned, too late. "Yes sir."

"Can you give me an example?"

I gave him one about a voltmeter.

"No, that's a text-bookish example. Give me a practical one."

I looked up, thought hard and shook my head.

"Okay, you talked about calibration. What is that?"

"Well, sir, standardisation of an instrument is called calibration. There are 2 kinds of calibrations and 3 kinds of instruments..." I went on to explain the different kinds. (Don't wince; Instrumentation is the least favourite of my subjects...)

He looked satisfied and grinned again. By now, I was wise to his smiles & wiles. "If I calibrate an instrument, is it for life?"

"Nossir, you might need to recalibrate owing to aging of components or the creep, stress and strain effects."

"Okay. So, how do you judge which of two instruments is better after a while."

"Sir, assuming they are similar and calibrated the same, the one that shows the least aging and debilitating effects."

"Are all scales linear?"

"No sir, they can be linear or non-linear depending on measuring quantity and measurand. For example, when you are measuring pressure with displacement."

"When are they non-linear?"

"Sir, when the characteristics are non linear or over a large range."

"Give me an example."

"Sir, for a black body, wavelength radiated is proportional to the fourth power of temperature. This is a non-linear measurement."

"Is the scale non-linear?"

"Sir, we can make the scale linear"

"Is this done by the design engineer? How?"

"Sir, by manipulation of variables."

His eyebrows shot up. "WHAT? I am asking a professional, Susan."

Whoops! "Sir, what I meant is *processing* of variables."

He almost looked ready to laugh. "When does a designer make a scale non-linear?"

"Uhm, when the range to be measured is very large?"

"Okay, let me give you an example. Have you seen a speedometer?"

"Yes sir."

"You know how it works?"

"No sir" I grinned back.

"You have seen it surely. Is it linear or non-linear?"

"Linear, sir."

"When does a designer make it non-linear?"

"Well, sir, I guess it should be when the range is very large. For normal vehicles, the speed range is limited.

So, for vehicles like rockets and aeroplanes, it might be non-linear."

He didn't look convinced. "Okay, what's the average speed of a vehicle on Indian roads?"

Wow! From Design Engineer to Civil Engineer, I have gone places.

"I guess 45?"

"45 what?"

HUH? "45 kmph"

"What kind of vehicle is that? A two-wheeler, truck, what?"

"A normal car, sir."

He repeated that "A normal car...."

All of a sudden he shook off whatever he was thinking and smiled again. (Alarm bells rang out, the earth shook whatever!) "So, Susan"

I was almost tempted to remind him that my parents had named me something else; anyway, I let it slide...

"You said that Prof. Mani must make the decision *palatable* to the Board. What does that mean?"

(Hum, sir, they might have digestion problems worth a crore?) "Basically, sir, the 1 crore deals might be too much for the board to swallow in one go, so Mr. errs... Prof. Mani has to point out the advantages and disadvantages to the board."

He did **not** look convinced.

"Okay, tell me what are the criteria to be used by the board to judge the effectiveness of any decision?"

"Hum, with respect to the GD, sir?"

"Okay"

I talked about the pros and cons of each option and weighed them, and also didn't commit either way.

After he heard me out, he asked again, "So, what is the disadvantage of the second option?"

"Mainly the high initial investment."

"Susan, may I ask you a personal question. You may or may not answer it..."

"Sure, sir". I looked slightly startled, I am sure.

"You're going to do an MBA from an IIM, where the initial investment will be high; to the tune of 3 lakhs or so. So, will your parents say "That's too high, go for a job'?"

"No sir"

"Why not?"

"Sir, because it has a high return of investment"

"Very good. Now answer the question. What will the board look at? How can they be convinced?"

"Sir, the second option has a high return of investment, low payback period, more efficiency, and processing capacity."

"How can you **quantify** efficiency?"

"Sir, you want quantified results?"

He smiled and didn't say anything.

"Well, sir, we could look at processing cost per application. Pass the extra cost over to the application cost. Speed of processing for technology specific procedures."

"Okay, suppose you are running a hospital and want to buy a new X-ray machine. What are the criteria used to judge whether you need to buy one?"

I must have looked *very* confused, because he added, "Will the hospital administrator look at overall costs in the year or cost per X-ray?"

Well, my thought processes went that the hospital administrator needed to look at overall costs, since he needed an overall view, "The former, sir."

"Are you sure? What about patient welfare?"

Okay. That was seriously mean... "Yes sir."

"Now, what will the board look at?"

"Speed of processing."

"Susan, suppose you wrote the **CAT** and we gave you the results the same day. Not accurate results, just anyhow..."

"Sir, you need accurate results in the minimum amount of time."

"What about the staff?"

"With minimum amount of staff working to ensure integrity."

"How many staff would be employed with the 2 options?"

"25 for the first and 5 for the second."

"Which is the better option?"

sigh "The second, sir"

"Why didn't you say that before?"

I looked incredulous.

"Okay, suppose you do take the second option, how would you tackle the laid off staff?"

I opened my mouth to answer when he interrupted, "Someone suggested relocating them into other jobs in the IIBs."

"Sir that was my idea. Relocating them would stop them from striking."

"Yeah, maybe, but they might still be unhappy because they were taken from confidential jobs to normal boring administrative jobs..."

Hmm, how can we put this delicately...? "Okay, sir we have to look at relocation viz-a-viz a raise in salaries."

He laughed, "So, you're planning to pay them off?"

I reciprocated with the laugh, "Technically, yes sir."

He looked at the Lady Moorthy, who had been busy flipping through my form and recos till now. "Do you have any questions?"

She smiled as well. (ARGH!)

"Well, you're still in college. Are you placed?"

"Yes, ma'am."

She waited.

"Infosys & IBM-hardware"

"IBM Hardware?"

"Yes, ma'am. E&TS, in Bangalore, they're the hardware arm."

"So, why are you going for an MBA now?"

"Ma'am, in the IT sector or hardware jobs, we're told to think in a straight line, a linear fashion, with no deviation from the norm. I perform best while thinking creatively and problem solving."

She kept nodding like I was talking a lot of sense. I did **not** like the look of it.

"So, what kind of job would you like after an MBA?"

"Ma'am, I'd like to see where my talents lay after 2 years and decide and not decide in a hurry."

"But I am sure you know what companies come on campus."

I smiled and nodded my head.

"Tell me your dream company."

I was trying to avoid the question, because it would open a can of worms, so again I repeated the answer.

"Okay, a dream field?"

"Not really, ma'am."

"Where do you think your talents would be most utilised?"

I was quite tired of it, "Hum, Advertising, I guess."

She looked very literally SHOCKED. And I admit, I was biting my tongue then.

"Why?"

"Well, ma'am not the exact copy-writing, but an overall perspective. It'd be satisfying to my creative impulses. Anyway, any job that lets me do writing in my spare time (hah!) would be good!"

She almost laughed out loud. "You do know there are institutes that offer such degrees even an MBA?"

"Yes, ma'am"

"Which one?"

I sighed, "MICA"

They grinned sardonically at me.

"Did you apply?"

"No, ma'am"

"So why IIM?"

"Because they're the best!"

"You know such companies don't come here."

"Yes ma'am, but getting a job there wouldn't be hard."

"Name some advertising companies." She had delivered her ace.

"JWT..."

"HUH?"

"J Walter Thomson, Ogilvy India."

Now, I wanted to get out in a hurry!

GM looked at LM and asked, again with a grin, "Any questions, Susan?"

I shrugged and nodded my head first, then changed my mind, "When will the results be out, sir?"

I am sure they thought "As if that matters to YOU. Bahaha"

"Month-end."

"Thank you sir."

"Bye, Susan"

"Bye, sir, ma'am"

sigh

IIM Bangalore - Year 2007

Interview experience of: [Prahalad85](#)

Venue: IIMB Campus

Date: 26th Feb 2:30 PM

Panel: J Ramachandran (P1) and Sourav Mukherji (P2)

GD: total of 9 ppl... 7m 2f

it was a case study on a reputed college where a few parents complain against a maths prof on his sexual misconduct with students in a special class.. As a principal what actions u take so that the parents are taken into confidence and u don't spoil the career of maths prof (he is a genius, a lot of improvements after he came)

Good discussion with most people participating. Thought I did a decent job too.

PI:

Now for the interesting part

I was the first to be called in

2 Panellists say P1 and P2 and Me(M)

P2: So Prahalad, are u nervous?

M: No Sir

P2: shall I make u nervous

M: preferably not Sir

Both of them smiles

P2: so I can see that u hardly have any extracurricular activities? Was u this typical nerdy person who stuck only to books?

M: sir, I have participated in a variety of events.

P2: but u hasn't won...U don't have that killer instinct or the urge to win

M: no sir, its not that case. I have played club cricket and was a leg spinner.

P2: oh, should we have a leg spinner in our ODI team?

M: Yes sir. I feel there should be a leg spinner as it adds a great variation.

(Looks rather unhappy with that answered. Actually he kept giving me that look throughout the PI)

P2: but all leg spinners barring Shane Warne are mediocre and so are you...

M: reply that it can't be made such a generalized statement.

P1 and

P2: u are a perfect number 2.happy to see someone take all the credit and being the number 2, applauding him. We want leaders at IIMB .not people like you

M: I don't agree that I am a number 2 and tell him that I am a potential leader and have the necessary qualities.

P2: U work in data warehousing that again is a perfect number 2 job. Just helping out the client with the data and he hogs the limelight.

M: well that's the case with other IT jobs as well. We provide services for the client.Atleast my job offers me a scope for analyzing and interpreting data.

P1: u also seems to suggest that u want to be the CEO of a middle level organization. Again not the top

M: tell him that I will take over as CEO and bring it to the top.

P2: WATS Ur family background

M: father works for XXXXX.

P2: which group is it?

M: Amalgations

P2: how big is the group

M: name some companies in it

P2: compare with murugappa.

M: smaller

P2: compare Tata, Reliance, Amalgamations isn't it small now.

M: relatively small

P2: so tell me. Why are south Indians not ambitious enough?

M: don't agree to that.

P2: name some south Indian who has achieved top levels in any sphere

M: can I take sports?

P2: yes by all means

M: Vishwanathan Anand has achieved a great deal in the chess for India

P2: who is better-Anand or Tendulkar?

M: not possible to compare as they are unconnected sports. Unfortunate that Anand doesn't get due credit and recognition.

P1: Sachin is better-I tell u

M: sir, I am a great fan of sachin myself. But I can't say who is better.

P2: Immaterial what u think.50 million Indians think sachin is better.

P1: Anand has never been world number 1.see again u have the fascination only for the second, never the 1st.

M: say that though sachin is a great player and that I am his great fan too, there is no rating to prove that he is world number 1

P1: so y r all leg spinners so mediocre except Shane Warne

M: Sir, I feel Kumble is a really good bowler. Though he doesn't quite turn the ball he still is classified a leg spinner
they burst into laughter here

P2: kumble????There is no comparison between him and warne.Kumble is nowhere close to being a great bowler.

M: tell him that though Warne is a great bowler he did have the advantage of an excellent seam attack lead by McGrath, Lee and Gillespie to soften up the opposition. Kumble didn't have this luxury. So it isn't right to check the number of wickets picked by both and compare them on that.

P1: whats Ur take on Wal-Mart coming to India?

M: feel the India retail market has to mature a bit. And that the interests of small traders may be affected.
(Long discussion on this)

P1 and

P2: any questions Prahalad?

M: No sir,

P2: No??????So u has come unprepared for an interview?

M: Sir, I have come well prepared but have no questions to ask.

P1: do u know everything abt IIMB

M: No sir, but I hope I will get to know a lot more in the 2 years I spend studying here.

P2: what???Y shud I select u? What have u answered so that I select u?

U have accepted that u are mediocre and that u take emotional decisions rather than rational ones.

M: in the course of the interview I never said any of these things

P2 (smiling) I can infer them then

P1 and P2: thank you and all the very best

M: thank you sirs

So that was it. Quite a stressful interview and the panel kept making some weird faces as though to suggest they were just not happy with any of my answers. But the one good thing from my side is I didn't lose my cool or thought process and answered the questions as calmly as possible.

Verdict: Converted.

Interview experience of: [abhishek85born](#)

The following interview experience took place at about 4pm at Shangri La Hotel, New Delhi on 12th Feb...
 Couldn't post it earlier...

My profile:

Final Year, Electrical Engg, IIT Roorkee

CAT %iles: DI : 94.52; Verbal : 93.72; Quant : 99.84; Overall : 99.63

IIM Calls : B, L, I, K

CGPA : 8.53/10 (after 6 semesters)

Xth : 92.33% ICSE

XIith : 93.40% CBSE

Internship : Max Planck Institute of Plasma Physics, Germany (May-July 2006)

Case Study started at about 2.30 pm. 8 Ppl (6 guys, 2 gals)

Case - Gyani, a student among toppers, faculty thinks high of him, but his fellow mates think he uses unfair means.. Gyani has never been caught despite proper vigilance systems in institute's examination halls...

Institute has decided to give him the prestigious Gold Medal but recently, Gyani is caught cheating in placement papers. Chairman of Institute in dilemma what should he do, give the medal to Gyani or not?

10 mins to think, 15 to discuss, 15 to write summary (they emphasized that pls do write in a good hand-writing...). MOST peaceful case study I ever experienced, no one tried to cut other one in between.. I wanted to start but one female started with me and I backed out. I was second one to speak, spoke 5-6 times, gave decent points, and one suggestion was accepted by almost whole group.

My interview was scheduled to be 2nd in the grp...

Panel - 2 profs (1 teaches Organisational Behaviour @ IIMB, other teaches Corporate Strategy and Policies)

After checking on IIMB website, I found out their names -

Corporate Strategy prof : J Ramachandran (James BOND.. my interview wud substantiate this statement)

OB prof : Sourav Mukherji (No less..)

Referred to as - JR, SM from now onwards.

SM opens the door and invites me in. I enter, SM indicates me to take the seat...JR is having a look at the certificates and mark sheets (about 40+ of them in all, Xerox copies) which I had sent to IIMB along with my application.

JR: Abhishek, my God... you sent me so many certificates. My arms are still aching...

Me (faint smile): I wish I had even more Sir...

JR: So, you want my arms to break or what??

Me (ohh!): No Sir, but still...

SM: Abhishek you went to Germany, right?

Me: Yes sir.

SM: How many people went for internship to Germany?

Me: Sir, about 60-70 from all IITs.

SM: How do you know?

Me: Sir, actually we used to be in touch with each other through yahoo group and we had created a database. So, I know through it.

SM: And how many were there at your institute?

Me: Sir, I was the only one.

SM: So, that was something great... very few people got such an opportunity.

Me: Yes Sir. And I feel that those 3 months have given me the confidence to survive in any part of the world.

SM: Ok, what is Max Planck's contribution to society? (My internship was at Max Planck Institute of Plasma Physics)

Me: Sir, Max Planck institutes are a chain of research centres in Germany... (Interrupted)

SM: No, asked about Max Planck's contribution...

Me (my mind-bulb glows: idea: Sir, Max Planck gave the Planck's constant which related energy of a particle with its frequency as wave nature...The relationship is given by $E = hv$...

SM: What else...

Me: It showed that every particle has a particle as well as a wave nature.

SM: But why was it such a breakthrough in Physics? Why was this discovery so important?

Me (Thinks, answers something...)

SM: Ok, if I say that as Abhishek entered the room, a wave entered the room. Would it be correct to say?

Me (thinks): Sir, I would say that as Abhishek entered the room, he did create waves around himself...

Both smile...

JR comes into picture.

JR: Those waves you had created earlier itself even before entering.

Me (faint smile): Sir, I meant the sound and air waves.

(SM says that let's leave that discussion about Max Planck... I bit serious...)

JR (gets up from his seat, at his ease): Why are your hands shaking Abhishek? (My hands were on the table)

Me (I see myself and my hands were not shaking as such. I wondered why he said so): No Sir.

SM: Abhishek, you are nervous and if you will be nervous, you won't be able to perform to your full potential and we won't get a chance to know Abhishek. So, just take relax yourself.

Me: No Sir, I am fine.

JR: Are you really fine? Abhishek... (A long pause from his side)

Me (now at this stage, my hands actually started shaking a bit: sad: I did realize that they are trying to test my nerves)

JR: Take a deep breath...be easy...

Me (I adjust me seat a bit, look down and take a couple of seconds to relax myself.): I am very fine Sir.

JR: Do you want something, water?

Me: No Sir, I am fine.

JR: tea, coffee?

Me: No Sir, I had tea in the waiting room earlier.

JR (standing at the back of his seat): Alcohol?

Me (what?? Now, I thought I too would enjoy the interview): No Sir that I'll have once I... (I stopped)

JR: Once you crack the interview?

Me: Sure Sir.

JR: Ok, which brands do you drink? Say any brand, we'll order it here itself...

Me (yeh ho kya raha hai!!): Sir, when I went to Germany, we went to a beer-hall in Munich. That beer-hall is famous for serving 110 years old traditional beer...

JR (smiles): So, from there you started drinking... how often do you drink?

(He also says to SM that 'peene ke baad toh everyone gets the confidence to survive anywhere! 'A sarcastic remark to what I had said earlier about Germany and confidence thing.)

Smiles all around.

Me: Sir, I take it veryyy occasionally...

JR (sarcastic laugh): Don't tell me... all these people from IIT Roorkee and side, I know how often they drink...

Me (seniors ne aisi kya image bana rakhi hai? wink): No Sir, I take it just once in a month or so, sometimes even once in 2 months.. actually, I have a group of 12-13 friends at IIT Roorkee and..(Interrupted)

JR: And all are big-time drunkards. That's what you wanted to say?

Me (huuu!): No Sir, I didn't mean that. 6-7 of them do take it bit regularly and they have a tendency to attract others too.

JR: So which category, do you fall into? Once who get attracted or ones who don't get attracted?

Me: Sir, once who don't get attracted... My friends know that he is a 'no nonsense' kind of a person who has his priorities clear and wouldn't follow them blindly. And it does happen at times that they feel bad, but then next morning, all is fine and they realize that he is right...

JR: Does your girlfriend want you to join IIMs?

Me (Is this an interview going on?): Yes Sir, absolutely.

JR: What is she doing?

Me: Sir, she is doing final year in computer science from...XXX

JR: What are her career plans?

Me (Why is he more interested to know her plans than mine?): She'll be going for job. She'll be joining ...XXX (company name)

JR: Where?

Me: Trivandrum.

JR: So, you want to come to Bangalore so that you rush to Trivandrum every weekend to meet her?

Me: No Sir, that's not the case.

(SM says to

JR: Trivandrum too is quite far from Bangalore...)

JR: What do you think of a life without romance? Do you think long-distance relationships work?

Me: Sir, I have been in this long-distance relationship for quite long and I have always seen my relationship as my strength. So, I think, I'll be able to manage it.

Me: Sir, few days back my girlfriend asked me a question - Abhishek, give me your priority sequence out of these 3 things - your career, computers and me.

Again both have a good laugh...

JR: Abhishek let me tell you 1 thing - either you dump your girlfriend or she'll surely dump you one day!!

Me (what!!): No Sir, it can't be...

JR (can't put his sarcastic face expression in words): That's a typical male chauvinistic attitude!

Me: No Sir...

JR: Doesn't your girlfriend think you to be so boring? I wonder why she is with you.

Me: I don't think that she sees me as boring. Rest, she must be knowing better why is she with me.

JR: What do you want to do after this MBA business?

SM asks another question on the same time.

SM: How much do you sleep?

Me: Sir, about 4 hours on weekdays...

SM: Just 4 hours? Is that much sleeping sufficient for you?

Me: Sir, I compensate for it on the weekends. And actually my sleeping timings got stretched once I joined IIT Roorkee. Initially, I used to sleep at 11-12 pm, and then it came onto 1-2...

SM: What time are your classes?

Me: Sir, 8 am mostly.

SM: Firstly, do you actually attend classes? (Smiles)

Me: Yes Sir, I do.

SM: What time do you get up?

Me: Sir, 7.15(actually, I get up at 7.45 for 8 am class!)

SM: If my Maths is not weak, 2 to 7, does it make 4 hours?

Me (hadd hai yaar): Sir, I meant to say that my timings have got stretched and now a days, I sleep in between 3 and 3.30 and so that way, it comes out to be 4 hours or so..

JR: At what time did you sleep in Germany?

Me: Sir, about 10 or 11 pm.

JR: And get up at?

Me: 7 am or so...

JR: So, average we take it 8 hours a day, right?

Me: Yes Sir.

JR: You were there for 3 months, so out of those 3 months; 1 month goes off in sleeping. Right?

Me (thinking): Hmm... Yes sir.

JR: And how many days I week, did you use to work?

Me: Sir 5 days... and Friday used to be half day...

JR: Yes, in Europe, it is like that... So, we assume that you worked 5 days a week. So calculate, how many days off?

Me (wondering that what kind of Maths he is applying? I realized that he wanted to show that the actual working time would come out to be very less): Sir, if we calculate this way, the actual working time would come out to be very less but it is the quality work that matters.

JR: So, in other words you mean to say that it was your team that actually worked on the project?

Me (how could he infer that?): Not at all Sir, in fact as I said there was no other intern at my institute, I worked on this project alone under the guidance of a computer scientist and my professor who had called me. (No counter questions on this further)

JR: What was the work about?

Me: tells in brief...

JR: How big is your family?

Me: Sir, just me, my parents and my younger brother.

JR: What does your father do?

Me: tells...

JR: mother?

Me: tells...

JR: and younger brother?

Me: He is studying in 11th in St. Columba's, the same school from where I passed out...

JR: Does he look up to you?

Me: Yes Sir. In fact, when I was in Germany, his class 10th board results were declared and he scored 96.5 % aggregate which is the highest in the history of that school...
Both seem kinda impressed.

JR: That's even more than yours. Do congratulate him from our side...

Me: Sure Sir.

SM: Ok, now that you would be entering a B-school, what do you know about the world of business? What all do you read?

Me: Sir, I try to keep in touch...

SM: By touch you mean The Times of India??

Me: Yes Sir, the Times of India...

SM (nods his head with that don't-tell-**Me:**Times-of-India look!!?? :): Ok, go ahead, tell what about business?

Me: Sir, Indian entrepreneurs which were not seen as 'sharks' till now are turning out to be sharks... (There was that big Birla-Novelis and Vodafone-Hutch news that day itself)

JR (smiles): You said 'sharks'?? 8-)

Me: Yes Sir, sharks... which engulf the smaller fishes of their sea...

JR: Which Indian sharks are you talking about?

Me: Sir, like today we have the news of Vodafone bidding for Hutch?

JR: Is Vodafone an Indian company??

Me: Ohh, sorry sir. Actually, I wanted to come to the point of Birla's acquiring Novelis and earlier Tata-Corus deal that has taken place...

JR: So, Vodafone is not an Indian company?

Me: No Sir.

JR: Are you sure?

Me: Yes Sir.

JR: Who is its CEO?

Me: Sir, Arun Sarin.

JR: Is he an Indian?

Me: Yes Sir.

JR: Vodafone's head is an Indian, so now think again whether Vodafone is an Indian company or not?

Me: (knew that it's a UK company but still forced to think a bit...): No Sir, it's not an Indian company. If suppose I go to US and become its CEO, it won't make that country to be Indian...

SM: So, how do you think is the nationality of company determined?

Me: Hmm... Sir, from where it started...by where its headquarters are located...

SM: So, you mean to say that origin matters...

Me: Yes Sir.

Then there was a discussion on whether 'origin' or 'ownership' matters. They did try to confuse a bit by discussing something about Infosys and Mittal-Arcelor. I guess I handled decently but said 'I am not sure sir' at few places...

JR: Abhishek, you know what? When you entered the room, we thought you are a Superman. Do you know who is a superman?

Me (Superman kahaan se aa gaya??): Hmm...Sir, one who can achieve whatever he wants.

JR: exactly.

(He tried to show that he expected me to know everything about business but I wasn't sure about few things...a sarcastic smile...)

SM: Ok Abhishek, that's it... do you have any questions?

Me: Sir, I want you to ask me why I want to do an MBA :-). I want you to complete that question which couldn't be completed earlier. (Don't know what made me say that!!)

(Both are bit surprised that why he wants to go into this question!)

SM: Why should we ask you this?

Me: I want you to know why I wish to join a management institution...

SM: Ok go ahead...

JR: But don't tell us something which we have been hearing since morning, that holistic approach n stuff...

Me: Sir, I won't be saying something like holistic approach, diversity of experiences, etc.

JR: If not that, you would be saying something taught in your coaching classes...

Me: Sir, after having such interaction for 20-30 minutes, I don't think anyone can speak just learnt answers...

JR: But did you join any coaching for interview preparation?

Me: I attended a boot-camp by Career Launcher.

JR: I know all this coaching business. This Career Launcher has been started by my son Satya... (Not sure if these were the exact words but something on these terms)

Me: (surprised!)

JR: Ok, tell what you were saying...

Me: (I gave a technical analogy telling about my goal, etc...)

JR: Did you read history in school?

Me (Will he go into History now?): Yes Sir.

JR: Did you read of 'slave's dreams'?

Me (what's that): Hmm... No Sir.

JR: Do you know who slaves are?

Me: Yes Sir.

(He tried to show that my technical analogy suggested that I want to become a master of slaves... WHAT an inference has he made out of my answer !!?)

Me: No Sir, I just wanted to convey that I wish to coordinate activities of my group and don't intend to treat them as slaves.

JR: Ok thank you Abhishek, it was nice interacting with you.

Me: (gets up): Sir, I wish to say one thing which I strongly feel...

JR: Yes, what?

Me: I believe that such a GD-PI experience should be there in admission procedure for IITs too... (He didn't ask why...)

Both smile and extend their hands...Handshakes and me leaving by saying...Thanks, thanks a lot Sir...

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of: [Virian](#)

My Profile:

X: UP Board 84 %

XII: UP Board 81 %

B Tech: CSE, NIT Trichy 2005

Work Ex: Almost 2 years, @Oracle and then @Adobe.

Percentile: 98.75

Calls: BI

Converted: BI

B Interview: 2 March

Delhi Hotel Nikko (Nice Place)

Case Study:

Mr. Sen an Indian citizen living and working in US holds a US green card, and so does his wife. They have 2 kids (10 and 8 yr old) both born in US and hence US citizens. They have come to India for about a month on a vacation. But when they reach India, at the immigration check, they find that they have forgotten to bring the Indian Visas of their 2 kids. So the immigration officers don't allow the kids to enter the country but allow the parents to enter.

Mr. Sen says that as he holds a valid Indian passport, so his kids should be given a concession. Further they say although they had got the Indian visas, they forgot to pick that up and they admit to their fault, but also say as nobody at their source i.e. Boston check the Indian visas of the kids, they never realized that they have missed something.

Eventually when the immigration officers do not agree, Mr. Sen and family return back to US and from there he makes a complaint to the External Affairs Ministry, saying that he should have been given at least a humanitarian treatment and the senior officials were not even present at the airport, so that he was not even heard and had to undergo a lot of trauma. Now the Ministry officials are looking at the case and want your advice as to what actions should be taken against the immigration officers.

Discussion:

We started off with deciding to look at the complete picture, understanding if the claims of Mr. Sen were genuine and if the immigration officers were complacent and inhuman in their treatments. We also considered that as the issue was humanitarian, the IOs should be more helpful. The discussion also considered the fact that the officers might just be conducting their duty. The IOs may be overworked, inefficient, or insufficient in number. Although human values rate high, but what is at stake is the country's security and that is paramount. Secondly when we duly punish the guilty of crimes inside the country, then we can't have differential treatment for NRI. But again it needs to be kept in mind that NRIs are a huge source of revenue to the country and need to be kept happy. Other than a short term independent enquiry into the matter and to hear out the versions from both the affected parties, we would have to take certain long term measures like maintaining a world wide data base of Indians, to keep close cooperation with the countries where we have our embassies, so that a certain amount of filtering can be done at their end itself. Further officers can be more courteous, for which they may be sent to some finishing schools. They may have some change in policies, like instead of denying entry to kids below certain age they can simply consider their parents credentials, or also they may get in touch with the Indian Embassy and find out if the claims made by the NRIs are valid or not. Further they can also get the documents faxed, or may be give some time to the father to go back and get the documents, and let the kids and wife stay in some hotel within the airport premises, with restrictions to their movement.

In the end the IO can't be blamed blindly, as this might pull down the enthu of other IOs, hence a mid way should be taken and reforms in the form of hiring more IOs and training them should also be taken up. In the end what needs to be kept in mind is that its country's security that's at stake.

My take on my contribution: I did decently well; rather spoke the most and almost the most sense, with a balance of smile and seriousness on my face. Over all I should say it was a fulfilling expr.

PI: I was the first one to be called in for the interview, which started about half an hour after the GD was over, I was tensed up like anything and was memorizing my poems so as to be fluent with them, when it comes to interview. I was ushered in by P2.

P1: Information systems and quantitative methods professor.

P2: Other quieter professor.

A: Asmi

A: Good Morning Sirs.

P1: Good morning, sit.

A: Thank you sir.

P1: So do you like work at Adobe?

A: Yes sir quite a lot.

P1: So why did you leave Oracle.

A: Sir that was due to personal family reasons, my mum was not keeping well and I wanted to be close to home so that I could visit home more frequently.

P1: He asked some stuff about family and then got confused whether my parents are in Delhi or Lucknow.

A: Sir they are still in Lucknow, its just 8 hours between Noida and Delhi (first blunder). P1 corrected and I smiled, and said oh no Sir, between Delhi and Lucknow.

P1: So why don't you join IIM Lucknow. Then added that it's not an interview question.

A: Sir I don't have an interview call from Lucknow, but then distance is never a consideration for me, to study at a good place.

P2: So what is your role at Adobe?

A: Sir I have to understand the technology and functionality and then add to it and enhance it. Other than that I have to mentor the new Ppl in the team, I have to take part in the knowledge sharing sessions. I also drive new idea generation sessions which usually lead to patents.

P2: So do you patent first or put in the product first.

A: Sir we put it in the product and simultaneously apply for the patent. But as getting patent may take quite some time, we do not stop the technology from being used in the product.

P1: What is the exact work that you do?

A: Sir I take care of PDF Indesign data roundtrip, like from one file format to the other.

P1: PDF file format. Why is it good, something like that he asked?

A: I said that it is cross platform and the representation is uniform.

P1: Now it is editable, doesn't it harm the security.

A: Editability is achieved by adding data into the overall hierarchy. And it is still secure because of the signatures and passwords.

P2: How do signatures work

A: You have to register your signature with the third party host. Then sign the doc and send it across. The receiver then confirms your signature with the third party host and uses the doc.

P2: What is the business model of Adobe?

A: Sir not sure about the business model, but then how we generate the revenues is thru firstly post script royalties, then selling acrobat creators, for which the readers are free. And lastly the major contributor is Creative Suite, which has products like In Design, Illustrator, Photoshop all bundled together.

P1: So you did a project in Dundee, where is that?

A: It is in Scotland

P1: What did you do, game what?

A: Sir we developed a racing game called RacingX, like conventional games we do not have the vehicle and the player himself is the vehicle.

P1: It was your idea or the universities?

A: Sir the idea was completely ours, it was like an incubation centre that the university had, to encourage new ideas to be developed and brought to the market.

P1 or

P2: Asked something about my team and I told that it was the Irish team and we were 8 international scholars, I was the one representing India.

P1: so it was competition. Were you ranked

A: yes sir, we were ranked fourth.

P1: So you did some data transfer project at IIT Madras?

A: Sir it was not data transfer, but it was about the security of data transfer.

P1: What did you do?

A: Sir we tried to achieve greater security by combining a few encryption algorithms. Under a pseudo random number generator we make a choice of which algorithm to pick up.

P1: How do you make that choice?

A: Sir we make use of a model called the random oracle model, and with the help of PRN and this we choose which scheme to use.

P1: PRN or ROM

A: Sir both.

P1: How do you do that? Or is it a black box for you.

A: How it is implemented I am not sure, but I know the basic workings

P1: He gave me a pad and told me to explain

A: Drew the LFSR and a PRN and explained that the step is decided by the PRN and the bits generated are added up to get a number which is then hashed to get a particular encryption scheme. This gives us non linear complexity.

P1: cross checked a few minor things, as why add the bits and what about over flow on addition etc.

P1: How about decryption.

A: Sir we will have to pass the sync information, and then based on that just pick up the relevant decryption technique, that's it.

P2: So is it applicable to credit cards.

A: No sir this technique would be too heavy for that, as the amount of data to transfer is low, jus 16 digits.

P2: Any applications

A: Thought and said Share market price index.

P2: but that's one thing that never needs to be kept hidden, I pointed out that hide is fine, but what if someone changes in between, anomalies.

P2: I am not satisfied, can you name some other application.

A: thought and said company head office to terminal office, confidential files transfer

P2: Complete file at one go.

A: No sir, its broken up into smaller messages and then sent.

P2: Ok then why do you want to do an MBA

A: Want to take up different roles, more responsibilities, blah...

P2: So what all activities did you undertake in your project?

A: Sir other than coding we did a market analysis, and prepared a sales pitch.

P2: How did you do that

A: Sir first we got a rating for our game, for 10-15, then we did a market analysis, as to which segments would like it more.

P1: How did you do that?

A: Sir we gave out pamphlets (pppppppp... Second blunder, I just kept on stammering) and questionnaires.

P: Where?

A: in the university itself

P1: how did you find 10-15age group. (Gosh man... He was too good at catching loopholes... another blunder)

A: Sir the Dundee high school is within campus, where we were able to find the class 1 to class 10 students.

P1: How is that high school in university?

A: it is sir.

P1: What was the sample size:

A: 45 for 10-15 and 100 for 15 up?

P1: how did you compare.

A: sir we normalized the results for the 2 groups.

P1: how did you normalize?

A: Sir we simply averaged the results so as to consider the entire group as a single entity.

P1: So you averaged.

A: Yes sir (biiig blunder.) and this made us realize that 15 up were more interested in our game...

P1 and P2 look at each other and say thank you. I say thanks, literally shocked, ask some thin about admit card, they shoot me off. That's it.

My take on my performance: I felt that I started off pretty well, and then as long as the profs concentrated on my Acads and work it was great. But after that I had a nightmarish time. Blunders galore. But then I guess all is well that ends well. Converted the B call. That's all that matters at the end. Hope this write up is of some help to the people who prep for their B interviews next yr arnd. Cheers.

Interview experience of: [CATCALL](#)

Venue: Bangalore IIMB Campus
13/feb 9 am

PROFILE:

Acads:

X - 86.66(ICSE)

XII - 84.55(State Board, Bihar)

B.Tech (IT) - 79.48(Cochin University of Science and Technology, CUSAT-Cochin)

Work-Ex:

6 months in an MNC in Hyderabad, healthcare domain.

CAT %ile:

DI 89.8

Quant 96.96

Verbal 98.4

Aggregate 98.64

Lone call: neutral:

Reached the venue quite early at arnd 7:30 am with my dad.....and was surprised to find one guy already waiting derhe was a friend of my friend and so we had good time discussing bout our calls, his last interview experience, about our common friend and other stuffs before we were joined by the handsome hunk, jurarnamoslowly, the remaining junta also started coming in.

There were only 8 Ppl in the batch for the 1st half (very less as compared to what I read bout

K).....predictably all enggrs.....3 freshers and 5 Ppl having work-ex...I had the minimum work-ex among them.....3 had all 6+2 had 5+2 had 3 + and I was the only lone call getter there(kya group main daala hai bhai)

GD

Case Study

The topic was "Art of Refusal"jurarnamo(he was in my batch) has already described it in detail....a pretty good discussion..everybody chipped in with different points....I started off the discussion and kept coming on at different times with points, which was duly discussed by the group .discussion never looked like losing the steam before it was stopped by the moderator...overall me thoroughly satisfied by my performance after some not so inspiring ones in the mock gd's.

we were initially given 10 mins to go through the case (not very big...was of decent length) + 15 mins to discuss on it + 15 mins to write the summary (it was to be written in running English in the sheet provided)...so altogether a 40 mins process.

after the GD we were given a 15 mins break and the interview process was to start in the order of our names. mine was no.7 and the panel told us beforehand that it wud b approx 15-20 mins on each candidate...so I understood it's gonna be a long wait of 2 hrs for me before my turn comes.

then after some time process started and the first guy went in.....he was inside for arnd 20 mins and then came back smiling.....got the nerve soothing news that the panel is very cordial and they r talking very generic and HR stuffs.....most importantly thry r not asking the most dreaded acads at all ..wow that was a news for all of us, especially because first guy was a fresherthe panel went on building their reputation candidate after candidate before my turn came

Characterisation -

Myself(V)

a very kind lady (I will call her Tai, 'coz she resembled my tai a lot)

and a kind gentleman(he has to be Tau now)

V: (smiling) a very good afternoon to u ma'am and a very good afternoon to u sir

Tai: good afternoon, Vishwapati... Lord of the world! (finally some one knew the real meaning of my name)

Tai: so V, u have a very unique profile in the sense that u have done ur entire schooling in bhagalpur(bihar) and then u came down to cochin to pursue ur graduation(me smiles).....travelled the entire length and breadth of the country..eh?!...can u tell me the difference in the cultures of both the places?

V: (wow...expected q tha...last yr IIFT main bhi Isi type q se start hua tha) lots of bakar on bihar, problems currently grappling bihar...did a mistake by focusing more on the negatives of bihar...didn't maintain the balance...but was speaking the truth and they had to agree with it.....then went on to cochin and spoke a lot of good things about it

(compensate kar raha tha)...used a term like -ve brand of image of bihar..and pat came the next q

Tau: and what leads to the -ve brand image of bihar?

V: again did some bakar...

Tau: don't u think lalu has added to the misery of bihar?

V: (sirji...fultoss mat phenko...1 bihari se lalu ke baare main poochh rahe ho)...long bakar on last 15 yrs of misrule and blah....both had to b satisfied

Tai: so did u visit other places in Kerala?

V: (aur maine 4 saal kiya hi kya hai)..yes ma'am...to munnar, tvm, kovalam beach, alleppey, kotayam, trichur, etc...

Tau: was it ur first visit to Kerala or have u been here before?

V: ma'am...been here before with my dad....he is a banker and hence once in every 3 yr he gets a chance to go on a tour.....but for the study purpose I'm coming outta bihar for the first time...

Tai: but still how did u land up in cochin?

V: gave gyan on the common entrance test of cusat also being known as CAT.....this being a central unit, about no state quota over there and a very low fee for free seats.....hence it had an equal opportunity from Ppl from all states.

(Tau was very satisfied and he was quite surprised to find that there is no 50% reservation for state Ppl unlike in NIT's)

(bahut hua HR q..ab thoda kaam ki baat ho jaye)

Then for some 10 mins or so the discussion centered completely arnd my current project, healthcare domain, my company in general , comparison b/w Indian and global centres of my company, kind of work my comp does here, its similarity to work done by IBM/Accenture, etc.

I think I did a pretty good job in all these qs....

Fumbled on one q :(when I was asked the basic diff b/w healthcare sector of UK and India.....told everything about their operational model and blah blah..but forget the basic thing :(..damn it.....I'm such a stupid :

(...but soon regained my composure and added something more to it...Tau reacted by saying, "yes, yes and as u said....".....(chaloat least they know that I knew the stuff)

was once asked that it looked as if I'm desperate to get outta this IT field that I am goin for MBA?(sachhai to yahi hai sir)...told him about my willingness to do MBA due to value addition, acceleration of career growth and blah....

Tau was surprised that it looked as if I had no option that I opted for my grad in IT...again gave a long Gyaan on that it was due to my sheer interest in it....at that time IT bubble had burst and everyone was going back to traditional Engg branches but I stuck to IT 'coz of my love for it(thank god...mere love pe mere ko kuchh grill nahi kiya ..warna to waat lag jaati)

Tau again asked if I had such a less work ex, how come I had decided so clearly bout my career plans.....told him about my manager being an IIM-B pass out ...my frank and open discussion with him which helped me a lot.....he then asked me whether I wud come back to CSC after MBA?...did some bakar over here sending positive vibes

Tai then asked me which stream I wud choose in IIM-B?(ma'am...to kya aap mujhe le rahi hain apne coll main?)....told of my interest at that point of time but reiterated that had no qualms in returning to the IT field(kitna bada jhooth bolna pada).....Tau replied to this saying that the trend in IIM-B is exactly opposite to what u said (sir aap bhi to sachhai jaante hi hain)

Tau then asked on the designation offered to MBA's in my comp and their career growth ladder.....fumbled here :(...told him some designation, to which his reaction was " r u sure?"...I stuck to it saying yes I have met coupla person with that designation in my company ..Tai then told maybe it must b different over there....Tau asked me do I know the kind of work they do, to which I had no clear answer..fumbled and tumbled for few secs but finally after a long time I claimed my ignorance :(..."sorry sir, have no idea of this"(aakhir phansa hi diya Tau ne)
(ab phir se track change)

Tau: so what do u do in ur free time after from coding ?: mg:

V: bakar on which there were no cross qs

Tai: so how do u feel about ur performance in gd?

V: was really happy and so I said

Tai: yes--yes..u were off the block the moment we said startso how was the group?

V: again bakar and told the entire group did well.

Tau: do u think starting off gives u some brownie points

V: again some Gyaan on quality start rather than simply blurting out something....

Tau: u did a good job

V: ..thanks sir

Tau: so have u got ne qs?

V: no, thanks sir

Tai: okay then V..u can leave..had a nice discussion with you.

IIM Bangalore - Year 2008

Interview experience of: [IAYE](#)

Location: Bengaluru

PROFILE:

OA Percentile - 99.90

Class X - 87.2%

Class XII - 90.6%

Undergrad - B.E. from P.E.C. Chandigarh in Electronics & Electrical Communication (2006 passed out) - 66.85%

Work-ex - 20+ months in IT Services @ Noida

Interview @ IHC , New Delhi - 20/3 - 1400 hours-

The process goes like this:

GD:

10 minutes to read a case + 20 minutes to discuss in which one of the member has to summarise the discussion (member has to be chosen by the group) + 10 minutes to fill a form which comprises of summary of the discussion, most influential person from 20th century in your opinion and why, lastly your career goals and where does PGP from IIMB fits in?

My case was about a ban by the Union Health Ministry on scenes in movies which depict smoking and therefore, the movie fraternity was pissed off at this... there were questions that why not go ahead and curb the tobacco production...

we had to discuss whether the ban was right or not? And should tobacco production be curbed? Now, 20 minutes is simply awesome! no one was bothered whether he/she will get a chance to speak or make a contribution...It was a good discussion discussing how the ban limited the creative freedom of the moviemaker and a blanket ban was not desired...then we discussed that curbing the tobacco production is also not feasible as the govt. has vested interests in it...farmers, corporate all angles were brought in...And awareness in the society and making film fraternity as an ally in the fight against tobacco were seen as possible solutions...

My performance:

started the GD and introduced the case...a few points here n there...then introduced the tobacco industry wala aspect...raised a few questions...and when around 17-18 minutes had passed kinda summarised the discussion and asked the group to come up with more suggestions to implement the solution...

on more thing...there was one guy out of us 9 who didn't speak even a word...towards the end, I asked the group to take his inputs....the group responded well and even the guy made one decent point...I don't know how it works with the GD protocol but I went with my gut feel... decent performance I would say!

PI:

I was the first one!

P1: Old Lady Prof

P2: Young Male Prof

P1 had my application form with her!

P2: So Sumit, how would a friend describe you?

Me: described and used the word - peacemaker (how significant was this, you'll get to know!)

P2 then asked questions on how would you go about resolving a conflict between two friends...I specifically mentioned that I am normally quite objective in my opinions and then I was all blah blah about getting to the root cause, hearing people out, providing them with a vent to let out what was bothering them and understanding each other's perspectives...

P1 then asked me to explain my job profile which I did decently

P2: Tell me one creative work that you have done in your job.

Me: told about the logo competition that I won and it was selected to be used as the logo of our project...

P2: Do you know what IIMBs logo means?

Me: recalled that it says 'Tejasvina Vadhi Tamastu' and told them that it was also a part of my prayer at Kendriya Vidyalaya...and as far as I remember, it means - "take me from this darkness to enlightenment"...don't know the exact meaning though!

P2: nodded. (So I thought I was close to the exact meaning.)

P1: noted that I had mentioned about two awards for team work during my workex...gave a few situations and asked me how I would go about resolving/managing them...

Me: built upon the 'objective' quality of mine and gave relevant examples from my extra-currics and work-ex...

This discussion revolved a lot about understanding people...so P2 then tells me about People Quotient and asks me how should I judge your PQ?

Me: I tell him that a group activity would be perfect for it...and that would give you good insight to how I perceive others and how am I received by them...

P2 nodded...

then P2 mentioned that we agree with your idea of conflict resolution at micro level...but what do you think of how US goes about taking decisions in Nuclear power and energy sector wrt other countries?

Me: I said that in earlier cases I was assigned with the role of achieving the task...on the other hand, nobody has assigned US that role...brought up UN and how it should be the right medium for such decisions...

P2: but then reality is different!

Me: agreed and then substantiated how UN can be more assertive and should have done something when US went against its wishes and attacked Iraq...

P2: Do you believe in majority?

Me: Yes, sir.

P2: then what about the minority rights?

Me: Explained that decision-making bodies are in existence because of this...related the quality of 'being objective' to this and said that even if 80% agree to harm the rest 20%, it's not right...

P2: but that is majority by numbers...what about when u vote and stuff?

Me: I didn't get the difference but explained taking Ganguly's example...that 95% junta would have said that he would not come back in the team but he did and scored good runs in both formats of the game! So, majority based on baseless reasons or emotions should not matter...the majority should have good reasons to back itself!

And then Thanks You's & Good Byes!

Verdict: Converted.

Interview experience of: Catguy

PROFILE:

Acads:

X - 78

XII - 80.8

Undergrad Major - 67.04 from NSIT

Work-Ex: 9 months in Evalueserve

CAT %ile:

DI - 99.74

Quant - 99.98

Verbal - 99.47

Aggregate - 99.99

Interview on 20th March, 9 AM at Delhi

GD:

Topic: Case study on a pharmaceutical company not publishing warning of diabetes on a medicine for schizophrenia.

Number of Ppl present: I think 10

Time and other details have already been mentioned

PI:

mine was the first IIMB interview in the entire country this year

Panel Members Intro:

One guy who was too young to be a prof. name: Sourav Mukherjee, Prof of organizational behaviour. Very cool

another guy who was Prof of finance. Can't remember the name.

Experience:

just before the GD started, I went up to the cool prof and told him that I forgotten my folder containing mark sheets and certificates at home

but he said it's not a problem and I can show the certificates if I'm selected and I join IIMB.

Alright, on to the interview now.

Q: so you had IIM Indore last year. Why did you not join? Did you want only IIM Ahmedabad, Bangalore or Calcutta?

A: (I was shocked as to how they knew that. because I hadn't showed them my resume yet) that was partly the reason. But a bigger reason was that I did not want to do an MBA last year. Said some things to justify.

Q: now you think you are ready to do an MBA? Don't give us a defensive answer. Just take us through your thought process.

A: I told them that I have worked for some time and understand the corporate culture better than last year. I am more mature and some more things (donno if they were convinced or not but moved on)

Q: 67 percent in college? Why? Dint study?

A: sir there is a few reasons why my percentage is low but I'll give you the biggest. I used to write very short and terse answers.

Q: but that should be a plus point in engineering.

A: you would think so. But surprisingly it is not.

Q: (here is the weirdest part) rishabh we know you are a bright student. We won't be asking you maths, which we might ask some of your friends outside. All we want to know is why you want to do an MBA.

A: I introduced entrepreneurship. MBA would give me knowledge; help me with finances and so on. 10 years down the line I want my own company.

Q: but most of the entrepreneurs we know are not MBAs. Why do you need an MBA degree?

A: can't remember what I said but I fought valiantly

Q: you don't need an MBA. If you keep working in your company you'll grow, gain experience, earn money and still be in a position to do so.

A: again I had no convincing answers.

Q: what is the one quality that differentiates entrepreneurs from a successful CEO?

A: I said drive, they countered. I said hunger for power, they said go into politics or IAS. Whatever I said, they countered.

Q: what do you really want to do in life?

A: short term consulting. Gain experience and pick an industry to specialize in. then go for my company in that sector.

Q: have you analysed yourself whether you are fit to be an entrepreneur? What is it that you want through your company?

A: I don't know whether I am fit to be one or not. All I know am I want my own company because I want to generate employment.

Q: (mocking smiles) you must have thought of something.

A: not sure but one option I have in mind is retail chain backed by food production.

Q: so you know a lot about retail sector. Tell us something about Indian retail scene.

A: nascent stage but growing. Organized retail very less.

Q: tell me about the regulatory scenario.

A: I only know that not more than 49 percent of FDI is allowed in retail sector.

Q: that means?

A: foreign retailers such as Wal-Mart and Carrefour have to tie up with Indian companies to open stores here.

Q: what is Metro doing?

A: they have a cash and carry model in which 100 percent FDI is allowed.

Q: what is cash and carry model?

A: I don't know.

Q: ok you can go. And best of luck for your career :crazy eye:

the order could be little wrong and I might have missed some things.

It was not the usual QnA session and one very cool discussion that you could have taken place anywhere.

They ripped me apart but this was the only PI I really enjoyed being a part of. My only hope is that they would have liked me for the totally honest answers I gave.

I felt they took my interview in a pre-decided sort of manner. Either they wanted to take me and were just looking to confirm a few things or they did not want me and were looking for something extraordinary and did not find it. Else the interview would not have revolved around only one thing.

Let me know what you guys think.

Later I went in and showed them my certs and mark sheets. The cool prof said, "Just show me the fake ones".

I said none in this file sir. We also had around 2 mins of discussion over how IIMB compares percentage scores and CGPAs as I feel they consider an 8.0 CGPA at par with an 80 percent which is grossly unfair.

Cheers,

Rishabh

Interview experience of: [Tortured_Soul](#)

PROFILE:

Acads:

X : 82.4

XII: 80

Undergrad Major - GPA/%age: 81.6, ECE from NIT Jalandhar

Work-Ex: 21 Months @ Wipro

CAT %ile:

DI :98.34

Quant :99.51

Verbal :99.61

Aggregate :99.91

Any other special thing abt u: NTSE scholarship holder, played chess at state level

GD:

Topic: half a page about how individuals wants IIMs n IITs but a lot of funds go into it. But the same money could be used in improving the primary education /secondary education. That would help the entire country rather than only certain individuals. Discuss topic, feasibility, alternatives...

Number of Ppl present: 10 [1 absent, 1 lady from the previous batch]

Time: 10 min to think [eternity], 20 min to discuss, 10 min to summarize [Summary + most influential person + why MBA n how IIMB would help].

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: 5 minutes into the reading time, and already I had read the passage twice, and come up almost everything I could find. Finally a candidate put us out of our misery and started the proceedings [not the start greatest though]. Contributed a lot, discussing about why Nehru built IIMs n IITs, lots a data about education policies in the budget n setting up IIMS. Talked about FDI in education so that foreign universities can set up there centres here. Talked about feasibility of using PPP model for setting up universities. Discussed about certain downsides and how regulation ought to be there if foreign universities come. Corporate involvements in education n courses like PGSEM et al were also discussed. There were discussions on implementation of schemes, both monetary and socio political. 15 min into discussion and the professor cut us short. One fellow had not spoken at all and prof wanted him to summarize for 3 min. Overall a really good discussion, but maybe I over participated [I hope I m not interpreted as someone aggressive]. This of course was followed by a race to write summaries and 2 other question. Furious illegible scribbling later, we were asked to leave. Let's say the most influential person is Mr. X.

My performance: Good GD, illegible summary Self Rating: 8.5 /10

PI:

Panel Members Intro:

Disclaimer: This is just a tale of my misfortunes. I am in no way trying to belittle the eminent panellists, from whom I intend to learn a lot about a lot of things.

P1: He seemed a little unhappy to be there... Maybe those were his stress tactics... He called us in and announced the rules of the GD. Seriously high on knowledge [pls judge this by the questions he asked]

P2: He smiled a lot more... I instantly liked him.

TS: The clueless protagonist and the lucky number 1 for the interview.

Questions:

P1: File pls

P2: Tell me something about yourself

TS: Blah

P2: So u mentioned Mr X is the most influential personality. Why?

TS: Blah

P2: What is his most famous quote?

TS: don't know... He did... don't know quotes

P2: [gives hint]: Microsoft, font...

TS [eureka]: takes the hints and answers correctly!! : Idea:

P2: Why IIMB??

TS: blah blah [I intend to be a CEO]

P2: U don't need MBA. Continue to work.

TS: skills knowledge blah blah...MNC...

P2: what if the MNC's give u offer now?

TS: rite now only focus is MBA... blah

P2: same questions as above, reframed

TS: same answers, Reframed: innocent:

P2 to

P2: u can ask

P1: So how does a layman recognize Wipro?

TS: very famous everywhere... Lots products... blah blah

P1: No, I know Wipro started with oils and all this history... but that's not what I am looking for. Common Man!!

TS: Wipro InfoTech n computer accessories... common man...

P1 Nah...Think

TS [eureka!!]: Wipro Logo, i.e. the sunflower with colors: idea:

P1 what does it signify?

TS: I am not sure... I am told it has something to do with Wipro history and sunflower oil. Blah blah [Can someone please confirm this]

P1: what do u call it?

TS [guessing]: sir, brand image...

P1: Nah... another try...

TS: Brand recognition??

P1: Nah... [TS shrugs]... ever heard goodwill...

TS: ok... [What am I supposed to do??]

P1 So Wipro puts a lot of effort protecting it...

TS: Yes sir, we got lots mails about how the logo ought to be used. Blah blah

P1 Do u approve??

TS: absolutely...

P1 so what do u do?? Ur hobbies... I'll evaluate u on them.

TS: Chess, Formula 1, guitar...

P1: OK, chess. Tell me about Bobby Fischer. Which is his most famous game?

TS: The one he did not play, 1975... [Cut]

P1: Nope, it's Fischer – Spassky, 1973

TS: OK, sir, I was referring to the match he did not play, i.e. forfeited his title. Against Karpov.

P1: Have u come across Fischer's games?

TS: Yes sir, read couple. Not really followed although...

P1: He went to Iceland, became a recluse. Why do they like him so much?

TS: great player... blah blah... Karpov...

P1: What Karpov, Karpov is a boring player, too defensive. What do u think?

TS [gulp! Now I m petrified.]: Sir even drawing at the top level requires a lot of skill.

P1: What about anand? How does he play?

TS [Something that makes no sense...]: elo ratin 2799... blah blah

P1 [shakes his head]: U should know better. Which chess player is widely publicized to have ambitions in politics?

TS: Don't know...

P1: U should know u r a player!!! [omg!!]... He was recently active...

TS: Kasparov [wild guess]: tell me:

P1: Yup, u're right.

TS: sir I wasn't sure...

P1: OK F1. What is the problem with Narain Karthikeyan's Driving?

TS [Innocently]: Sir his car... Jordan was not that good...

P1: No No... If Alonso were driving, he would have done a better job...

TS: OK... He had lots slips. I feel it had a lot to do with the fact that car was not set up according to his driving style... [cut]

P1: yeah numerous slips. He is impatient.

TS [nods]: OK

P1: can he match Michael Schumacher.

TS: Sir I doubt that.

P1: Why?

TS: Age is not on his side. He is already in his 30's.

P1: who is ur fav guitarist?

TS: Kurt Cobain [nirvana]...

P1: Don't u like Eric Clapton??

TS: I've heard couple of his songs... But I really prefer the kinda music played by Nirvana...

P1: OK... [smiles], u can go...

MISC.:

A decent GD and OKish interview. Looking back I don't have too many regrets. I don't know how much I am supposed to know about my hobbies and quite frankly I was stunned by the amount of knowledge that P1 possessed. Now keeping my fingers crossed and waiting for April 11.

Verdict: Converted.

Interview experience of: [Sukrut Kharia](#)

Venue: IIMB

Date: April 1 - Time: 2 PM

Profile:

99.01 %ile

B L I K

B.Tech (Mech) from IIT Madras. 8.36/10. 2006.

Asst Manager with ITC Limited. 20 months till Jan end.

94.6% in XII CBSE

91.0% in X CBSE

Travelling and Photography etc.

Organizational posts in the institute festivals at IIT Madras. Governor's Award for scouting. Part of the two member team selected to represent India at World Scout Conference in Japan in 1999. Lots of prizes in debates, quizzes and essay writing at school level.

Group/ GD / Summary

Group of 9. One Lady. All present.

GD was a case based on special privileges to women. We all celebrate international women's day and all.

Women at work want equal rights. They want to work in the army et al. But when it comes to working, they want special privileges like flexi hours etc.

So is this special treatment justified?

10 mins to think. 20 minutes to discuss. 10 minutes to write summary and two more questions.

For a change after a long gap of four years, I got to start a GD. Yay!

Started with multitasking required - how they need to balance children, cooking, laundry and work. Tried to give a structure to a gd. People barged in with biological differences... 9 months and others. I brought in a point about companies giving paternity leaves... To prove that men are also realising responsibilities.

Someone brought about job opportunities. I added that women are not getting good jobs in manuf sector etc.

The lady in the group kept on speaking after every other point. She was of the opinion that everything should be done on equal footage. People should be judged on the basis of performance etc. She brought in the point

the reforms at the grass root level are required etc. etc. I said women are vulnerable to crime - flexi hours etc.

The present society is full of discrimination... sex ratio of 927:1000. People also discussed on fitness levels.

Someone brought out Indira Gandhi, Hillary Clinton. I added if people are sending women to space, we need to do a lot. We agreed that short term reforms to bring women at an equal platform with men is necessary.

Marginal prob - clash with two guys when I spoke. they were also speaking. Rest ok.

Summary - Wrote it off.

Most Influential Personality - *Sabarmati ke sant tune kar diya kamal*

Career Goal et al - Jai Mata Di... Blah Blah.

Wait in the corridor

All of us were seated. Got coke and biscuits. It was good. One guy was from my city and he knew my name and recognised me... He told he was taught by the same teacher and has seen my name in some newspaper...

Whoaaaa... Yay!!!

Revised TPM etc... ITC etc... (It helped!!!)

Interview

Two Profs. Old Prof (OP) and Young Prof (YP)

YP: What are they saying outside?

Me: They are saying it's about workex and it's a good conversation.

YP: So why ITC... Why Biscuits after IIT?

Me: Blah Blah... Challenge... Got an intern. Seniors gave good inputs... Joined... Liked the work. . etc etc.

YP: What's ITC turnover?

Me: ***** This is last years. Yesterday's I.D.K.

YP: How much is foods/ biscuits?

Me: ##### of which \$\$\$\$ is biscuits.

YP: So 5% of total... less than that?

Me: Yeah...

YP: So why?

Me: Blah blah... same... challenge... Opportunities... we solve bigger problem beneficial for the company and helps us too.

YP: How much is FMCG in ITC?

Me: ^\$. & %

YP: Sure? You need to check your numbers.

Me: *I kept quiet. Didn't want to argue. I was right.*

OP: So you earn ^^^^?? What are you targeting after two years?

Me: Sir... when went to IIT... I didn't know that ITC even exists. I went to learn. That's the motive which brings me here. I am not targeting anything.

OP: Which stream of management would like to choose?

Me: Will give every subject its due credit in the first year and then interactions with faculty and fellow inmates will help me deciding the stream. My interaction with people from various facets of management in my company have propelled me to pursue this.

OP: So you are in maintenance? How do you determine that a part has to be changed?

Me: Gave the practical approach and then finally concluded at the theoretical one. Long answer.

OP: How do the balls in the bearings are made?

Me: Gave some vague Gyaan. Which I didn't know... He sighed in the end.

YP: What is MTBF?

Me: Mean time between failures?

YP: Yeah.

Me: Total run time / Number of failures.

YP: Is it?

Me: Yeah. I have picked all concepts of TPM on my own.

OP: Oh... was not there in college?

Me: No sir. I picked it up myself as it was necessary for the job.

YP: So what do you read?

Me: Majorly Newspapers.

YP: Which one?

ME: TOI.

YP: Since When?

Me: College.

YP: Favourite columnist?

Me: I don't remember the names.

YP: Do you go through the middle pages?

Me: Rarely. Don't get much time.

YP: How do you see ITC? What are your business strengths... say tobacco business... something like that...

Me: ITC majorly was a cigarette company which has diversified greatly. etc...

YP: So what's wrong with tobacco?

Me: Two sided coin. Revenue to govt. Livelihood to 32 million farmers etc etc.

YP: Apart from moral reasons... any other?

Me: UN - WHO policy signed by majority of countries... To restrict tobacco production. (*Jai Wikipedia*)

YP: DO you know what kind of crops are grown in Afghanistan?

Me: No Sir. I don't know.

OP: Any other thing you want to tell us? Which we might have missed and you want to sell?

Me: Talked about good academics and balance in acads and extra currics. Short trips in Karnataka and all four directions of India. Governor's award in scout, Japan, Rafting, Parasailing, Photography. etc.

OP: Which scout - first class / second class?

Me: Governor's Award Winner.

YP: Thanks a lot.

Me: Thanks and exits!!!!!!

Verdict: Converted.

IIM Bangalore - Year 2009

Interview experience of: [joy_dreamer](#)

Location: Kolkata
 Calls: IIM-B, I, L.
 Converts: All three.

PROFILE:

Academics:

X - 89 % 49th Rank in West Bengal state
 XII - 85 % 96th Rank in West Bengal state
 Undergrad Major - Production Engg. 2005 - Jadavpur University
 83 % 1st class
 Work-Ex: 3.5 Years - ERP Consulting in PwC / IBM / Cognizant

CAT %ile: Aggregate 99.61

DI 95.86

Quant 86.03

Verbal 99.79

Extra-curricular:

Stock Market Trader - Qualified four modules of NCFM - Derivatives, Securities, Capital Markets and Beginners' Modules.

Painter - 3 awards from Art Exhibition in Tokyo.

Place: Kolkata - Kenilworth Hotel.

(Last Thursday 12-Feb-09, I was in this place for IIM Indore interview. Today, since my interview was at 2pm, I started early... thanks to the highly complex one way traffic rules, by the Kolkata Police.)

Time: 2.00pm

reached there by 12.45pm... Did not take the taxi. To remain cool I took my bike. On taking off my helmet after reaching, I found that my spectacle was broken... one screw was missing. But the glasses were ok. Could not find an optical store anywhere. Suddenly, I saw a watchmaker's shop and then I inferred that the world's smallest screw drivers are used by the optical stores and the watchmakers!! Got my spectacles repaired and the watchmaker did not take any money.

GD:

8 people were called. Only one panel in Kolkata. Out of the 8 people, 4 (including myself) were from my college - Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 1 from IIT-Kgp, 1 from another Engg. College, 1 from Shibpur BESU and 1 was from Xavier's. J.U. -Engg Faculty representing 50 % in a GDPI batch at IIMB!

Topic: A case based on Corporate Governance - Issues, Role of Independent Directors - There were 5 questions at the end like Recommendations, suggestions... This case had Satyam case in the backdrop.

Number of People present: 8

Time: 10 mins for reading, 15 mins for discussing, 10 mins for writing the summary... (I do not exactly remember the time allocations.)

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: Very Structured GD. Not a fish market at all. Everyone got fair amt of time to speak. No cross - talks. The sound level was well within the normal range. We came up with lots of ideas and the guy with B.Com and C.S. qualification added much value to the group.

Other Salient Details: As our GD was well constructed and everyone spoke, the panel did not even ask someone to summarize at the end. I spoke 5/6 times and ensured that we were on track.

PI:

We were called in the order we sat in the GD. I was 3rd to be called in.

Panel Members Intro:

Prof. Malay Bhattacharya - P1

Prof. R. Narayanaswamy - P2

Questions:

P2: How are u feeling?

Me: Fine

Then straight into work-ex

P2: what are the clients you have worked for?

Me: told

then till the end, for almost 25 mins I was asked many questions specific to the Oracle Apps ERP (my area of work).

No acads. No Current Affairs. No why MBA. I guess that Profs know very well that we all have prepared these general questions thoroughly.

So, the interview is centered about work-ex and that was the only topic discussed in great detail. I guess that by drilling down, they can easily find out the claims made by you in the SOP. They also verify the same from the Recommendation Letters.

Profs were also looking at my Recommendation letters very carefully.

P2: So... will it be ok for u to come back to the classroom after 3.5 years?

Me: Yes... Isi liyei to cat diya tha!

Statutory Warning: This is NOT a hint and this question was asked to **ALL** work-exp people!

For fresher's, they were asked about their final year project.

My interview was over by 4.30 pm.

MISC.

My second IIM interview. It was a feel - good kind of an interview. You can never draw any inference from an IIMB interview. For work-ex people, I guess the panel asked - "Will it be OK for u to come back to classroom after..... years?" Don't think that this is a hint

Gyaan: Neither the GD nor the PI alone or together can decide our selection. It is the final cumulative score that will matter. So a brilliant GDPI does not necessarily mean inclusion.

Interview experience of: [bharath_enigma](#)

City: Bangalore

Calls: IIM-B ONLY

PROFILE:

Acads:

X – 89.2 CBSE 2000

XII – 96.5 (TN) 2002

Undergrad Major - GPA/%age- 8.52 Chemical Engg NIT Trichy 2006

Work-Ex:

Sector – XYZ Bank IT domain (Trade Finance)

Number of Years – 2.5

CAT %ile: Aggregate – 98.6

(QA 83.7 VA 97.58 DI 98.83)

Certification in Trade Finance, IIBF

6 month stint on site in Melbourne

GD/PI on 17th Feb @ 2.00 PM in IIM B

GD:

Topic: Opening up of Retail Sector in India – Implications on kirana shops. Discuss pros and cons and **arrive** at a consensus on how you are going to implement this in India.

Number of People present – 7 (1 absent)

Time: 10 min thinking time, 20 min GD, 10 min written summary

Brief Snapshot of Discussion:

Discussion was very peaceful. Very few cross talks. This topic had ample points so group spoke for all of 20 mins.

Group arrived at consensus on whether retail sector needs to open up. (Yes) later delved into the implementation part.

No official summary in end. Mods just announced 30s left and I hurriedly made a short summary on the implementation strategy.

Overall a very satisfying GD from my perspective. Tried to moderate the GD flow and contributed decent points.

Other Salient Details:

Summary sheet given. Don't write in points. Write in paras as a cohesive whole.

Now GD went good, so everyone (ESP me) were in high spirits. Then... this happened....

PI:

Panel Members Intro:

Prof. Shubhabrata Das – QMIS (SD)

Prof. Sankarshan Basu – Finance (SB)

Questions:

6th person in order. Handed my 3rd LOR. They just casually kept it aside. Actually none of my previous mates' files were checked. They didn't even take it. Mine included.

All our forms were feed into their laptops (don't think if LOR's were even included), and now the grilling commenced –

SD: Hello, tell me about yourself (while glancing at his laptop)

Me: (blah... didn't prepare this very well) travelled lot of places – Orissa, Trichy, Blore, Melb etc...

SD: Orissa? Difference b/w TN, Orissa and Melbourne cultures...

Me: blah...

SD: Some quest on Oriya cuisine... Rasogulla! (FYI rasogulla is a sweet formulated in Orissa and not in Bengal as popularly believed)
when SB walked in...

SB: Ok... you work in a Bank (IT division actually) so you should be knowing economics... tell me the 3 significant economic events in last fiscal yr in India

Me: (Recession)... how India escaped due to strong regulatory mechanism...

SB: Grilled on US recession... I started comparing it to 1930 Great Depression... Pounced on that... asked on what caused that... what steps were taken to resolve... Bretton Woods's agreement...how exchange rates are determined... dollar pegs/free floats...dollar reserves held by India ...

Me: gave a ball park figure 60 % (question was how much dollar reserves among the total forex reserves of \$ 300 billion in India. Note that it includes gold, other currencies etc.)
SB - can't believe you work in a bank... my questions are done...!

SD: Why MBA? (I mentioned long term intent to teach)... PGP vs FPM (have applied for this)
Ok thank you leave.
(Didn't ask if you have any questions etc.)
16 mins (most of our grp had 15 – 20 mins)

Observations

STRESS was the order of the day. All my panel mates had similar experiences. No ques on acads. They simply built on what you said – much like a relay....!

They were giving an impression that they had already rejected me and interview was merely a formality. Esp SB was intent on pooh-pooing everything. SD at least gave a semblance of listening to what I had to say.

That's it. Good luck to everyone.

VERDICT

Post verdict revelations on why I think they took me?

As they were drilling me deeper and deeper about Recession and Depression (pun unintended), I continued to answer unfazed. Guess that must have impressed them . Finally SD said - "You have a good profile... but why MBA" (yeh kya time pass question hai bhai...) that gave me sufficient cue that they liked me and that explains the reason why I was overconfident with just a solitary call ...Also my profile was kinda different.. Bank and all so that was a clincher...

So dear Puy's don't worry about lone B calls. You are on same plane as any BLACKI etc. B sends out calls only if it likes you. No need to fret about lower CAT %iles. A good GD/PI should see you through.... All the best .

Interview experience of: [kapur.arun](#)

Location: Ghaziabad

Member: NCRDT'08 || Captain: UDT'08 || IIM B 2009-11

PROFILE:

Acads:

X: 90.5

XII: 89.6

Undergrad Major - B.E., DCE, E&C, 74.4%

Work-Ex: 31 months in Semiconductor industry

CAT %ile:

DI: 98.xx

Quant: 97.xx

Verbal:99.xx

Aggregate: 99.86

Any other special thing about u: My SOP reflected an attitude of excellence and have several professional accomplishments to back me up on this.

GD:

Topic: Pay cuts or job losses...companies facing a dilemma which path to choose. Another viewpoint is of effective reorganisation of labour from less shiny sectors to the rising sectors of the economy.

Number of Ppl present: 7 (1 guy was absent)

Time: 10 mins to think, 20 to discuss, another 15 to jot down the summary

Brief Snapshot of Discussion:

One guy started the GD but in my opinion was not giving a direction to it...so I intervened and spelt out the issues we have to discuss!! The discussion was centered on how job cuts lead to further retrenchment of the economy and should not be resorted to unless absolutely required. Also we discussed how such times can be utilised to reorganize the labour in general by providing vocational trainings and helping them explore other avenues of growth. We also discussed on certain morale-boosting tactics like higher management taking pay cuts and certain measures companies can take to reduce the overall cost and become lean, effective in the long run.

Other Salient Details: We were handed out ruled sheets and had to write a summary of the discussion with certain personal details on top of the sheet. One-sided ruled sheet it was....15 mins to jot down the points in a paragraphed format.

PI:

Panel Members Intro: Senior lady professor,

P2: Ms. Malathi Somaiah (Public System) and young male professor,

P1: Mr. Anil B Suraj (Public Policy)

Questions:

Ws the fifth one to be called in our group of 7.

I entered...pleasantries exchanged...was asked to help myself to a plate of cookies kept on my side of the table...I said I have already helped myself in the lobby...

P1: So Arun, tell me one word which describes you??

(Picked up on this theme from my SOP...it started like "The pursuit of excellence-the singular dictum....")

Me: Told how excellence has been the driving force of my academic and professional life...how I have developed a mindset of not letting myself settle for something that doesn't do justice to my abilities....and a lot more on that.

P1: You know Arun, there is a theory, Peter's theory on excellence that once you reach a certain level, and you are actually incompetent at that level??

Me: Told how as the person advances in his professional life, his responsibilities keep multiplying and he has a larger domain to cater to....so he may not be able to live up to everybody's expectation but yes if he can meet the standards he sets for himself keeping in mind his mindset of excellence...then he has nothing to feel guilty about.

P2: It is all too easy to set yourself low standards, let's say waking up at 10 everyday?

Me: Told HW waking up at 10 may not be that bad if it doesn't interfere with my duties and commitments for the whole day and WATS wrong in getting an extra hour of hard-earned sleep (I'm so deprived of it right now). However let's say I have a meeting at 10...then it would be utterly wrong of me to get up at 10....in that scenario I will set myself to get up at 8....reach office by 9:30 and get all the things in place to have a fruitful discussion at 10.

Then the discussion veered onto how me being always in the pursuit of excellence would not let me have a moment of peace....I would always be in a state of unrest....and would disturb the whole workplace ecosystem by expecting high standards from each one of your employees.

I defended my stance well by giving examples from work experience how excellence is something that rubs on to your colleagues and certain other good things I mentioned about having an attitude of excellence.

P2: What is benchmarking?

Me: Gave an intuitive answer

P2: Is it always relative? Let's say a newcomer enters the market...what would you suggest for him?

Me: Told

P2: Tell me two qualities or good things you would carry with you to IIMB?

Me: I gave a satisfactory answer to this....about staying calm in face of adversity and having an effective collaboration with all the stakeholders

P2: Have you faced any failures in your professional life?

Me: Told

P1: Tell me, what is your take on how should the companies tackle the existing scenario...just one suggestion
me: Told about improvement in productivity....linked it to innovation

P1: What do you think Ideas just happen or one has to actually work to come out with an idea?

Me: Told HW being aware of one's work always helps and how one has to do away with the redundancy and unclog one's mind to be innovative.

Some discussion on this about Google and Apple....

And this is where it ended....

I don't know what was their perspective or motive behind a general interview...but it was all good. A healthy discussion with both the Profs. On several issues. One thing I can clearly recommend to all that going for their interviews is to have a viewpoint on almost everything under the sun. I now understand the importance of having an opinion.....it breeds discussion as has been the case with me in 2 out of 3 interviews.

So this was it for me guys.....hope I will be attending classes taken by the wonderful Profs who interviewed me. They were uber-cool and encouraged one to speak one's mind.

ATB to all my fellow guys.

Interview experience of: [abhimit22](#)

PROFILE:

Acads:

X - 93%

XII - 86%

Undergrad Major - 9.2 CGPA

Work-Ex: Merchant Navy, 43 months

CAT %ile:

DI - 99.90

Quant - 99.88

Verbal - 94.90

Aggregate - 99.91

Different profile , good at acads, NTSE scholar and several other extra-curricular certificates including debates, dramatics etc.

Delhi, 24th Feb,

Habitat World in India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

GD:

Topic: "Time to go home" (The heading was bad)

in recent times the Govt has imposed restrictions on nightlife. All pubs and nightclubs have to shut by 11:30 and discotheques are not allowed. The Govt and the police content that imposing early closing hours have helped reduce crime rates and drunken driving. The people visiting nightclubs and pubs say that they are not criminals and drunk driving is unlikely to stop unless liquor shops are closed down. They further point out that by putting curbs on nightlife the Govt risks criminalizing fairly harmless activity. Anyway if this argument is carried to its logical conclusion then it would be like arguing that all travel should be stopped because any travel raises the risk of accident. They also argue that drinking and dancing is not illegal and the Govt is imposing unnecessary restrictions. In reply some people argue that it is immoral to drink and dance and 11:30 at night is late enough. The supporters contend that they work long hours often past 11PM and if they feel the urge to go for a drink they should be allowed to. The arguments rage on.

Where do you stand in this debate?

Number of Ppl present: 9 out of 10

Time: 15 mins to think (1 candidate was PH by eyesight, hence given more time). Actual discussion although scheduled for 15 mins went on upwards of 25mins.

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: Pretty good GD. Did not start but gave it new dimensions a couple of times. Also summarized in between and took the group towards a conclusion. Points discussed varied from moral policing, better public transport system to self-realization among people. Almost everyone contributed. Had a couple of one-to-ones and fish market type situation 1 or 2 times but was resolved quickly.

Other Salient Details: 10 mins given to write summary on a single piece of ruled paper. I was told not to use any additional sheets. Avg handwriting will be able to fit about 200-250 words (in my opinion). The instructions at the start of the GD included the phrase "You are expected to reach a conclusion."

PI:

Panel Members Intro:

P1: Mr. Rahul De

P2: Mr. Damodaran A

Questions:

Pleasantries exchanged and settled comfortably in my chair

P1: Tell us something about Maritime history?

Me::confused: Most of the people ventured out to sea for exploration. Even Gujratis reached up to Persian Gulf in small boats...blah blah

P1: What is Vasco da Gama's contribution?

Me: Sir, he sailed westwards from Portugal in search of India and landed in America, no West Indies. (WTF, what the hell am I speaking)

P2: (He did display all these emotions) Are you sure?

Me: Srrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr, {Self-actualization } Sorry Sir that was Columbus.
Vasco da Gama discovered India.

P2: Where did he land?

Me: Sir, I think Goa. (He is buried there and he landed in Calicut)

P2: You better check-up on that.

Me:

P1: What are the major problems faced in shipping. Tell me about ancient problems?

Me: Direction, distance....making land-fall. Explained in detail

P1: How were these solved?

Me: Told about various equipments used.

P1: So, tell me, you already have such a well paying job. I don't understand why do you want to do an MBA? (I'm lovin it - Finally my hard work will get utilized)

Me: Gyan, gyan and more gyan

P1: Whatever you are telling me is so very generic, tell me something about yourself, something that distinguishes you?

P2: Ya, why don't you do some course in Philosophy or maybe Maritime History (evil grin)?

Me: Told them about my wish to join back shipping in a different capacity and making a difference.

*****EDIT: (forgot to write one ques: P

P1: What's the point doing MBA, you will become another Ramalinga Raju?

Me: (WTF) No Sir, I will become another S.Manjunath. This is what MBA teaches you.

P1: FYI, Raju is an MBA from Ohio.

Me: OK Sir. *****

P1: (To P2 - would you like to ask him something)

P2: (Till now he was still completely engrossed with my file and my SOP on his lappy) you must have been to so many places. Tell me how can you come from San Francisco to India, what all seas will you encounter?

Me: Comprehensively explained. 2 ways - trans-Pacific via Singapore and Malacca Straits and trans-Atlantic via Panama and Suez canals. As I started explaining he asked if I had been there - I said No Sir but I can tell the way

P2: There are so many aspects to shipping. Container trade, piracy, end-to-end delivery, how can you make a difference to all?

Me: Sir, MBA will help me with this. It will provide me the knowledge to change all this. Took each of them case by case and explained.

P1: What are your hobbies?

Me: Sir, Playing AOE and solving Sudoku.

P1: AOE, Ehhh: confused:

P2: Why, you don't like reading books?

Me: Sir, I read them off and on but not regularly. Last I read Jonathan Livingston Seagull.

P1: (Suddenly looked very interested) so, what is it about?

Me: Told - challenging common notions, thinking beyond blah blah

P1: So, basically about sappy mentality?

Me: (God knows what exactly he meant but it looked like negative, so nodded)

P1: What do you think about music Piracy?

Me: I think it is wrong as it causes revenue loss to the companies. For E.g., songs released free as mp3

P1: No, actually they actually gain from it. It makes the movie more popular. So tell me honestly, have you ever downloaded songs from the internet?

Me: Yes Sir. We need to consider the consumer aspect also. As a consumer, I am able to download and check which CDs I would really like to buy.

Thank you.

Overall I think it was a decent PI, except for the initial hiccup.

Hope it helps. Will update if I remember anything else.

MISC: The panel was very chilled out and didn't look like they were trying to stress me. It was a very casual discussion.

Interview experience of: [Mohit Kumar](#)

PGP 2009 - 11
IIM Bangalore

PROFILE:

Acads:

Xth: 88.2 CBSE

XIIth: 92.0 CBSE

Engineering: 89.4

CAT:

QA: 98.xx

DI: 90.xx

VA: 94.xx

OA: 98.53

Work ex: 32 months in Indian Railways

My interview was at Kolkata on 24th Feb 2 pm.

GD:

People in my group: 8, one did not turn up so there were 7 participants in the group,

Case study:

Common man vs VIP

Shyam gets stuck in a traffic jam caused by movement of some VIP. He is frustrated and had a discussion with his friend and they ponder over few points. There were few questions asked at the end.

I wouldn't call it a very good discussion. The guy who started obviously had no idea how to start a discussion. Though lots of points were mentioned the discussion was not structured. At times group got stuck up at juicy points. Luckily there wasn't great deal of cross talk and even though people had different opinion no one felt offended.

However no consensus, no summarization and not a logical conclusion

The gentleman sitting beside me raised a point and I applauded him, I donno what good it did to him but never again he spoke while I was speaking and then at all times supported my views. A deliberate attempt to gain a friend indeed paid.

HS was listening to the points very carefully but SG was perhaps sleeping. Initially I thought that he had his eyes closed and was thinking over our points but my suspicion was confirmed when I heard his snores at the time of writing summary.

Time for discussion: 20 minutes.

After the discussion we had to write the summary of discussion. It was explicitly mentioned that we have write what was discussed and not our view.

Time for summary: 10 minutes

PI

I was 6th person to be called, so had plenty of time. The hotel where it was being conducted had some kind of party going on in the quadrangle. I met a friend of friend and the two of us had a good time there.

The interview of most of the persons before me was of 20 minutes. The person just before me had interview duration of 30 minutes!!!

Here I go

HS: so u have been waiting for quite some time. What is general opinion about the panel?

Me: I have been told that the panel is cool and they have been asking mainly HR based questions.

HS: hmm... so tell us something about your job and responsibilities.

Me: STD reply.

HS: so how do you find your job?

Me: I found it to be a bit challenging initially but am quite at ease now.

HS: why was it challenging?

Me: when I joined there were ego clashes. Whatever I proposed was met with disdain. I was told by staff that we have been doing the job for 25 yrs. You are not even that old. And now u come with your bookish knowledge and olive oil voice and tell us what to do
But then I practically demonstrated what I meant. Most of them were logical men and they understood.
Though at times I had to cede ground

SG: where did u get Ur Engineering degree from

Me: SCRA, conducted by UPSC, degree from BIT

SG: what other exams did u appear in?

Me: JEE, AIEEE, ISI got very good ranks in all of them

SG: why SCRA then

Me: std reply

SG: most of us could have chosen IIT

Me: few facts, in my batch 3 left IIT to join SCRA

HS: so what kind of job would u like

Me: std reply

HS: ha ha ha so u want to do Laloo yadav's job

Me: not exactly. Explain

HS: but why not Laloo's job

Me: I can rise in the executive ranks but do not want to become Minister per se

HS: so why do u want to leave Railways

Me: Std reply

SG: and how will MBA help in that

Me: std reply

SG: so where does IIMB fit in

Me: I have seen the course content. Its awe some

HS: what is awesome in the course?

Me: operations, OB, finance...

SG: so why don't u do PGPPM

Me: no sir I want to do PGPM only

SG: well u will need more work ex for PGPPM. Then asks about railway turnaround

Me: was very well prepared for this question

SG: you know the stuff well I don't think MBA will do any good!!

Me: "bhagwan ke liye keh do ki yeh jhooth hai". Gives him example of my seniors who have done MBA and are doing even better

SG: asks about the intricacies and raises few apprehensions about the Railways

Me: explain in detail and bombard with facts, budget

HS: so where is Laloo going to put that money

Me: explain the investments etc, etc

HS: OK, we are through

Me: would u like to see my certificates

SG: oh no no. sm other time

Me: thank you ma'm, sir

The interview lasted about 15 minutes. The panel was good and they listened to everything I said very carefully, I had this feeling that they thought I had a fair command over my job and shifting to another job would not be a great idea. However they had very little idea about Railways and Govt. jobs.

IIM Bangalore - Year 2010

Interview experience of: [Mohit Maheshwari](#)

City: Gandhinagar

PROFILE:

Academics:

10th: 93.2,

12th: 91.4,

CGP

A: 8.89/10,

Work ex: 0.

Interview date: 5 April 2010

Venue: Hotel Sea Princess, Mumbai

My interview was scheduled in the afternoon slot at 2 pm. I reached the venue 15 minutes before. I went into the waiting room and saw that the seats were completely full. Looks like I wasn't the only one dying to convert the IIMB call. Well, we waited till around 2:10 pm and then a lady professor came to check if all candidates were present. We were then asked to go to a separate room for the essay writing.

Before the essay writing, we were told about some general rules and regulations in in complete detail. The essay time was 30 minutes and 10 minutes were given for formulating the thoughts and the next 20 minutes for writing the whole thing down coherently. The essay topic was '*Will India become a superpower in the near future*'. The topic suited me and I was able to write it reasonably well, although, I over-wrote some parts and also cut a bit. But I think I did fairly decent job at it.

After the essay writing was over, we were asked to go in the waiting room again and wait for our turns. The first interviews were expected to start in around 10 minutes. I was feeling the heat every moment. A Hindi movie that was being aired on television which had Govinda in the lead plus some cookies kept in the waiting room cheered me up a little bit.

I was the second guy on the list and the guy who was first was my college mate, so I knew him. I was hoping that he would do well and make things easier for me as far as the college impression is concerned.

Well, his interview lasted around 20 minutes and I was called in 5 minutes after he came out. The panel had 3 members (1 lady proferros (LP), 1 male professor (P1) and probably an alumni seated in the middle in the middle (A))

Initial questions asked were based on what I had written in my SOP.

LP: You are from the same college (DAIICT) which the earlier guy was, right? (Was kind of expecting this question).

Me: Yes ma'am, we are batch mates.

LP: You have written that you come from Meerut. Tell me something about the place.

Me: blah...Blah...blah... (All gyan)

A: You have written something about winning HP Innovate. What is it and what did you do?

Me: Told them all about it

LP: OK, tell me why should we take you?

Me: humbly said that I wasn't a one in million guy but someone who was eager to learn things and knew what difference an MBA from a place like IIMB could make to my life. Also told her the kind of projects I was involved in college and the kind of learning I acquired in DAIICT which separates me from the rest. (She seemed impressed)

A: You seem to be pretty socialist guy, why do you want to come in a capitalistic arena like this.

Me: Told that Man is a social animal and can't live in isolation. Even the biggest of corporations have performed their social responsibilities. Told them about my own business and how I've seen that every business is about generating capital and putting it to good use for the welfare of the society.

P1: Asked me about the family business. What will I do once I do an MBA?

Me : explained them about the family business and gave an honest answer that I wasn't so sure which road I will take after I do an MBA, may be join my family business, may be start something of my own or may be enter into social sector. But I told them I would figure it out once I get into IIMB

LP: why don't you join our course that we offer for second generation entrepreneurs and then go about joining the family business.

Me : Told her I wasn't so sure about that and my major objective was to learn and since I am not clear whether I will join the family business for sure so can't decide on that so quickly

P1 : What do you do in your leisure time (ah, finally phew)

Me: I am into reading. I am a big fan of Gandhi and I also enjoy reading books on social and political issues.

P1: Stopped me right there. Ok. I see Gandhi. Do you think Gandhian ideas are still relevant today?

Me: Oh, most definitely sir... They are infact more relevant today than they were during his time...

P1: Ok, tell me how many Khadi shirts do you have

Me : Went blank for around 3-4 seconds and then told him that I didn't have an exact number but I did 2 or 3. Then I told him about wearing Khadi but the reason why Gandhi popularized Khadi. His ideas behind self employment and how NREGA today is a manifestation of the Gandhian idea behind Khadi.

LP: Do you really believe that?

Me: Definitely mam, Gandhi focused on Khadi to introduce self-dependency among people and how NREGA is doing the same thing today...of course there are a lot of problems in its execution and a lot more needs to be done but it's a step in the right direction (seemed satisfied)

(was a pause of about 5 seconds, I was expecting a technical round would follow)

LP: OK, Mohit, we are done now and is there anything you want to ask us.

Me: Asked them about the entrepreneurship cell and they told me that you don't need to be in IIMB to make use of it and I was thinking *omg, shayad signal de rahey hai ki I might not make it*

But I came out anyways. Had a happy feeling about the interview but the last thing was playing on my mind again and again?

Finally, the results came out yesterday and I was glad to see my name on the list and disappointed that one of my best friends couldn't make it, but I am sure he will get everything he deserve.

Extremely elated to get a final call from a place like IIMB.

Hope my experience helps someone else in future.

Interview experience of: [greatwhiteshark](#)

Profile:

Acads

Xth (ICSE) - 94.4

XIIth (ISC) - 94.4

B.Tech (ECE), IITG class of 2010 (GPA 8.45).

Work-Ex: NIL

CAT 2010

DI - 99.04

QA - 94.94

VA - 96.01

Overall - 99.15

Extra acads:

Numerous medals in Hockey, Football at intra institute level.

Inter IIT hockey.

Head of the ed-board of my college

Quizzes, debates etc.

Interview Venue: Kolkata

Date: 7th April, 2010

Essay

Essay topic

C: Voting should be made compulsory.

Attempt: Argued against it talking about how the right to vote is a right and not a compulsion, and that taking away the right not to vote infringes on an individual's liberty. Also argued that if someone is apathetic enough not to vote, his apathy might even extend to who he votes for, leading to elected representatives without a popular mandate. Thirdly, I argued that the principle of compulsory voting cannot be practically implemented since there isn't a deterrent sufficient enough to force everyone to vote. There'll always be people who will prefer paying the penalty than voting.

Rate your preparation (0-5): 0

Rate your performance (0-5): 3

PI:

(Background information: My interview was scheduled for the afternoon session. My panel interviewed 8 people during the session. Mine was the 7th interview in the sequence. It started around 4:35 and lasted for 15 minutes. The panel members were:

A (setting to my left): A youngish looking gentleman. Probably an alumnus.

B (centre): Old Prof. remained silent for the entire interview.

C (sitting to my right): Some lady. Could've either been a prof or an alumnus.)

Me (entering the room): Good evening

A (as I take my seat): The guy we interviewed before you, he's from your institute. Are the two of you friends?

Me: More like acquaintances.

A: What's the difference between a friend and an acquaintance?

Me (thinking a bit): We're in the same hostel and all, but you tend to be friends with folks you have classes etc. in common with. I don't hang out with him, so I wouldn't really call him a friend.

A: Okay. So what's your favourite subject?

Me: Communication Networks.

A: What do you know about the 3G issue?

Me (confused): What's the issue with 3G?

A: Communication is your favourite subject and you don't know about the 3G issue?

Me (suddenly realizing what he was asking): The government of India is looking to auction the spectrum for 3G services. I've read this somewhere that the pricing needs to be absolutely perfect for such an auction if the government doesn't want to lose money on the sale. The problem being faced by the government is the determination of the perfect price. So currently, the situation in India is that only BSNL (which is government owned) is providing 3G services to customers.

None of the other service providers have been allotted spectrum.

A: So what's different about 3G? What do you mean by 1G, 2G etc.?

Me: These are mobile communication standards set by probably the FCC in the USA (turns out I was slightly wrong here. These standards are unofficial) regarding requirements that the mobile technology should meet to be termed as belonging to a particular generation.

A: How will you differentiate between them?

Me: Each of them use different technologies, different modulation schemes, different spectrum, and have different data rates.

A: Could you tell me the data rates for 2G, 3G etc.?

Me: I don't know the exact data rates.

A: You should. This is your favourite subject...

Me: What you're asking (3G etc.) actually falls under the subject of Mobile Communications. My favourite subject (Communication networks) is similar to Computer networks.

A: Okay. So have you heard about (Some weird acronym that I can't recall)

Me: Never heard of it.

A: (The weird acronym again)? TCP/IP? UDP?

Me: I know about TCP/IP and UDP.

A: What's the difference between the two?

Me: UDP is connectionless. If you're using UDP to transfer a packet, there's no guarantee that the packet has reached its destination. TCP/IP on the other hand ensures that every packet reaches its destination. It actually establishes a connection with the other side before sending packets, and it checks whether each packet has reached the other side.

A: So where will you use UDP and TCP/IP?

Me: Consider something like voice. If whatever I'm saying right now were to be converted into data packets, and if only a fraction of those packets were to reach you at the other side, you will still be able to discern what I'm trying to say. Voice is redundant. Voice applications therefore use UDP.

A: Give me applications where the two are used.

Me: File transfer, where every chunk of the file is crucial for the file to be complete, uses TCP/IP. Voice communications over the internet use UDP.

A: What do you mean by 128 bit SSL encryption? Or rather, tell me why do we need encryption?

Me: Can I describe encryption to you in terms of Public Key/Private Key encryption techniques?

A: Sure. Go Ahead. (Long interaction on Private key/public key. I started off explaining that the need for encryption is to ensure a third person does not overhear what we're trying to communicate to the other side. Half-way through I realized that there was another purpose, to authenticate myself to the other side. I wasn't very structured since I was remembering stuff I'd learnt as I was speaking, but ultimately I did demonstrate the use of Private/Key Public Key to realize both the purposes of Encryption.)

C (entering the discussion for the first time): Do you know about network topologies?

Me: I've heard the term. If you could give me some examples, I'll probably be able to recollect...

C: Bus, Ring etc...?

Me: Yeah. I think this term is used to describe how various nodes are connected in a computer network. I think in a bus, all the nodes are connected in a straight line, whereas in a ring, there's a circular wire running through the middle and the nodes are connected to it.

C: Which has the server in the centre?

Me: It should be ring. I'm not sure, but why else would they call it ring...

C: What's the difference between a LAN and a WAN?

Me (hesitating): WAN is wireless...

A: WAN? Wireless?

Me: Wait. WAN stands for wide area networks and LAN for local area networks.

A: That's theoretical. What's the difference?

Me: I don't know.

C: What's meant by SMTP?

Me: SMTP stands for Simple mail transfer protocol. It's a protocol for email transfer. I think it probably works using (I started describing another protocol - POP, but soon realized I was wrong and let hesitation creep into my voice)

A: I think you're wrong here.

Me: I think so too. What I've described here is the POP. SMTP is used for email transfer. I don't really know how it works.

A (sternly): Don't try to answer if you don't know. Just say immediately you don't know.

Me: My mistake. My apologies.

C: I see you had very good marks in class 10th and 12th. What was your favourite subject?

Me: English.

C: So do you read?

Me: I used to read a lot earlier. Then my reading habit dropped off a bit, but I'm picking it up again.

C: What do you read? Fiction/Non-fiction?

Me: I used to be a huge fiction fan earlier. Now I'm beginning to read non-fiction too.

A (interrupting the discussion on books): Tell me why you want to do an MBA?

Me (After thinking for almost 10 seconds): Suppose someone wants to learn assembly language programming. You give him a microprocessor kit and a manual, and he will learn it. But how is an employer looking for someone with these skills supposed to know that this individual has what he is looking for. Similarly, with the job I have got, I believe it's decent enough to teach me some of the skills that an MBA will teach me, but how will my employer know I possess those skills.

A: So you're telling me you want to do an MBA because of the brand and the image?

Me: No. If you were to offer me the MBA degree without the skills, I wouldn't accept it. An MBA without the skills expected of an MBA would be immediately found out. I want to do it because of the skills I'll be gaining that I'll need as I grow in my career and start dealing with the business side of things.

A: Where have you been placed?

Me: I have a couple of job offers. One is a PPO from (an investment bank doing God's work)...

A: Wow. That's something MBA graduates dream about.

Me: It's in the technology division. (Implying it's not the job that MBA graduates dream about.)

A: So what. 2 years down the line if you get your MBA, you'll be working on some techno-management related stuff for the same bank only.

Me: (remains quiet)

A: So what's the other job?

Me: A manufacturing profile at (an FMCG day 1 recruiter at IITs).

A: That's even better. You'll be learning more on the shop floor in a week than your 2 years of MBA...

Me: The option for working at the shop floor will always be open. Even after my MBA, I can learn at the shop floor. But a chance to do an MBA from IIMB does not come along every year. Look at the competition.

A: Let me complete. I have some advice for you. Whether you chose to accept it. That's totally your decision. You are obviously intelligent, communicate very well and you may even get your MBA. But if I were you, I'd work for a few years and then do the 1 year management program for executives.

Me: The 1 year program is an accelerated program right? I'll gain more from 2 years studying management than 1.

C: The 2 year program is obviously more rigorous than the 1 year course. But you really should think about this.

A: We're done. You may leave.

Me: Thank you.

(I thought extracurricular were my strength, but the panel did not give me a single chance to direct the discussion towards extracurricular.)

Verdict: WL36.

Interview experience of: [CATastrophe1](#)

Location: Bangalore

Profile

CAT 2009

99.95%ile

Extra currics:

IEEE student chapter head at IIT R

Coordinator tech fest

Captain Chess team

Member XYZ chess team (XYZ my prev company)

Specials:

>Among 25/35000 to get internship at Microsoft thru nationwide comp...

>Chess district champ (under 15)

>Chess state corporate third (Many others in Chess)

Hobbies: Chess, guitar, swimming etc...

Interview with IIMB at IIMB (31st March)

Essay:

1 yr social service should be compulsory for students at IIMs

Prep: 0/5

Perf: 4/5

Interview:

A (Alum) P (prof) LP (lady prof)

A: What do you do at ABC?

Me: blah blah

A: Why did you shift few months back?

Me: Blah blah

A: You have very handsome package, and you can certainly learn a lot at this start-up... don't u think u will waste 2 yrs at MBA?

Me: Confident blah blah [P nodding]

LP: What do you like in Jaipur?

Me: Small yet everything available, serene and friendly people

LP: You can start something in jewellery business ... it is unorganized with just few organized players

Me: Mam, no exposure at all... yes it is unorganized but have never even thought about jewellery (Everyone laughs)

LP: So, how is XYZ (my prev company)?

Me: Very good for technical exposure but due to its size business exposure is missing

LP: And what do you have to say about the acquisitions it does?

Me: I think it is good business strategy... do not develop from scratch use the good available options, time to market is decreased and if it is mutual then it is good for both

P: Do you think these are mutual ?

Me: Sir, no not always ...

P: Do you know about Lakshmi mittal and Arcelor?

Me: Yes sir Arcelor was acquired but it was not willing

P: Right... what were the reasons?

Me: Sorry sir I do not remember the exact details... French pride was involved but don't remember it

P: Okay no problem... So you are a Chess GM?

Me: No sir I am not ... I just love playing it

P: Oh no no you have certificate from QWE ... you can become a GM?

Me: Smiled (hehe kyo chadha rahe ho sir... rated bhi nahi hu main to :P)

P: Okay so there are two types of players in Chess: Offensive and Defensive?

Me: (Well, I do not believe this ... but did not deny) Yes sir, some players bank on strategy more and hence keep the games packed and long while others are tactical players who try to create adv in shorter term.

P: Can you tell me... what kind of player is Karpov?

Me: Sir Anatoly karpov plays queens gambit declined a lot... so that being a strategic game I would say he is defensive and looks for adv in longer term

P: How about Kasparov?

Me: Sir I have seen him also playing the same opening but come up with improvisations a lot... and also play Najdorf sicillian so I would say he is attacking. Also he is considered to be psychologically attacking too... I mean his behaviour etc is intimidating for opponents

P: What do you think are imp for a Chess player?

Me: Sir analytical skills are definitely needed but I would say memory and knowledge of chess theory make a huge difference and essential to be good player.

P: What is chess theory?

Me: Sir, these are principles that were first introduced by Italian players like Greco, Ruy lopez etc which give a chess player a definitive goal to play for at any point of time... be it opening, middle or end game

P: You know John Nash?

Me: emm ... sir the mathematician? I only know from what I have seen in the movie Beautiful Mind

P: Can you tell me what is he famous for?

Me: Sir he got a noble prize for his contribution to economics... he said in network best resource utilization happens when everyone tries to achieve mutually optimal solution ... etc I do not remember the exact thing but it is related to this only...

P: No that is not what he said...

Me: Sorry sirs then I do not know it

P: What is the difference between Chess player and a Politian? So you know both of them follow a game theory right?

Me: Nodded (although I don't know about game theory as such) ... Sir, a chess player is constrained by the rules and has to improvise to achieve the goals... Politian has the flexibility to change or create new rules etc through various mechanisms... hence I would say constraint is the major difference...

P: (asking others any questions?) Okay, thank you

Me: Thank you

Not sure how these answers affect my candidature...

But I would say they cannot reject me just because I don't know what John Nash did!!

Interview experience of: [Rahul Ranjit](#)

PGP 2010-12, IIM Bangalore

PROFILE:

Acads

ICSE - 90.3 - 2001

ISC - 92.6 - 2003

B.Tech, ECE, CGPA 9.0, Amrita, Coimbatore

Work-Ex:

IT/Telecom, Huawei - 30months as of Dec 31

CAT (2009-10):

DI 91.xx

Quant 92.xx

Verbal 93.xx

Aggregate 96.54

General Category

Extra acads : Spot Awards in company, Quiz Prizes, Spanish A1, German A1

(Didn't matter...pls read on)

Essay :

Topi

C: Food Inflation is the result of Indian Government's mismanagement and apathy.

Number of People present: 10

Time: 30mins

two sheets were given. One with topic, other for Essay. Two sides were there, first sheet for writing details and organising thoughts. Second for Essay.

Brief Snapshot of the attempt:

I wrote some points. Don't know valid or not. May have gone off topic. But guess it was ok. Plenty of time was there.

Time given: 30mins (10 mins to think, but can start writing. No restriction)

Rate your preparation(0-5): 4

Rate your performance(0-5): 3.5

PI:

Panel Members Intro: Young professor(Y), Old professor(O) and Alumnus(A) 2001 batch

Questions:

Young professor asked me abt my Job profile. While explaining I said India was good in S/W. He interrupted and said, 'one person had opined that Indians are IT coolies'. Asked my opinion. I tried to say lot of intellectuals are there, exports etc but he was not convinced. Asked me to say 2 S/w products developed by India. Blank...managed to say Hotmail. He said that was not in India, I said it was done by Sabeer Bhatia who was Indian.

It was more of an HR interview. Asked me 2 good things and 2 bad things abt my college. In bad things I mentioned about them not encouraging boy-girl interaction in my college. Faced a lot of questions and grilling on this. Hope I didn't make a mess.

Alumnus looked a bit serious...I Thought he was acting serious. In between he lost control and smiled for a sec. (Guess I said some blunder) then went back to serious state. He asked a lot of questions. Why MBA, why quit job, why not PGSEM, why didn't you use financial Engg lessons you learnt in college to invest, what you plan to gain from MBA course etc.

Old professor was very friendly and considerate. He asked questions like which is Ur fav subj. I said my fav sub is Dig Electronics. When asked nothing else, I told the truth. Many topics were my fav, but for today I prepared only this subj...So he asked if I am giving you spot offer to join say within 2 months, can you pick up basics in time...I said I was confident I could do it....He asked what if I became ill...tried to explain...Again at the end he said about brushing up basics...

Rate your preparation (0-5): 4

Rate your performance (0-5): 3.5

MISC.

Any other relevant detail.

Total 20 people were there and 2 panels. Each handled 10. One panel was very strict and did stress int. mine was full HR. No certificates, no ext cur/hobbies Qns. When they asked at the end if I have any Qs, I asked do they want to check certs. They said they look at only what I say!

VERDICT: Awaited

was not very good, was not very bad. An okay Interview. Couldn't project my achievements. It was outlined in SOP but not detailed. Don't know how they will evaluate based on 25m session. Fingers crossed.

Rahul Ranjit

PGP 2010-12, IIM Bangalore

Interview experience of: [vishwakarmavk](#)

Acads

X: 84.5 % AP Board, 2000. 1st in class

XII: 96.2% AP Board

Grad: VIT, Vellore ECE. 8.46

Work-Ex:

IT - Software, 43 months

CAT (2009-10):

DI : 97.xx

Quant : 88.xx

Verbal : 93.xx

Aggregate : 96.9 %ile

(category if applicable) OBC

Extra acads : None

Any other special thing abt u: client is an Investment Bank

IIM Blore , 5th April

ESSAY:

India will be superpower in near future ...

10 min for thinking n making notes, 30 for writing

Brief Snapshot of the attempt:

Time given : 40 min overall

Rate your preparation(0-5): 4

Rate your performance(0-5): 5

P.I:

A1: So vivek, what is this 'Settlements' process u are working on

Me: answered well

P1: So what is the risk

Me: Answered

P1: what is System risk in settlements.

Me; Not sure Sir.

P1: Ok, how do we ensure guaranteed settlements

Me: Sir, NSCC, and DTC etc take part. Central Counter Party, Boxes at DTCC etc... Full on Gyan

P1: Ok, so what is more risky, FID or Equity, from a settlements perspective

Me: Situational... In one way FID, in other way EQ... Explained...

P2: Okay, how did Morgan Stanley come into being ...

Me: Sir, Morgan and Stanley came together..... ..

P2: Ok, where else we see Morgan these days...

Me: Sir, JP Morgan Chase...

P2: Ok, so these two Morgan's are same?

Me: Yes Sir, Morgan jv with Stanley, became Morgan Stanley in 1935 and JP Morgan chose to b a commercial bank ...

P2: Okay, so which Law helps a bank to chose to be a IB or a commercial bank...

Me: Not sure Sir. But FED allows MS to become a bank holding company, allowing it to access discounted rates and more access to liquidity

P2: U doesn't read on this financial stuff?

Me: I do Sir, as and when I get some chance...

P1: so now u know what is System risk in settlements. (** Remember, he asked me in beginning)

Me: With a stupid smile, not Sure Sir...

P2: Okay Vivek, what are the issues going on in your region... (Telangana)

Me: Sir, Telangana Separation issue...

P2: I know that baba, anything else ...

Me: Sir, Naxelites problem...

P2: elaborate ...

Me: Sir, there used to be a lot of issues earlier, but it has gone down drastically these days...

P2: Why?? It is growing elsewhere...

Me: Yes Sir, its spreading to Chattisgarh and Orissa, because these ppl need forests to hide and Adilabad is growing well in terms of infra, roads etc... So Naxelites have trouble hiding...

P1: what is Vishwakarma... where u get this name from

me; Sir, we get second names from our fore fathers, got it from there...

P2: what is important about Vishwakarma

Me: Sir, in our words, he is the Civil Engg of the world ... Machinery, architect etc...

P1: why u moved from Adilabad to Guntur for 11th...

Me: Sir, no availability of post 10th in our town...

P1; Yes, but why not Hyderabad?

Me: Sir that was the best school for 11th, 12th in Andhra Pradesh ...

Ok great ... I am done ... anyone else ?

Vivek, u have any questions?

None now Sir

Ok great, we are done... All the best Vivek.....

Now the thing is everyone was interviewed for 25 mins max... Mine was 13-14 mins....

Verdict: Converted.

Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta

Interview experiences during the admission seasons between 2005 and 2010

IIM Calcutta - Year 2005

Interview experience of: [manu011](#)

Result : Converted

Date: 14th March

Center

R: IIM-B..

My background: B.Tech (Mechanical), IIT Delhi, working in software firm for 2 years..

GD

11 people in group...

Topic - "There are no facts, only interpretations"...

With 11 people competing for 15 mins of air-time it became bit loud and messy...

In the end, they gave each of us - 1 min to express his/her point...

Interview

3 people in the panel

1. Behavioural Science Prof - A
2. Finance prof - B
3. Industry Guy - C

A: Tell us something about yourself...

Me: I started by saying something about some principles of my life...

B: (cutting me in) leave this.. tell us about your background, about your schooling, what you have been doing etc.

Me: (smiled) i come from meerut, did my schooling from there... did my engineering from IIT-Delhi... blah blah blah

B: (he was very VERY aggressive, he was practically jumping out of his seat) what would be $(x-a)^*(x-b)^*(x-c)^* \dots^*(x-z) = ?$

Me: Zero

B: (aggressively) why?

Me: coz there would be a term of $(x - x)$ in this multiplication that would make it 0.

B: And what would happen if I change "x" with capital "X", so that equation becomes $(X-a)^*(X-b)^*(X-c)^* \dots^*(X-z) = ?$

Me: depends upon the values of small "x" and capital "X", if they are equal..

B: (cutting in between) ok, leave it...

A: why do you want to do M.B.A ??

Me: I believe there are 2 aspects of a business - technical and managerial.. blah blah.. (they seemed bored by this answer... B broke in..)

B: You have written that you want to start a "concept-store", what is this?

Me: I started explaining it...

B: (again, cutting me in, before i could complete) What will you sell there? Who will be your customers?

Me: Told him about my idea

A: different industrial high precision components that I want to market, and why do I want to do it... (wanted to give an example of Asian paints and TELCO)

B: (again, before i could complete myself) What will be the size of this store?

B: (before i could say anything) Ok, where will you start it?

Me: Wherever new industries will be starting, for example pimpri pune, outskirts of chennai...

B: Tell me one place.... how many people will you employ?

Me: Sir, it depends upon....

B: (again, cuttin me) ok, you open it in karolbagh, New Delhi...

Me: (smile) ok sir

B: So what will you sell over there?

Me: Sir, it will depend upon which kind of industries are coming up there...

B: You don't know it? you have lived for 4 years in IIT-Delhi....

Me: IIT-Delhi is in south Delhi, far away from karolbagh... I don't have much idea about carol-bagh...

B: Assume some industries....

Me: Ok, lets assume there are paint manufacturing companies coming up there...

B: What will you sell to them? paint? plastic-powder? huh?

Me: No sir (smile) paint manufacturing Co.s will need different types of high precision pumps, motors, feed water heaters etc and some software to run them..

B: So, what good is this idea? everything is available on internet.. why would somebody come to you?

Me: Because I would...

B: (again, before i could complete my sentence) no no no... why don't you start a grocery store?

Me: (smile) Yes one can even start a grocery store and earn a lot from it, but I believe this one is far superior idea...

B: You start a grocery store... i can even think of name for your grocery store...

Me: (smile) what name?

B: "Grocery.com"

Me: (smile :smile: by this time, i am lost, as to what should I make of this interview...This guy is just blasting me, without even hearing what I have to say... so I decide to remain cool and smile, no matter what....)

A: See Manu, we have been taking interviews for past many years, and every year students come and say the same old thing that they want to start a business. It has become a fashion.We think, this is because of coaching institutes that have come up, so we just want to judge whether you are actually interested in starting a business, or you are saying it just because some coaching institute told you to do so..

Me: Sir, I don't know about others, but I can talk about myself.. (I went about explaining a business proposal of "concept-store", that I had made few months ago, and how it had bombed)

A: But if you really want to start your business, you should be very passionate about it. You need to know everything that is there about it, you should be a living encyclopedia on that topic...

Me: Talked some more on that business proposal....

B: So why don't you join your family business? It would be much easier for you....

Me: Yes, of course I can do that.... but I wanted to do only that, why would i have taken so much pain to clear IIT-JEE and now CAT?? (I gave some principles that my Dad taught me and how me motivated me to study hard, explaining the significance of good education)
(for the 1st time, they looked sort of satisfied..)

A: (politely) Manu, if we ask you some questions from your IIT academics and decide on whether you are a good student or not, based on your performance on those questions, would that be fair?

Me: Yes, but I do not remember everything from my IIT academics...

A: Of course... It has been 2 years since you passed out... So which subjects do you remember?

Me: My favorite subjects were "Thermal Science", "Power Plant Engineering", "I.C Engines", "Automobiles" etc.

A: We wont ask you from these. We will ask you something very simple from a course that you did during your 4th year - "Financial management"...

Me: (what the hell! Why did you asked for my favorite subjects when you didn't wanted to ask from them) ok sir

A: Do you remember different ratios?

Me: (why is a Behavioural Science prof asking me something from financial management, while finance prof. (B) is sitting idle???) Yes sir, we taught different ratios like debt-equity ratio etc.

A: What is liquidity ratio?

Me: (ooooops) It is the ratio of "liquid assets of a company i.e. cash" to the "total assets of company".... (i am not 100 % sure)

A &

B: (laughing)

A: Are you sure?

Me: I am not 100 % sure, but this is what i remember...

A: (still laughing) Tell me, what will you do with such a ratio?

Me: If this is the correct definition of liquidity ratio, one can analyze....

A: (cutting me short) Leave this... tell me one thing... we have been wanting to ask this for a long time... tell me 3 things that will lead to Industrial revolution in U.P.....

B: Assume that you are the God and u can do anything that u wish...

Me: One of the major causes of problems being faced by UP is its high population and wide spread poverty. So if we need to bring any kind of development, the 1st thing to do, would be to check these two...

B: (jumping) And how will u do this? You will take a machine gun and start killing down people?

Me: (smile) No sir, I...

B: Ooh then you will take a Bomb and blast it to kill people...

Me: No sir, you need to educate people, make them more aware...

A: No no... I can argue that this big population will be your prospective consumers.. this is not a valid point... start all over again...

Me: The 1st thing to do would be to provide ample opportunities to people wanting to start their own business..

A: And what will you do for this?

Me: One thing to do would be to provide interest free/ low interest loan to anybody who wants to start his/ her business...

A: What do you think Indian Govt. is doing for past 50 years?

A & **Me:** (in chorus) Exactly the same....

A: Then? How different is it from what Govt. is being doing? Infact people take loan at lower rate and misuse it or lend it at higher rate to others....

Me: The problem, is not in the policy itself, but its implementation... the policy is good and praise worthy but govt. hasn't been able to implement it properly, hasn't been able to enforce it. I will try to concentrate on implementation part..

A: Ok ok... what next?

Me: A state cannot progress, unless its women also progress... they have to contribute in its development...

A: (cutting me) Which is the most industrialized state in India?

Me: Maharashtra

A: So what has the women of maharashtra done for its development?

B: Ooh you must be thinking that those skimpy actresses wearing extra small clothes have made Maharashtra industrialized...

Me: (smiled) No sir. Maharashtra developed for a different reason all together, but same things / situations cannot be applied to every state... in a state like UP, large population of women are deprived of their rights... men are the bread earners and they dominate women... and just as you said men misuse the aid provided by Govt. do, if the women are involved in business, the men will not be able to misuse the money... I will pass a law, that will ensure that a family female member is always a business partner, in all new businesses... this will check corruption and misuse of Govt aid..

A: Ok, and what's your 3rd point?

Me: (I think of talking about Railways and electricity, but then I think, these people will hit back saying that Govt has not been able to do anything in 50 years)

Me: I will reform education sector...right now students think of choosing one out of 2 professions - Medicine & Engineering...I will start new subjects at school level that will give insight into other career options...plus i will initiate colleges that will teach industry specific practical courses....

A: Do you know what "Ghaziabad" is called? I will tell you - it is called "City of management"... you know why? because, there are more than 50 MBA schools over there, offering different kinds of courses.... so what good it your idea?

B: Yes, and you never talked about electricity situation in UP...

(now he is saying it, i thought he will rip me apart if I mention electricity sector)

A: Thats it, you can leave.....

Me: Thank you sir

Interview experience of: [RINKU](#)

Result : Converted

I had my GD//PI yesterday at IMI delhi.

10 class:90%

12 class:91.6%

final year computer engineering

acads sucks 😞

CAT Percentile : 99.41

GD TOPIC:The world is insecure because of one superpower.

3 minutes to think,12 min discussion and 1 minute summary.

There were 10 people,no girl.

All were engineers,except one B Com guy.

I started the discussion and talked about what superpower is, military, economic. Then also chipped in with some data like 12 trillion\$ GDP (I wanted that someone should interject because I did not wanted to blurt out all the points in one go) but continued and talked about cold war,dictatorship and big daddy kind of attitude of US president and also about fall of USSR.(I spoke for around a minute). After this i made 4 more entries and talked about kyoto protocol, NASA mission to mars and how it was beneficial for the whole world,also abt US fight against terrorism, NPT and CTBT.

Then summarized, I felt that I did not summarized well.

I was the last one (10) to be interviewed, I have to wait for 2.5 hours.

There were 3 guys in the interview panel

L (bengali old professor), C (old prof but he appeared to be the boss), R (young guy alumunus from IIMC working in McKinsey).

Me:yours truly

L calls me in.

C: So you are the last one, how does it feel to u ?

ME : Sir it is ok and I am used to it.

R: Interjects, used to it?

Me: Yes sir during the placement time in college interviews take place even in the night (actually I wanted to lead them to my good placements)

C: Ok just tell me what advantages you are having since you are the last one to be interviewed.

Me: Sir now I know the pattern of interview, and you are stressing more on general awareness, less on maths and acads, and I also know that interviews are lasting for around 20 minutes.

C: Ok tell me what all questions we have asked?

Me: Sir you asked about President of India, Assam problem, questions on limits etc.

R: So what should we ask ?

Me: (happy so that i could lead them to my strength areas) Sir you can ask about capital markets?

R: What else.

ME : Finance, Eco affairs.

R: What else?

Me: Politics (all were smiling), Maths

R: What else?

Me: (finally i gave up and said) Computer Engineering
(I was expecting some tech question and I am pathetic in tech)

C: What else?

ME : About Presidents

C: You must have prepared this question now.

Me: You can ask about PM, CM, you can ask about Delhi

C: Why delhi?

Me: Because I am from Delhi, but you can ask about Calcutta or India as whole or about the world also.

R: Why are you wearing a tie?

ME : Sir formal situation, big occasion.

R: So do you think that we will not consider, a person who is not wearing a tie for selection?

Me: No Sir, the dress could have only positive or negative impact, but it cannot be the criteria for selection.

R: You seem to be a person who don't want to take risk coz u don't want to take risk by coming to interview in casuals.

Me: Sir I am not averse to talking risk, even when when I will work in company I will be willing to take risk, but it will be a calculated risk.

R: Tell me 3 qualities why we should select you?

Me: Goal oriented, team player and started telling them about my good extra curricular records. Told him sponsorship secretary in college fest budget of 20 lac, VP of Rotary club etc.

R: So you have all the skills, then why do you want to do MBA?

ME : Gave him already prepared answer

All of them appeared satisfied.

C: I was reading a newspaper few days back and read about e-choupal, can you please help me as i did not understand what actually it is?

Me: (really happy) explained abt it, ITC etc.

C: Do u think it would be feasible for illiterate farmers to operate computer?

Me: I went global talked about US and technologies available to them. Short term benefits will not be visible but in long run it is good. Also talked about manufacturing and agriculture sector, and govt rural education programs, mid day meal schemes etc.

L: He was going through my certificates and showed something in the file to other panelist.

C: Do you think this mid day meal scheme is ok?

Me: Yes sir, really good and gave facts about poverty, kalahandi etc and also told them about for India to progress it is very important for the rural India to progress.

L: Where is kalahandi?

Me: Orissa

C: Have you heard about digital divide?

Me: Thought for second and told that people in cities have access to all technologies etc while the rural and undeveloped parts don't have access to these etc.

C: Do you think labour laws and mid day meal scheme is interrelated?

Me: (I thought for a second or two) Yes sir.

C: How?

Me: Sir since mid day meal scheme is started by govt and it provides free education and meal to children and on the other side it has made laws to prevent child labour. So both of them are complementary.

C: Will it work?

Me: I went global and said really important, coz people should realize that education is very important etc.

C: How mid day meal scheme will help in curbing poverty?

Me: In addition to mid day meal other steps should be taken.

L: No you tell us how mid day meal will help?

Me: People should send there kids to school and they should realize that child labour of their kid will lead to spoiling his future, and should send kids to school so that he become engineer or what not and maybe do MBA from IIM Calcutta.

All started laughing.

C: And yes then all the kids will become MBA from IIM Cal.

Me: Smiled.

OK thanks all the best

Me: Thank u .

Interview lasted for around 20 minutes.

There was no tech, no maths

I think they want to check that how I take pressure by repeatedly asking mid day meal scheme. Throughout the interview they were smiling and seemed satisfied. I felt good after interview.

Interview experience of: [arnavsinha](#)

Result : Converted

I haven't been posting my interview experiences till now as the thought of writing the entire thing down was very daunting and uninviting. But partly because I realised how much I had enjoyed (and been helped by) reading other people's experiences and partly because I had a more interesting IIMC interview than at A and I (which were way too cool and sort of detached), I thought of putting it down here. I think it was a so-so experience, and I might make it if I am lucky. Whaddayasay?

Had my GD/PI at IMI on the 16th at 9:30am.

Background: Chemical Engineering Dual Degree student at IIT Delhi.

GP

A: Average

X - 82% (CBSE)

XII - 87% (CBSE)

Lots of extra-curriculars (mainly quizzing), awards and positions held.

CAT percentile - 99.90

The GD topic was "MBAs are mercenaries", which I thought was fairly interesting. There were 8 of us in a group. I began off with giving a definition of mercenaries and in what sense the word could have been used in this context. I was moving on to describe one point of similarity possible between them and MBAs when it was hijacked by another guy. Spoke three times in between, mentioned both sides of the issue like the fact that there are several managers and CEOs who are hired solely for the sake of bringing profits to the firm by offering greater perks plus there's also a certain degree of ruthlessness required at times which is again similar to a mercenary, but there's again the issue that in the case of MBAs it's not always the money which is the motivating factor but other criteria like opportunity for personal growth, personal beliefs, work-environment, etc. Most of the guys were hell-bent on bringing the discussion to an analysis of ethics, the changes being brought about in B-schools and how high morals were expected from managers, while another guy and myself were more interested on discussing what was actually happening today rather than what was expected in theory. Two guys mentioned the example of Infy and Tata sticking to social responsibilities while Reliance concentrating more on its bottomline, and so both types of corporate policies were possible. I said that even this example proves to some extent the issue at hand because while the people leading the Tata group or Infosys are not MBAs, the two gentlemen at the helm of affairs at Reliance are.

The GD lasted for a little over 10 minutes after which everyone was given a minute in random order to speak uninterrupted. I could have done a much better job than what I did. I essentially briefly summarised what we had discussed, and then using an example of the recently fired CEO Carleton Fiorina mentioned that today many MBAs are brands in themselves who are hired for a high pay by firms solely to show results based on their past record. Firms are responsible too for the current state of affairs and we shouldn't simply put a blanket blame on MBAs for their selfishness or lack of ethical grounding.

The GD overall was very cordial and everyone spoke fairly well. I think I did a decent enough job, but could have done better.

Was fifth in line for the PI. I might get the sequence of some questions wrong, or might forget some altogether. And of course the answers aren't verbatim, the questions most of the time are.

There were three gentlemen in the panel. Left (L) - an alumnus, Middle (M) - a South-Indian professor who had a cute smile, Right (R) - a Bengali professor who was taking care of announcing the instructions and calling students' names and stuff. (I - myself)

Note that I said the interview was 'interesting' and not 'good'. You'll know why in a while.

Almost as soon as I sit down after R asks me too,

L (extremely serious) : Hi Arnav, do you think you are a weak student?

I (smiling) : Well sir, my overall GPA at IITD might suggest that, but I wouldn't say that. No, sir.

L: Not only in college, but even in school your percentages are pathetic. Who gets such low marks in CBSE?

I: Sir, I amaa sorry but I do not agree that my marks are bad in school. They might not be as high as most students in a similar position who might have studied in schools in Delhi or other cities. But I did my

schooling from a small township in Jharkhand where at times we wouldn't even have any teacher for a particular course because he had left mid-session for a better offer from the city. I think I made the most out of the situation even then. It's also all that more difficult in such a situation for a student to dream of coming to IIT and I worked hard to achieve that dream. So I think I didn't do badly at school.

L: Arnav, do you smoke?

I: No sir.

L: Do you drink?

I: Yes sir.

L: Drugs?

I (with an incredulous look, that came on naturally): No sir.

L: Do students in IITs do drugs?

I: Well, unfortunately, yes sir.

L: So how do we know you aren't telling a lie?

I (smiling): Sir, I can't obviously furnish a proof for that. I can only request you to have faith in my honesty as I have only my word in my defense.

L: I am sure it's because of your drug-addiction that you have such horrible acads at IIT. Come on accept it. What else can be a reason if not that?

I: (talked about how I can't pinpoint at one particular reason for not doing well academically...said that I probably had a negative attitude to begin with and had assumed that I wasn't interested in Chemical Engg and then was more inclined to concentrate my time on extra-curriculars...I can't in anyway justify or reason out my academic performance...I have realised the importance of grades the hard way, and also that interest depends on attitude completely...I have learnt from my mistakes and one of the reasons why I want to continue in an academic field is because I want to prove it to myself that I can still do well in acads despite the apparent failure at the graduate level and am more than willing to work hard to achieve that...I am confident that I'll be able to do well in the future)

L: How do you expect us to believe you'll do well in an equally competitive environment at IIMC?

I: Sir, as my records would show I haven't done badly in all my courses. I did well in tough courses if I was interested in them, and as I said interest has got a lot to do with attitude. I think what is different today from what the case was in my engineering course is the attitude with which I am taking up the course, and also the fact that while I wasn't very proactive when the stream after school was being decided for me, the choice for a course in management is a more informed one, a much more conscious decision.

L: What course did you do well in?

I: I did well in my Humanities courses, mainly Literature, and an Economics course. Also a few courses from Electrical engg including one on AI where I had to compete with final year and PG students from the Elec Engg deptt. (I felt that I was going to be screwed after this on eco or AI but he luckily picked up literature)

L: Oh, Literature eh? So what do you like in lit?

I: Sir I devour almost everything voraciously, but I am mainly interested in Modern Fiction. Authors like Hemingway, Nabokov, Marquez, Naipaul.

L: You mentioned Hemingway. Did he ever get the Nobel?

I (after a short pause): Yes sir, he did.

L: For what book?

I: The Old Man and The Sea, sir.

L: Is the Nobel given for a book?

I: No sir, generally it is awarded to an author based on the whole repository of his works, but there have been a few cases where the citation mentions one particular book. In case of Hemingway it mentioned this book (I wasn't sure of this but it turned out right when I checked)

L: OK, now tell me what is your aim in life?

I: Sir, I want to be a successful man. Career wise. And also in my personal life. At the end of my life when I look back I want to be a satisfied man.

L: What career?

I: Sir, I have always aspired to be a corporate leader. To work my way up through the corporate world to lead a business group.

L: A CEO basically?

I: Essentially, yes sir.

L: How much time do you think you would need to become a CEO?

I: Sir, if I begin right after graduating from IIMC (that was cheeky) I think a period of 15-20 years should be a safe margin. Of course, it depends on the firm I am working in, its policies, the hierarchical structure.

L: Do you know of anyone who has become a CEO in 15-20 years?

I: (I realised then that even L might have passed out from IIMC 15-20 years back...I cursed myself) Sir, I remember reading about some illustrious people who have achieved that, but I am sorry I can't cite an example at the moment.

L: Arnav, I think you do a lot of kite-flying. Don't you think so too?

I (with a grin): Sir, I know the literal meaning of kite-flying but I fail to see the connection. Could you please elaborate sir?

L: Your statements are very global with no substantial basis. You want us to believe that you'll do well at IIMC, you promise us that you'll become a CEO in 15-20 years, I don't believe a word you have said.

I: (what else could I do but smile, and pray silently that he would let me off for chrissakes!)

L: So you are going to be a CEO? What are the two most important qualities that a CEO should have?

I: Sir, a CEO should be strong at his technical and business fundamentals. But more importantly, he should have compassion for people (more global talk) as a lot of other desirable traits like leadership, team playing abilities, integrity, follow naturally then.

L: Why should he be good at fundamentals? He can hire MBAs like you for a lot of money to do his dirty work?

I: But sir, as a leader he would need respect, something which he can't get if he isn't good at what he expects his employees to do.

L: But what if he's a finance guy working in a manufacturing firm? He wouldn't know the technical aspects of that industry.

I: I agree, but at the very least he should be strong in his field of finance. Along with that, it'll be a nice thing if he has some idea of the manufacturing process too as he would be able to appreciate the work being done by his peers better. He can learn some of the basics while on the job.

L: You say that a finance manager can learn technical stuff simply by being in a technical industry. What's the use of spending four years in engineering then?

I: Sir, the level of expertise required from an engineer is of course very different from what is expected from a finance manager. Apart from that as all of us know, and it's something that I have gathered from my friends who are working in core areas also, a lot of the stuff involved in the industry is learnt only when you are on the job and is very different from what you studied in books. In a similar vein we can expect a finance person to learn some basics when he joins an industry even if he is not expected actually to go into the plant and get

involved in the details. (I have lived all my life in a manufacturing industry environment, so I was sure I wasn't bluffing...but I was being a little vague)

L then looked at M to pass the baton.

M: Arnav, do you think you capitalized well after you initiated the GD?

I: Sir, I believe I did well during the course of the GD and introduced new viewpoints later on. Also, as I came to know later when we were discussing outside, there were quite a few of my friends who weren't sure of the meaning of the word mercenary, so I thought it was a decent thing to do to begin with defining it. So yes I think I did a fair job, though I could have framed my thoughts in the last minute slightly better.

M: OK, tell me, have you read Five Point Someone?

I: Yes sir, I have.

M: Do you agree with what the author has to say about IITD students? Is it the truth?(not again!)

I (with a wide smile): Not at all sir, not at all. The book was more an attempt to write popular fiction than the truth about life at IIT Delhi. Unlike the protagonists in the novel, most students at IIT Delhi who don't do well at studies find an outlet in other areas and perform well there. They don't get demoralized or show contempt for authority as the three young men in this novel do.

M: What have you performed well at?

I: Sir, I have been involved in a lot of things at the hostel as well as institute level. I have represented IITD in various quizzes and literary events. I write regularly. I have served in various committees.

M: Do you have any particular interests in current affairs? Politics, economics, sports...

I: Sir, I follow the political happenings regularly, and lately have been keeping abreast with economic issues too.

M: What is PPP?

I (I fumbled slightly as I forgot the full-form for a moment): Sir, it expands to Purchasing Power Parity and is a means to compare the economic status of two countries. I think it's done by comparing how much goods can a person in a country buy for a particular value of money as compared to a person in another country for the same amount of money. It gives an idea of the relative strength of currencies. (M seemed satisfied)

M looked at R now.

R: You are a Dual Degree student. So that means you'll be getting a BTech as well as an MTech degree?

I: yes, sir.

R: And you'll finish all that by June 2005.

I: Yes, sir.

R: Arnav, I'll give you a Maths question now. If you do it right you'll win a biscuit.

I (smiling): Sure, sir.

R: Draw a circle that touches both the coordinate axes.

I did that

R: Now get me the equation and explain how you get it.

I did that too.

R: Now draw a tangent to this circle that also makes an angle of 30 degrees with the x-axis.

I was initially making the tangent on the right side of the circle, but realized that it would be 330 deg actually. Corrected myself in time.

R: Now tell me how you are going to get the equation of this tangent.

I: Sir. we know the slope which is $1/(\sqrt{3})$. Now if we get the coordinates of the point at which it touches the circle we can get the equation. We could also do it by finding out the intercept that the tangent makes with the x-axis, but finding the point is easier.

R: Good, how will you find that?

I said that we'll have to solve the two equations (circle and the line) together. He smiled and said, "I'll give you a hint. How many roots does a quadratic equation have?"

I: Sir two, but they can be equal at times.

R: And when are they equal?

I: When the determinant is zero.

R: That was your hint. Use that now.

Thought about it a bit. With every passing moment I was getting slightly more tense as all three were staring at me, and I was staring at the sheet.

Finally, just as I was about to give up I realized that using the two equations and getting a quadratic equation and then equating the determinant to zero we might get one of the coordinates. Told him that, and he gave a wide smile. Asked me to pick a biscuit. Did that with visible relief on my face. But immediately L took over.

L: Arnav, are you nervous?

I (with a sheepish smile): Yes sir, I am, slightly.

L: How do you rate your nervousness - high, medium, low?

I: Sir, I would say medium. I think I am as nervous as any normal person would be expected to be in a similar situation where something that is important to him is involved. It's important to me that I get an admission to IIMC and so I want to perform to my best.

L: Is it good to be nervous?

I: Actually sir, it is. It gives you a certain nervous energy that helps you be alert and try to perform above average. If I wouldn't be nervous I would probably be more laid-back towards the whole process, but as I said the process is important to me and so I am more involved.

L: What's the difference between nervousness and anxiety?

I: Sir, anxiety has more negative connotations, while nervousness can be positive too. When I am anxious I would feel that I have already lost and be demoralized while when I am nervous I would push myself to perform better.

Before I gave this answer I said to L that he would again term my answer kite-flying, at which he smiled for the first time since I had gone in.

R: Arnav (he pronounced my name as Ornob), can you spell 'occurrence'? (now where did that come from!)

I wrote occurrence twice, once with double r and then with a single r and then struck out the latter and showed him. He smiled.

R: OK, now give me a good adjective derived from the word 'government'

I: Sir, gubernatorial.

R: Spell it.

Did that.

R: OK, good.

L: What are your interest areas in quizzing, Arnav?

I: Sir, mainly literature and entertainment, mostly movies.

L: OK (and he smiled again, wow!)

R: Do you have any questions for us?

I asked them something related to a statement on their website which hinted that IIMC encouraged general management even though there were opportunities for specialisation. They said that it depends completely

on the individual as electives are solely his choice. He can do all electives in one area or try out a combination. They don't force either.

That was the end of the marathon interview. Lasted for almost 25 minutes. I am sorry for such a detailed description. But wasn't sure what to leave out. Any inputs on whether I should expect a positive response. I think I handled the stress part decently enough, but didn't do very well in the maths question (had to use a hint) and also seemed slightly vague in the career question. My A and I interviews were way too cool for comfort. This one was more fun despite the attempt to stress me out.

IIM Calcutta - Year 2006

Interview experience of: [vinz](#)

Hey guys...Back from Bombay yesterday....Before I narrate my exp, thnx a ton for all ur bday wishes....I am really touched..ok on to IIMC now..

GD:

I always wondered how the hell can abstract topics turn into a fish market....Sadly God had to answer that question in my GD only. The topic read "**To think from the heart**"The panel spoke it out and also started to write it on the board.....I thought there would be more to the topic, so I was aaram se waiting..Then I saw everyone busy scribbling and realized, oh crap, itna hi topic hai...aage kuch nahin..

Anyways, the GD was a big fish market...couple of guys were just bent on speaking and speaking, that's it....it was so irritating....reminded me of the NITIE GD.....no maturity at all....anyways, i spoke 2-3 times with examples and everyone listened.....so it was ok....I knew we would all be given a minute in the end to speak, so there was no lack of opportunity, but even then it was a chaos.....Summarized well in the end and added a new example as well.....So quite ok in the end

PI:

3 panelists....P1 was an alumni currently in the industry....P2 was a male professor....P3 was a lady. *Maine kaha chal beta vinz, le prabhu ka naam aur utar jaa maidaan mein*

After I walk in and am told to get seated,

P3: Why dont we begin by knowing something about you....

Me: (Thinking finally ek IIM ne to poocha...)...Gladly replied to this question. Ended the answer with my ultimate career goal.

P3: (Smiling)..You are telling me this coz you want to make us happy ?

Me: No mam, You can rest assured that you will not get any "politically correct" answers from me. This is something which I feel from the heart and have been dreaming about since my engg days.....Went on to explain in detail about why I intend to pursue this offbeat career later on.

P3: But once you start working in the corporate world, you will not like to leave it after 10 years as you say....

Me: No mam, I have always enjoyed diversity...Being in the Air Force, involving myself in so many extra activities....And I know for sure that this is what I aim to do irrespective of whatever I do in the corporate world.....My 10 year stint in the corporate is a ladder for this ultimate aim of mine.....I will be gaining experience, build networks etc etc for this ultimate aim only....

They still stretched me a bit on career goal but I guess I held my fort and they seemed pretty convinced.....I guess since this was an honest from the heart answer, I could convince them (or rather HOPE I could)....Whatever the case, they finally left that track.

P2: You seem to have a good academic record...specially in the final year.

Me: Sir Pune univ gives distinction at 66% (Mentioned that coz I had seen lotsa bombay guys having a 70+ percentage...) and I have distinction in all the years in Engg.

P3: So you have heard of this CSR ? What do you think about it ?

Me: Mam, I believe CSR is a concept, which if implemented in the earnest by corporates, can solve lots of our nations problems.....Went on to explain CSR, how it can tackle our problems, how companies can take undue advantage coz of it....

Not lengthy explanations, a couple of minutes I guess

P2: (Suddenly asks me something)

His voice was low, so I couldn't make out...Thought he was asking what that hairstyle!

Me: (Surprised, praying hope that's not what he asked) Sir excuse me ?

P2: What is an A* algorithm ?

Me: (Thanks heaven it's not about hairstyles): Sir, A* algo is a best first search algo in Artificial Intelligence that combines the advantages of.....

Told him that though I don't remember the exact algo, I can tell what it does.....explained the purpose of the algorithm mentioning all the key words that are a part of the A* algo...

P2: You have a family of 4...so who's the fourth member ?

Me: Sir, I have an elder brother who is in the Indian Navy.

P3: So your father and brother are in forces, why didn't u join the forces ?

Me: Explained my reasons.

P2 and P3 signal to P1, who was quiet till now.

P1: So you are in the IT industry, must be doing a lot of coding....(gave a pause)

Me: (Grabbing the pause) Not exactly sir, I am in the testing dept..

P1: Oh ok..

Me: (I dunno what was I thinking, maybe I got so comfy that I thought of cracking a joke) In fact sir, we testers have this saying that goes : "We don't make software.....We make it better"...I laughed thinking it was funny....but they didn't respond as animatedly as I did :(....*apne pair pe kilhadi maari shaayad..*

P1 (To my relief at least gave a smile): ok ok..so tell me what are the considerations when you release a product of your own ?

Me: Explained a couple of points..

P1: And ?

Me: (Thought): Added a couple more..

P1: And ?

Me: (Arre sir, bacche ki jaan loge kya) Thought and mentioned a trivial aspect and said can't remember more now..

P1 (Looked convinced though)...OK tell me what's the diff between customization and configuration ?

Me: (Dunno what happened, I knew the answer, still went blank, totally blank) Explained the difference a bit but unconvincing and finally said sir I don't know..

Pathetic of me because it was an easy question and I knew it....Damn

P1: Arre, You are in a product based company, you should know it (Jale pe namak...)

P1: See, customization is.....and configuration is.....

He explained the answer himself

Me: (Sheepishly) Oh yes sir, in fact now that you mention it, I can relate it to my actual work scenario and my product...(finally batti jali !!)

P1: What the strength of your company in India and World ?

Me: Answered.

P1: Who is your product head ?

Me: Answered.

P2: So whats your CAT percentile ?

Me: (First time ever I was being asked this in any PI) Sir, its 99.41

P2: Which calls ?

Me: Sir, all the IIMs.

P2: Which Interviews are over ?

Me: Answered.

P2: How was A ?

Me: Answered.

P2: If you get selected everywhere, which one will u take ?

(Here comes the dreaded tricky question 😬)

Me: Answered it well....it was an honest answer based on reasons and i guess they accepted it.

P2: Ok thank you so much.

I was about to leave just when P1 again asked..

P1: Do you perform beta testing ?

Me: No sir, beta testing for my product is done in Japan and SE Asia..

P1: Oh so they send it outside..hmm...ok..

P1: Why didn't you join a service based company ?

Me: Sir interestingly I had got placed in a service based firm xyz but decided against it and joined a product based one....Gave my reasons.....He seemed convinced...Also mentioned that finally, it was closer to my house also, so more time to prepare for CAT.

P2: OK, Thank you vinz.

Me: Thank them and move out.

Interview experience of: [cool](#)

Result : Not converted

Wat the heck.....angry: angry: :angry:

ek group 11 log 9 leadersresult complete fish market????? ...*ji haan main baat kar raha hoon bharat ke avval prabandhan sansathan ke samooh vaad ki...*

Topic - Ethics are not absolute...

Duration 12 mins...and 3 ppl were consistently speaking at a time.

Yeh C main hi hona tha kya...(and for others AWR has done a great job in GD...he is sure to convert it...time to celebrate his return)

One guy was talking a lot about ethics and was hell bent on speaking for all 12 mins(how is it ethical to make fish market out of GD to gain admission?? man)later anupam told me that he was a PGite (won't use his id here)....and most of the guys were TIME regulars....these coaching institutes really sucks....

Anyways, interview was better...2 Profs and 1 Lady prof....so (P1) (P2) and (L)...haan main bhi (M)

Ok after normal greetings I was sitting in the hot seat

L: (in softest possible voice) Please give me your admit card call letter and certificates..

M: Gave them to her..

P1: From where have you done your education??

M: Told (*aab yeh toh aata tha naa*)

(L got herself busy with my certificates and forgot abt me)

P1: So what are you doing now?

M: Told

P1: Have u learnt anything new at your job or is it same what you learnt at your institute?

M: Told them that since BI is a new technology for me and whatever we are doing at our department is new for me...then explained my job profile...and everything..

P1: So your work involves using that software only??

M: Told how we gather requirements...to realize how a particular data would come into effect...how the information would be derived from it...how we analyze data...and then how we generate reports...then how to see trends and from these trends how decisions can be taken and all that...

P1: So don't u think that using past data is not so good idea as you are relying too much what happened in past...

M: Told them that trends do help us in analyzing current markets...gave 2-3 examples...

P2: How reports are used...what type of reports??

M: Explained him with the example...

(score at this point....though doing fine could have given better example...*anyways GD ke marks abhie cover nahin hue...*)

L: You have written that you have work ex...but I can't find any certificate...

M: Gave her the pay slips...

L: I have missed out your points in GD...could you again give me your views..

M: Told them that ethics are relative thing and how they are dependent on different parameters....and different dimensions...

P1: Every ethic is relative?

M: Sir its very subjective..a particular thing that appears ethical at one point may not appear ethical at other...take the case of bribery...it is something which is outright unethical...so

P1: is killing a person ethical.

M: (*bhagwaan main gaya*) Sir killing a person for no reason is definitely unethical...but take the case of Euthanasia(thank god kya example yaad aaya hai)...it is legalized in Australia...blah blah....so as one person pointed out in GD dat it depends on culture....we consider it as killing someone..but they considered it as freeing someone from his woes....blah bla blah.....and then it is also subjected to the dimensions...take the case of business...business ethics nowadays are necessity since market today is competition driven and customer is king...blah blah blah...and now a days we have regulators at place...so business can't afford to be unethical.(was again back to giving my views about the topic)...blah blah

P2: You say that business can't afford to be unethical...I say that they can't afford to be ethical...

M: Sir it is because they are perceived like that....and when such a topic is given in B-school discussion (*yeh kyun bola yaar*) it is due to the fact that the perception about business is that they are not ethical but this is not the case...actually customer today is highly intelligent and highly educated...what they are buying from you??...they are buying satisfaction(marketing funda)...blah blah blah...so if a business try to be unethical then they are losing out in the market..thats why I think businesses can't afford to be unethical...blah blah

L: You have less marks...in engg

M: Same old fundas

P2: Yours is a 1st batch rite??

M:Yes sir

L: So what specialization you are interested in??

M: I haven't decided it yet...and i want to expose myself with different fields..before zeroing on to any specialization but...since i have ICT background and now am working in telecom company in IT domain...guess system focus would be there...

L: so u have given the test y'day ATM??

M: Yes

L: so that is your 1st preference??

M: (*yeh kya hai on the spot offer??*) Right now I can't commit....but most probably dat wud be my 1st preference and since we have the chance to take 2 majors in IIMC...guess I wud be going for that only..*(she was relieved to hear that)*

P1: Suppose your company has ordered for a new technology...that you know would be used for unethical purposes...would you be still continue to work in that company...considering that you won't be getting a better job...

M: 1st thing I'll do is to raise my voice against this thing..and will show my discomfiture to the management...will try to convince them that ethical practices are necessary in the long run...and if they still persist on going with that technology...i would leave the job...because if I can't agree to the practices of the company then I won't be happy working in that company....and will try to get a new job..because even though I can't get a better job..I at least could get a job of same level...

P1,P2,L...thank you...thank you...thank you

Bad GD will haunt me...not sure how they'll mark the chaotic GD...else guess PI was ok....missed out in giving some real good examples to work ex questions...still....that feeling which came after L interview wasn't there after this.

Interview experience of: [Yogesh Patwari](#)

Result : Waitlisted

Had my IIMC GD-PI on IIMC campus itself today...

I've not forgotten the betrayal by PGites from Kolkata.. but will post my experience still... see, I'm already contributing to the society in a selfless way (which I always mention as my objective in interviews)..

My Profile:

Final yr B.Com from St.Xavier's College, Kolkata..

Part-I: 73.5% (overall)

XII: 86.2%

X: 87%

plus CA PE-II completed in May 05

CAT %ile = 99.45

BLACKI calls + also XLRI (which went down the drain!!)

GD: Good

We were 10 of us (9 guys and 1 girl). Lots of familiar faces. I was a bit apprehensive as I'd got reports of the girl being a fiery speaker. Fortunately, it turned out to be a rumour (she was unusually calm during the GD).Anyway, we had a good discussion on the topic - "**The bulk of the population has not benefited from recent economic reforms**".

3 mins to think, 10 for the GD, and then a minute each for summarizing or adding a new point..

I came in a number of times and tried to give a direction to the GD by putting in points like... we must first understand the composition of the population, why benefits are not trickling down to the lower sections of the society, need for proper implementation... bureaucratic reforms, agricultural reforms etc. 😊 Overall, I guess I put in a decent performance. I must thank the group for being supportive.. unusual for me to do well in a GD. 🙄

Interview:

The panel was pretty chilled out... Though I was the last person to be interviewed, the panel seemed to be in a jovial mood... three profs... all very cool and friendly..

I messed up at a couple of places.. but felt that the panel was somehow satisfied..

Prof: Mr. Patwari, please take a seat..

Me: Thank you, sir.

Prof: So, you are from St. Xavier's?

Me: Yes sir...

Prof: Do you watch cricket, Mr. Patwari?

Me: No, Sir. I'm not fond of cricket..

At this they said 'good' and started laughing..

Prof: Probably, you got to know from other candidates who were interviewed earlier that the panel is not fond of cricket...(smiled)

Me: (smiled back).. Sir, I'm really not interested in cricket..

Prof: So, what are you doing together with Graduation? I see that u r doing CA...

Me: Yes sir, explained that I'd completed PE-II..

Prof: So, are you doing article ship?

Me: No, sir.. explained why not...

Prof: So, why not continue with CA? (obvious question!!!)

Me: gave the 'rata-rataya' answer.

Prof: (citing my ranks in CA) But I feel that the CA profession would lose out if guys like you come for MBA..

Me: Again justified my stand...

Prof: What is your relative position in your college?

Me: Sir, I'm among the top ten students of my college.

Prof: (visibly impressed) And, how much do you expect to score in Part-II?

Me: Sir, I'd try to get at least 75%.

Prof: Good..

Prof: Did you apply for campus placements in college. I hear they have been good this year..

Me: No, sir.. I'd not applied... but yes they have been good..

Prof: Did you study about Stock market in CA?

Me: No. sir.. we did not have any paper on Stock Market..(heaved a sigh of relief)

Prof: Very vaguely asked me something about Present Value... I explained that.. then he asked me what was to be taken as 'Discounting Factor'.. By mistake, told cost of capital.. later rectified my mistake by saying sorry and mentioned 'expected rate of return'.

Prof: What are your hobbies?

Me: Sir, reading and writing..

Prof: Recent books?

Me: Monk & Ferrari, Alchemist...

And we had a small chat on 'Alchemist'

Prof: I'll revert back to the 'Discounting Factor'.. let's say the company now approaches a bank for a loan.. what wud the bank look at?

Me: Past performance.. actual rate of return as against expected rate of return..

Prof: And..

Me: Risk..

Prof: What about debt-equity ratio?

Me: (shit.. I should have mentioned that first) Yes sir, in fact, this would be more important..

Prof: Yogesh, give me a 30 second lecture on Budget from a CA's point of view..

Me: sir, as in how it would affect the CA profession?

Prof: No, just CA's point of view..

I messed up here.. didn't know what is CA's point of view...

spoke about Service Tax.. how budget was low on reforms...

Prof: interrupted and said should have spoken about MAT and FBT...

I acknowledged that...

Prof asked me about percentile and calls...

Thank you..

I got up when one of the profs said.. "Yogesh, I suggest that you continue with CA.."

I said - "Sir, I'd prefer to do an MBA.."

They laughed and said 'All the Best'..

I said 'Thank You' and came out..

Don't know how it went. I felt good after the interview but can't forget that at least twice they had to give me the correct answers..

Everyone else had similar interviews...

guys, gimme your opinions..

Next IIMA on 24th..
ATB to others.

Interview experience of: [aesir](#)

Result : Converted

Done with C. Interview on 15th March 9.30 in Bangalore, Panel 2. About me, CA with 4 months workex. %le 99.96, BLACKI. My 4th interview after I,L and A. After reading through the posts here, I was half expecting the GD to go to pot and was determined to do the PI well. Could have kicked myself for thinking this with the way things turned out eventually.

GD started with 10 people (1 absent). The interviewers were 2 IIM C profs and one alumnus (as usual). We got a 5 min intro on the procedure – 3 mins to think, 12 mins to discuss and 1 min to speak on the topic individually. Asked if we were supposed to summarise in that 1 min, but was told that we could do whatever we saw fit.

The topic was “Media is King”. Quite a good topic for discussion as we could get a lot of points on this. To my surprise the GD was peaceful as all members in my group took an effort to listen and allow others a chance to speak. It was slightly aggressive as a chance to speak cannot be taken for granted but a far, far cry from being a fish market. Came in twice with points, but I was mostly engaged in supporting other people’s points. In retrospect I felt that I could have spoken up a bit more, but what the hell. Average to slight above average performance for me.

I was last but one to be called in (again). From the feedback we got from the persons who had finished, we gathered that there were a few questions an academics and workex, but it was mostly hobbies and general chit chat. Some were asked questions on maths. My turn finally came and I went in.

Q: Good afternoon. Take your seat.

A: Good afternoon.

Q: Let me see your file

A: Told him I would give what he required but he said he would take care of it. Guided him through extra Xeroxes, copies of call letters and other crap which was there in my file to what he was looking for-my workex certificate. (Made a note to label my Xeroxes for easier identification)

Q: So you cleared CA when?

A: July 05 and since then practicing in family firm.

Q: You cleared in July, yet you started only in September. Why?

A: Told him that my articleship got over only on Aug 14th as I turned 21 only then. Took around 10 days to get relieved and started in Sep.

Q: You’ve got 35th rank in final. Didn’t you attend campus?

A: Told him yes, but the jobs there were mostly accounts and audit. Wanted to elaborate a bit more on why I chose not to take up a job but I was interrupted by the next Q.

Q: Did you do your articleship in your family firm?

A: No, under some one else, my father’s associate.

Q: So how different was your work these 5 months from your articleship?

A: Was expecting this question at some interview or the other. So told him about increased responsibilities, different type of work, being in charge of audits, finalisation etc. Slipped in a word on a transfer pricing audit which I had just completed, but to my chagrin, no further questions on this.

Q: Name a few of your major clients.

A: Did so in terms of turnover, quantum of wok done etc.

(Now the fun starts)

Q: So, how good are you in Maths and Stats?

A: Told him that I was out of touch with maths for the last 4 years except for my CAT preparation. Stats however was a course in college.

Q: But our course consists of quite a lot of maths. I would say 80% of the course is maths. How well do you think you can cope?

A: At first my head reeled when I heard the figure. I knew C was quants heavy, but 80%? Shook my head to clear the cobwebs and answered that I had learnt calculus, etc at school level and was quite good at Maths at that time. I need to work harder than others but could easily bring myself up to speed.

Q: Also you have not studied Physics and Chemistry beyond 10th std. level.

A: Now this was some serious demotivation. Asked him (as innocently as possible, I swear) if there were papers on Physics and Chemistry in the course. At this point, I was prepared to believe anything.

Q: No, no. But you have to get used to looking at a situation as an equation. There are a lot of equations in finance too - derivatives, options etc.

A: Told him that I had learnt the concept in CA and only needed to infuse some maths into it.

Q: So you plan to specialise in finance right, it being your core competence and all.

A: Yes that's what I'm interested in, but would also consider other areas which can be useful, operations for instance.

Q: Okay let's ask some questions on stats. If I hand you raw data, what are the different measures you can find with it.

A: Told him measure of central tendency, mean, median, mode, but he said that the name of the measure would be enough. Followed it up with measures of dispersion.

Q: What do they mean?

A: Told him that central tendency summarized the data and presented it as one single figure while measures of dispersion showed how widely the data is spread across a range of values. In other words it shows to what extent we can rely on the measure of central tendency.

Q: So its better to have low dispersion or high dispersion? Give some examples.

A: Low dispersion is preferred because it means the values are closer to the mean i.e. mean approximates the value better. Gave him an example on return on securities and risk which I had studied in Fin. Analysis. Was really afraid he might ask me an example where high dispersion is better but thankfully he moved on to the next question.

Q: So in an economic perspective, what measure is being used to show the size of the economy?

A: Told the most obvious - GDP, but he said that he wanted a measure of central tendency, so replaced it with PCI.

Q: What can be said about the dispersion in the economy?

A: Told him that the economy shows a high degree of dispersion as there is a big gap between the top and bottom values i.e. (rich and the poor).

Q: What can be said to be a measure of dispersion in this case?

A: I asked him if he meant on the macro level as in that case the standard measures such as mean, std. deviation are irrelevant. He confirmed it. The only thing I can think of was certain statistics saying that 90% of the wealth is held by 10% of the people and 10% by 90%. Told him that such a statistic can be a measure of dispersion.

Q: Do you think the poverty line can be a measure of dispersion?

A: Was confused here and told him that I had heard of the poverty line in nutritional terms ie. 2400 cal/day/person. If anybody does not have this level of nutrition, he is poor.**Q:** So you're from Chennai? Where?

A: Told him the place and gave some directions and landmarks to boot.

Q: Can you compare the infrastructure of Bangalore and Chennai?

A: Told him that the roads and traffic situation in Bangalore were worse than Chennai which weren't good to begin with. Told him that it could be because we learnt from Bangalore's experience and are shifting development in IT and industry to the suburbs. He asked me where and I told him about Tambaram, Sriperambudur. Quite foolishly I missed out on saying Sholinganallur and Old Mahabalipuram which were more important.

Q: You mentioned Tambaram? What is special in it?

A: Could only think about the SEZ there as I had mentioned having a client there.

Q: Any educational institution?

A: (recollecting) Yes, Madras Christian College.

Q: Know any famous alumni there?

A: (Hell I knew only 2 alumni of my college) No sir. I don't

Q: How about S. Radhakrishnan?

A: That certainly was news to me!

Q: Can you tell me the difference between Mylapore and Triplicane?

A: (Arggh) Sir, I am familiar with Mylapore but I've not very knowledgeable on Triplicane. (Did I mention that I suck at routes and directions and that I rely on my friends for transport most of the time? This was a sitter question and most of the people whom I asked knew this)

Q: I mean in terms of the type of people that live there. Iyers, Iyengars?

A: I know that Mylapore has Iyers so Triplicane must have Iyengars.

Q: What is the major temple in each are?

A: Kapaleeswarar temple in mylapore, as I've been there many times, but again blank for Triplicane.

Q: Haven't you heard about the Parthasarathy temple?

A: I've heard of it but never been there.

Q: What is your opinion on the Jayendra Saraswathi issue? Are you a devotee of the Mutt?

A: (Warning bells ringing as this was quite a touchy issue among people as I've noticed among my friends) Gave a diplomatic answer. Told him that I don't support institutions and persons connected with god and I preferred our relationship to be one on one (or words to that effect)

Q: What is the latest development on the political front in TN?

A: Told him about Vaiko's defection.

Q: What do you feel about it?

A: Told him that it was wrong and could not bode well for Vaiko. Ideology is different etc.

Q: But isn't this common in politics which is a game of opportunism (laughs)? Where is the question of ideology here?

A: Told him that even if it is that way it should not be so as there should be atleast some ideology. If a person gets shut up in jail for 500 days by another, comes out vowing revenge and finally allies with his worst detractor after 2 years, it doesn't look nice.

Q: Who do you think will win?

A: Told him that Amma might win with odds 60:40 in her favour because of poll alliances and the fact that there has been development in that state whether attributable to her or not.

Q: But isn't she arrogant?

A: True but as long as she does some good people don't mind. Told about the measures to conserve water but was interrupted.

Q: Come on, is the water problem in Chennai solved? Answer well because I am thinking of buying land in Chennai (laughs all around).

A: Smile and say that even though some areas still face shortage, overall the problem has been reduced to some extent due to rainwater harvesting. However he asked me about Veeranam next and I was forced to say that it was a flop. Another question on the desalination plant and I said that it was a central initiative not yet started. Finally finished saying that as long as the people were happy they will vote for the incumbent govt. whether they were responsible for such development or not.

Q: Thank you.

A: The same here. And exit.

So it ends. Average PI but I had none of the feel good factor I had in A, only a vague sense of dissatisfaction. My performance seemed lacklustre, and the stuff on maths only served to pull me down further. Don't know what sort of impression I made on the interviewers with my answers. I feel that I could have answered some questions better and more elaborately if I'd been given the chance. Great, after GDs now I have trouble speaking up in interviews. Next stop K on 21st afternoon.

Interview experience of: [TrueScorpio](#)

Result : Not converted

Venue: mumbai

date: 14-03-06

Calls:CLIK

#:99.14 🙄

panel:1

GD: Life is a Chair

For the 1st time it happened wherein 3 panel had 3 different GD topics..... yes you heard me right... 3 different topics..

GD was good... made some good points... 4-5 points and summarized well... 😊

PI:

4 people in panel

P1: very very cool prof (he actually was wearing a cool cap n jeans n t shirt)

P2: Prof in some environment

I1: Alumni Industrialist from Rediff (had a chauffer driven chevrolet.... i wanna go to C)

L: Alumni lady (some food processing industry)

Even though everyones' interview before me were going good..... I really got very tensed when I was waiting outside, for my turn.

The guy before me had an experience of 15 yrs (why go for PI ... already through)

He told me to go after 1 min... i did that..

What I see is all the 4 people in an animated discussion (probably thinking, that the earlier guy should come to IIM C to Teach)

P2 saw me and told me to wait....

After other 2 mins, p2 called me in....

P1: give me the form

M: gave

P1: Tell me about yourself....

M: Was really nervous...started blabbering....then told them

P1: What do you think about your GD performance?

M: It was good. although it got a bit noisy, but I managed to give in some good points...

P1: Don't you think you were a bit loud?

M: Yes sir, my voice is loud...(cut me in half)

P1: But you are speaking normally now (ho gai na GOOGLY.....)

M: Yes sir (had 2 make some way out) GD was such that, one would have to raise the voice and then only he could be heard....I also did give some chances to other to speak, when more people were speaking at a time... (he seemed satisfied with that...Infact P1 was always very cool wid me... absolutely friendly... just like the good uncle in L interview)

P1: How would you rate yourself in a group of 11.

M: I would rate myself at 2nd position.... blah blah.... 😊

Silence for sometime... actually they were at loss of what to ask....

I1: What do you think that we actually look in a GD?

M: Told the usual stuff....what perception does an individual have about the topic, presentation, team work, group dynamism, good communication skills...(although my points were good... I did fumble here and there with the words)

I1: (with a wicked smile) So know if I would ask you to rate you, keeping all these group dynamism, communication skills in mind, now where will you rate yourself?

M: (Kyon bacche ke haath se Lolyop cheen rahe ho.... i was feelin very good after the GD.. aur ab yeh hai ki..... Monkey come down... monkey come down..... bol raha hai mujhe....still wid a smile i told..)

Sir with all these conditions I would rate myself at 3

P1: Your acads are so low....

M: Yes sir.... (and a whole round of questions and counter questions started..... Lady also joined the party)

P1 got up from his chair and went all the way round to give my form to P2 (why did he do that)

P2: What is all these about giving back to society.... just fancy words to impress us...

M: No sir, absolutely not... and started giving some funda.... and was abt to actually mention my whole plan about how I am gonna do it.... he cut me short.... wasn't convinced at all.... was infact laughing in between.

P2: (let me test what this stupid knows) asked me abt India's GDP

M: Told

P2: Agriculture contribution?

M: Told

P2: Largest contributor?

M: Told

P2: What is UN and what does it do?

M: Told ...(not very convincing though)

P1: (coming to my rescue....) Drew something and asked what will I do in this situation....

M: Thought and told

P1: Ok. Now if this happens, what will you do...?

M: Told

P2: (why do you wake up dude... am happy with answering to P1's questions...) what is a spike (in volleyball... had mentioned that...)

M: Told

P2: What is the second person called.?

M: Don't know...

P2: Is he called xxxx...(I did not get what he told...)

M: May be sir..

P2: What are the new rules for points in the international games... is it 11 or 21...

M: Got confused here.... finally managed to tell 21.. told him that I don't follow the game...but play it..

P2: So how many points are your games?

M: 21

P2: Is it not 15?

M: (am I solving multiple choice questions again) no sir

P2: SURE?

M: (mere compound main khelta hoon main..... kitne bhi points rakhoon....) SURE SIR

P1: If you were a manager and you would have 2 promote 2 persons of equal ability and everything else equal, whom would you promote? One is a Man and one is a Woman..

M: (yeh adam vs eve pe kyon aaya) After some time told "Man"

The reactions here were to be seen.... they were quite funny.... P2 who was on the extreme other side of P1, was pulling back his chair and bending backwards to see P1s reactions(yeh ladka kya bol raha hai) ... the Lady suddenly woke up...and pulled her chair towards me (ab aaya bachhu haath main... the industrialist also, leaned towards me (as if abhi mujhe kachha kha jayega...) P1 (my fav... as if protecting the young cub from the wild animals of the jungle.... gave me an interested look)

P1: Can you tell why?

M: Told, that was honestly what I felt.... man can work for long hours.... can go often to trips abroad...women have other responsibilities as well.....

everyone now got into action.... questions and answers round followed...lady also got into action, as if I had told something personal about her.... but in the end, felt that they accepted my point of view..

P1: Ok, Now last question? Now if u r going for a major surgery, here also you have 2 options.... 2 docs, who are equally qualified and reputed, whom will you go to for the surgery, a man or a woman?

M: (yeh nari shakti morcha, mere interview main kyon bhai.... kya bolu ab.. kuch ulta sidha bola wapis toh gaya... really thought hard and dimag ki batti jali) Thought for some time and answered "Woman"

P1: Don't be diplomatic, be honest

M: Sir, am not at all being diplomatic.... am giving very honest answers for both the situationns.... told them my reason..

P1: (seemed convinced) Hmmm a different view point..

I1: Ok one last question (*arrey abhi toh bola ki woh wala last quesn tha*)...

M: sure sir

I1: Should Saddam Hussain be given capital punishment?

M: (mujhe hi latka do...) blah blah..

I1: Tell me yes or no?

M: No sir.... told that it is not the solution... should give him life imprisonment, which will make him realise everyday again and again, what crime he has done..

I1: (looking convinced) oh you mean that it would be even greater punishment

M: Ya, not only that, he would have a chance to sit back in prison and do an introspection... and may be realize where he did go wrong, and may be become a positive man...

P1: (smiling) its too late for him to change now and be positive

M: smile

P1: ok you can go now, send the next person in after a min

M: thank you...

Overall, I did falter in my speech many times.... they could have easily gauged how nervous I was... also, I did floor some basic questions on my career goals... got screwed up in acads questions.....my verdict: m definitely out!!!(no waitlist here na...)

but, i was really feeling good, tht the interview was finally over. Was happy that I could at least sit for an institute such as IIM calls interview and had the 1st hand experience myself. I am dying to go to Cal, but may be next year.

IIM Calcutta - Year 2007

Interview experience of: [TintinAndSnowy](#)

Result : Converted

Class X - 84

Class XII - 82.8

B.E. (Electrical) - R.E.College Durgapur - 71.2

Work Ex - 59 months in Oracle India

CAT - 99.72%ile

Calls - ACLIK

Converted - CLK

Sorry for posting late ...

Here's my C GD/PI experience

Monarch Hotel, Bangalore

14th March 2 pm ...

GD - In all we had nine people in our panel .. and three panel members.

The topic was about some company which had a contract to supply some goods within a certain period of time. But just before one week, they realised that neither the quality nor the quantity is anywhere near the expectation. So, to delay the shipment, they serve bad food in the cafeteria and some workers fell ill and also they blasted some bombs (crazy guys). Now we have to discuss the pros and cons of this strategy and discuss if there are any other alternatives possible.

The discussion went okay ... one of the candidates was threatened when he tried to interrupt ... they mentioned that if anyone tries to interrupt any other speaker, he or she will be disqualified ... as a result the the GD was the most decent i have ever seen.

PI

I was the eighth guy to be called ...

There were three profs P1,P2,P3 (most probably P3 was an alumnus)

P1 calls me to come in ...

P3: Tell me something about yourself ...

Me: Just started ... when P3 interrupts me

P3: Just a min, when did you pass out from college

Me: Sir in 2002

P3: And you are working since then

Me: Yes sir

P3: Have they verified your work experience

Me: Yes sir

P3: Okay now continue

Me: Blabbered everything that came to my mind ... in the end mentioned about my family ..

P2: Where's your brother working?

Me: Sir Microsoft, Tokyo

P3: Tell me something about your work

Me: Told him briefly about my product and my roles and responsibilities

P3: So what ever requirement you gather .. is that pre-sales or post-sales

Me: Post sales ... explained briefly on that

P3: So you have been working for so long in oracle, and now you are(getting a good salary (**Me:** shocked!) ... so why do you want to do an MBA

Me: (Finally someone asked me why MBA) Told him about my future plans of starting my own software company .. in education sector

P3: But why an MBA for that ... you can hire finance guy, marketing guy .. may be you can ask him (P2) also ... you have enough technical experience in this field, so go and open a company

Me: Sir, In my opinion if I am managing CFOs then I should know the work they do .. if they face any problem, I being the CEO should be able to help them ... this will increase the efficiency of the company ...

P1: Ok .. I have to leave now .. before that I want to ask you one question from my side ..

Me: Sure sir

P1: Now tell me ... how many people join PSU, say Railways after MBA from IIMs

Me: Sir there must be some people who joins there

P1: Do you know anyone?

Me: No sir

P1- So many students after passing out from IIMs are going for investment banking and earning a lot of money ...

Me: Sir you can be rest assured ...

P1: (actually he didn't complete his question .. but he was speaking so slowly that i thought the question was over) Now the government is spending so much money on students to make the programme subsidised ... now if you are the director of IIM, then what would you do?

Me: (I waited for sometime to make sure that he has finished the question)

P1: Yeah tell me

Me: Sir, I would not make the program subsidised, but if someone joins the PSUs or the NGOs, then he or she will get the money back ... for example say an IIM MBA costs 2 lakhs and the actual cost is 10 lakh. Students have to pay 10 lakhs for that. Now, if they join PSUs or NGOs, they will get 8 lakhs back.

P1: Any other solution

Me: No sir, right now i can think only of that

P3: That's okay

P1 leaves (I forgot to thank him)

P2: Ok .. What are your extra curricular activities

Me: Sir I play table tennis ... and ...

P2: How much would you rate yourself in a scale of 10, 10 being highest

Me: Sir around 7

P3: Okay say India's best is 10, then?

Me: Still 6-7

P2: Have you played in state level

Me: No sir.

P3: Then how you are rating yourself 7?

P2: Ok tell me how many types of rubbers are there

Me: (messed up a bit here) Sir there are two ways to put the rubber .. one way where the pimples are outside and the other way where pimples are inside ... in the first case, it absorbs spins but doesn't impart any spin .. and in the second case it imparts spin but can't absorb the spin

P2: FYI there are more than 50 types of rubber

P3 indicates that it's enough now

P2: Ok wait ... do you read

Me: (I have read only Harry Potter and some other best sellers but long back ... decided not to 'reveal' that) Sir actually for my work i have to read a lot of functional and technical documents, so in the free time I generally play AOE

P2: Oh! Why is that AOE is so popular among MBA students?

Me: (finally someone asked me abt AOE) Explained him the nature of the game

P3: Tell me three reasons why you should play AOE?

Me: Sir in AOE, We start with 3-4 villagers and then develop to build the entire city ... it's like real life, there we start with a small amount of skill sets then we develop them. We have to know the strengths and weaknesses (S&W) of ourselves like in AOE we have to know the strengths and weaknesses of our civilization ... and also the S&Ws of our competitors ... we have to use our strength to hide our weaknesses and expose the weakness of the opponents and defeat them ...

P2: So what' your favorite civilization?

Me: Sir it's Aztecs .. they have very powerful infantry .. and ...

P2: They also have those naa which can do something to the opponent

Me: Sir I think you are talking about monks who can convert opponents army .. and also heal the army

P2: Yes yes

Me: Yes sir, actually all the civilisations have monks .. Aztecs have very powerful monks ...

P3 told something to P2 abt this TT and AOE ... couldn't hear what he said ...

P2: Ok Thanks Rishi

Me: Thank you Sirs!

Interview experience of: **ZINGOLA**

Joined IIM Ahmadabad, IIM C interview result not known.
Venue-IMI ,Delhi
13 march

Hello friends never thought of sharing my Gd-Pi experiences here
But today I had shock of my life.....

Met the same IIM C professor who took my interview today around 3 -4 hours back outside my society. And he recognized me too he said you were the last one to come right, he was shocked too...

CASE STUDY:- About an airlines which is having losses. So they decided to overbook the flights and sometimes more people turn up than number of seats available. What should the staff do in such a situation and how should airline deal with such a problem.

3 min to think 12 min to discuss. There were 14 in our panel.

Not much to speak. I said make the waiting system more effective blah blah blah

Not at all a fish market. People were not much interested in speaking. In the end they will ask you to summarize or give in your opinion for 1 min.

PI: i was the last one to be interviewed .

There were 3 profs.

I met p3 as soon as i entered

P1:what were you doing from the last 3 hrs.

Me had decided some how to take them to meditation that is my strong area.

I said I was meditating trying to focus on my breath.

P2: Why??? Were you tensed?

Me: No sir, was trying to avoid any sort of tension.

and blah blah how focusing on breath helps.

P1: What was our strategy for discussion?

Me: I said I had decided I will start the discussion then will chip in 3-4 points after every 3 min and move out.

P1: Why were you eager on starting the discussion?

Me: I said it shows your risk taking ability and shows that you can take an initiative in front of 12 unknown people.

P2: My stand would be first listen and then speak and in start you only say basic stuff so it is not that advantageous.

Me: But sir everybody knows that still somebody takes the initiative to start.

P1: How many case studies have you evaluated.

Me: Sir none but if I am to I will certainly give credit to the one who starts.

P1: Have you been taught this by some coaching institute?

Me: Yes Sir. I was in Career Launcher (I don't know that was a mistake or not people please tell me your views on this thing)

P3: Enters the room.

P1: Sir this guy has been taught in career launcher that starting discussion means you have risk taking ability.

all three smile . me too smiling...

P1: So do you know about Amitabh Bachchan's controversy related to polio campaigns?

Me: I don't know.

P1: Any guesses what it can be? Ok just tell me what all brands does Amitabh advertise for?

Me: Dabur, Coke (was not at all sure)

P1: Do you think advertising for these brand can lead to a controversy?

Me: No sir, but these are the brands I know. And I said it must be some brand which acts as an impetus for polio infection(I don't know at all I think that was a blunder)

P1: Ok

P2: You have written that you are a second degree Reiki healer. What is it?

Me: Explained

P2: I have indigestion problem can you heal me?

Me: Sir not possible in front of other two people. But I can help you through acupressure. I pressed a point on his hands and he was like, it pains.

P2: P3 will also experience same kind of pain .

Me: No sir. It is a bit different than one who has problem. And it is distinguishable too. I pressed the same on point P3 hand (he didn't feel any pain)

(they were satisfied)

Me: That shows you have problem P2 Sir.

Then again P1 comes in the one who wanted to trouble me.

P1: How it is different from Baba Ramdev's healing method?

Me: blah blah (not relevant for you people so skipping)

Then around 5 min discussion on Reiki acupressure yoga e.t.c. That's what I wanted to discuss!

P2: What do you think who will win the world cup?

Me: Australia but I want India to win.

P2: Why Australia not performing well?

Me: But they do well in big games.

P2: Why ???

Me: They work very hard to get in to team.

P2: Doesn't Indian work hard to get in to team?

Me: Yes sir they do, but there is difference in level of competition. You want to select a Bevan you will have 10 players of that same level competing with guy who actually gets in to team. So you have to handle lot of stress to be in team.

P2: Happy with the answer.

P2: What have you done in engrng

Me: (God don't ask me anything on academics)

P2: Information Technology right. What is the difference between IT and Computer?

Me: Told (Important question even a professor who doesn't know anything on IT or Computer can ask you this)

P3: What is Right to Information Act?

Me: Answered

P3: Arun, Thank You.

I don't know truly how the interview was. At least better than I was expecting.

Thank God no acads, no GK only hobbies.

I don't know what will happen in the end but my dream of sitting in IIM Interview finally comes true.

Friend I don't think this will help you much but what happened today forced me to write it. Best of luck every body preparing for CAT or for their GDPI hope you all convert your best calls.

Interview experience of: [archish85](#)

Result: Converted

VENUE: Delhi, IMI

Acads:

X : 90

XII: 78.6

%age: 71.32

WORK EX : Nil

Cat Score:

Overall: 99.16

DI : 94.78

English : 99.43

Quant : 96.78

There were 5 panels consisting of 10 students each.

Case Study:

It was about a tin company which was relatively new. It seems they got this amazing offer from a foreign client who is very strict about the quality and the delivery time of the product amidst a very tough international competition. But turns out they are not able to produce the required quantity at the stipulated time and even the quality is not good enough (I think the quality was mentioned I am not sure though). So their Marketing Manager comes up with this strange idea (this is where the fun starts). It seems there was a clause in the contract that if there were some "unavoidable circumstances" or as the case study called it "an act of God" then the company may be excused to not deliver the product on time. So this guy comes up with this really novel and bizarre idea to artificially create such situation. He, like, poisons the employee food, and plants a bomb near the factory and does some other totally ridiculous stuff but more importantly gets away with it. So the company is saved from the ridicule of not making it in time. And the Marketing Manager is praised and given a raise.

Discuss the pros and cons of this method and suggest any other method. Discussion went well.. I entered 4-5 times.... peaceful... we reached a conclusion. I started by defending the management at first but later changed my stance.

The most enjoyable part of the day. Interview.

There were three of them

P1: The friendliest and was very warm during the whole interview. More of a dreamer than an academician.

Fortunately he did most of the talking.

P2: The academician amongst them. Was quite initially but asked a few questions from acads.

P3: Was the quietest. Hardly spoke but did have fun.

(Just as I entered)

P1: (smiles all around) Archish..... we were really intrigued by your name... what does it mean?

Me: Sir, its a sanskrit word and a combination of two sanskrit words "archana"+"eeshwar".. So loosely translated it is "the one who is prayed by all".....(they pondered over it for a while).... I think a better translation is in hindi "jiski saari archana karein" (they were more satisfied now).

P2: And the S is for

Me: Srinivasan

P1: You from South India? which part??

Me: Tamil Nadu but I am 2nd generation Delhite so I guess I am more of a Delhite.

P1: But your mother tongue?

Me: Tamil...

P1: Ok...What do u think of your GD...

Me: (I was expecting this) Sir, it was a very interesting topic. I started with the view that what the company did was right but after a while I realized that my friends were right.... the solution provided by the manager was too short sighted and

P1 (smiling): Come on... I believe that an interview should be more like a discussion. Lets have an honest discussion here. You are trying to be too diplomatic.. honestly tell me... Why did you start the way you started... don't worry... I would make this off-the record if you want...

Me: (ahem!): Yes sir. I knew that I had more chances of entering the discussion if I started with a different view from that of the group. And then after a while I decided that I will go along with the group as it was the ...(All smiles)

P1: Yes...fair enough. But you know what... I liked your first sentence better... I believe that what the company did was right ... would you say now that what the company did was right?

Me (thought that he probably want to show me that I am not steady in my decision): No sir... I am a rational person but I also try to be honest to myself. So I did change my stance in the GD but I believe that the way the company handled the situation was just not right... I mean...

P1: Fine..... Do u have any interests? hobbies?

Me: Sir I play violin and am trained in the carnatic style of music...(explained a bit about carnatic music)..

Me: I also watch movies... and listen to old hindi songs..

P1 (interrupting me): Did you say old hindi songs?

Me: Yes sir

P1 (all smiles): You realize that we are three old people here... you want to discuss old hindi songs with us.. remember ... you are outnumbered here...

Me: Sure sir... It would be my pleasure..

P1: Do u know O.P.Nayyar?

me (Do I know O.P.Nayyar?... asking me to spell my name would have been a tougher question): Yes .. he started his career with Kaneez in 1956 ... and passed away recently ... I think January of this year... his "baabuji dheere chalna" is one of my favorite songs.. but turns out it was inspired from an english song (P3 didnt know this and was a bit surprised... a smile appeared on the corners of P1's mouth... yes he mumbled)...

P1: Name any 5 movies in which he gave music and a song from that movie??

Me (ahhh...yes!): Kashmir ki kali - yeh chand sa roshan chehra

aar-paar - baabuji dheere chalna

.. pause...

Mere sanam - pukarta chala hoon mein...

P1: No No No...that song was from phir tumhari yaad aayi

Me: No sir... I am 100% sure that this song is from mere sanam .. it was picturised on biswajeet and had aasha parekh as the leading lady in fact "jaaiye aap kahan jaayenge" was another song of this movie.....

P3: Yes he is right

P1 (convinced): Yes... I may have been wrong... continue

Me: I don't remember the movie of the song...."kajra mohabbat wala"

P1 (smiling triumphantly): It was kismet

me(he was right this time): Yes.. it was kismet

pause...and ...

OH YES... naya daur... and the song from the movie was.....(I tried hard to remember)

P1: milne ki phariyaad..

Me: no another song.. more famous one.....

P1(probably pressuring me) : I think u r trying to say "milne ki phariyaad"..

Me: Nooooooo.....aha..."yeh desh hai veer jawano ka"...(in excitement I actually sung it)...

The panel had a hearty laugh

P1: You are right .. this is the more famous song...

and then we became pals.... discussed of the bygone days when music used to be of good quality and the lyrics used to have some sense.. I did provide some insight into it..

P1: Ok next test... 5 films of Shammi Kapoor and a song from the film...

me (It felt like I was with my friends in hostel): hmm... Jaanwar - Yahooo....

P1: aha ... no ... come on that was junglee

me (smiling sheepishly): Yes.. I admit .. I got a bit excited there..... you are right...

jungle- yahoo

prince - badan pe sitarein

rajkumar- aaja aayi bahaar

kasmir ki kali - yeh chaand sa roshan

and.... (again tried hard to remember)

P1: Let me give you a clue... "translate third something in hindi"

Me: Aha.. teesri manzil- Oh hasina....

P1 (grinning): Yesssssss....

me (yippee!): Infact it was the rare film of Shammi Kapoor in which R.D. Burman gave music unlike all others in which shankar jaikishen provided the music on shammi kapoor's insistence....

P1: Yes... you are right.... name the first movie in which Pancham da gave music..

me (enjoying the game very much): Wasnt it the teesri manzil?

P3 (who probably felt left out of the fun): No No.... I think it was Aradhana...

P1(smiling): No... it was Chote Nawab..

(No it was not... as I realize now.. P3 was right... aradhana was the first movie in which Pancham da worked independently of S.D.Burman who was in coma during the movie)

P1: Ok next question... which was the last film in which Geeta Dutt sang?

Me: Dont know...

P3: It must be an old song...

P1: No it was released in 1971..

P3: Really!

P1:Yes.. it was anubhav...

Me and P3 together: ahhhh.... anubhav...

P1: Yes.. by Basu Bhattachrya...

P1 suggested me a website where I can find more old hindi songs and P3 told us how we can download them illegally.. we had a hearty laugh...

P1: Boy.... that was fun.....ok to more serious stuff now... any other interest?... history, geography, politics?

Me: Sir.. I am interested in ancient Indian history... read a book by Romila Thapar.

P1: Introduction to History -1?

Me: No thats' the NCERT book apart from that I read a book by her called "discovering India"

P1: Have u heard of (some obscure name)....

Me: No

P1: I thought since you have read Romila thapar you may have heard of him...

Me: No sir I have not... I'll try to find out more about him....

P1: How many vedas are there?

Me: Four

P1: Name them

Me: Rig, Yajur, Sam and Athrva

P1 (to P2 and P3): He's right (felt so proud...)

Now P2 started to speak for the first time.

P2: Which branch are you in?

Me: Sir, Production and Industrial

P2: Why haven't you mentioned this in your form? (showed me the form)

Me:(feeling stupid) Ohh... sorry sir I probably missed it... I'll fill it now...

P2 (smiling): Be more careful..... Ok.. So production.... what is JIT?

me (yesssss.... this was my lucky day): told him all about JIT... where it was founded.. why.... gave him an analogy of a boat on sea.. (**saw from the corner of my eye that P1 really admired my analogy**).

P2: You missed out maximisation of profit.. but all right.... Do you know 6-sigma? Who started it?

Me: Sir I don't know the name of the person but the first company to start it was Motorola...

P2: Its all right.... Go on...

me (it's getting better and better): Told him all about 6-sigma .. how its a misconception and is actually 4.5 sigma, 3.4defects per million... the dabbawalas of pune probably the only organization in India having 6-sigma...criticism etc....

P1, P2, P3 (satisfied): Yes.....(nodding their heads)....

P2: what is Fordism?

Me: I don't know sir.... I know that Toyota was inspired by ford...

P2 (interrupting me): No not Toyotatism... Fordism...

Me: Sir, I don't know....

P2: All right... try to find out about it

Me: Definitely sir...

All: You can leave now...

P1 (I had stood up) : How many calls do you have from IIMs?

Me: Just this one sir...

P1: Just IIM-C? (surprised) what was ur overall percentile?

Me: 99.16 ... I had 94.78 in DI.... 99.4 in English.... and 96 in Quant...

P1: Why less in quant?

Me: Started with quant ... found it easy.. decided to do English and come back to maths...

P1 (interrupting): And didn't find time... right?

me(smiling): Yes sir...

P1: Alright... leave ... Thank you...

Conclusion: IIM interviews are harmless and fun..... really had a ball... don't care about getting selected or notit was one **awesome** experience and I was lucky to enjoy it.... Wish everyone has the same kind of experience (which it seems actually happened in my center).

Interview experience of: [ashish abraham](#)

Result : Not converted

Venue: Chennai (Chennai is one of the five centres. Only one panel though. Panel 5)

Date : 12/03/2007

Time: 9:30 am

PROFILE:

Academics:

X - 88.17% (ICSE)

XII – 93.00% (Tamil Nadu State Board)

UG – 70.50% (Final year B.Tech Computer Science in NIT Trichy)

Work-Ex: NIL

CAT percentile:

DI - 99.80

Quant - 95.27

Verbal - 93.90

Aggregate - 99.41 percentile

GD:

Topic: There is a BPO started in 2002 which has grown steadily.. It has grown into a KPO.. It has got projects to be completed for its clients and has also got some new projects. Suddenly one fine day, 15 out of the 25 CA's and some software engineers want to quit the job.

Using this case as an example, discuss how a small industry can attract and retain its employees.

Number of People present - 9

Time: 3 min to think, 12 min to discuss, and 1 min for each person to summarize

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: I had a really bad GD.. I was heard only once I think.. Was asked about it during the interview as well. I was trying to make amends in the summary. But I was the 7th person to be asked to summarize and we guys at the end were given relatively lesser time to summarize. And what luck, once I started summarizing there was a sudden power failure! And I was talking in the dark for sometime!! (Should have stopped I guess. But I did not know what to do then). Very soon after the lights came back again (some 10-15 seconds I guess) I was asked to stop! The summary also did not go well as I wanted it to..

A disastrous GD.

Other Salient Details: No written summary. They said it was our choice whether we want to summarize what was discussed or give our own points.

PI:

Panel Members Intro: 3 professors

1) One who asked tech questions (TECH)

Name: Biju Paul Abraham

Position: Associate Professor

Department: Environment

2) One who asked all general awareness questions (GEN)

Name: B. N. Srivastava
Position: Professor
Department: Behavioural Sciences

3) Another who asked me only the why MBA question (HR)

Questions:

Since i have written them in detail i have used headings so that people will find it easier to go through the questions in a particular area.

PART I – Introduction

Gen: Introduce yourself.

Me: I am Ashish Abraham. I am doing my final year computer engineering in NIT Trichy... (Now what do I say??).. My interests are Computers and Maths. I have a job offer!!! (Was that necessary? Hmmm)

HR: Oh, you have a job offer.

Me: Yes sir.

PART II – About my father's job!

Gen: Ashish, why haven't you filled up the salary details of your father?

Me: Sir, he is a freelancer. He does projects for organizations. He is currently doing a project for UN.

Gen: OK. So it depends on the projects that he gets. But it surely can't be zero!

Me: Yes sir. But it is not fixed sir.

Gen: That's ok. Which field is he in?

Me: Sir, he is a social worker. He has been in this field for thirty years. He started off with Caritas which is run by priests. Then he got a job at the national level with Plan International. And then he worked for eight years with HelpAge International.

Gen: Oh.. HelpAge..

Me: (Happy that he acknowledged it) Yes sir. Its office for the Asia Pacific region is in Thailand. He was working there. Now he is doing a project for UN..

Gen: Ok. So you could have filled in a rough figure at least right?

Me: Sir, in the form it was mentioned that the figure will be verified. That was why I did not fill it up.

Gen: Ok. There are so many NGO's. Why don't they recruit students from college? Some NGOs pay really high salaries; even better than the IIMs.

Me: That's true sir. But they want experienced people only. And it is not possible to go to the international level immediately. One has to progress from the regional level to the national level and only then will they be considered for a post at the international level.

Gen: Ok.

PART III – Technical part

Tech: So Ashish, which branch of Engineering are you in?

Me: Computer engineering sir.

Tech: So you are good at computers?

Me: Yes sir.

Tech: What about OS?

Me: Yes sir.

Tech: Ok. Tell me about Windows Vista. What new features does it provide?

Me: Sir, the first noticeable difference is the appearance. It has 3D imaging and in the case of a text document if we place the cursor over the file name we can get a glimpse of the contents. So we can make sure if that is the file we want and then open it. Another important change is that it has better security features. But all these come with a price. It cannot be used efficiently on older machines with lower RAM capacity. Microsoft also acknowledges it that it will take a year or two for people to shift to Vista. When people purchase new systems they might get it loaded with Vista.

Tech: Ok. Do you know about open source software's?

Me: Yes sir. Open source software's allow the users to have a look at the source code and modify it according to their needs. For example, Linux allows us to access the configuration files of various applications and custom them according to their needs.

Tech: What about Vista?

Me: Sir I don't know about Vista specifically.

Tech: ok. What about Windows in general?

Me: Sir, windows is not transparent. It does not give us access to the source code. Yes we can use the options for an application to customize it but that's about it.

Tech: What are the drawbacks of open source software?

Me: Sir, (hmmm) there may not be standardization! And sir, security is an issue. When people have access to the code, they can easily figure out the flaws. And breach security. Now, Linux has a strong and committed user community who do fix up the flaws! (Now, why do I get into unnecessary details?)

Tech: Ok. What do you think about e-governance?

Me: I am not very familiar with it sir.

Tech: Ok. What should the government do? Should it use Windows or open source software in its offices?

Me: Sir, open source software's are cheap or free in most cases. So in offices, open source software's can be used to cut down on the cost Microsoft does come up with schemes to provide software free of cost in certain schools but it is mainly due to the competition it faces from Linux. I feel open source software should be used sir.

Tech: Ok. What will be the problems if open source is used in government offices?

Me: Sir, the same problem of security. People might try to hack into the systems and gain access to sensitive data.

Tech: Ok.

PART IV – HR part

HR: So Ashish, I just want to ask you one question. A couple of questions in fact. You come across as a technical person. You have good technical skills. You have good analytical skills. (From my certificates? I expected a lot of questions in Maths!) I understand that you are passionate about Computers and Maths. And you want to be in the IT industry (From what I had written in my career goals). I do not understand why you want to do MBA.

Me: Sir. It has been widely acknowledged that the IT industry in India is still engaged in doing back-end operations or lower end operations. During my job interview at XY, they mentioned that they are developing a product in India for the first time. So that confirms it that more of testing and back end operations are only carried out here. I feel that it may not help me use my potential to the fullest. Moreover, this is the reason people go to US to do PG for. So that they can get into R&D there. There are R&D centres here too but I feel there is a huge difference between the two.

HR: Ok Ashish. I fully understand what you say. About the low end operations and US and all that. But I am still not convinced about why you want to do MBA.

Me: Sir. I would like to get into the managerial line and I feel a MBA would be necessary to get to it. I have a lot of interest in databases, data warehouses and all. I have done a project in data warehouse. It generated a lot of interest in me to get into business analysis and related fields. And the father of data warehouse (forgot his name!) says that for a person to be a good business analyst and use data warehousing effectively he should be good in both software and management. He actually says he should be a half systems administrator and half business administrator.

HR: Ok.

PART V – About PGDCM

Gen: Ashish, but why have you given first preference to PGDM? To be consistent with what you have been saying you should give first preference to PGDCM right?

Me: That's true sir. But I couldn't get much information about PGDCM. I was told that if I am selected in both I would have a chance to select which course I want to go for.

Gen: But still. You have been talking till now with PGDCM in mind.

Me: Yes sir. I would like to go with PGDCM as first preference but I feel I have to get more details from people before deciding on it sir.

HR: Ashish, I think what my colleague wants to know is if you want to be in the IT industry why not PGDCM?

Me: Sir but it is not that I am contradicting what I have said. I understand that we can specialize in systems in PGDM also.

Gen: So you mean to say PGDCM is a waste?

Me: No sir. I don't mean to say that. I would just like to be sure that PGDCM is considered on par with PGDM by the corporate world!

Gen: That's ok. It's your choice anyway.

Me: Sir... (That was a huge mistake I guess. Shouldn't have hurt their feelings!)

PART VI – About my GD performance

Gen: So what do you think about your GD performance?

Me: I feel I did not make enough number of attempts sir.

Gen: Why didn't you?

Me: It was not that I did not have points sir. Once when I started talking I was asked to let the other guy talk (when I interrupted a guy who was stammering I was asked by other guys to let him continue!) and I just couldn't get in. I had read a lot about the attrition. I also read that employees who are not from the major cities do not change their jobs as frequently as their colleagues from the major cities do.

Gen: Ok. You are telling all this now. You could have told during the GD. You could have told during in your summary.

Me: Sir I did mention it in my summary sir. There was a power failure when I was talking and that worked to my disadvantage again I guess sir.

PART VII – Rapid fire round

Gen: ok. I will ask you a set of questions now. You have to quickly tell me yes or no.

Me: ok sir.

Gen: Man is a pilot and not a robot.

Me: Yes sir.

Gen: Man is more competitive than co-operative.

Me: Yes sir.

Gen: Survival of the fittest..

Me: Yes sir. In the current scenario it is very true.

Gen: ok. You have given me the answers and I am sure you really believe in them too but I am not able to get that impression from you that you really act accordingly. I mean your GD performance and your performance now, I feel you are not able to give me all the points you have in mind.

Me: (Wondering this is the end!)

Gen: Are you interested only in improving your technical skills?

Me: No sir. I have done some personality development courses and I have also done a soft skills development course with a reputed institute *****.

Gen: But I am not able to see any difference!

Me: Well sir. That is exactly why I would like to go in for management education. During my engineering course we concentrated on improving our analytical and programming skills. And management education will improve my overall personality(!), soft skills and interpersonal skills.

Gen: Hmmm. Ok.

PART VIII – Economy

Gen: So do you taken interest in knowing about what is happening in the world? In the other parts of India?

Me: Yes sir.

Gen: Only if you are comfortable will I ask.

Me: Yes sir.

Gen: Ok. I had asked this question to some of the previous candidates too. Compare north and south India on the basis of economic development.

Me: (Stumped for some time!) Sir. I have read a lot about how states like Sikkim are at a locational disadvantage. There is not even a kilometre of railway line. There is no airport and the road connectivity is poor.

Gen: Ok. But is it North India? What part of India are those states?

Me: Sir. North East.

Gen: Yes. Name the North East Indian states. They have a special name as well.

Me: Yes sir. Assam, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and (after some thinking) Tripura.

Gen: Yes, Tripura.

Gen: What are the states in North India?

Me: Sir, the North Indian states are Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan.

Gen: Ok. Tell me about their economy.

Me: Sir their economy is pretty weak. Gurgaon is an exception though. It has become an IT hub now. Companies like Google are starting their offshore offices there.

Gen: That's ok. Gurgaon has always been there. It has been there for ten years. That does not reflect the state of the whole of that region. How can it help?

Me: Sir when there is development in a particular place there will surely be development around it too because there will be development in roads, infrastructure, airport, ...

Gen: Yes but that will be only in and in a small area around Gurgaon. There will be good roads from Delhi airport to Gurgaon city! So what happens to the other regions?

Me: (could not think of anything) Sir there is a huge tourism industry in J&K for example ...

Gen: Let's not get into that.

Me: Ok sir.

Gen: Ok. Tell me about Tamil Nadu. What do you think about the economic state of Tamil Nadu.

Me: Sir Tamil Nadu is economically strong though I feel it has not realized its potential yet.

Gen: What makes you feel Tamil Nadu has not realized its potential?

Me: Sir, there has been growth but it has been too concentrated at Chennai. Chennai is an IT hub now. And it is not only in the IT industry, it has also done well in the automobile industry. We have Ford, Hyundai, and TVS in Chennai. TVS is there in Madurai too. There is a World Bank office in Chennai. But even with all this, Tamil Nadu comes only third in terms of investments made behind Gujarat and Maharashtra. And now there are plans to start tidal parks in other cities like Coimbatore and Madurai. So that will be good for the state.

Gen: Ok. What do you think about the connectivity in Tamil Nadu? Is Tamil Nadu well connected?

Me: Yes sir. Tamil Nadu is well connected. The road and railways system in Tamil Nadu is really good. Four-lane roads are being laid from Chennai to Kanyakumari now.

Gen: Ok. What about the other mode? Namely Ports. What about them? Should they be developed? There are ports right?

Me: (Had completely no idea) Sir, yes there are ports. They have to be developed. But they are used only for specific purposes. In all the other cases, I think roadways and railways are used as the time taken to transport is lower!!

Gen: ok. (And he looked at others. Others signal that they don't have any other question to ask either.)

Gen: Ok Ashish. Thank you.

HR: All the best.

Me: Thank you sirs.

IIM Calcutta - Year 2008

Interview experience of: IAYF

Result : Converted, ultimately joined IIMB

Venue: IMI, Delhi

Schedule : 09:30 AM 13 mar

PRofile

CAT 07 - 99.90

X - 87.2

XII - 90(.6

Engg - PEC Chd - 66.85

WorkEx - 20 months in IT Services

Case Study: About recruitment strategy of Placements Consultants Inc.--They go to Stellar Business School to recruit freshers who play the waiting game by not signing in and afterwards go around looking for other offers. They then come back to renegotiate with PC Inc. Now as per the suggestion from the HR Team they must set a Timeline for the students to sign in but that has a flaw too. The students will join in but then while working for PC Inc. they might look for other employment opportunities. Now the CEO intervenes and suggests that the students should be allowed to check out other opportunities for an year and then if they want they can join PC Inc.

We had to discuss the pros and cons of the suggestion:

Performance: One of the worst Gd'ss, I have been a part of not because what was discussed wasn't relevant but because there was a complete lack of direction in it. Good points were raised but I don't think people were listening well. I made 2 points and 2-3 small entries in between apart from the deliberate nodding (along with an effort to stay away from the rucku.... (was visibly disappointed after it as I expected a mature junta @ C! Anyway, I consoled myself with the fact that the weightage given to GD is 10% and in that too 5% should be for the Summary...so planned to do well there...was asked to speak last (I guess, that would be my rank based on GD, but did a good job there!

P1: Gone are the days when II MC asked Quant ke funde (Quant Ques.)y and other such dreadful stuff...

P1: A Learned-pleased with the world-prof

P2: A wise prof

P3: A reticent but observant prof

P3: Took my form and asked- So where are you working?

Me: Sir, Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC)n for the past twenty months...

P3: Keep telling about yourself (this gave me a cue that these are quite receptive--so told myself- speak your heart out boy!)

Me: Background -> present job profile

P2: Why are you leaving CSC.. It's a good company?

Me: Yes Sir, it is a very good company but my career goals are now different from what it does. Explained a bit and then ended with my goal to get into Management Consultancy.

P3: Is your work-ex twenty months till 31st Jan 2008?

Me: (realised the mistake I had done in the form! - apologized with a smile and told the right figure)

P1: Tell me five rivers of Punjab.

Me: I'll take a minute to recall that sir.

P2: Normally it's the fifth that people get stuck at!

Me: All smiles -- Sir, Sutlej, Ravi, Beas, Jhelum---and sir I'm stuck at the fifth one.

P2: It starts with 'C'

Me: Sir, Chena ! (yippie!)

P2: Nodding.

P1: Tell me one city in Punjab across which Sutlej passes through.

Me: Sir, I am not aware of any but can take a guess- Gurdaspur.

P1: Why a guess?

Me: Sir, I'm not well-versed with the geography of Punjab.

P1: Why, you live there?

Me: No Sir, I'm from Chandigarh.

P1: OKk...So tell me the features of the Town Planning in Chandigarh.

Me: Started from Albert Mayer to Le Corbusier--areas divided into sectors--tourist spots--medical and other educational institutes--highest per capita income- was moving towards IT park when he asked me to tell something unique about the planning.

Me: Told the 13 ka funda..(those who are not aware there's no sector 13 in Chandigarh and sum of two opposite sectors in a row is a multiple of 13)

P1: That is one--ok tell me is there any benefit of having all these institutes together here at Qutub Institutional Area--told me about a similar place in Kolkata...

Me: Told a few benefits---and got the cue that what he wanted to know about Chandigarh---sir, similarly we have PEC in sector 12 PGI in sector 14 and PU as well in Chandigarh.

P1: Now you get it.

Me: Added that Sector 17 and 22 are for offices and showrooms rest majorly residential areas.

P1: Commented that a hub is create for a similar kind of activities.

P2 takes over

P2: What excites you and bores you?

Me: For excitement talked of continuous learning-evolution-fitted in my extra curricular and blah blah while said that boring would mean idleness, inactivity--when you are not up to something.

P3: What do you think about the auctioning at IPL?

Me: Sir, I have read a lot about them being treated as commodities--

P2 intervenes

P2: Expand IPL.

Me: Indian Premier League (sitter)...then said that inBarclay'ss Premier League as well players are traded for huge amounts in the transfer periods and this auctioning is not unusual...but since IPL is just kick starting, so this had to take place a huge level and I think that this was a democratic process which was good for the auctioneers while the players also got good money which means a win-win situation for both.

P3: But why are those who are writing this commodity thing doing so?

Me: Sir, that might be because of the apprehensions among them as they fear that the focus will shift from the game and move towards money while players will treat IPL as an exhibition which would defeat the purpose of the sport. The intensity and input that we see in 50-over matches and Tests might be missing.

P3: Who inspires you? (boy, they were hell-bent on knowing me)

Me: Talked of my faith in underdog concept where stakes are against you and then you turn the tables and come out trumps. Gave example of Sourav Ganguly's feat!

P3: Any personal incident when you faced a dip and you had to make a comeback?

Me: Never faced a huge failure but gave examples from my work-ex of how self-motivation and reinvention is important for me to remove any chances of such a thing happening. So not any particular debacle.

P3: Ok (with a look saying--bas bhai, theek hai koi debacle nai hua to koi baat nai)

P1 then commented on my average academics and when I tried to explain he said no justification is required...

and then OK TATABBYE!

Pros

1. I was at my expressive-best and that helped me communicate well with the panel. No pauses or awkward silences.

2. All three were aged professors, who I thought they were looking for wisdom rather than anything else and asked questions that displayed our thought process and opinions.

I was quite satisfied with such questions.

3. PI has 44% weightage and GD 10%

Overall a feel good PI with no visible glitches but a below average GD.

Good luck to all...

P.S. Hope you have read a lot about the xerox part, so won't add anything on that...if someone needs to inquire about the process, please PM me.

UPDATE: Converted this one!

Interview experience of: [avi_mba](#)

My experience:

Profile

CAT percentile - 99.86

X - 95.3

XII - 93.5

BTech - 8.75 (Electronics, IIT)

Work-ex - 18 months in IT, worked in family business as teenager.

Points to be noted: Photocopies of extra-curricular required, copies of academic certificates not required, none of these need to get attested.

GD: About a guy who rejoined his software company after a gap of 4 yrs and is now having problems with his colleagues. He complained to his boss, who asked him to provide names of the people. What should he do?

GD was good as a lot of different perspectives were discussed. Could have been more peaceful though. Everyone was asked to summarize at the end for 1 min.

I was the 3rd person to go in for the interview, there were 4 panelist, 2 prof and 2 alumni. Since I do not remember who asked what, I will refer them as P.

P: So Mr. <surname> we were just talking about you. What does Mr<surname> like?

Me: (smiling) Started talking about career goals.

P: No, leave MBA, leave your job, tell me what do you enjoy doing.

Me: Mr<surname>that'ss me, I like to organize and participate events, and also like to watch and play football.

P: Tell me about the last event you organized.

Me: My company had a technical summit where we put up stalls ... blah blah ... won the 3rd prize.

P: So is winning important in a competition?

Me: Winning is not important, but unless we focus on winning, we will not be able to focus.

P: Give me an example of situation where competition can be bad.

Me: If in a competition people try to harm each other or they lose and do not learn from it, any competition can be bad (gave some fundas)

P: So, is this the first Time you are giving an interview?

Me: No sir, I appeared for CAT last year as well.

P: So till what Time will you keep on giving CAT?

Me: Sir, right now I am focused on doing my interviews to the best of my ability and hoping for the best results.

P: No .. lets say hypothetically speaking, you don't get through, I want to know a number, till what Time will you give CAT?

Me: CAT is not my goal sir, talked about my long-term goal (marketing manager) ... talked about my family business ... and how if I can figure out another way to achieve my goal I need not give CAT again.

P: Come on, I don't expect this answer from a technical guy ... give me a number ... till what Time will you give CAT? You are answering like my cable-wallah ... that he will try but cant give the number of days to fix my connection.

Me (smiled and reiterated my stand)

P: There are 2 very interesting things in your form. Firstly you have specified your parental income till the last digit (its some no. say 1234567).

Me: Yes sir, since I have worked in it ... I know the details.

P: So this is the saral form value?

Me: Yes sir.

P: What does this tell about you.

Me: Sir it says that I am a meticulous person, and I follow my family business.

P: The other thing is <some paper I had published> .. explain it to me in 2 sentences.

Me: I tried ... but Don't think this wa convincing enough.

P: So family business huh ... since you want to move into marketing, let me put you in the position of a consultant for your business. How will you ensure that you earn double profit the next year.

Me: Talked about two points ... both were very good ... this is definitely the best answer in my interview.

P: Do you know <my company> does not have any manager who is an MBA in Bangalore?

Me: That'ss not true, we have 3 types of managers, and the product managers are MB'As

P: No they are not.

Me: They are sir, gave two names of my PMs both wereMBA'ss.

P: (moving back to family business): Tell me how will you estimate the quantity of goods required for a period of 6 months to sell in your business. Say it out aloud so we can see how you think.

Me: Started with the average daily sale, divided it by the cost per good ... multiplied by weight per goods ... multiplied by the number of days in 6 months (subtracting the holidays)

P(looking impressed): Good, but you haven't taken into account that your business will also grow in 6 months.

Me: Justified that the daily sales figure I mentioned took into account the growth.

P: (not convinced) There are many players in the market how will you ensure growth.

Me: Talked about how many players are there ... how much goods are sold ... and whats the scope .. blah blah.

P: Thank you.

Me: Thanks Sirs.

P: Good. Hope for the best (or something like this)

So little acads, no current affairs etc. I think they just want to know you as a person.

Feedbacks are welcome.

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of: [Tortured_Soul](#)

Result : Converted

Hi Fellas,

So finally 2nd interview of the big 3... Although everyone has already given this advice, just a reminder for the benefit of people like me. This is **not a joke**, get photo copies of all ur extra-curricular and reach 25 min before the scheduled Time. Get your certi's verified ASAP... Then you can calmly sip your cup of tea [served @ b'lore] while enjoyign the commotion.

Well my experience: **The Setting**

As usual I reached just in Time [20 min before start]. As I am about to enter, I find hordes of people coming out. I looked skywards half expecting an inferno, or maybe this was a quarterly safety drill like the ones we have at our company. Finally I come to know from a kind soul that we are required to submit photocopies [and so the commotion] of all the certificates. Fortunately I had copies!!

My interview was held at Monarch Luxor B'lore, **Slot:** 9:30 AM

PROFILE:

Acads:

X : 82.4

XII: 80

Undergrad Major - GPA/%age: 81.6, ECE from NIT Jalandhar

Work-Ex: 20 Months @ Wipro

CAT percentile:

DI :98.34

Quant :99.51

Verbal :99.61

Aggregate :99.91

Any other special thing about you: NTSE scholarship holder, played chess at state level

GD:

Topic: Case study about a company, which gives early offers when it visits a B School. Later students take other offers and renegotiate salary. They [HR team] want to give offers towards the end but then the people who join feel cheated and leave the organization soon. So CEO comes up with this strange idea. He wants to give candidates 1 yr to decide before joining the organization. Discuss this.

Number of people present: 10

Time: said 2 min for thinking, 10-12 min for discussion based on group. For our group it lasted much longer. At the end everyone gave summary for 1 min each.

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: A decent discussion. Couple of minor skirmishes at the beginning, but things settled down soon.. gave numerous points.. discussed about pro's like experienced ppl would join the company, points about people not coming back.. whether one can trust people who come back within an year, tried unsuccessfully to guide the group towards the fact that case is about candidates switching on campus when the GD started discussing about lateral job switches a little too much, tried successfully to give dimension to the GD by analyzing the stake holders that existed. Discussed about HR here, and how they wont be able to fulfill there targets. This was followed by summaries where I was asked as the last but one person to summarize [PS - they specifically told that people are allowed to add their own points of they wished to].

My performance: Good GD, average summary Self Rating : 7.5- 8 /10

Disclaimer: I just paint the world in my own weird shades. My intention is not to hurt anyone, especially the eminent panelists, from whom I hope to, learn a lot about a lot of things.

Panel Members Intro:

P1: a senior professor, who seemed a little disoriented about the process. He called me in, read my form and asked me a couple of questions, generally giving the direction to P3 regarding the questions that he felt needed to be addressed.

P2: Another senior professor. He rarely spoke, but really observed me a lot both in GD n interview.

P3: An IIMC alumni, who asked most of the questions.

TS: Tortured soul, the clueless protagonist

Questions:

P2: Please tell us something about yourself?

TS: Blah blah, Chess, blah blah

1 and a half minute later I am through my rehearsed monologue, P2 n P3 r still smiling at me, expecting me to carry on.

TS: Do you want to know something specific. [*As per interview tips, given in prep resources*]

P2: You did not mention about family. Were not they responsible for these achievements?

TS: I was told that something about yourself, involves only the person himself [sheepish smile, then seeing them nod] they played important role... anyway parenst are doctors..blah blah..

P3: So you are the black sheep of your family?

TS[indignantly]: Maybe odd-man out, but definitely not a black sheep.

Smiles all around.. what followed was 10 min discussion on chess, me being the guy doing the most of the talking and they [panel] silently listening and smiling.

P3: So chess, there was a lieares chess tournament going on, but lots of games were drawn.. don't you think it keeps the public away?

TS: People who follow chess rate game on tactics and strategies... always few results at top level... linares had good games.. Anand-Topalov... Magnus Carlson... people generally follow game notes, very few people go to venue. No issues with draw [first Time an interviewer went into chess.. I was determined not to let the topic change, threw in a lot of facts]

P3: I have asked this question to many people. Other then cricket, other sports like hockey et al. are struggling. What is your opinion? Also explain with respect to chess...

TS: Indians struggle in games like hockey because people can't match European physique... lack of infrastructure. No real infrastructure problem in chess. India is doing well...many GM's... Anand, Barua, humpy... doing well... lots of interest... Indians have sharp mind.. lots of chess clubs in all major cities [thank god he did not cross question here]... blah blah

P3: If you were made the CEO of organization to promote chess...

TS [Now I was enjoying this... afterAhmadabadd interview I really like such interviews where I can actually speak]: blah blah.. grassroots, chess camps..etc...

P3: You know where does Anand stay?

TS: Dual citizen. Spain + India.

P3: Why does he stay there?

TS: Not sure... maybe he wants to stay with other chess academia..

P3: So how does technology help in chess?

TS: [talked a whole lot] Games like ches Master's very popular, included in vista. Tutorials.. online chess at yahoo.. Online tournaments.

P1: So your career goal is BLAH BLAH[*I basically want to become a CEO, short and sweet*]. You have given me the mother of all career goals!!

I don't know how to put it, but what followed was more than chuckles, though not guffaws. This was followed by very pointed questions so that I could refine what I said, which I bravely endured...

P1: This fellow has work-ex, should know. [*ah right!!*]

More questions later, he finally said, "We had to ask so many questions to come to this point."

TS [this was a stupid reply]: I had only 60 words!!!

P2: All the more reason to be precise

P3: Did you do precis[don't know the spelling.. kindly adjust] written in school?

TS smiles and gracefully accepts his mistake. The whole panel nods in agreement

P1: So why are you changing Wipro? Don't like it?

TS: Wonderful company. Blah blah. Lot of things... views as an employee

This was followed by "Kaun Banega CEO" round.

P3: So you are the CEO of Wipro? How would you handle it post the mess in US?

TS: Explain Mortgage crisis and what Wipro is doing... blah blah.. Wipro has handled it well. [Thank God not cross questioned on words like hedging and all]

P3: The people are saying that IT is suffering because of talent crunch. You are the CEO of Wipro. What's your take on this.

TS: blah blah.. WASE program@wipro.. Blah blah...

P3: So you don't think there is any talent crunch?

TS: Not exactly... demand and supply... India had lot of colleges... blah blah...

there were a couple of other burning issues which needed my immediate attention but currently I can't recall them.

P1: One last question, you have written something O6. national level...

TS [takes over]: Sir Zietgiestt '06"... Sir national level tech fest... blah blah...

P3: What did you do?

TS: blah blah

P1: That is there in every Tech fest. What's special. Things like this are already in place.

TS: First tech fest organized by our branch.. no fest in last years... we were on our own[whew!! I knew that would come in handy once]

P1 to P2: anything else.. lot of head shaking...OK Ankit you can go.

MISC.

So an interesting interview, lasted around 25 minutes. No stress involved in my interview. I guess it depends on the panel. Ours' was the chilled out panel. They were very supportive. No obscene questions on acads or maths [something that had been givin me nightmares, specially after IIMK where the fellow asked me some weird question which I obviously did not know. He simply nodded his head and said "Math's Olympiad! Wat should I do with you?"]. GD was definitely above average. Finally some questions on my hobbies[chess]... So I am keeping my fingers crossed and hoping for the best.

Verdict: Selected

Interview experience of: [shiv_r@m](#)


Hi Puys....

had my IIM C gd/pi 2day at cal...

Profile:

class 10 :- 88%

Class 12:- 77%

Engg:- 66% 

Cat:- BLACKI

First the GD:- There were 8 guys in my panel...and 4 profs....but I guess one of them must be an alumni..so 3 profs and 1 alumni...

CASE:- About a guy who owns a small Time call centre where 43% workers are females

(Sigh...!!!)..One fine day a drunken driver molests one of them and since its a small Time call centre located in a conservative town...a lot of image tarnishing has already happened...and since the owner would loose out on female workers...he had to do something.....so what he be doign??????

My performance: Was pretty good I should say...didn't start but the guy who started the GD just read out the entire thing once....I was the second speaker and structured the GD saying the immediate action was two....1 to gain back the reputation he had lost and secondly to make sure such an incident does not happen in the future.

Came in 4-5 Times after this introducing new points for each of the actions...keeping in mind the owner did'nt have much financial resources and something effective should be done but in an economical way....

In the end...all of us were asked to summarise only our OWN POINTS....not anything else...was the third one to do so....

All in all a pretty good one....atleast I am satisfied...

The Interview.

L1: Lady one....asked me the bulk of the questions....

L2: Alumni Lady

P1: Professor one....a really wise looking and highlyknowledgeable person....

P2: quiet prof...just asked me two questions...

P1 comes out and invites me in....

Am asked to take a seat....wish every one and L1 begins the proceedings

L1: Tell me something about your job and what exactly you do.

Me: Madam...blah blah..testing.....maintainance project...blah blah...

L1: So do you actually like your job...being an electrical engineer....in an IT world..is it interesting?

Me: Yes mdaam....told aoubt the learning process....a lot to learn from the first job experience...not only tech...but also team work...disciplined and formal environment...

L1: Wouldn't it be better if you continue your job for two yrs and then go for an MBA?

Me: Told that continuing in the job for 2 yrs would tend to shift my career inclination and interest

L2: And what exactly is your interest?

Me: Finance...

L1: How did you develop this interest?

Me: Told about a certain professor in our college who did not follow text book studying and always gave us an insight into the financial world through newspapers and all...

L1: So do you still keep up with your interest?

Me: Yes...very much...

L1: Tell me some important news that you have followed recently

Me: Told about the SENSEX jumping around and all...

L1: Why do you think such a thing is happening

Me: Ss recession...fears of economic meltdown...blah blah...

L1: So what's wrong with America...why aren't they investing

Me: They have suffered losses from the sub prime shit and don't want to invest too much in a volatile developing economy like ours....

L1: What do you know about the Sub prime Mortgage...tell me briefly...

Me: Ratta th (conned).a....Tote ki tarah bol dall(explained them just like a parrot).

Suddenly....P2 gives me a situation and asks me to react on it...says...suppose you are traveling in a bus and there is a group of 3-4 pickpockets and you see one of them trying to steal the purse of a fellow passenger...what would you do?

Me: Said...honestly...that I wouldn't create a ruckus...and would try to let the victim know that something is happening...would force him to change his position and be more alert so that I can foil the pickpockets plan...

P2: So you wouldn't grab his hand and protest?

Me: No...I don't think I would do that...especially since there is a group of pickpockets.. If there is only one person then I'll teach him a lesson....but I am not that type..

P2: Its ok...you are being honest.

Now comes the real fun part...the best part of my interview...

P1: So whom would you like to MIMIC?

Me (this was my extra currics....i can relay mimic very well...actors...cricketers....lots of them...)So I said...I can but I would have to use vernacular...

P1: Ok as long as it is not obscene you can use vernacular...

Me: I would like to mimic someone from the movie SHOLAY...

P1: Please..I don't want you to MIMIC Gabbar Singh...

Me: No sir...not Gabbar...Thakur Baldev singh....Sanjeev Kumar that is....And said the dialogue "Sarkar ko gabbar chahiye...zinda ya murda....mujhe gabbar chahiye....zinda..."

All burst out laughing....they were impressed I guess...

Then...into my another hobby....COOKING...

L1: I see a lot of people say about cooking...is it to impress us?

Me: I am really passionate about it...I really like doing it..its genuine...told them about major dishes from Bangladesh...my grandmom used to cook...but those recipes are lost since the coming of muslims into the country and the influence of different cuisine in West Bengal...told them about a dish...which i really like...think it made them remember of their younger days....and mummy ka khaana...

L1: Really....never heard about it...How is it done...

Me: Told them about the way of making a certain fish ka dish...

L1: I have heard about prawns but not this fish...you can try out...

Me: Surely maam.

L2: What are the constituents of garam masala?

Me:Told them.

L1: Have you heard the name of a famous restauranr from Bengal...

Me: YSs...Anjan Chatterjee...owner of Mainland China and OH!Calcutta

P1: Do you actually like the food from his restaurants?

Me:No...I personally like Red Hot Chilli Pepper better

P1: (addressing to the others) See I told you...and what about Oh!Calcutta...?

Me I think....it servescommercialisedd bong food....not very much for itnot authentic enough...

P1:- And they add a lot of sweet too....

P2: All the ppl from West bengal generally do...they do put sweet in the dal also...!!!

L1: Which calls? percentile

Me: Told.

L1: Good.

P2: You have also stated about Formula 1...Do you actually have any interest...?

Me: Of course sir...was waiting to know about the results of Australian GP qualifying...and wonder what KIMI was doing...

P2: Name of Mallya's team? The drivers?

Me: Force India F1.....fischikella (wrong spelling i guess) and Sutil

P2: Who's Alain Prost?

Me: Told....

P2: Had a very famous rivalry with his team mate...which team and the competitor.....

Me: Was stumped on hearing this....they do know everything aan....GODS..Said team was McLaren...and rivalry was with Senna

P1: Ok...anything you would like to ask us....

Me: (Had seen a poster on the IIMC notice board....from theEntrepreneurship cell...inviting ppl for some one to one talk with some famous restaurants of Cal)

So asked about this cell...and what does it do....whats its agenda and all....showed a lot of interest...actually I am interested...

Told me about theEntreneurshipp cell...what it does and how it helps students....

L1 and

P1: Wouldn't you like to open a restaurant...

Me: I want to...its my passion....wouldn't exactly like to make a career out of it...but would like to own one...and revive ancient and fineBengalii cuisine...

P1: You should always try to make a career out of your passion...

All....Ok ...Thank you very much...that will be all...

All in all...decent....went on for almost 25-30 mins...pretty cool ppl.....all were smiling all the way.

IIM Calcutta - Year 2009

Interview experience of: [ganeshiima](#)

Result : Converted ACLIK
Venue: Mumbai, 13th March, 9.30 am

Profile:

Academics:

X - 86.8% Maharashtra Board
XII - 90.17% Maharashtra Board
Undergrad - 70% Nagpur University

Work-Ex: 20 months - Energy Auditor

CAT percentile:

DI - 99.35
Quant - 99.12
Verbal - 96.67
Aggregate - 99.71

Any other special thing about you: Jack of all trades
Extracurricular: Pretty decent

GD/PI experience:

The first part of the process was verification, where they cross-checked the marks entered in the admission form with original mark-sheets, and asked for photocopies of the national and state level certificates. For the working professionals, photocopies of their final mark-sheet and work-ex certificates were also required.

Next we were headed to the Group Discussion - the topic at hand was 'Slum dogs can never be millionaire'. I couldn't speak much.

My assessment: 4/10

PI:

Two male professor (or alumni) one Mr. Cool (C), Mr. Stern (S) and very sweet lady Prof (Sweet Lady SL- she was always smiling through out the interview, didn't ask me much, seemed impressed with my profile)

The interview went something like this:

L: Give me your form and your file of documents. So Ganesh Pawar, what do you have common with the famous Mr.Pawar.

Me: (with the usual million dollar smile) Nothing ma'am. She returned similar smile (good start it seemed).

C: So what's the prospect of Mr.Pawar in Maharashtra elections?

Me: My favorite topic. Talked about political situation in Maharashtra - Vidarbha, Marathawada, sugar lobby etc . He seemed satisfied.

C: How many seats will they win?

Me: NCP- Cong about 20-25 and some more chat. He looked happy.

Meanwhile, SL is showing my from to S , seems impressed.

Now the usual energy audit part.

S: Tell me about your work.

Me: Explained what we do, our business etc. Took an example of IIM C and explained what will we do as energy audit at IIM C. Explained quite well (I said IIM Kolkata instead of Calcutta, Mr S looked annoyed he said it's not IIM Kolkata say Calcutta , I apologized and continued).

S: Whats the power scenario in India?

Me: First I told him I don't have an exact idea. Then said, we are facing peak power deficit of 15%, we are importing 70% of our oil requirement, we are also importing coal from Indonesia and Australia (I know these figures are more or less correct).

S: Why we import coal when we have such high reserves?

Me: Talked about reserves located in Bihar & Jharkhand. Also quality of Indian coal is not good (this is the main reason). It has more sulphur content etc.

C: What's efficiency of power plant?

Me: Don't have exact idea sir, but we can calculate, say we get 3.6kw energy at user end and for that we use 4.8 kw energy equivalent of Carbon then efficiency would be 75% (C seems happy)

S: What's plant load factor?

Me: (I knew the exact answer but blabbered something else). Then I said- Sorry sir, I don't know.

C: Tell something about yourself

Me: Blah blah ... District topper, GATE AIR-4 , like reading and spending time with friends, very friendly, ambitious and confident guy etc.

C: Why didn't you go for M.Tech with AIR-4?

Me: I said GATE was my contingency plan. While pursuing engineering I had decided to take up a job first so appeared for GATE (also told him about my friend and senior NITIE pass out working in Olam etc). I said I got through NITIE last year but didn't feel like going there. (Also mentioned my last year's CAT, in which I got 99.15%ile and missed the cutoff because of the Verbal section). He seemed convinced.

C: What kind of reading (my hobby) ?

Me: Politics, history, biographies, and few books on Philosophy.

S: How was your performance in GD? On scale of 10.

Me: Not so good.....4-5/10

S: Why?

Me: Positionand then said others were speaking better than me.....

S looking at SL and C..... you can leave.....

Me: Thank you sir.....

Overall decent experience, i believe did quite well in PI, could have done better in GD.....lets see!

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of: [shoaibmohamed](#)

Result : Converted

Profile:

Acads:

X : 82.4

XII : 88.4

Undergrad - Mechanical Engineering - 66.4

Venue : Hotel Monarch Luxor, Bangalore

Date : 09/03/2009 9:30am

GD:

Topic: "Only poor people are responsible for their poverty"

Number of people present : 10 (round table so position not an issue)

Time: 20 minutes

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: Went well, not a fish market with everyone allowing others to complete, it went on for over 14-15 mins I suppose.

Other Salient Details: 2 mins to prepare, 10 mins discussion, individual monologue

MISC: (my company deals with manufacturing and marketing of automotive speed governor, I was involved in developing the product as part of my grad project)

PI:

Panel Members Intro: 3 panelists, 2 professors 1 alumni (not disclosed to us), here on referred to as P1, P2, P3 and Me

P1: So you come from Cochin. Cochin is a beautiful place, I have been there on a visit for 4days.

Me:

P1: So you work for xyz, tell us what you do in it

Me: Told about the product, how I was involved in the development phase and what exactly was my contribution in the development of it.

P2: Once you complete your MBA how will you view your product differently?

Me: Told him as an engineer I would be focused on making best quality product, but as a manager I would also consider the market, the pricing and the customer trends in that region.

P1: Ok, I am a tourist to Cochin, and you are my host where all would you take me?

Me: Told

P3: Whats the form of martial arts that originated from Kerala?

Me: (somehow Kalari slipped my mind he told me it starts with K and then I told)

P1: Which all states borders kerala

Me: Told

P1: Northern most district in Kerala

Me: Told

P1: Recently an MP from Kannur was involved what was the reason?

Me: Told him about Abdul Wahab calling the pilot a "glorified driver"

P1: You interested in politics?

Me: Yes sir very much.

P2: What do you think would be the outcome of the coming Lok Sabha elections in Kerala state?

Me: Told the LDF wouldn't dominate like they did last time

P3: How many seats did they win last time?

Me: Sir 18 out of 20, Congress got only a single seat.

P1: Asked me to take him from Cochin to Calcutta by road?

Me: Told TN, Karnataka, AP, Orissa, WB

P1: Ok, from Calcutta to Nagaland?

Me: Sir can I cross Bangladesh, (No), sir probably through Sikkim, Assam.

P2: You'll reach China if you cross Sikkim but its ok we didn't expect you to answer that.

Me: Phew!

P2: From Calcutta to Delhi?

Me: Told Jharkand, UP, Delhi.

P3: You are missing one state.

Me: Sorry Sir I am not able to place it.

P1 to P2,

P3: I think we are done, thank you.

Me: Thank you sirs...

Interview experience of: [amit-soni](#)

Result : Converted

Venue: IMI Delhi

PROFILE:

Acads:

X -- 81% UP Board

XII-- 81% UP Board

Undergrad Major - Computer Science

GPA/percentage - 6.35

Work-Ex: 54 months in C-Dot, Microsoft, Stryker

Any other special thing about you: Nothing

GD:

Topic: 33% Reservation for woman in jobs. Should it be there or not.

Number of people present: 10

Time: 10 min, 2 min to think

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: Discussion was good, no fish market, entered four five times with good points that introduce in Education not in job and if in job then the percentage should be less so that they do not become complacent. Also I gave the point that there should be a separate committee to remove reservation once it achieves its purpose to keep the political influence out. That committee should have equal number of male and female members... blah blah

Other Salient Details: After GD, they asked everyone in random order to give their opinion.

PI:

Panel Members Intro:

Old Prof(OP), Young Person (YP) may be Alum. I was the fifth person to be interviewed.

Questions:

YP: What do you know about the process today?

Moi: Sir this personal interview

YP: Yes

Moi: Sir, other candidates told

YP: (Cuts) Did they tell or you asked? (when he came out to call the person before me, he saw me talking to the girl who was just interviewed. He went inside then again peeked out to look at me)

Moi: Sir I asked...(they give a smile like...) candidates told me that maths and general stuff is being asked.

YP: What general stuff?

Moi: Work experience, Academics, extra curricular

YP: Why did you leave a brand like Microsoft and join Stryker (something like stryker, no reputation and you have committed a sin?)

Moi: Sir, Stryker is also a fortune 500 company but I left Microsoft for personal reasons, had to come near to home .. blah blah

YP: Sorry to hear that

OP: Draw the graph of $Y = 1 / (x-1)$

Moi: Anyways tried drawing drew straight line $y=-x$

OP: This is wrong

Moi: Drew some crap again

OP: You are from IIT we don't expect this from you

Moi: (ab to brand value bachani hai) Sir give me one minute. Within 30 seconds drew the hyperbolic graph.. aha!

OP: What is ANN?

Moi: (i heard NAN , this easy). Sir not a number

OP: Where did this NAN come from? We asked ANN- artificial neural network

Moi: Sorry Sir my mistake I heard NAN as we were on a maths problem before this. Anyways, its interconnected neurons which are processing elements and take decisions based on learning etc. blah blah

OP: I am layman. *Sahi se samajhao*

Moi: Ok, let us take the previous maths example. I did it wrong initially but then you gave me chance, a computer program will say either I am disqualified or give me a second chance and hardcode my probability of success as 50% and I am successful in second time. Its basically yes or no. But you might think that because of anxiety I did it wrong initially and give me an unbiased chance. That's intelligence. This intelligence is to be put in machines and more like perception, common sense. And learning could be many types... So neurons are expected to perform the similar functionality.

YP: You said common Sense. Is it common?

Moi: No sir it is not common.

YP: It is not "**Very**" Common

Moi: Yes sir

YP: *to machine mein daalne se ho jayega*

Moi: I don't know sir. They are still trying.

YP: You did something in NTU Singapore

Moi: Yes Sir, that was my summer internship. Total 10 students were selected, 4 from IIT Roorkee, 4 from IIT X, 2 from IIT Y.

YP: Tell me more, what did you do?

Moi: Sir it was a matrix of processing elements, some could be faulty so we needed to design and implement some algorithms to optimize traversing.

YP: (looks with suspicion as to I am speaking fraud and did not write any algorithm and just bluffing)

Moi: (koi nahi I understood his face expression) So blurted out 3 of the 5 different algorithms I implemented.

YP Seems satisfied

YP: How do you mentor juniors? (Picked from Job responsibilities)

Moi: blah blah

YP (again): In career goal you have written "**With my high-spirited motivation for an MBA and the right mindset to pursue and realize determined goals, I foresee a great future ahead, in Entrepreneurship.**" (He actually repeated the whole sentence sarcastically.)

Moi: Yes sir

YP: (He assumed I would say that in first year I will study different courses which would give me knowledge

about different subject) So you would fail after one year drop out and open your company because you have studied all the subjects in first year.

Moi: (Wondering where did this come from) Sir, if I fail after first year then it essentially means that I have learned nothing.

YP: (Looks shockingly at me as if he was not expecting this as answer)
(I felt good ...)

Moi: Moreover I feel second year is also important as you get to specialize in your chosen field. Right now I have a good career and I am doing good, I am also interested in finance so I would probably do a major/minor in finance/systems. But I would be able to take a more firm decision after my first year.

YP: You have very less marks in verbal (shows me my scorecard in the file)

OP: Didn't you get time to prepare

Moi: No sir, I did not get time to prepare. I joined TIME mock test just 4 weeks before CAT. I also took 1 year off from office. Sorry Sir 1 month off...Sorry Sir 1 week off from office but then there were some personal obligations because of which i was not able to study.

OP: Ok we are done... you can go.

Moi: sir I have a question?

YP: What is it?

Moi: Sir I have got 81% in 10th and 12th in up board.

YP: We understand that

Moi: So in UP Board the highest is around 84, 85..

YP: (cuts) We understand that don't worry. Best of luck

Moi: Thank you sirs.

It was a feel good interview. No stress. I was allowed to say whatever I wanted excepted my last question. Anyways interview season over for me... Fingers crossed.

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of: [rik_12](#)

X- 90.5%age (WB Board)
XII-86.9%age (WB Board)

B.E(IT)-86.16%age(BESU,Shibpur)

CAT Score :

QA- 96.53%ile
DI-95.86%ile
VA-97.74%ile

OA-99.19%ile.

Work Ex : 3months (as of today) Cognizant Tech Solutions,Kolkata.

Extracurriculars : Nothing much.

GD-PI slot : 12th March, IIM-C
Panel : 9:30 AM , No 7.

GD Topic : "Its not possible to be honest and prosper in India"

GD Instructions : 2mins to think.

"Depending on how good or bad you do 10-12 mins" (panelist's words)
1 min monologue.

Personal opinion : Lesser you speak earlier you summarise.

Panelist said "We don't want 11 separate summaries. Tell us your views on the topic in that 1 min."

GD Performance :

Group : Fairly good performance. Very civilised group. 11 members including myself. Knew 5 of them beforehand. That helps. Very little cross talk. Everyone spoke in a calm manner.

Moiself : Started the GD (spoke for around 10-12 secs)

Entered 4-5 times.

No repetitions. In the monologue was the last one to be asked to do the honours. Tried to bring new points.

PI

Panelists :

P1,L (lady prof),P3 and A (alumni)

Moiself: M

Was the 8th one to be called in. (in order of sitting in the GD)

P1 came out to call me.

P1: M come in.

M: (smiling i.e)

As I enter and before I could sit and wish them...

A: What's the meaning of your name ?

M: Sprinkling of water ...all the time.

P1 (to A): (deciphered the same in bengali)

M: There's a cartoon by the same name.

L: So who kept this name ? Your parents? We think it sounds chinese!!

M: My grandfather made a list of names. My parents liked this one, and hence the name.

P1: Some similarity with Siachen !!.. What's your dad's name?

M: (where's this going!!!) Said...

A: Aha...that's why you got this name !!

M: Smiling...

P1: So you like it?

A: Does he have an option?

M: Yea I do like it!! You won't find too many by that name !!

L: (reading out my marks from the form loud)...why have you cut your marks in so many places? Are you a confused soul?

M: No ma'am...not at all...I entered the marks as on my marksheet and as per my board norms. During the verification process they asked for a simple average taking additional subject into consideration and hence the change.

L: See here also you done the same thing...even in work-ex number of months!!

M: Yes ma'am...I joined on Dec 8th...the form asked for work ex in full months as on Jan 31st...so after consulting my mentors I thought its safer to put in 1...

P3 speaks at last : So you always play safe?

M: When its such a important occassion for me, I certainly prefer to...

L: Anyhow, it doesn't matter ..1 or 2...u must be on bench now...

M: No ma'am...I got over with my training a month back and has now been allocated a dummy project to design a back-end for Railway Reservations using Internet.

P1(all of a sudden): Hmm...I want to hook a cricket ball out of the park ... At what angle with the ground shud I hit it?

M: (takin a sec to settle in)...Dimensions please?

P1: It wont depend on anything...tell me the angle.. 45,60... >65 ?

M: It is 45 degrees Sir.

P1: Why?

M: I consider it to be a projectile which attains maximum range at 45 degrees.

P1: But, when I send a rocket to the moon do I send it at 45 degrees?

M: (wotta absurd question!) Sir, its 90 degree with the ground...strong upthrust...

mobile rings...P1 moves out...I stop.

L: So M...your college is famous for sooo many things u seY...

M: (bhago bhago...danger!!) yes ma'am...we have a strong heritage...distinguished alumni...

CUT...

L: No no...we aren't talking about them here...your college has been a happy hunting ground for brats...the only good University which faces so much trouble relating to student affairs...

M: (last time S interview lessons learnt...tryin to be my diplomatic best...cautiously speaking)... defended...I think I defended well here...

Cross questioning and opinions shared ...around a couple of minutes...don't think its relevant here in this post...

A: (again a sudden burst) M...what's good Taliban and what's bad Taliban?

M: (phew!!) Sir, they are in the news of late...and these terms have been coined by the media... Good Taliban refers to the moderate elements who are ready to come to the negotiation table and Bad talibans are the ones who want Sharia law to be imposed in Swat at any cost...those who believe only in violence...blah blah....

L: M...You started the GD...it was succha mundane start...you gave one of those stereotype beginnings...defining honesty and prosperity and then backdrop of India... they teach you all these in coaching classes...

M: No ma'am...I haven't come across a coaching class which taught me this...Since I was the one opening the GD the onus was on me to introduce the topic...relate the two things and then get into nitty gritty on why India ...

A: Do we need to define honesty and prosperity at all? Everyone knows!!!

M: True...but very few understand and act on it...so I thought its prudent to share my views before we get in2 discussions on it.

P3: So...you always define things?

M: Not really...but when am in a group and part of a GD where I have to introduce a topic I will share my thoughts on the keywords before I begin...

L: M...you were loud in the GD...you cut other people..don't you think so?

M: No ma'am...I don't think I cut anyone...I let others speak ...I listened to them...only when I felt I had points which will take the GD forward did I contribute... definitely I was eager to contribute...but I dont think I was loud.

P3: Just 2 months...why now?..why not work?

M: Sir, the intention was to continue my education and do my MBA right after my B.E...

CUT

P3: So you took CAT last year?

M: Yes Sir...could not do well... told the percentile...

Left it to him to imagine my calls...

P1: Ok we are done...You have any questions?

L: (jumping in) I do...

M: Yes ma'am...

L: What did you do in the 5 months before joining?

M: (cornered well and truly...the last roll of the dice)...Ma'am i passed out in June 08...did not anticipate a late joining then...so was involved in CAT prep...as and when it became clear that the joining will be late...I tried to keep myself busy with other activities...I joined a couple of forums ...

P1: What's your role ?

M: Sir, am a member of Avaaz and...

CUT

P1: No online activities...I can enroll in Orkut tomorrow and claim am great in social networking...

M: Sir, I was also involved in mentoring part-time

A: Mentored who ?

M: Sir, on behalf of a coachin institute for CAT.

L: You yourself took CAT and you mentored?

M: Yes ma'am...as I said I took CAT last year and I had developed an assosiation...so they just called me over to have my views on their weekly mocks. I myself took the tests and analysed it in the classes...

L: That's more of a discussion ...

M: I agree...but for a short term as 5 months...I preferred a role which wont dilute my CAT preps and hence...it was mutually beneficial...

P1: We are done...Any questions?

M: Yes Sir.

P1: Plz..

M: In the event of getting selected what should one prepare in the meanwhile to have a cutting edge when he joins the institute?

P1: Sleep...don't worry..do some maths and you will get into an IIM...what other calls do you have?

M: Lone call Sir.

L: (2nd time) What's your percentile?

M: Said...

P1: K did not call you?... Why ? (visibly irritated)

M: Sir, I did not meet their eligibility criterion...no work ex as on Aug 31st...they had 10% weightage on work ex and so...

P1: Okie...

L: We are done M...thank u...

M: Thank you Sirs...Thank you Ma'am...

Smiles all around...as M leaves the playground....

Other details : A bit of cross talk among the panelists...very very chilled out...felt they wanted to stress on a couple of issues...think I handled well...no tangible benchmarks to judge myself on...it lasted around 12-13 mins... short feel decent PI...no acads/maths/stats/current affairs....very inconclusive...

Now the wait begins... fingers crossed...comments and feedbacks most welcome... and sorry for the late post...I was droolin on this PI in the meanwhile...

Interview experience of: [live2die](#)

Date: 9th March
Time: 9:30am (Panel No. 13)
Center: IMI, Delhi

PROFILE

X = 71.00% CBSE (1998)
XII = 77.40% CBSE (2000)
Under Grad Major = 67.74 % BE Info Sc. from VTU in 2004

Work Ex = 53 months

Other thing: Nothing till school/college but quite diversified in work-ex

GD:

No of candidates: 10

No of Panelist : 3 (all above 50 yrs old)

Time: 2-3 min for thinking. 10 mins for discussion. Summarization at the end not sure if time was specified.

Topic: Students should recruit faculties.

I think i was able to contribute well after starting the GD smoothly.

My points in brief:

[In favour]

- > Aspects involved in selection of teachers
- > Orientation w.r.t Ethics, Society etc
- > Team spirit among students
- > Harmony among students and teachers
- > Vision of Teacher
- > 1-2 more points max I guess ..

[Against]

- > Students might be biased towards profs who are liberal in giving marks
- > Check if the system is already in place but is not being followed

Around 4 guys hardly spoke .. I mean they didn't even raise their voice much except for once or twice MAX .. I gave a very very brief summary without actually repeating any point and instead mentioned the theme of the entire discussion (not sure if I was wise in doing that since nobody actually approached it in the manner I did)

There were three profs, and if anyone of them was an alumni then by GOD he must be having more exp than the profs

P1: Casually seated prof (on my right)

P2: Prof with sheepish smile (in front of me)

P3: Serious prof (on my left)

Note: Three profs with three different facial expressions and NONE changed his facial expressions THROUGHOUT the PI.

P1: So what are your current job responsibilities ?

P2: Please give me your application form.

Me: (handed over the application form to P2 and then came back to my chair) Bakar

P2: Tell us something about yourself.

Me: Bakar

P1: What do you think would be the cost of doing MBA for you ?

Me: Would be losing 2 years salary and experience and also would be required to pay fee...(P1 cuts in)

P1: No no that is investment tell me cost ..

Me: ...

P1: Let me clarify it further .. like you are a specialist now and you intend to get into management don't you think you would be losing your expertise ?

Me: No I don't think so since I have more than 4 yrs of experience with SAP which deals with business processes and my experience is mainly in PM area ... also I have experience of leading teams and forming teams while helping my manager so I think I would rather be able to leverage my experience instead of losing it ..

P1: You are earning good right now so you might not get the kind of pay you are getting if the recession continues ..

Me: Sir money is not the only factor .. I think MBA will help me make money while pursuing my long term goal ..(cuts me)

P1: So you are saying you don't want money? I must say you are unique and I am not criticizing you .. I just want to have a healthy discussion with you on this ..

Me: Sir I never said I don't need money .. infact with the kind of expenses we have it becomes mandatory for me to earn money but it is just that I am happy with what I am making right now so even if I don't get a hike and am able to pursue my long term goal then I would be satisfied ..it is just that money is not the only criteria ..

P1: So how much weightage would you give to money while deciding for MBA ?

Me: Sir arnd 25-30%

P1: Now you will get married after some time so your wife's expenses would be your responsibility .. do you think you need to give only 25% weightage to money?

Me: Sir money is not the only thing that keeps a relationship alive .. am sure she would be happy and let me pursue my aspirations just the way I would let her pursue her aspirations .. like if she intends to go out for a month with some NGO then I won't stop her .. moreover I am sure I will be able to make enough to support my family and keep focused towards my long term goal ..

P1: don't you think you should get married now and then ask your wife if she is fine with you doing MBA or not ? After all she is your responsibility ..

Me: Sir I would rather do my MBA and then get a job and then approach her telling her this what I earn now and this is how I am as a person so now it is upto you to decide if you would like to get married to me ..

Note: apart from what I have posted there was some more discussion .. but the intent here is to give you an idea of what was asked and how I responded ..

P1: Cracks a small joke on salaries that Professors earn and then signals to P2 to continue from there ..

P2: You have written a lot of terms like Government, Industry, villagers in your long term goal .. can you please elaborate ?

Me: Sure sir .. Sir I intend to work towards alignment of interests of government, industry and villagers so that a more focused approach could be taken towards development of health care and education infrastructure in Uttarakhand ..

P2: What do you think are the issues these sectors are facing ?

Me: bakar

P2: So have you decided which specialization you want to do MBA in ?

Me: Strategy Consulting since it will get me exposure to how govt works and how corporates work .. told him how I was influenced by a rumor of a case in which McKinsey was helping Mumbai Municipal corp in maintaining the growth of city while keeping me mind the interest of slums and rest of the sectors as well .. I said I would be very happy if I could replicate even close to it ..

P2: Where you see urself down the line 5 yrs would you be trying for McKinsey or something ? And then where do you see yourself after 10 yrs ?

Me: Yes Sir will try to gain exposure on how govt works and what corporates need while working on networking .. after 5 yrs I would start executing the project in my village and will also start working towards starting my own consulting firm which would help govt, industry and villagers come together .. the govt can come up with ideas similar in nature to CSR etc via which the corps would be responsible for upgradation of education and health care infra ... some more bakar on this ..

P2: So how do you think bringing of companies would help ?

Me: Companies -> jobs -> educated class - > better teachers

Companies with CSR types & better medical equipments + improved education system à more doctors willing to help ..

P2: So you want to start a NGO or something ?

Me: No sir I think it is a great business opportunity in a critical and niche segment .. and I might work with govt as a consultant to execute projects ..

Note: There was some more discussion on infrastructure in Uttarakhand and etc ..

P2: Signals to P3 who was so far busy reading my application form ..

P3: I see Uttarakhand more of a tourist destination than a education or healthcare hub .. also I am of the opinion that except Manipal no other location has been able to establish itself as a education hub (Now I must say this question on 'hub' was stupid since I never mentioned anything of that sort .. but maybe since he missed a few of my points he interpreted it in tht manner .. but then I am not sure ofcourse) so what do you think you would have done as a Manager to increase the tourism in state .. ?

Me: Sir Tourism sure is a very important factor but as far as education and health care are concerned (P3 cuts in)

P3: No no don't give me a politicians answer .. tell me as a manager what would you have done ..

Me: Sir as a manager I would address the needs w.r.t hotels and .. (now P2 cuts in)

P2: What he wants to know is how would you increase the domestic and international tourism in state ..

Me: Sir for domestic tourists I would say that Haridwar is viewed as a holy city but there are hardly much known about it except for Kumbh Mela and har-ki-pairi so I will try to make people know abt other temples and their specialities .. also not many are aware of river rafting in Rishikesh .. for foreign tourists I would make our hill stations and their specialities known ..(P2 cuts in)

P2: So you will make people aware .. ?

Me: Yes sir that is right ..

P2: What else ?

Me: Sir hotels and .. (P2 again cuts in)

P2: Say tell me w.r.t Airport and roads what could be done .. you know about the infrastructure etc ? Because the roads between Haridwar and Roorkee are not good ..

Me: Sir I agree that the current airport at Dehradun is not able to fulfill the needs of the state but then the last two govt have already taken great steps towards airport improvement infact there already is another airport that is planned in another region of state .. and sir I would not agree with you on the road condition from Roorkee to Haridwar since I know that there are two routes and both are excellent though a bit

narrow ..but then the quality of roads is really great since you don't encounter any ditches etc .. sir also situation has improved tremendously w.r.t electricity, road and water in state since its inception ..

P3: Have you been to the north most regions of state like Badrinath, Kedarnath and so on ?

Me: No sir never been to those places though I have been to Haridwar, Rishikesh, Nainital, Mussouri etc ...

P3 and P2 clarify P1s doubt that Nainital is in Uttarakhand ..and again start talking about the extreme corners of state to which P3 tells P1 that he, i.e. Me, hasn't been to the flower valley etc which are in north most region ..

P3: Have you been to Ghoda Thaal temple ?

Me: No sir I don't think so ..

P3: This temple is famous for people visiting it after they get married ..(I join in)

Me: Sir is this the one in Bheemtaal where people donate bells ?

P3: Yes that is the one ..

Me: Oh Sir I have been to that temple ..

P3: So what could be done to make sure that people comeback again and again to Uttarakhand like they do in Tirupathi .. some gyaan on how things work at Tirupathi follows ..

Me: Sorry sir but I don't quite agree with you since I do know that Gujarati's visit Haridwar every year and that too with their entire family ..

P3: You know it has to do with their belief .. and blah blah some little gyaan of types ..

Me: Sir as per one of statistics last year some 40 lakh pilgrims visited Haridwar on some occasion which I am not able to recollect the name of (it was Bol Bum actually) .. some even walk from Delhi till Haridwar .. I just remember that this festival has something to do with Shivji ..

After this the interview ends .. now I don't remember who said what in the end ..

P.S: guys please please tell me what you think of these two things:

1) 'You are unique'

2) 'Politicians answer'

I just want to know if they were actually being sarcastic or I am just making things up on my own .. drop me a PM with ur opinion on how my GD/PI went ..

Thanks a ton and wish you luck ..

~Live

IIM Calcutta 2009-2011

Calls: IIM CLIK ; Converts: IIM CLIK

IIM Calcutta - Year 2010

Interview experience of: [prem_ravi](#)

PROFILE:

Acads

X %,Board, year -61.84% (TN State Board, 1993)

XII%, Board, year-89.08%(TN State Board, 1995)

Undergrad Stream(BA, BE etc), Specialization(CS, mech etc), Percentage, Year, Institute. –B.E. (CSE), 58.43% ,2000, Vellore Engg College

Work-Ex:

Sectors, Company - Number of months – IT Sales – 116 Months

CAT (2009-10):

DI-94.27%

Quant-90.3%

Verbal-98.98%

Aggregate-98.26%

(OBC)

Extra acads : NIL

Any other special thing about you:Social Initiative “Spurti”, College cultural club Secretary, Health Club Secretary, Lead Singer, Ball Badminton (2 silver & 1 Gold Medal)

Interview & GD

Venue: Luxury Monarch Hotel

Date : 22.03.2010

Course(PGDM/PGDCM):PGDM

Reached the venue by 8.00 AM & the process started by 9.30 AM

GD :

Topic: IPL is a death knell to Indian cricket

Number of People present:8 out of 11 (3 absent)

Time: 10 minutes

Brief Snapshot of the discussion:

Came in as the second person & the group as such was not fish market. Every one spoke. I made five entries & 4 were towards the end L ie after my first entry I was quite for 3-4 minutes because the guys sitting to my left were dominating the GD

Points put across by me.

1. IPL gives a chance for the retired players to participate which will help young domestic players to learn a lot from the seasoned players.
2. IPL gives a chance for the local players to learn from domestic players
3. Coaches find it difficult to train bowlers as it is a pure entertainment game.
4. BCCI gains Rs.750 crores which can be used to enhance Test cricket (some body said Test Cricket is dying)
5. IPL can also look at ODI/test cricket & shuffle players across the country which can again draw attention.

I was the second person asked to summarise

(Sinchan told me that if you speak well you will be asked to summarise towards the end). Even the summary part I didn't do well I feel (finished off the summary in 45 seconds or so)

Rate your preparation(0-5): 0 (No mock GDs)

Rate your performance(0-5):2.5

PI:

Panel Members Intr

O:Lady Professor (L), Alumni(A), Professor (P)

Questions:

L: Do you work? (was happy that she thought that i am fresher J)

Me: Yes Mam, in company X

L: What does your company do?

Me: Mam, we are the subsidiary of XX & we manufacture & sell software y

L: what does your software do?

Me: Gave the exact definition & applications

L:Who are your competition?

Me: gave 3 names & in my vertical my software is my competition ie piracy

L: what are you guys doing towards Piracy?

Me: We are working on university wide licence and also on the student edition, currently they are available in US & unfortunately as the pricing is the problem, we are taking sometime

L:who are you customers?

Me: I am working in a private company so I cannot reveal that.

L: How is your software priced?

Me: I said I cannot disclose the price but gave them the pricing model overview

A: Ok Prem, you were saying about piracy & all, why don't you allow students to learn in a subsidized way?

Me: (read about my competition doing the same thing in yesterday's), I said "Sir, I appreciate what my competitors have been doing (explained what they are doing), since we are just 14 months old in India, we are currently in the process of understanding the length & breadth of the Business, so we will take some more time to arrive at some thing similar to this.

Till here the interview was normal..Now starts the show J

A: Prem, you have worked for 10 years now, why an MBA?

Me: blah blah blah (I used a line, the professors are GOD like.)

A:GOD like or GOD

Me: Sir, GOD (everybody laughs), also I have started an initiative called spurti (explained in detail & also on the calls whatmy students have got), I feel an MBA will also help me in making SPURTI a national success

L: But Prem you have taken a long time to decide to do an MBA, is this your first CAT?

Me:No mam, my fourth CAT

L: What happened to the last 3 CATs

Me: Mam, 2006-IIMA reject, 2007-XLRI Reject & 2008-IIML reject. 2009- iam sitting in front of you (Laughter around)

L: What other calls do you have

M: IIMA & IIML

L: But even if I discount the 4 attempts, you have decided after 6 years of working?

Me: Mam from 1993 to 2002 I had to support my family a lot because of my mothers ailment. 2002 I wanted to appear for CAT, my dad said he cannot support me financially as we had spent a lot towards my mother's hospitalization. 2003, I wanted to appear, but my dad wanted my help in supporting him financially. 2004,

my parents wanted me to get married(Everyone laughs here).2005, I became a parent & in 2006, I thought I had addressed all my immediate responsibilities & started getting serious about getting into a BSchool & I have been trying mam
(there was broad smile in L's face & she said Good)

P: OK Prem, do you know that we also offer PGPEX, why not that course?

Me: Sir, I am not sure about the PGPEX time table, but having interacted with lot of friends, who have done / doing 1 year MBA from other BSchools, what I have learnt is that the classes start at 7 AM & go on till 9 PM. There are lot of things related to management which are learnt outside the class as well.

P to A: This guy will not sit inside the class (Everybody laughs)

Me (after Laughing): its not that way sir, a 1 year MBA will give me an opportunity to learn from 60 odd peers wherein a 2 year MBA will give me a chance to meet so many people (I gave the nos also) from where I can learn a lot. Also,I feel that education is an experience & since I am investing a portion of my Life, I would prefer a 2 year program.

P: Prem, incase of PGDM, you will be looked like a liability & might not get glamorous roles, anyway its just my opinion, you are a better judge.

Me (Didn't reacted as he was not expecting an answer.

P: What else do you do apart from the social initiative.

Me: Sir, I spend time with my kids

P: if you get into PGDM you will not get time & also as far as the married people accommodation goes, our 1st preference is FPM, 2nd is PGPEX & then PGDM/PGDCM, so what will you do?

Me: Sir, not a problem, my dad is getting retired this year. So, I will be moving my family to Calcutta & even if I get 15-20 minutes time to meet up my kids that should as you are aware, I am in sales ie a travelling Job, even now I am managing time for my Kids.

P to A: This guy will definitely not sit inside the class (Everyone laughs again)

P: Are you a reader, do you read books?

Me: Not really sir

Don't you feel, you are a stereotyped Sales guy who wants to talk & who doesn't want to learn?

Me: Sir, I learn a lot through listening (Explained the problems I had at work & how patiently I listened to customers & learnt)

P:But you haven't touched the reading part

Me: Sir, I do read papers & magazines whenever I get time, but I don't want to proclaim myself as a vivid reader.

P: Prem, if you come to campus, we will give you huge books to read, how will you learn & assimilate?

Me: Sir, if I just request you to recollect one of my answers to Mam, you might understand that I have struggled a lot to reach this place & the primary reason was my Passion & commitment. If after getting into the campus, if I know that I am supposed to study to achieve my primary goal. I am very sure of doing that because I am extremely committed to whatever I do.

P: Thank You

Me: Thank you Sir

A: Any questions to ask?

Me: Nothing at this stage sir

Smiled, thanked & left.

That's it friends. It was a chill interview. Nothing to infer as most of the guys are having similar interviews. Your comments via PM are welcome. Overall 25 minutes.

Rate your preparation(0-5): 4

Rate your performance(0-5): 3-3.5 (cannot interpret much because of my previous rejects)

MISC.

Go with a chill mind. Speak confidently. Worst case you might get a reject, but you will feel good, if you have delivered your best. All the Best.

Interview experience of: [faiz007](#)

Venue:

IIFT, New Delhi

23/03/2010 9.30 morning slot

Profile:

CAT percentile :- 96.54

CATEGORY :- obc non creamy

Acads

X %, Board, year -70.0% (CBSE, 1999)

XII%, Board, year-62.0%(CBSE, 2001)

B.Tech(Cheical technology)- 72.0% - 2007

Work-Ex:

Coaching institute: 6 months

Cognizant technology solutions, Kolkata: 12 months

GD Topic:- idiots rule

Given 1 minute to think.

I was the third to enter the GD, made points about idiots being different from stupid, they are innovative and creative people, also talked about 2 billion dollar revenue of 3 idiots, also why are they really called idiots and do they really rule.....made 3-4 entries...though GD was more of a fish market...i was asked to summarize second last...so overall above average GD experience...

then came the bad part of the day.....

PI:(lasted around 10-12 mins)

i was the second one to be interviewed in my panel....

Panel

Cool Guy(C): faculty HR

Young Alumnus(Y): related to mathematics

Old faculty(O): who never looked satisfied

Me (M) : poor me

O: have a seat

M: wished good afternoon to all 4

O: give me your certificates and your form...

M: given

Y: so tell me something about yourself?

M: gave gyan...

C: how is chemical technology related to mba

M: Gave some gyan..but then i mentioned about entrepreneurship(as i really wanted to mention because i did some preparation... but not really the way as it went...and den it was d time for some grilling

O: just made me really confused with his lethal weapons of entrepreneurship..though i kept trying with my

answers but he never looked satisfied...and so even i was not satisfied...i could have given the better answer...but damage is done now

Y: ok faiz, what is your favourite subject in B.tech?

M: Told him about leather processing and i have deep interest in mathematics...

Y: he asked me 2 question of mathematics

M: the only good part of my interview is that i answered both of them correctly (but really doubt ..will that sail me through)

O: tell me 3 issues about urban development?

M: told some (though i was not very crisp)...he was expecting one word answer shayad and i was not able to come up with those...he was not satisfied...so m not satisfied at all

O: did you invested your savings somewhere when you were in job?

M: No sir, as i had to pay my education loan...

OA: so you mean one should not invest his saving anywhere?

M: told him that one should invest some part in mutual funds...if having idea of share market then he can invest in shares also...some parts in bonds also..(i was just giving some tries so dat kuch to achcha kar dun)

OA: tell me about the new pension fund?

M: no idea sir except that dearness allowance has been increased to 8%...(did so much preparation...but how come i left pension fund...and so unfortunate to asked question on that)

they asked each other then that do anyone has any questions but other two had nothing to asked (shayad dey had made their decision by then..)

Panel: ok all the best

M: k..thank you sir

Interview experience of: [shreyans_nitt](#)

PROFILE:

Acads

X %, 85 CBSE

XII%, 81 CBSE

Undergrad : NIT TRICHY CHEMICAL ENGG 8.25

Work-Ex:

20 Months managerial with FMCG

CAT (2009-10):

DI 99.79

Quant 99.06

Verbal 99.94

Aggregate 99.99

Interview & GD

Venue: Monrarch Luxur, Bangalore

Date : 24th March

Course(PGDM/PGDCM): PGDM

GD :

Topic: Mobile Phones are a menace to the society

Rate your preparation(0-5): 0

Rate your performance(0-5): 4

PI:

Three panelists. Two aged 50-55 and one aged 40-45

P1: Tell me two questions that i have asked the interviewees before you came in (he assumed i was discussing them outside!)

Me: Sir one was why should argentina have an export tax of 35%. I think its because the resources in Argentina are scarce and their export will only lead to the demand supply gap resulting in Inflation. In order to contain inflation, the export rates are high.

P1: (happy) Accepted.

P2: Other than this reason, see their are bonds.....

P1: (interrupting) I dont expect these guys to understand that much (smiling)

Me: Second one was about ITC company's profile u discussed.

P1: Why are u interested?

Me: Its a competetitor FMCG

(laughs around)

P2: Ok Shreyans what do you do in FMCG?

Me: energy efficiency projects blah blah (atleast 2 minutes)

P3: Interesting! So how do u do it. U said u do the electrical part too but u r a chemical engg

Me: Sir, i have learnt the basics

P1: So tell me why are their Bus Bars after LT line?

Me: sorry sir

P1: (laughing) take a guess, I know you are not an electrical engineering

Me: Bus bars act as mediators between the LT line and the Distribution boards. (i am with stupid)

P1: (laughing) leave it

P2: Ok so what is FMCG Doing for rural markets?

Me: elaborated pointwise (all convinced)

P2: What is e chaupal of ITC?

Me: I will take a guess. Blah Blah.

P1: What is your company's market share?

Me: answered

P3: Your career goal is to venture into clean energy

Me: explained , sunstantiated

P3: There is a huge difference between your CTC and Take away

Me: Variable blah blah

P1: Very nice meeting you shreyans. I think we are done.

Me: Thanks sirs

P3 gets up and Shakes hands before leaving

Rate your preparation(0-5): 2

Rate your performance(0-5): 4

I spoke a lot almost 60-70% of the time thats why less questions

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of: [skr14](#)

Done with my IIMC gd/pi...sorry for the delay in posting..was chilling out after having A & C back to back!

Profile :

X-----88.4 (South Point, West Bengal Board)

XII----88.3 (South Point, West Bengal Board)

SGPA--7.86 CGPA--7.68 Percentage--71.04 (complications unlimited!)

College--Jadavpur University, Kolkata

Work Ex--Cognizant Technology Solutions (14 months till Jan end)

CAT percentile:

QA --99.24

DI ---96.77

VA ---99.52

Total - 99.83

Extra-curriculars: A few certificates here and there...nothing exceptional..

Hobbies : Music, sports and reading

Any other special thing about you :

Interview & GD:

Date: 23.03.2010

Venue: IIMC Campus,Joka

Course: PGDM

GD Topic: Is deception necessary for success?

Number of People present:11 (originally 12 in the panel but 1 was absent!)

Time: 2 mins to think, 10 mins to discuss and a monologue at the end, in random order..

Brief Snapshot of the discussion: Discussion was quite peaceful but it tended to get a bit repetitive...the

Satyam episode came up for about 8-10 times ...one guy made a very good point about deception of batsmen by bowlers ...not happy with my performance..i came in 3-4 times..just 1 or 2 new points..others were mostly examples and substantiating points by others...i was asked to summarise last(hence proving that the order must have been random)

Rate your preparation(0-5): 1(just two case studies as practice)

Rate your performance(0-5): 2

PI Experience:

Panel Members Intr

O: Three panelists were present...the same people as in the GD...not sure if one of them was an alumnus..

Let's call them

P1:(left),

P2:(centre) and P3(right) and of course, innocent moi(M)

Btw, it was really hot just outside the interview room...most were sweating while waiting to go in
The interviews were of quite short duration...i went in at around 4pm despite being 8th in the panel

P1: came and called out my name...

M: Yes sir

P1: Come in...take your seat..

M: Wished them and sat down..

P1: So...you're from Calcutta itself..

M: Yes sir...was outstation for a while during.....other than that it's been Calcutta throughout..

P1: Studying in JU now?

M: No sir...i've passed out in 2008....now working..

P1: Oh you're working...where?

M: Explained about my work...client details..

P1: So what exactly is your role?

M: Gave a detailed description of my duties...illustrated on paper what Forms are and why they are being migrated..

P1: But why did you come to IT in the first place?

M: Started some blah..

P1: (cutting me off)but if that is so why do u want to switch?...your work seems to be good!!!!!(how can it even remotely be considered as good?!...i guess it was their reaction to my explanation...seemed to say:"nice try skr but we know how interesting your job is!")

M: My role at present...role i aspire for...mba bridging the gap...plus other benefits of b-school...will help in getting more responsibilities...contribute towards...

P1: But why should you look at more responsibilities?...that is not your job ...will this help u develop any qualities you currently need?

M: Yes sir...teamwork...time-management...etc etc..

P1: So does your role at present allow you to show any leadership qualities which help the company ?

M: Mentioned about those being there in a small scale...talked about mentoring two trainees under me..

P2: takes over at this stage...

P2: Have you been involved in any activities in the social sector?(now where did this come from?...i'd not mentioned anything like it in the form)

M: Sir no field activities as such but...mentioned about online forums..(now feel i could have talked a little about the company CSR ...started mentioning my other interests)

P1: So what is the role you want after mba?

M: Right now knowledge only of IT...open mind...first yr general courses...then decide...talked a bit about career goals as mentioned in the form..

P1: And if in IT...what role?

M: Mentioned about business analyst...the work he does...learnings from dummy project..

Now

P2: takes over again...

P2: So what according to you are 3 qualities a leader/project manager in your industry should have?

M: Talked about proper planning...coordination...motivational skills...elaborated a bit..

P2: Ok...and if say he needs to get some work done...doesn't know about it himself...what should be his plan of action?

M: If possible learn himself...consult with team members...ask for help from peers...(little talk along these lines)

P2: seems satisfied and looks at P3 (who till now was almost dozing off...just giving me occasional glances in between)

P3: Ok so tell me what transducers are...(what a way to start off!)

M: Started explaining in a roundabout way...this...that...moved on to control systems..

P3: So you say transducers are control systems?

M: No sir...it's something which changes one form of energy to another (sudden recollection)

P3: Hmm...you see those regulators out there (points to the fan regulators in the room)...explain what happens when we turn the switch!

M: Tried explaining...sensors...feedback...circuit activation...etc etc..

Meanwhile...pakoras, fish fingers and soft drinks came into the room..i wasn't offered explicitly but while coming out i saw there was one more glass of cold drinks on my side of the table...presumably the waiter had put that down for me

P3: (after a while) How good are u in mathematics?

M: (in a guarded tone...boasting about maths in front of IIMC profs might prove disastrous) Sir i feel i'm good at it...

P3: So what exactly do you remember? (potential killer question!)

M: I was good in school maths...good marks...found interesting...

P3: You remember binomial theorem?

M: Yes sir...i remember a bit..

P3: How much?...ok write the expansion!

M: Expanded $(a+x)^n$ (even here mentioned the first term as nC_0 ...quickly corrected and said $nC_0 a^n$)

P3 looked at the expansion...and nodded..

P3: Tell me something...do you really want to do an mba or you want to move away from coding?

M: (smiling) Sir it's not that...intention to do an mba earlier also...appeared for CAT last yr...Cognizant was fall back option etc etc..

P3: What other calls do u have?

M: Only Calcutta and Ahmedabad...

P2: Only C and A?

P1: Why not others?

M: Talked about what i felt...also mentioned about probably losing out on B because of graduation marks..

P1: So you feel that marks might have been a reason?

A little talk about percentages...P3 asked about percentages required for first class, honours etc..

P2: Ok we're done...

Thanked them and came out of the room...

Rate your preparation(0-5): 3 (four mock PIs as practice)

Rate your performance(0-5): 4

Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow

Interview experiences during the admission seasons between 2005 and 2010

IIM Lucknow - Year 2005

Interview experience of: [rohit_anand](#)**GD- Is Capital Punishment justified?**

First we had to write an essay of about 150 words on a sheet of paper, 10 minutes for this. Then the panel took the forms & essay and GD started. Due to chaos, they stopped us for about 2 minutes before beginning, after that everyone seemed to get a lot more civilized. Most of the mess was created by the sitting arrangement, all of us were on one side of the table so it was quite difficult to communicate with the group. Everyone was leaning forward and it was really weird. Anyways, discussion was *okayish* and I also did *okayish*.

PI:

Panelists seemed to be nasty and had a thing for stressing the people out.

I was 3rd in the group

M: me

P1: stresser

P2: silent

P1: Amit, how was your IIMA interview?

M: It ain't Amit its Rohit and the interview was ok

P1: What was it about...

M: Tells

P1: How come they asked about stocks? (I added bait for stocks...little did I know what was to follow)

M: Interested.

P1: How come...

M: Book called Liars poker...

P1: Tell me about it....

M: (that makes it 3 out of 4 interviews where I have been asked about this book...)...Tells...I take my time and tell them all about I Banking

P1: So stock eh

M: Yes sir

P1: How is the value of index calculated...

M: Goes on about it...

P1: What is free float factor?

M: Tells

P1: So you are good at it eh?

M: Pretty much a novice sir (I am not falling for that trap man! no way am I gonna tell you that I am good)

P1: Blue chip stocks?

M: Tells...

P2: Why have a BSE 100 when BSE 30 is there...

M: Talks about representation and blah blah

P2: What is xyz (some very technical sounding shit)

M: Dunno

P2: What's contanglio...

M: Something to do with options...but not sure

P2: So you know derivatives also eh!

M: Only basics Sir

P2: Swaps? Option? Swoptions?

M: Tells swaps and options...and I dunno what a swoption ishaven't come across such a term yet!

P2 - Some weird question again...related to regression analysis

M: I haven't studied statistics for ages man...I dunno

P2: Hmmm you have incomplete knowledge

M: Sir as I said I am a novice and this is exactly why I want to do an MBA...blah blah...talks bout how I don't invest yet so as not to get my hands burnt

P2: Ok you must have seen quotes...what all do they have..

M: Tells...high low..open close.volume blah blah

P2: Where do you read about stocks?

M: Investopedia and fool.com

P1: So blogging eh....what is it?

M: Tells...about 5 min on blogging

P2 (all of a sudden) - Can you be corrupt?

M: Absolutely not!

P2: Why...

M: Conscience won't allow it

P1: So you are not good enough for IIML then...or for that matter any IIM.

both of them look at each other and seem to agree that only thugs can come to IIML

M: blah blah...disagree with him....talk about stress on ethics in IIML...have talked to seniors

P2: What is GDP growth rate, inflation?

M: Tells approx figures

P2: Say you are the finance minister of India....if you had to reduce inflation to 1 % what would you do?

M: (almost jumps out of chair with happiness) Talks at length about CRR , currency supply, demand supply, banks loans for short term and talks about inflation being a necessary evil so would have to deal with it in short term if you want a long term solution...

P2: And the long term solution would be?

M: Invest in infrastructure...sectors that create value in long run..blah blah

P1 - So I see you have studied a course on organizations & managerial economics

M: Yes...

P1: What's the Maslow theory...

M: Dunno....course was mainly based on presentations never studied this...

P1: What are the different (something) of management

M: blabbers something

P1: Guessing?

M: Know a couple...logically trying to get to others...

P1: Whats xyz?

M: Never heard it...like I said before sir course was basically on presentations and not theory

P2: But it says managerial economics

M: Sir I don't think nomenclature of course reflects the contents truly

P2: But how will you give a presentation if you dunno anything...

M: States presentation topic and also tells him about the Wharton journal and globe...

P2: Thank you

P2 kept frowning at me for a long time as if I had stolen his chocolate or something...overall they were trying to stress me out but I kinda kept my cool throughout...dunno what to make of it...

Result: Converted

Interview experience of: [prima_donna](#)

Result : Not known.

Had my GD/PI today, in Bangalore at 9:30 am. Panel 2.

My background: B.Com+1yr PGD in Financial Management.

Work ex: 33 months, in the BPO industry (Finance related companies)

GD topic: Disinvestment in PSUs will promote efficiency.

We were asked to write about 150 words in 10 minutes, which is ample time and then we had a discussion for about 12 minutes, which was too long. Sine we had so much time to think and put down our points, there wasn't much building on each other's ideas. Also, by the end, we were talking in circles, as we had exhausted all the points. But it was pretty decent, not chaotic. Everyone contributed.

PI: Can't remember the exact order of questions, or which guy asked what, so: Profs: P, Me: M.

There were two Profs. Both were quite decent, and weren't trying to psyche me out.

P: So, please introduce yourself.

M: blah blah blah....

P: Okay, you work at 'XXXXX' Company, what is the job like.

M: Tells him.

P: So, where is the analysis in this?

M: Sir, there is very little analysis here, but in the past few months I have been moving from just processing to other functions like training new hires, ensuring the work gets done, arranging refreshers, reporting...

P: So it is a more HR kind of function

M: Something like that (this is where he thought I am an HR person and took off on that subject)

P: Okay, so tell me what is the employee turnaround like in your company. What percentage has been leaving?

M: Sir there are about 'xxx' number of people in our organization, and about 'xx' number of people leave every month (I had no idea about this, just took a guess)

P: That's quite a high figure (does some calculations and comes up with some annual percentage). So you must be seeing 'xx%' new faces every year.

M: Actually more than that, as the company has been growing at a tremendous rate.

P: So, why is this happening?

M: Sir, most of the people are leaving from some particular departments.

P: Which departments?

M: Tell some names.

P: So why is it happening?

M: Some people have trouble adjusting to the timings, health issues. But mostly it is the management.

P: Management is a very general term. It could mean so many things, be a little more specific.

M: I mean the Team Leaders and the managers just above them. They pressurize the team a lot. I know of some people who work 14 hrs every day and also come in on Saturdays and Sundays.

P: But don't you have any standards... (I give a blank look here)... standards regarding time required for the work.

M: Yes sir, we do have SLA's, but they have been made based on the American system, and they don't necessarily work here...

P: Why not?

M: Well, we require more training time as the concept is totally new to us.. also, clarifying doubts with onshore coaches takes time...

P: But that doesn't explain why people are leaving.. (I thought we had moved ahead of this topic)

M: Yes sir, but when the time taken increases, the team leaders start to pressurize the teams. They don't go to find the root cause... For instance, when our team has any issues, my TL asks us for feedback, finds out what is wrong and represents this to the managers... But most of the others don't do this.

P: Okay, suppose that you became the HR manager tomorrow, what would you do??

M: Sir, I haven't studied this subject, but some suggestions I would make is that they hire the right people, as most people here suffer from culture shock. Also, the senior management is very important, as they should carry on the values of the company... After you hire the right people it's only about maintenance... conduct surveys, find out if people have what they need etc..

P: So what do you think is the future of BPO's in India?

M: I think we'll have a lot more high end work coming to us.. But we need to prove ourselves first, like how my company is bringing is a lot more work.. But we might lose the lower end work to cheaper places like China, Philippines. But that will be okay..

P: You've done a course in Financial Management... You had a course called Personal Growth Lab in this.. What was it about?

M: Tell them some subjects..

P: But all this sounds like theory... the word lab suggests something practical exercises..

M: Explained a bit..

P: What did you study under Financial Management?

M: Tell a few chapter headings..

P: You don't remember do you?? You're just making this up (with a smile)

M: No sir, we did have these subjects (again, with a smile)

P: What was your job like in 'XYZ Co.' (previous company)

M: Explained a bit...

P: Okay, did you come across a term called Technical analysis?? Explain..

M: Explained the term... Valuing stocks based on charts.. (That's all I knew about it)

P: So how do they plot these charts... (He was asking about a formula)

M: I'm not sure sir...

P: How about regression.. You've studied Business statistics.. You also did this Financial course...

M: I don't know sir.. I have heard of the term but not in relation to technical analysis

P: (interrupts midway) Have you heard of volatility of stocks?

M: Sir, I know the meaning of the term.. but not any formula... explained what I can..

P: One thing about your marks.. in both years in degree, you have got very low marks in English.. Why is this??

M: (Darn, I was hoping no one would realize that!!) Sir I don't know what happened. All through college English has been my strong point, in school I even got merit certificates.. Don't know what happened...

P: Okay that's all...

M: (just got up)

P: What other IIM calls have you got?

M: Tell him... and leave

Phew that's all folks!!

Anyway, it's was good and the interviewers are really smart they figured out a lot of things that other's have missed in my other interviews.

Interview experience of: [confuser](#)

Result : Waitlisted and later converted

Here is my exp of IIM L GD/PI

Cat score:99.31

Experience : 2yrs 10 months

class 10:86.4%

class 12:66.66%

Eng: REC Trichy Mechanical 67%

Venue: IIMB 9:30 am ,17 th March

GD Topic : Disinvestment in PSUs will increase the efficiency

Decent GD..initially 150 lines to write followed by 10 minutes of GD... Everybody spoke... ..decent GD.. after my dismal performance in IIMC GD, it's a great improvement for me.

I was the 1st to be interviewed by a panel of 2(P1 and P2)...

P1: Tell me something about yourself.

M: childhood->->->hobby

P2: Give me your certificates.

P1: What non-fictions books you have read recently

M: Told 5 books..

P1: You are a mechanical engineer(my heartbeat increased).What's your favorite subject?

M: Automobile engineering as i bought a car recently I am going through the subject again to understand the functionality of the car.

P1: What's 'XXXXX'? Have you heard of it in Mechanical.

M: No sir.

P1: What will be the RPM at 60kmph?

M: Don't know exactly can i take a guess.

P1: Yes, but don't take a wild one..

M: Gave some answer.

P1: What is carburetor and fuel injections?

M: Answered, part of them (please ask something else)

P2: You've good score in your 10th ..what happened in 12th (please go back to mechanical engineering)

M: We have a separate engineering entrance and IIT.. so I was concentrating more on them also our board is a low scoring one...

P2: Again you have good mark in your 3rd yr, 4th yr it came down...why?? Preparing for CAT is it?

M: Smiled, no sir. I didn't write CAT in college. I got a job early in the placement. So thought will enjoy rest of the college days.

P1,P2: Looked at each other and smiled...

P2: You have a gap after your 12th.

M: Tried for IIT 2nd time. Got a low rank, so joined REC.

P1:What rank? What subjects were you getting?

M: Told...

P2: A gap after you passed out from college..

M: Told about recession..

P1,P2: (asked me quite a few questions on recession, WTC attack etc.)

M: Answered few...completely forgot about '.com' bust....

P2: Where is your joining letter and first pay slip??

M: Showed the joining letter. Don't have 1st pay slip as it's not there in company database.

P2: Tell me 4 salient features on budget??

M: Told.

P2: So how much tax you saved out of this???

M: Don't know.

P2: Why?? Are you not bothered to find out?

M: I don't mind paying tax.

P1: laughed, laughed and laughed,P2 joined him....

P1:(asked few questions on my father's salary, his job etc.)

P1: What is infrastructure?

M: Gave a definition.

P1: Tell me some non-tangible infrastructure.

M:(couldn't think of any, told something non-convincing)

P2: You are getting 30K now. What will be your reaction if you don't get 30k after passing out from IIML?

M: I will get more than 30K or less??

P2: smiled... you will get much lesser...

M: I'm not doing MBA for money etc etc...

P2: Do you read news paper? Have you heard of Economic Times?

M: Yes, I have heard of Economic Times and I read Times of India.

P2: Tell me the important news of today?

M: India is 133-3.

P1: laughed..

P2: You are so much interested in cricket.

M: Yes sir... The other news are Narendra Modi's US visa, something on Bangalore etc.

P2: What about G-20 meeting?? Any news on that..

M: Don't know... But I think the meeting is happening in Delhi...

P1: What do they discuss?

M: Trade barriers, Economic developments etc. Gave a lecture on this.

P1: What are the countries that are the members of G-20?

M: Not sure, developing countries, mostly Asian.

P1: Brazil, Nigeria, are they Asian countries..

M: (Smiled) No sir.

P2: Which is the G-21 country?

M: Don't know.

P2: Who will win the cricket match?

M: India.

P1: Thank you. Please send the next person after a minute.

M: Thank you sir...

P2: And you have to let me know who won the match, okay...

M: Smiled, Yes sir. Thank you sir...

Well, it was a pretty long interview of 30 minutes.... they asked few other questions that I can't recollect now... P2 was very serious in the beginning, but he was smiling at the end of the interview (on me or at my answers I dunno)... I maintained a good composure through out the interview. I felt that the interview went well... But it was a long interview compared to others... Don't know what they are trying to find out and whether they found it at all or not...

Interview experience of: [manu011](#)

Result : Converted but joined IIMC

My background: B.Tech (Mechanical), IIT Delhi, working in software firm for 2 years.

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GD

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There were 8 people for Group-discussion, topic being "Reservation in private sector". First of all, each one of us was supposed to write a 1 page write on topic and then GD started.

It went fine, very cool one... everyone was giving others lots of time to speak. In fact we summarized GD 3 times, before the panel asked us to stop

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Interview

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I had a very short Interview - just about 15 minutes...

Mine was the 2nd number for Interview.. There were 2 people in panel - a very thin, long guy (A) and other (B)...

A: Come, have a seat..

Me: Thanks

B: Your name is "Manu Kumar" or "Kumar Manu"?

Me: "Manu Kumar"

B: Manu, tell us something about yourself, about your family, about your native place?

Me: Sir, I come from Meerut. I did my schooling from there and then my engineering from IIT-Delhi. We have a joint family...

B: (Cutting in between) what does your father do?

Me: He is a business man... He and my uncles started this business...

B: What business is this?

Me: blah blah blah... (Talked for about 2-3 minutes on my family business....)

A: (Seeing my IIT grade sheet) what was the full name of a course that you did in your 3rd year and that started with "Manufacturing"

Me: (Ooops) sorry sir I don't remember....

A: What about that started with "financial"

Me: Told him the full name..

(Then he asked me about 2 more names, which I was unable to answer)

Me: Sir we have a number for each course... And we had culture to call the courses by either their numbers or their nick-names..

A: but that is wrong... a course is much bigger than an individual... how would you feel if you are called by a number and not by your name?

Me: Sir, i accept that it is wrong... but that is how it was in our college...

A: Ok... who taught you this course - "xyz"?

Me: Named the prof.

A: What about "pqr"? Who taught you this course?

Me: Named the prof.

A: Who taught you "abc"?

Me: (Ooooooh God) I don't remember... (the name just won't come to my mind, at that moment, even though i know that prof very well....)

A: "lmn"?

Me: (again, the name just won't come to my mind) I don't remember...

A: "def"?

Me: Named the Prof. (this one i remembered - thank God)...

A: Hmmm (very polietly) you should remember the names of your profs... these are the people who shaped your life...

Me: Yes sir.

A: Ok, you are a mechanical engineer, now working in a software firm... now you want to pursue MBA.. Why so?

Me: blah blah blah... (some *gyan* on why i took mechanical engineering, how "Automobiles" fascinated me in mechanical engineering... then what invoked an interest towards Software in me, and why i opted for a software job...)

A: so you had a great interest in automobiles and you have been active in so many related activities... can you tell me one example where you can use a web-based software technology in Designing a car and an example where you can use it in manufacturing a car..

Me: For Designing a car, one can make use of information of latest research work being done in foreign universities, that is available through websites and other Internet mediums.

A: No, no... Nothing about information sharing... tell me an example where you will directly use web-based software technology for designing a car..

Me: Car design is done through CAD software, that you need to buy and install on your respective machines... so probably web-based technologies won't be very helpful in this scenario..

A: And what about manufacturing a car?

Me: One can have an online web-based inventory management system, where the manufacturing Co. can publish its requirements... its vendors can read that information online, act accordingly and change/update it.. (i gave an example of TELCO)...

A: What about on-board technology? How can you use web-based system on-board?

Me: I am sorry sir, i didn't get you?

A: How can you use an online web-based system on-board a car?

Me: You can have a tracing/locating system, connected through a satellite.... whenever you want to go from one point to another, you just feed it onto that system. It will calculate the shortest possible route/path for u... plus it will also tell you about the latest weather/traffic situations and which routes you should take accordingly....

A: You will need to connect it though a satellite?

Me: Yes sir.

A: Anything else?

Me: You can have a system that will display your current location, with respect to other vehicles, moving with you, so that if any vehicles comes near you, you can take appropriate actions..

A: You are talking about something similar to sensors...

Me: Yes sir, this technology will make use of sensors...

B: What is this "Graphology", that you have mentioned in your hobbies?

Me: "Graphology" is Science of analyzing a person's personality through his handwriting...

B: What is the guarantee that "Graphology" will tell you correctly about a person?

Me: There is no guarantee; "Graphology" only gives you an indication about a person. It is similar to body language... a person sitting in a pose can only give an indication about his current thoughts, but there is no set guarantee for the same..

B: Is the science of analyzing handwriting called "Graphology"? Are you sure? Because, I think it is called something else.

Me: (smile) No sir, I am sure is called "Graphology" only...

A and B looked at each other, as if asking each other, whether to continue or stop the interview....

A: I have one more question for you.. Don't think that we are against your dress (kurta-pajamas), but i just want to know which all interviews, you wore this dress to?

Me: smiled

A: (before i could say anything) See all that we expect from students is that they should be smartly dressed up and you do look smart in this dress.. but i just want to know which all interviews, you wore this dress to?

Me: Gave them some gyaan, as to why I was wearing kurta-pajamas..... then told them about interviews in which I wore that dress...

B: Thanks a lot

Interview experience of: [morningdue](#)

Result : Cannot be found but joined IIMB

Here's my contribution to the GDPI experience for IIM, Lucknow.

VENUE: IIC, Delhi

Time: 2 pm

It was somewhat a rare experience as there was nobody for the 2 pm slot till 2.10 pm.

However, the earlier group was still being interviewed and I had a breather before I could get into a state of Panic-cum-happiness.

The GD started at 3pm and I was raring to doze off as we were only 4 people to discuss amongst. Hardly a group with anything to look forward to.

All were guys from engineering background(One from NSIT, One from DCE and One from IIT-D)

GD topic was: Peace & Harmony cannot exist without the threat of Violence

Wrote essay for 10 mins on the same topic followed by GD for 15 minutes.

Spoke fairly well except at intervals when one of the guys would occasionally try to counterattack me (trying to wake me up basically) turning it into a two-way dialogue. It was peaceful otherwise with each member getting ample time to hog the limelight.

The Interviews however were terribly long with at least more than half an hour for each candidate.

P1: Prof 1(bored looking middle aged man)

P2:Prof 2(Even more bored looking yet younger fellow)

M: Myself

P1:Where did you do your schooling?

M: Answered

P1: You work for this company...what does it do?

M: Answered

P2:Do you guys export?

M: Answered

P1: Where all?

M: Answered

P1: What types of remittances do you handle?

M: Answered

P2: How is it important to your company?

M: Answered

P2: How much pulp is required to manufacture 1 kg of Paper?

M: Answered

P1: Why should a company plan its remittances and take decisions on its cash management?

M: Answered

P2: Describe your company's capital structure..

M: Answered....with figures justifying the ratios and strategy

P1: If you are already a manager then why MBA again?

M: *Fundas*

P2: Which school are you from....

M: Sir...I have answered that

P2: *With a sorry look...oh..am sorry*

P1: So,you have taken CAT before?

M: Yes, in 2001 but no calls so disastrous

P1: Oh..Why disastrous success is relative-no?

M: *Fundas*

P1: Ok tell us about your graduation what subjects?

M: Answered

P1: You specialized in Finance...umm...smiles

M: Smiles...

P2: Name the subjects please...

M: Answered

P1: When you have done BBS..then why MBA?

M: *Fundas*

P2: Ok..so..this finance course had which all subjects?

M: Answered

P1: Ok..what interested you in finance at graduate level?

M: I randomly spoke about few subjects(hoping he would ask something about Financial Management)

P1:Now smiling....So..whats a derivative?

M: Answered

P1: Why is it so called?

M: (HAHAHA..what a silly one..)Answered

P1: When was it introduced?

M: Answered

P1: When was it banned and what type of derivatives are now existing in current capital market?

M: Answered

P1: Ok...which one was prevalent even after it got banned?

M: (Confused...)Sir,I am not aware of it but I have had experience of being a part of a derivative deal in my company...explain the terms and conditions of the deal.

P1: Ohh...what were the assumptions for the deal?

M: Explain the depreciating dollar, increasing *LIBOR funda*

P1: The dealing party must be in loss then..did you ask your seniors about it?

M: *Fundas* of how the party is making up for the loss..

P1 looks at P2

P2: Ok..we talk about stock markets..and risk...tell me something about it

M: Answered

P2: So..whats risk?

M: Told them the basic definition and difference between risk and uncertainty

P1: So..when do we call a stock risky?

M: Lots of Investment *fundas* leading them to aggressiveness of stocks

P2: So..whats an aggressive stock?

M: Told them about Beta and more *fundas*

P1: How do we calculate beta?

M: Answered

P2: Calculate for your company...taking hypothetical figures

M: Told them the formula

P2: Ok..can you name a statistical measure for risk?

M: Yes Yes..Standard Deviation...gave them the formula

P1: No.. give us the definition in lay man's terms

M: Answered

P2: Ok..so is variance and standard deviation and variance same?

M: Oh..more *fundas*

P1: Do you want to tell something about tax related issues affecting your company

M: Told them abt VAT,FBT,CWT,CT...etc etc

P1: Smiles....ok enough...looks at P2

P2: So..what do you do in free time if you have any...

M: Sketch, music, read

P1: Oh...he shows me a sketch and asks...who is this?

M: Umm..its you..smile

P1 looks at P2 and smiles

P2: Which band do you listen to?

M: I don't like any particular band but like Clapton, Knopfler etc

P2: Is Clapton a Grammy award winner?

M: Ofcourse.. gave him details about the song he was awarded for and entire biography of Clapton quoting all his favorites and hits

P2: Hmm..whats reggae?

M: Sir..its mix of Hawaiian and Jamaican music. One of the revolutionary artist who introduced this form of music to the world in 70s with pop culture in its nascent stage was Bob Marley...more *fundas*

P2 Starts smiling

P1: Ok..how come you scored topped in Maths at 10th and scored average in 12th

M: Answered...

P1: Ok..smiles.. We are done...it was nice talking with you..

P2: Thank you..

M: Oh..thank you sirs...smiles

From what I could notice, Lucknow profs were not stressing anyone.
They mostly asked questions related to work for people with work experience and academics to freshers.
Maths questions to engineers and stat related stuff to non-engineer background people.

So..I believe everyone is having a considerably chilled out interview at IIM L.
Though, won't be able to really comment on how people will get selected as everyone seems to be having good Interviews.
Anyways-all the best and let the results speak the rest...

All the best guys...

IIM Lucknow - Year 2006

Interview experience of: shreyabha

Result : Not converted

IIM L GD experience

07th Feb Kolkata

98.8 percentile

Final year IIT KGP

After 3-4 mock GDs and a very good mock interview (IMS) and equally psyched out interview at TIME ..

Kept my finger crossed for the final day. I was nervous for sure.

GD Topic:

Statistics is the only science where different experts come to different interpretations seeing the same graph.

Ever heard of a boring topic than that?

7 candidates. It was peaceful. Not a fish Market...may be everybody was equally bored.

If this was not enough they asked us to write a 150 words write up on the topic in 10 minutes. Every one talked about how to collect sample but did not ponder into whether it was the only science

I did not utter a single word for first 5 minutes. Then I remembered that this is my only call and came into the GD 5-6 times I was asked to summarize (as I spoke least) which I did pretty well.

Overall - 6/10

3rd to be interviewed .Other two were not asked any question on academics so I was very happy but fate had a different view on me.

Interview

Two peaceful professors and me

P1: So tell us about yourself

M: Repeated the ritual

P1: So you are an architect? Is it same as Civil engineering? (I could see the smile on his face and he was ready to grill me if I said that we use civil inputs although in a small way)

M: NO

P1: I don't know anything about architecture? You ask (to P2)

(It's a different issue that he went on to ask architecture question for next 10 minutes)

P1: What's Mughal British architecture example from your city .etc

answered them well

P1: What is whispering gallery? How does it work in Golconda fort?

Unable to tell the structure but told him the basic form.

P1: Do you use shading calculation on building software?

No.

P1: They don't teach you such useful things. Things which have been done 100 of years back ...you don't know?

(Sir you are right. Do tell our Profs)

P1: Is India a democratic country?

What!!....abrupt jump from academics to general awareness

P1: How is it different from other countries?

Talked about constitution... article 356... Etc...

Fairly convinced

Over to P2

P2: Which paper you read? Who publishes?

Me: Times Of India. Answered

P2: So what kind of books do you read?

Me: Nonfiction.

Peter Drucker, Trout (positioning)...financial management (p Chandra)

P2: What is positioning?

Answered

P2: Is advertisement not waste of money

had a lengthy decision whether quality of product is important or advertisement Why a good movie like RDB needs advertisement ...is it not all gimmickry?

He kept on asking the same thing "WASTE OF MONEY ".I tried using different example "cola vs. coca cola " RDB vs. DDLJ... Target consumer... noise level in ad world... Grabbing consumer attention... It continued for 5 minutes.

Finally his face said he was convinced although he kept on frustrating me.

P2: Brand value? Brand equity?

Answered

P2: Career goals?

Gave the best diplomatic answer

P2: Why not architecture?

Again diplomacy

P1: You may leave now (that was also abrupt!)

Interview 9/10

L or no L .I am going to go for a job. No temperament to attend classes for next 2 yr ...if I join any institute at this point of time. I will be surely be kicked out of the institute

But after 2 yrs it will be very funny to make the panel understand my shift from architecture to IT to MBA

Interview experience of: anir-iim2005

Result: Not converted.

Hi, this is Anirban. I had my IIM: L GD/PI on 6th at 2 pm. Here goes my experience.

Profile: B.Tech in IT, 3 months in CTS, 98.73 in CAT, single IIM: L call.

Panel-3, two elderly gentlemen.

GD Topic- **A room without books is like a man without soul.**

We had to write for 10 minutes first. Then each of us (7 guys) had to speak for 30 seconds each sequentially. (Oh my god, such a topic, so few points, what are we going to speak about in the open GD??). Anyway, the GD was very peaceful, somewhat repetitive at times.

My contribution in the GD-

1st 30 seconds-Everyone was supporting the view, I tried to be neutral. My view was that books are man's most important friend and books give an insight into the person's taste, culture and personality. But the organization of things in a room is also important, e.g. - books kept in a pile doesn't give favorable idea about the guy's taste. So, books are very important for a room, but not the only thing important.

Open GD- Everyone, including me, talked about the importance of knowledge. Keeping books is not the main idea, reading and assimilating the thoughts is the real thing. All elaborated with own unique example.

Someone talked about Gita, I came up with how Gita is not only a spiritual book, how we could use it in our everyday life. I made 6-7 entries, original points were-

- 1) Plenty of people in the country still can't read. To make them get the benefits of books, importance of literacy programs.
- 2) For the people who can't read, media can play a significant part in imparting knowledge of the books, e.g. Ramayana, Mahabharata serials on TV.
- 3) Aim of literacy programs should be to make people learn to think new, be knowledgeable.

Was asked to give a summary of the GD (This scared me, in TIME GD's people who spoke less were normally asked to give a summary. I didn't think I spoke less. Pagals, please correct me if I'm wrong). Anyway, did give a pretty good summary (Few points to remember anyway).

Over to Interview -

Was 4th to be interviewed. Previous guys had normally cool interviews, only the guy just before me, was stressed on academics (He was a fresher though).

P1: Tall, French Cut White hair. P2: Short, Dark, partly Bald. M: Good old me.

P1: Well, Mr. Das, can you show me your mark sheets?

M: Certainly sir. (Showed them, they were checking if I'd entered the marks correctly in the form)

P2: So, you are working?

M: Yes sir, in Cognizant.

P2: What's your work profile?

M: Sir, I joined as a fresher in November. Was in 'Entry Level Training' till 2nd Feb. I have just been allocated to the JPMC project.

P2: So, you are B.Tech in IT. How do we use IT in regular business?

M: Sir, IT can be used as tool in business. Today's business is concerned most about customer satisfaction. To give customized service, we can keep track of customers' choices by using IT (Gave example of Shopping Mall Cards).Blah Blah...

P2: How is info different from knowledge?

M: Info is gained from raw data by filtering the unimportant portion. Knowledge is when we assimilate the info and use it.

P2: What's the difference between Info and Intent?

M: Intent is what we want to do. Info can help us in deciding whether following our intent will be right.

P2: How would you rate your GD performance?

M: Told mostly about the whole GD being civilized. Decent performance blah blah...

P2: Have you taken any coaching?

M: Yes sir, TIME & mocks from IMS, CL also.

P2: What did they teach about GD in TIME?

M: (Seriously felt that I Goofed up my GD) about being well-conducted in GD, making good points blah blah...

P1: Can you show me your work ex proof?

M: Certainly sir (Showed them the pay slips).

P1: No appointment letter?

M: Sir, appointment letter was sent through e-mail, we don't have hard copy. (Ultimately realized they wanted my offer letter). I hadn't got it with me. Told them...

P1: You've written about this "Chase" (I'd written JP Morgan Chase bank) bank project. What are you going to do in this project?

M: Sir, I'm in "JP Morgan Chase" bank project. It's the biggest project of CTS. I've just been allocated to it though. I'm going to work in the PB (Personal Banking) part. This is for very high net worth (at least \$12m balance) customers. They need much customized services and our challenge lies there. IT is used here to track their needs blah blah.....

P2: What's your aim in life?

M: Prepared stuff about consulting. Mixed with why management...

P2: Well, tell me something about yourself in 30 sec (This late in the interview???)

M: Blah Blah....

P1: Extra curriculars?

M: Playing cricket, TT, Watching cricket, football, F1.

P2: What's the score?

M: Not quite sure (Told the Indian score)

P2: But you've told the correct score.

M: Heard it from the guys outside, Sir.

P1: Know anything about taxes?

M: Not too much sir, I'm still not under tax net.

P1: Getting more than 2 lakhs per annum, not under tax net?

M: Sir, my earnings won't cross 1 lakh before March, So not under the IT net this year.

P1: Ok, Mr. Das, that's all. By the way, do you have any questions?

M: A friend in IIML told about intake changing with no. of failures in the 1st year. What is the actual process?

P2: What's his name? (General discussion about the guy, P2 in fact recognized him)

P1: Well, program hectic no doubt, but they get plenty of time for extra-curriculars also. It's good you've a friend there, you can know easily from him.

P2: (Regarding my question) it's still premature. You'll get to know when you get there. (How much would I love to be there!!?)

P1 &

P2: OK, thank you.

M: Thank you sir.

Overall, I thought it lasted 5 minutes, but guys outside told me it was 25 min (Previous guys had 15 min on average). I don't know how they'll rate this kind of general talking. One thing positive was that I was not a bit tensed once I started the conversation. Really stayed cool, smiled broadly all through. The panel was never trying to make me feel uncomfortable either.

Interview experience of: [sandykris](#)

Hi guys, Here is my "tryst" with Lucknow...

My profile:

Percentile: 98.44

Calls: B and L

Work EX: 19 months...

Date and Time: 13th Feb, IIM Bangalore, Panel 2, 2 pm batch.

***** GD *****

The GD topic was something like "**Economic freedom is an indispensable ingredient for Political Freedom**".

We were asked to write a 150 word essay for about 10 minutes, and the topic was thrown open for discussion for about 15 minutes.

What I wrote goes something as follows: (this is the gist)

There is a race for the political throne in every country, more so in a democracy. The ruling party can have "political freedom", in the sense that it can make bold decisions in the political front, without a fear of losing the political seat, only if the masses/people of the country are feeling good about it, which in turn is linked to the country doing well, of which the economic growth is a great indicator. Economy can grow if it has been given the freedom of doing what it takes to outgrow itself. This could be implemented by tools such as the liberalization and globalization policies. Thus, it shows that Economic freedom is a necessary factor for Political Freedom. However, it remains to be seen if it is an indispensable factor, given that there are various cases of political strongholds with closed economies.

The GD was peaceful and thankfully, it was not a fish market scenario. In all, I spoke about three times.

***** PI *****

The PI was a relatively cool PI. The questions asked were very general. Here is a small gist of what happened. (Interviewers 1 and 2 are "A" and "B", and I am "I").

(Initial formalities went on as planned... I entered, wished both of them, smiling, and waited for them to ask me to take a seat.)

A: Please give me your certificates... (After taking it) It is pretty heavy...

I: (gave a broad smile) The folder is pretty heavy sir...

(and A starts looking at each one in detail, while B takes over)

B: Tell me about yourself in 30 seconds.

I: (Started off, but was cut short after 30 seconds)

B: What is your goal in Life, as in, what do you want to be remembered for, in case you are absconding from the world one day?

I: I want to be remembered as one who has contributed to the society... blah blah

B: What are you doing to achieve this?

I: I do some service at an NGO near my place when I am free. blah blah

B: Good. You have work experience, right?

I: Yes Sir, Blah blah blah...

B: What is the one thing that you would do, in case you are given the permission to do anything, to improve your workplace?

I: I would introduce a lot of new recreational activities. Blah blah... something like "doing exceptionally well in delivering the services they provide, but right now, the only recreational activity they have for us is a single table tennis table. I would include more activities, so that the employees will enjoy their work all the more, thus increasing the efficiency of work."

B: OK. You studied computer Science, right? You must have had at least one subject on Mathematics and Management...

I: Mathematics, yes sir... Management, no sir...

A (pointing to a certificate to B): IISC... Mathematics Olympiad...

B: OK... What is the difference between a matrix and a determinant?

I: Matrix is a 2 dimensional array of numbers, and a determinant is a value that is computed for a matrix, that is used for various computations such as calculation of the area of a triangle in three dimensional coordinate geometry.

B: What is a vector, as in scalar and vector? (within one second) Is it that you don't remember it as you have studied it a long time ago?

I: (Knew the answer, but was not COMPLETELY sure) It was a long time... I studied it in school. I did not even use it in college (gave out a broad smile).

A: You had two subjects in UNIX: "Introduction to Unix" and "Unix system programming". What is the difference?

I: Intro to Unix gave us a feel of the Unix operating system. It showed us how to work on the tools available in Unix such as the VI editor. Unix system programming was a deeper subject and gave us insights to how to program in the UNIX environment.

A: Have you worked on those systems.... those in which you make a change in one and it is reflected in all the systems, they are also connected... (he was very vague at this question)

I: (After he finished) I think you are referring to OLTP... Online Transaction Processing, where the changes are reflected across all the databases.

A: No... that's not it... OK. Have you worked on the code of some big software of some big companies, like the IBM?

I: No sir.

A: You did not have any program in college that enabled you to work with big companies?

I: No sir.

B: Have you worked on some big projects during college?

I: Yes sir, My eighth semester project was a new File transfer Protocol.

A: Explain:

I: Yes sir, Currently we have two kinds of implementations of FTP... TCP and UDP... We wrote our protocol to use the best features of both to implement a highly efficient file transfer protocol.

A: If you are about to write an accounting software for a big firm, which platform would you choose?

I: I would choose Java.

A: Why not Oracle or SAP?

I: Oracle is database software, and I have not worked on SAP, so I don't know about its features in application development.

(B looked at A and both nodded).

(in unison) That's all... You may leave now .Thank you.

Interview experience of: Retard04

Result: Not converted

Hi People, first ever PG post.

Single L call. 98.78%. 17+ months work ex in IT company.

Ominous beginnings - here is my IIML experience.

My GD/PI was scheduled for 13th Feb., 1000 hours, panel 4.

I showed up there a bit early, and most of the other people had showed up much earlier than I! Once we figured out which one of us was in which panel, all of us did what came naturally. We tried to size each other up, and there were 8 people in each panel. My panel had one female, four years work experience, three years CAT study experience, and some unspecified years marriage experience, but her marriage was not an experience. So much for lousy-trying-to-be-funny wisecracks.

There were six other guys there, all of them, myself included had work experience, of varying degrees, which I did not bother to make a mental note of. The female was wearing some major suit, and there were two guys also in suits.

Once they called out our names, they told us to wait for a couple of minutes, after which they said that they would start the proceedings. When they made the roll call of all the 8 of us, we all were there. But when we went through into the GD room, one gentleman, whose name I remember - "Vinay Raj" was missing. The IIM L profs, one of them M Jayadev (fin and accounting), and the other one was Sanjeev Kapoor (agriculture management). They didn't introduce themselves; a small amount of research on the IIM L website was what gave me the required info.

We were made to sit around this round table, in order in which our names were called. After that Prof MJ said that the procedure would comprise of 3 parts, the written section, the group discussion and the personal interview. Vinay Raj still hadn't turned up, but MJ said that since it's already five minutes past ten, we should start the proceedings.

Sheets were passed all around, and the topic was given to us - **"The power to tax involves the power to destroy."** (^%@\$*&!@*(\$%!@%*!@\$!@&%!@*%\$!&@&)

D-uh! What sort of a topic is that? Anyway, having no other choice, all of us proceeded to give out our most effective PIL (pseudo-intellectual looks), while pondering over the topic, and simultaneously cursing the topic setter. We eventually found out that all four the panels had the same topic for the GD.

Vinay Raj turned up on the scene a full four minutes after we assumed our PILs, and he apparently was unwell, and hence had to be in the bathroom for some time.

After finishing writing, Prof. MJ asked us to return our sheets. He was actually nice enough to give three minutes extra to the late-comer, and this behavior is in complete disconnect with how pagalguy forum members generally said the L panel behaves.

After the three minutes lapsed, he collected the sheet from Vinay Raj too, and said "please start the GD...." and before he could complete the sentence, voila! one suit wearing dude jumped the gun and started speaking. Prof MJ did not seem irritated, and politely told him to please wait till he finished. After specifying that the GD was for duration of 15 min, we started off (a few seconds after he finished talking, just to be sure).

The GD was dry, insipid, bland, and absolutely nothing like any of the mock GDs that I attended. Sometimes, people cut others, but everyone was extra-polite, and not many people were speaking simultaneously. I had some decent participation, though I honestly don't remember much of what I said. Just that there was this one occasion where I was going on and on, while fervently praying for someone to butt in, though nobody seemed interested.

Vinay Raj made a single point about something related to small scale industries, and at the end of the GD, he was asked by Prof. MJ to summarize, but he declined, saying he was not well, and was not up to it.

Another guy wearing a suit was asked to summarize, and within thirty seconds, he was told to stop.

We then proceeded to the waiting area outside, after which candidates were called in one by one. I was second in line, and so I spent most of my time pacing up and down the waiting area, for my turn.

Once candidate 1 was sent out, I was at a discrete distance away from the door, and later what seemed like an eternity, Prof. SK asked me in. He held the door open for me, and I didn't forget to thank him. MJ asked me to sit down and give my documents over to SK.

For the first couple of minutes, SK was going through my mark sheets and certificates, while MJ was looking through my form. They seemed to be very relaxed, and MJ was just talking to me, saying "so, you're from Mysore.", "Visveshwaraiyah Technological University, good good." and some other statements, to which I kept saying "yes sir".

After that, the interview started in earnest. Initially MJ quizzed me in earnest, after which SK took over.

MJ: You've studied electronics and communication.

Me: Yes sir (for about the 73rd time :-))

MJ: (pointing to something stuck to the wall) - Can you please tell me what that is?

Me: Sir, it is a PA system speaker.

MJ: No, it isn't.

Me: Correcting myself, after looking at it again and seeing the antenna - Sir, it's a wireless LAN network access point.

MJ: Good, how does it work?

Me: *yada yada yada* wireless stack, IEEE 802.11 blah blah...

MJ: Can you draw the diagram to show the structure of a wireless network?

Me: Drew something ad-hoc - central server, network access points, individual terminals...something or the other.

MJ: What is the range of these wireless LAN access points?

Me: Not sure Sir, maybe about 20 meters radius.

MJ: What is the bandwidth?

Me: (major goof up here) maybe 128Kbps. (Later on, I realized that I told him the possible internet speed, and not the LAN speed.)

MJ: So what do you do at MindTree Consulting?

Me: Application developer for handset....

MJ: What do you know about your client? Who is your client?

Me: Told him so, and told him about what they do. Some leading providers of satellite phone terminals and all.

MJ: So what exactly is your contribution?

Me: Our company is doing the end-to-end product development for the handset which will go with the satellite terminal, hardware, firmware, software...I am developing a sub module the s/w module blah blah....

MJ: What is the latest in India's satellite program?

Me: Not sure sir. (better plead ignorance than be wrong-footed and get butchered)

MJ: What has the Indian Space program accomplished till now?

Me: PSLV, InSat, remote sensing, weather monitoring...mumbled answers. (Totally forgot to mention stuff about planned mission to the moon - Chandrayaan or something like that, about edu-SAT, and some other stuff).

(SK was going through all my certificates while MJ was quizzing me, and was periodically looking at me all the time)

MJ: Are you good at maths? Can I give you a problem?

Me: Sir, I will try to solve it.

MJ: Can you prove Pythagoras theorem?

Me: used trig to prove it on paper. He seemed satisfied.

MJ: What else do you do, apart from academics?

Me: blah blah, IEEE student branch vice chair, quizzing (got very little air-time here)

MJ: Can you name some famous quizmasters?

Me: Derek O'Brien, Siddhartha Basu, Giri Balasubramaniam (PickBrain)

MJ: What is the difference in quizzing styles between Basu and Pickbrain?

Me: Blah blah blah..... (qualitative gassing here)

MJ: (talking to SK) - Do you want to ask anything?

(Now, SK hands over my folder to MJ and turns on the heat.)

SK: In the GD you were talking a lot about taxes, how is the tax calculated in the financial year?

Me: mentioned something about slabs, I wasn't sure about the 30+% taxing, told him so, also mentioned sort of sheepishly that I did not fall in the higher bracket, hence didn't pay too much attention to it. I also mentioned something about savings.

SK: So what are the various saving schemes available?

Me: NSC, LIC, Infrastructure bonds, mutual funds...

SK: All mutual funds?

Me: No sir, ELSS - equity linked savings' scheme (thankfully I had used this same thing for putting tax save), where it's specifically mentioned that these funds can be used for tax savings.

SK: This is your first job. You've not tried switching?

Me: No sir, I have not.

MJ: Why not?

Me: Super quantitative guessing here....work culture, comfort levels, nice people, people caring organization, world-class ambience...blah blah...

MJ: What will you get from a PGP program in IIM L?

Me: Experience in IT industry has taught me that projects require managerial expertise along with technical domain knowledge which I want the PGP program to supplement, since I want to rise up in an organization and hold a good post (or something to that effect)

MJ: What are your criterion for selecting a job after MBA?

Me: My interest in the job, whether it fits my profile, and the money, in that order.

SK: So money isn't your first priority?

Me: Certainly not, Sir. Even currently, my peers draw more salary than I do, but since I enjoy my work, and I am satisfied, that matters much more to me at the end of the day.

MJ and

SK: Thank you. You may leave now.

I stand up, take my folder from them, and am about to leave, but I notice that they have not touched my salary slips or experience letter, and I ask them if I should submit it. They tell me that they wanted to have a look and I can keep everything with me.

Exit stage left. The play is over; the curtain draws to a close.

That was about it. At the end of the interview, I was left a bit perturbed because they did not seem interested, they did not want to dig in too much. It was very arbitrary, to say the least. Nothing in the least to try and unsettle me (or so I infer).

The fact that the profs were from fin and agriculture background did not deter them in the least from venturing out into the wireless LAN domain. It shows their depth of knowledge. I have had quite a bit of wrong answers, and the interview was a total anti-climax as compared to all the grilling I had expected.

Fingers, toes, arms and legs crossed for the next couple of months.

Good luck to you all! May the forces be with you!

Interview experience of: prtk

Result: Converted

Here goes my GDPI

15th Feb venue IIM B time 2:00 pm

GD: Topic was "Reading is the best gift solitude can offer you"

The GD was total quite no one had much content. I spoke only twice giving some point in span of 10 minutes so not so good.

Interview:

I was the second last person to be interviewed

(I was interviewed by panel 3)

Characters Me, P1(someone who teaches agriculture business) and P2(Mr. Mohanty)

P2 called me in and himself went out

P1 asked me to sit

P1: Okay Pratik what are you doing?

Me: I have been working with Infosys for past one and half year

In meanwhile he picked up wrong form then realized so picked my form

P1: So you have done Mechanical Engineering from (he kept the form down) ..okay tell me about life in your college

Me: I portrayed a good picture with so many things to do apart from academics ...I made sure to mention all my extracurricular activities done in college.

Meanwhile P2 came back

P2: so life is good at college?

Me: Yes

P2: So you miss it?

Me: Yes

P2: So tell me about life in Infosys Technologies

Me: The Company is very good this and that and the best part is management listens to suggestions given by you

P2: There are so many people how can they do it?

Me: No sir I have personal experience of this when I had suggested blah blah.....

P2: That is because money was not involved in it...I don't think company will pay if you want to present paper in International conference

Me: (Here I was in dilemma...to defend my company or should give up I decided to give some fight and then quite) Sir I don't know about paper presentation but Infosys pays for certifications we take up

P2: But that is too small an amount

Me: Sir Infosys hired a chartered plane to move their employees when Katrina hit US

P2: That was for mass I am talking about individual

Me: May be sir. I am not sure

P2: Okay you are from Maharashtra tell us something about Maharashtra

Me: Sir The problem Maharashtra faces (I shouldn't have started with problem directly but anyways) is one part is very much developed where as other parts are not.

P2: Why have you ever been to Uttar Maharashtra....Tell me name of any place in Uttar Maharashtra

Me: Jalgaon

P2: So have you ever been there

Me: Yes sir My Mother is from Jalgaon

P2: Isn't it rich in culture

Me: Yes sir the area is rich in culture People are friendly there but it faces problems like electricity etc.

P2: Okay who started Bhudan Movement

Me: (That is bouncer)...Sir Anna Hajare...no it was Baba Amate...

P2: No it was not...

Me: Sir I don't know

P2: He was living near Nagpur

Me: No sir I can't recollect

P2: Vinoba Bhave

P1: Okay you said Anna Hajare tell me something about Anna Hajare

Me: I started from his background and told what he has done but mispronounced his village name(I realized after coming back home) (they didn't seem to notice)

P1: So Pratik you have studied Principals of Management and International Business

Me: Sir I had withdrawn from the course International Business

P1: So do you know anything about it

Me: Yes sir for whatever portion was covered in first 1 month while I attended the course

P1: What was it?

Me: It was about the various International Trades and the difficulties a business can face while entering a new market

P1: So what are different ways in which a company can enter new market

Me: Sir there are three ways Either you can export your product, Go for joint venture or open a captive unit

P1: So which is the best way.. which is the cheapest?

Me: Sir exporting the goods is the least capital intensive

P1: So which will give good result in long run

Me: Sir it depends on situation and the laws of the country for example if in country like India in some of the fields you are not allowed to open a captive unit then you have to go for Joint venture

P1: What are different functions of management

Me: I can't recollect Sir

P1: Think for some time like here you work in IT so what are other areas in your company

Me: Operations ,finance ...(by this time they had smile on their faces and I knew I was wrong; the functions are planning, staffing, organizing, directing and controlling which I came to know about latter)

P1: Okay you can go

Me: Thanks

If you have reached the bottom do let me know what do you think about my performance.

IIM Lucknow - Year 2007

Interview experience of: sahil685

Result : Not converted

Background:

Xth CBSE 87%
XIith CBSE 81.4%

B.E. from BMSCE, Bangalore in Electronics & Comm Engg

Percentiles:

DI 98.80
QA 98.30
EU 95.93
Overall 99.46

Calls: ACLKI

Venue: Monarch Hotel Bangalore Panel 3
time : 10:00 am

GD:

Very weird topic to say the least...

A university is what a college becomes when the faculty loses interest in teaching the students.

10 minute was given to write an essay on a sheet of paper (No time to think) and 15 minutes was allocated for the GD.

First of all, I had not much content to talk on this topic. I was the 2nd guy, who got chance to speak. I tried to get some structure and was pretty successful in that respect. I was involved in the GD until it became a fish market. Most of the guys were repeating the same point due to lack of content. Overall a pretty good GD for me at least.

I was the first to go for the interview, and the interview was an anticlimax.

Interview:

A Prof(P) and a lady(L) were in my panel. I am Sahil (S)

P: Have a seat Sahil.

S: Thank you sir !!

As I sit, I push the chair a little forward. P says why are you coming forward; sit where the chair is placed. I replied in agreement.

P: Hmmm... So you are a Software Engineer ?

S: Yes Sir.

P: What is Fortran?

S: I am not sure sir, as I am from Electrical background, so worked in C only.

P: Who is the founder of C ?

S: Told

P: Which country has highest piracy according to a recent survey? Do not guess, tell me if you know for sure.

S: Sorry sir!! I have not heard about this survey.

P: Who was the 3rd PM of India?

S: (Now from where did that come?) Umm...sir I am not sure.

P: No problem.

P: When was the first planning commission formed?

S: (My God...what the hell is this)....Sir I am not sure....but I think it is 1955.

P: What is probability?

S: Answered.

P: Do you know there are 2 schools of thought in probability?what are they?

S: Sorry sir, I am not aware of that.

P: So what does your work involve?

S: Spoke at length about that.P seemed to be happy.

L: So which other companies do this work?

S: Told

L: Why was Tech Mahindra in news recently?

S: Told...she asked few more questions on that...answered.

In the meantime P was going through my certificates.suddenly asked , so you have done civil engineering? I was shocked and I said no, then he showed my first semester mark-sheet.I realized, he meant as a subject.I said yes sir in first semester.He's like so you do not even remember what you studied....sheepish smile from me.

(P must have been a Civil engineer for sure)

P: So Bangalore is getting a metro.How would you decide on the depth of the pillar below the ground ?

S: (I'm stumped)...recovered to say that I would consider the weight of the train and also its speed ...

P: So what is the most important quality for a manager ?

S: Answered, had a brief talk on that. He seemed satisfied.

P: Ok !! Thank You Sahil.You can leave.

S: Thank you sir.

P: Take your certificates.

S:<I took my certificates and left the room>

Shocking interview.less than 10 minutes.Do not know what to make of that.No academics, very little on work, no hobbies/interest etc....no why MBA etc....I do not know on what basis they will judge me?

Whether I know the 3rd PM of India or not? Maybe they were eliminating in GD itself.So , either I am in bigtime or I am totally out, let us hope for the best.

Interview experience of: [Crazyguy@pg](#)

Result : Not Converted

Background:

Xth ICSE 89%
XIIth CBSE 80.8%
One year drop
BTech from NIT Silchar in Mechanical Engg
8 month exp in IT

Percentiles:

DI 99.55
QA 95.27
EU 96
Overall 99.33

Calls: CLKI

Venue: Monarch Hotel Bangalore
time : 2:00 pm precisely

GD: For the success of a Team there should be accountability for expertise

(totally my version of words .. hard to remember for me, but it talked about team members and their accountability for expertise)

Same pattern as others.

10 minutes to write an essay on a sheet of paper and 15 minutes for a GD.

The whole GD was peaceful, every person spoke for almost equal amount of time. One person even came in late after write up time had started.

My performance was fine, entered late; infact all spoke once in the start like they were waiting for all to speak. I contributed some good points & one of them was discussed by the group. Overall satisfied by my performance.

Interview:

My number was 8th. All people coming out from the interview had a very cool time, almost no academics, little bit very common current affairs. Most of interviews ending in 10 -15 minutes. 1-2 stress interviews. I was happy that they were not asking question from academics, current affairs or technical.

There was two members Oldie (O) , the Middle aged (MA) and me i.e. Saurabh(S)

Oldie asked almost all the questions with MA trying to search for something in my file and observing me. They first checked all the marks in 10th and 12th .

O: Tell me in brief about yourself?

S: blah blah .

O: What are the quant subjects you have studied in engineering?

S: (OMG! this is going in the wrong way) Sir , Maths 1, 2 & 3

O: What were the things you studied in Maths 3?

S:(oops!!) Said some absurd things like LaPlace Transforms, Matrix etc etc

O: What is the difference between differentiation and differential equations?

S: (Tried to think about how I should put it or rather what is he asking) ... Time out !! He didn't wait, went straight to the next one

O: Where can you see it been used ?

S: Sir not been used currently in my project as its just maintenance and all. It might come into use in my further career or my higher education

O: Ok. What about it has been applied in other subjects, after all it has been taught for some reasons?

S: Mentioned some like mechanics .. differential equations been used .

O: What are the different techniques of optimization ?

S: (ok he wanted this as answer) I said linear programming .. started explaining a little bit ..

O: (interrupting) Leave the explanation, what others ??

S: I can't recall

O: Blabbered something about simplex etc. Can differentiation and integration be termed as optimization techniques?

S: (I am screwed !!) Yes sir, said something about considering a small part and then taking an average of the whole , blah blah !!!!.

O: Is not maxima and minima are optimization method ?

S: Yes sir (i know sir you know more than me)

O: What about simultaneous equation?

S: Yes sir they are as they provide common solution for two conditions represented as line

O: No there can be more than two !!

S: (thank you)

O: Then what is the diff between optimizing by simultaneous equation and linear programming ?

S: (can i go sir !!) Sir i really have not gone that detailed into optimization.

O: No but you should know .. this is simple .. u are an engineer .. that too from ..(I completed from NIT silchar) .. yeah .. that too in mechanical engineering . It's a versatile branch. A mechanical engineer can move anywhere, in any process like computer electrical etc but a computer guy can't move into mechanical. He asked other person to start asking questions !!

MA: Who is the speaker of Rajya Sabha ?

S: (Who told you that I am bad at this !! I just remembered it's something related to President) Sir I am not sure but I think it's the president !! :(

MA: You mean Abdul Kalam ... ahahaha .. both had a laugh

Who is the speaker of Lok Sabha ?

S: (come on !! have some mercy)I don't know .. suddenly I remembered some name and said sir I think it's Somnath Banerjee, but till then both were in their own thoughts, not sure whether they heard it or not.

MA: Who is the vice-captain of cricket team ?

S: (the last nail in coffin .. how can I forget this, can't even remember when I stopped following cricket ..) .. Virendar Sehwag (had this in my old buried memories .. didn't knew when did Sachin took over)

MA: Another sheepish smile .. he isn't even in the team (oops !!)

MA: Thank you !! you can go !!

S: Thank you sir

Now why did he thought me to be a maths guru ? How can I know that much about optimization. I studied it for solving some most simple questions in some odd questions. And yeah the oldie seemed to had some affinity towards mechanical (felt that from his long speech on mechanical).

Anyway ... I really don't feel that it was a stress interview, but whatever it was it can't have gone worse . the way it was going for others and the way it ended up. bye Lucknow !!

Interview experience of: [amanonArun](#)

Result : Converted but joined IIMC

Background:

Xth SSLC(Karnataka) 88.64%
XIIth PUC(Karnataka) 91.0%
BE from MSRIT Bangalore in Info Science & Engg
30 month exp in IT

Percentiles:

DI 96.68
QA 98.20
EU 99.27
Overall 99.59

calls: BLACKI

Venue: Monarch Hotel bangalore
time : 2:00 pm precisely (Was in the same panel as The Last d'anconia)

GD: To be a successful as a team each team member has to be accountable for his expertise

Same procedure, write essay for 10 minutes and 15 minutes for GD. Pretty peaceful GD.I came in the GD for some 4-5 times. But after 5 minutes almost everyone was bored. It was almost like people were waiting for someone to cut them out.

I was the 7th guy in the interview panel. So was waiting for some one and a half hours to be interviewed.

One professor was pretty young and kept smiling all the time (S). The other professor, as Last D'anconia mentioned looked like Arun Lal (AL) and ofcourse ME(M).

I entered.... Good Evening and all.

AL: Arun, can we have your record ?

M: Sure Sir.

AL takes it and passes it on to S. AL is looking at my Data Form

AL: So Arun, tell us about yourself.

M: Blah..Blah.. Blah...Blah

AL: (Cuts me in the middle) So are you happy with your job?

M: Yes Sir. I am happy with my job

AL: Then why do you want to leave this job and come and do a MBA?

M: (Aahhh... To yeh baat hein) Gave in my mugged up answer to be an entrepreneur.

AL: If you are serious on entrepreneurship , there are institutes Like Entrepreneurship Development Institute. Why don't you join there?? (AL was really struggling to pronounce the word entrepreneurship)

M: Blah..Blah..Blahh... about learning all aspects of management...blah blah blah

AL: That they teach in EDI too.

M: (Arre!!! is he taking a interview or advertising EDI?) More blah blah blah...long term ambition of entrepreneurship.. Short term want to work as a consultant.

AL: Once u start working as Consultant u won't go back to entrepreneurship.

M: No sir... I will. It is my dream.

AL: So tell me what have you done till now to show that you are interested in entrepreneurship.

M: Sir, Involved in organizing cultural festival in college.

AL: (Cuts me in)... That is not entrepreneurship. Show me one thing which you have started or initiated ?

M: Sorry Sir, till now I haven't had opportunities to do so.

AL: So what type of entrepreneurship are you planning on?

M: Me from software...so software based.

AL: Do you know what is the success rate of entrepreneurship ? That too in software industry? It is very small.

M: Yes Sir. I know it is very small.

AL: Then why do you want to do that? You have a good paying job. Why do you want to leave it and start entrepreneurship? Isn't it a gamble?

M: Sir, it is a challenge and I love challenges.

AL: So have you read about entrepreneurs' lifestyle...their success stories, how they have come up to be successful. More than that have you read about the lifestyles of entrepreneurs who have failed and why they failed? People who are interested in going up, read such stuffs.

M: (Arre... why did I dig my own grave) Sir I have read about Narayan Murthy.

AL: So what is the principle of Narayan Murthy and Infosys.

M: Sir, Main principle is Hard work. More emphasis on that in Infosys. That's what was emphasised on me when I worked there.

AL: So what is the principle of HP (My current work place) ?

M: Blah BLah Blah.

AL: So no stress on hard work?

M: Not much sir. Main emphasis is on proper delivery on correct time.

AL: Is that the reason you left Infosys? Are you afraid of hard work?

M: (With smile on my face. Inhe kaisa pata chala). No sir.

AL: (Cuts me in) because if you join IIMs, you can hardly sleep for 3-4 hrs a day. It is mainly hard work there.

M: I know sir. It was not because I hate hard work that I left Infosys. Better offer...blah blah blah

S was till now busy going through my certificates. After that he had finished and sat there smiling at me when I was answering questions. He takes over now.

S: So have you read the book about Google Way?

M: No sir.. I am searching for the book

S: So what are your hobbies??

M: (Yes Yes....Finally) Blah Blah Blah... Tried luring them towards football. Also told Computer Games.

S: Have you heard of PS3?

M: Yes Sir.

S: Name some games manufacturer.

M: (Yes ... My area) EA Sports...Blah blah blah

S: Let me rephrase the question. Name three major games console manufacturer ?

M: Playstation.

S: Playstation is a console... who is the manufacturer?

M: Sony Sir, and Microsoft X-Box 3rd i forgot.

S: Have you heard about Nintendo?

M: Yes Sir.

S: So do you read newspaper?

M: Yes Sir

S: Which news paper do you read?

M: TOI, Hindu

S: No ET ?

M: Sir I go through it. Don't read in detail.

S: Last week some indian company took over some foreign company. Which is it?

M: Birla took over Novelis.

S: Another one

M: Tata

S: Which company?

M: Told

S and AL look at each other. Thank you.

M: Thank you sir.

It must be for 10-15 minutes. No stress. No academics. Don't know if I could convince them about my entrepreneurship. Keeping my fingers crossed. Meanwhile have my Indore interview tomorrow morning and I still have to fill my form.

Interview experience of: [kvmaheshwari](#)

Result : Not converted

Background:

Xth CBSE 87.6% (1999)
XIIth CBSE 87.0% (2001)

B.Tech. (2006) from ISM Dhanbad in Electronics Engineering with 81.0%.
Working in software testing for past 8 months at IBM.

Percentiles:

DI 97.82
QA 99.13
VA 98.40

Overall 99.69

Calls: BLACKI

Venue: Monarch Hotel, Bangalore (Panel 3) 10:00 am

GD: In business, the rear view mirror is more clear than the windshield.

10 minutes to write an essay on a sheet of paper and 15 minutes for the GD.

Very less content to speak about. The discussion went on peacefully with everybody having time to chip-in. I summarized at the end and by 12 minutes, everybody was with a blank face. Gaurav (no idea whether he is on PG) ended up saying we conclude. So that moderators have a mercy on us and we don't have to go on and on!

Interview:

I had a stress interview :(

A female prof (F) and a male prof (M) were in the panel. I am B, the Bakra.

F: Vivek what were you doing from 2001 to 2002?

B: Ma'm I was preparing for IIT-JEE.

F: And then you joined Electronics at Indian School of Mines, Dhanabd.

B: Yes mam. The admissions at ISM Dhanbad are through IIT-JEE.

F: What do you do at IBM?

B: Ma'm I am working in the AT&T Project. It is a big project going on for past 10 years and the major amount of work these days...

F: I asked what do *you* do?

B: I am working on the Universal Service Request Platform of AT&T which are used by its end-users for ordering various applications. It is a Java based application and I am a part of the testing team. In addition to this, I have recently got an additional responsibility of handling production issues. They are delicate issues arising at the time of production.

F: Where do you come from?

B: I have been brought up at Jamshedpur.

F: Tell me something about business developments in Jharkhand in past one year.

B: (*Blank-face-speaking-with-efforts.*) Over the years, the state has been trying to attract investments. The Arjun Munda government earlier...

F: I am not talking about politics. You are here for a business course. Tell me about the business developments. (*Whom-are-you-trying-to-fool-looks*)

B: Mam I don't think that the state has progressed much in those terms. The Tatas are there in Jharkhand but they too are expanding mostly outside Jharkhand.

F: There is a global player trying to enter in the state.

B: (*Blank-face*)

F: Have you heard about Mittals?

B: (*Sensing-trouble-enroute*) Yes mam. They are trying to set up a plant in Jharkhand.

F: What plant?

B: Ma'm I am not updated about this issue.

F: You are from ISM. Are you interested in mines?

B: Yes. (*Anticipating-a-disaster-look*)

F: Have you heard of the place called Chiriya?

B: Yes mam. Chiriya is a mine in Jharkhand. (*I-don't-know-look*)

F: They are trying to tap that and the state is going to become very rich... (*dekh-dekh-tujhe-nahin-pata-looks*)

B: (*Accepted-defeat-looks*)

F: What are the roadblocks they are facing in Chiriya?

B: Mostly political. The mindset of the politicians and the issue of jobs-to-locals.

F: Apart from political? (*I-am-not-going-to-leave-u-easily*)

B: Mam I don't have an idea.

F: What do you think you would learn in management.

B: Firstly, it would give me an opportunity to diversify my portfolio. I can look towards other sector apart from the IT sector in which I am currently working.

F: What other sectors are you looking forward to?

B: I would say the services sector. IBM is much into it. Apart from all this, a management course would help in enhancing my leadership and team working abilities.

F: So you think you don't have leadership or team working skills right now?

B: I do have, but there is always a scope of improvement in anything. Besides, I would also learn about business, the knowledge of which I lack.

M: Show me your documents.

B: (*Handing-over-the-file-with-a-forced-smile*)

M: And what are those other things you are carrying?

B: Sir it contains my experience letter and other documents.

M: So? Don't you have to show that to us?

B: Sure sir.

M: And where are the other documents? Doesn't your call letter say you need to produce other things? What will I do with these certificates of volleyball and other stuff? They don't mean anything for me. (*Hands me the call letter and says "Read what are the documents required."*)

B: The interview call letter...

M: Yes this is the call letter... next...

B: CAT Admit Card.

M: Where is it?

B: (*I take that out from the envelope.*)

M: Next.

B: Original mark sheets/certificates of examinations passed.

M: Where are they? You have kept it with you!, Why, you don't want to show it to us?

B: Sir, I had kept it separately because the file I have given to you contains only the certificates. I have kept all other documents in this envelope.

M: I am not bothered about your certificates.

B: Sorry sir. It's my mistake.

M: (*I-will-kill-you-looks. Flips through my grade sheets.*) What did you read in Managerial Economics?

B: Supply and demand... (*haklaate-haklaate..*)

M: What was the managerial aspect of economics in this paper?

B: Sir I don't think it had specific orientation as such towards management. It was more of...

M: Tell me a scenario when the demand is inelastic ?

B: (*Daya-karo-looks...*)

M: That means you haven't read this paper?

B: (*More-daya-karo-looks...*)

M: What is Control Engineering?

B: Sir Instrumentation and Control...

M: I am asking about Control. Tell me only about that.

B: Sir it deals with process control...

M: How do you control a process?

B: Sir a process is represented by a state matrix. Input equation is then formed and output is predicted....

M: Digital Communication... hmmm.... What are the two types of digital communication?

B: Sir digital communication is done in many ways like Pulse code modulation, PSK, FSK...

M: There are two broad classifications of digital communication. I am asking about those two.

B: Sir Communication can be classified as analog and digital communication. But digital communication

M: That's what I wanted to know. Vivek you have this beautiful certificate (*most-sarcastic-possible-looks*) of something called the 9th International Youth Leadership Conference. What was this about?

B: Sir the conference focused on...

M: What is leadership?

B: Sir Leadership is not only about making people follow you. It's more about excellent teamwork. How you can make people believe in you and your ideas and make them generate new ideas.

M: Tell me five business leaders.

B: N.R. Narayanmoorthy, Azim Premzi, thinking thinking... Ratan Tata...

M: Why do you think Ratan Tata is a leader?

B: Sir the aggressive expansion, which he is doing for the company, for eg. the acquisition of Corus and new plants for Tata Motors. Secondly, the corporate social responsibility which the Tatas carry.

M: What do you know about Tata-Corus deal? What are the salient features of that deal?

B: Sir the Tatas have acquired Corus at six hundred and eight..een... (*nervous!!*) pence a share..

M: 608 or 618? (*Sahi-bole-to-noch-khaaooonga-looks*)

B: Sir 618 pence a share. (*Dumbo!! I knew the correct figure and yet messed that up!*)

M: And?

B: The acquisition was hyped in the media because of the entry of a third player CSN which...

M: If Vivek had to emulate one personality, who would he/she be?

B: Sir it is difficult to find one person who has all the qualities which I look forward to...

M: Have you read about the Mahabharata?

B: Yes..

M: What happened to Draupadi? She wanted different-different qualities in different-different people and what did she end up with? (*Five-husbands! Ab-bolo! I-am-here-to-rag-you-looks!!*)

B: Sir if you are specifically asking for one name, I would say N.R. Narayanmoorthy of Infosys.

M: Why?

B: Sir the very basic tag line of Infosys, driven by intellect...

M: What?

B: Sir the middle-class values which have led to..

M: What values are called middle-class?

B: Sir I am talking about the principles on which Mr. Murthy has built up the organization. Honesty and hard-work.

M: Do you know about the background of Mr. Murthy? When was Infosys started? The fifty's?

B: Sir a group of five software professionals came together and.

M: Five?

B: I think so.

M: Were they freshers or were they working somewhere?

B: Sir I think they were working.

M: Where? (*I-know-you-don't-know-looks*)

B: Apple ?????? (*question-mark-looks*)

M: Are you asking me or are you giving an answer?

B: Sir I am trying to answer.

M: Ok thank you very much Vivek, you can go.

Interview experience of [TintinAndSnowy](#)

Result : Converted

Date/Time: 16th Feb; 10 AM
Bangalore
Panel - 2

My Profile:

Class 10 - 84
Class 12 - 81.5
BE (Elect) - 71.2 from REC Durgapur

CAT 2006 - 99.72
Calls - ACLIK

Work Ex - 56 months in IT company.

There were two professors in the panel. One was a bit old and cordial (OC) and the other young and shrewd looking (YS)

GD topic - **A room without books is like a body without a soul.**

They asked us to write an essay first. Screwed up big time in the essay. The GD was sort of fish market, with minimum participation from me :(. After around 15 minutes, one person was asked to summarize .

I was 7th to be called for PI.

Interview:

At around 12 noon, the guy before me came out from the room, and asked me to go. At that very moment, the waiter went inside with some lassi stuff ... now, I was in a dilemma, whether I should go inside or not? After 2-3 minutes waiting, I thought to ask.

May I come in sir ?
Please wait for some time, we will call you.

After around 5 minutes, they called me. I went inside, YS was in the rest-room (it was attached to the room), OC told me to go inside.

I was asked to sit down. After a couple of minutes YS also came.

OC: Please show your class 10 and 12 certificates.
Me: Showed them.

OC: You had 6 subjects in class 12, but you have written only 500 as your full marks, why so?
Me: Told them that it was best 5 out of 6.

OC: Your degree certificate.
Me: Showed them.

OC: Your salary slip and joining letter.
Me: Showed them.

OC: You seem to have a gap between 1997 and 1998. What did you do?

Me: Told them that I was in shibpur BEC pursuing Civil engineering.

OC: Where is the proof/certificates for that?

Me: I don't have them here.

OC: Then how will we believe you ?

Me: :(

OC: Tell me some thing about yourself ?

Me: blah blah ...

OC: So when did you take CAT last year

Me: Yes sir .. but didn't get

OC: Last to last year?

Me: Didn't take (but somehow it sounded like 'didn't get')

OC: Didn't get???

Me: No sir, actually i didn't take.

OC: What have you learnt from your 56 months of work ex ?

Me: blah blah .. gyaan on team.

OC: Suppose in a team, there are few people who are very careless, don't do their work in time ... etc. ... what should you do ?

Me: I would talk to them if they have any issues, and try to resolve that issue.

OC: Ok ok ... over to YS

YS: So since you have 6 years of work-ex (increased me work ex by 1 year), we wouldn't ask you anything on acads..... let me ask you something on your salary!

YS: What is provident fund?

Me: blabbered something

YS: I didn't understand anything - please rephrase

Me: Told him properly

YS: What is the rate of interest in provident fund?

Me: Don't Know.

YS: What is the difference between perks and allowances ?

Me: Perks are like bungalow, car, servant, etc and allowance is money.

YS: So which one will you like ?

Me: Allowances.

YS: Why? most people prefer perks

Me: Because, I can customize it according to my needs.

YS: Why most people prefer perks?

Me: Because it is non taxable

YS: So you don't want to save tax.

Me: :neutral:

YS: What are the various ways to save tax

Me: LIC, NSC, PPF,...

YS: Anything else

Me: HRA, conveyance allowance

YS: Full HRA is non taxable ...

Me: No sir, the non taxable amount is calculated on the basis of three things like ...

YS: Ok ok ... I know that ... what else.

Me: Home loan, Education loan

YS: So, you haven't taken home loan?

Me: No sir

YS: Why? Aren't you married?

Me: (now what's the relation of home loan with marriage) No sir.

OC: So, if you do MBA, you will study with people much younger to you .. Say of 20-21 yrs ... will that be a problem with you?

Me: No sir ... absolutely no issues with me (agar hota to phir main kyun aata yahan)

OC: Ok thank you and all the best!

Me: Thank you sir

My file was on the table, asked them "may I take the file ?"

YS: Take it man, it's your lifeline ... and all of us started laughing.

Well that was it, considering the kind of interview I faced, should have done better.

Almost everyone has decent IIM-L interview, so I guess it's the subtle things like confidence level, body language that will matter the most.

IIM Lucknow - Year 2008

Interview experience of RinceWind

Result : Converted

Profile:

Xth - 92.17

XIIth - 85.20

B.Tech - Chemical Engineering IIT Kharagpur - 7.70

Work-Ex: 4 years in BHEL in project management.

CAT %ile: QA 91.57, LR 90.58 VA 97.36 OA 97.30 😊

My Experience:

Batch of 8, one absent. We were asked to sit in a specific order, me penultimate. We pass on our filled up forms. One of our friends had not attached the mug-shot. The professors were quite helpful in trying to get him a stapler. I intervened with a shtick(he he) and it was done.

GD and Written Ability topic: Good Economics is Bad Politics.

I wrote some stuff but had to stop in a middle of the penultimate sentence as time was called. Asked nicely to be allowed to complete. I was answered even more nicely that I need not .

About 5 seconds to settle back, and the GD began. Nice GD. Everybody chipped in. Me jumped in pretty regularly and dug a few holes for myself by first using the term "scarce resources", and then hinting on "trade-offs". Put in a few words about Public-Private Partnerships. I know, dug myself a BIG HOLE. We were stopped very amiably by the professors, apologizing tongue firmly in cheek for interrupting such an interesting discussion. Told to wait outside and be sure to imbibe the tea/coffee paid for by IIML. All smiles. And out we go.

Interview: Pretty cool interviews with most of our panel, with academics and work-ex taking the lion's share. Mine was in three parts: First on work-ex, Project Management tools and probability. Second on Chemical engineering. Last on economics and GD topic.

Details follow:

Cast:

P1: Prof with Engg-based questions

P2: Prof with Economics based questions. **Me:** 😊

Part 1:

P2: Mr (Fill name here.)

Me: Yes sir.

P2: Chemical engineer from IIT Kharagpur, working in BHEL?

Me: Yes sir.

P2 & P1 in tandem: Why? What do you do there? Your responsibilities?

Me: Answered. First the bullet points which I had written on the form and then some instance-laden examples.

P1: So you don't do chemical engineering.

Me: Not per se sir, The usual answer about engineering, analysis, tools of engineers. And also the remotely chem. engineering aspect of my work.

P1: What is CPM?

Me: Answered.(And did not mention any Marxist political party)

P2: What is PERT?

Me: Answered and by mistake said "Project" rather than "Program"
Some general talk.

P2: How do you find a Critical path?

Me: Told. But in layman terms as is my won't and didn't use the technical terms, especially "float".... or did I?

P1: What is float?

Me: Told.

P2: Give an example.

Me: Gave an example.

P2: OK... so when the float is zero

Me: We have the critical path. Now I realize that I had muffed up my first question.

P2: Tell me what do you do, after identifying the critical path?

Me: Told.

P1: Do you do Risk Analysis?

Me: No sir, that's done by a different department.

P1: Can you?

Me: I will try.

P2: Try

Me: Tell about a logistics problem and the risks involved.

P2: Is risk same as uncertainty?

Me: No sir. Told them some example based differences.

P1: Tell us mathematically.

Me: I can write down what the risk is and exact calculations can be done thereof to accommodate/plan for it.

P2: So you mean risk is quantifiable?

Me: (eureka moment... followed by a personally administered kick) Yes sir. With past data and probability. Uncertainty is uncertain. We can have confidence levels but...

P2: So you can calculate risk with probability.

Me: Yes sir ... with past data.

P2: smirks... obviously no probability without past data. Summarizes risk and uncertainty. All smiles.

P1: Ok.. do it ...

Passes a pad... and gestures that I use the pen offered and not my own.

Me: (Pen in hand) With the same logistics problem?

P2: Obviously.

I write down an equation and muck it up.

P1: Why this plus sign?

Me: Because delays are additive.

P1: Is it mutually exclusive or independent.

Me: Independent.

P1: So multiply.

Me: No sir. I am writing in time (we talk about the units and he cross-checks both sides of equation).

P1: What is mutually exclusive event?

Me: Reply ... and I am getting some drift that I have done a major mistake. So I start looking at my mortal enemy... the equation.

P1: (Uses the statements which were quite ominous sounding) You have already told us the answer, just repeat it. You have read a lot of mathematics in engineering and for CAT. You know it, I know.

Me: smile sheepishly, and get the pen ready.

P1: Ok... what happens if I flip two coins. Probability of both getting heads is?

Me: tell them.

P1: Write down in **P1, P2.**

Me: I do it and look askance.

P1: So, you need to be guided...

Me: Give a good boy smile. Now I see, they asked the risk, not the maximum/most probable delay analysis. (self inflicted kick on the keister administered soundlessly)

Edit: Checked out... my equation was correct... for a change 😊

Part 2:

P1: So what is fourth flotation?

Me: Sir, do you mean froth flotation?

P1: Yes... draw....

Me: Draw and explain (jokes on my drawing skills).

P1: Give a real world example

Me: (I remember alumina but am not sure... take the safe road) I can't recall right now.

P1: What is this? (with a smile) You are from IIT. Forgot everything. What a shame!!

Me: Not everything. But I am not in touch. Long time. Basics are there. Sheepish expression firmly and rightly in place.

Nods everywhere.

P2: Tell me about your family.

Me: give a very brief answer.

P2: So a well-settled family.

P1: You are from Kharagpur. What is Patel Hall known for?

Me: Tell them. I think **P1** was from IIT Kgp, his question and the effect my answer had on him suggests so.

Part 3:

P2: In the GD, you used the term "scarce resources"... tell us what did you mean by that.

Me: I define economics... somehow talk of water near a river and in a desert.

P2: In the context of GD?

Me: I talk about the statement being made in context of budgets and policies of subsidies and sops for votes. then List out scarce resources. I may have said "jobs" as a resource.

P2: Are jobs resources?

Me: :uh oh: No sir, jobs are not resources, opportunities for jobs are...

P2: Is human resources a scarce resource in India?

Me: No sir, but skilled human resources is quite scarce.

P1: You are an IITian. Aren't IITian scarce resources?

Me: ??? Yes sir, as of now an IITian is a scarce resource in India.

P2: So how do you know a resource is scarce?

Me: The requirement for the resource, the need is much more than its supply?

P2: Rephrase it.

Me: When the demand for the item is much higher than the supply. (I think I put my boot in the cow-pat cake here)

P2: Repeats what I say to make sure I can hear how stupid it may sound. So is desire same as demand?

Me: No sir...

P1: Show it mathematically.

Here I had some problem with my file which was still unasked for until now. I asked whether I may please put it on the table.

P1: OK

P2: No, give it to me. I need to see that. It's a demand. (He went into Hindi, and it was quite a friendly situation.)

I pass it on and take up the now-much-feared pen.

P1: Show in Venn diagram

I draw it.

P2: Is desire a subset of demand?

Me: No sir, its the other way round... demand is a subset of desire... but there is a thin sliver of demand which is not desire. (I was hinting on snob buying...keeping up with the Joneses... Veblen goods... bait not taken... thank goodness)

P2: What is the left hand side?

Me: Desire which does not culminate into demand.

P2: Yes, it is unfulfilled desires. Smiles. So what is required for desire to become demand.

Me: Sir, firstly it should be backed by an ability to pay. I give example of my "desire" for a Merc.

P2: OK, if you have the money to buy, then what?

Me: My priorities, and other needs and desire. Give an example of Rs 10, and an auto ride home and my desire for a cold drink.

P1: OK, your priorities, right. Now if you have Rs 20. You have unlimited money. Then?

P2: Say, I tell you this bottle of water costs Rs 200. Will you "demand" it?

Me: No sir. Value of the item in my perception is much lower than its asking price. Demand does not exist.

P1: So in single phrase?

Me: Perceived value... umm... perceived utility.

P2: Will....

Me: Yes sir... willingness to pay.

P2: Now tell in single sentence.

Me: Tell them the complete definition of demand, using "desire" in place of "need". 😊 It was a basic economics class going on... not an interview. (I knew the definition from the start, but I went along as questions were asked stage by stage. I don't know if this will work in my advantage or disadvantage.)

P2: Now with this Demand, I Supply you your file. Thank you Mr. (Enter Name here).

As I thank them and get up, some more jokes are cracked on supplying my demand... I smile along... and walk out.

I am not sure whether I had a good interview or bad interview. I do have quite low CAT percentiles. Questions were less, but were taken further than I expected. No HR. No why MBA. No why so much work. No why PSU. Two not-so-gentle reprimands, one for the probability/mathematics and one for forgetting the industrial example of Froth-floatation. But, I actually had fun. The professors were cool, and even in these simple things they showed their teaching abilities.

And now when I write it down, I see it was quite long post (was it that long an interview?).

The way it went, not the questions, may help other guys to prepare... so told in detail. If it's a problem, tell me, will snip it. All the best.

Interview experience of soullancer

Result : Wait listed but joined IIMB.

Profile:

X: 88.4

XII : 85

B.E. : 75.2 (Computers)

CAT 2007:

QA: 99.73

DI: 99.93

VA: 99.85

OA: 99.99

Topic: When you start feeling you are siding with the majority, its time for you to reform.

Centre: IIM L Noida Campus

Essay: Spelled out majority as majourity in the whole essay.

anyways.. a decent essay with 3 different examples and also wrote about having a framework to question the decisions. my rating: 7/10(could have been 9)

GD: Was not that good. Came in 3-4 times but with no one interested to listen. Almost the same points being mentioned. One of the member started with something like "As I am a computer engineer from one of the best engineering colleges of India...blah blah blah"... was stunned to hear him talk.. it almost felt he was trying to answer "tell me about yourself and why should we take you"... anyways.. not much fish market ... my rating : 5/10

PI: Old lady (**P1**), Middle aged lady(**P2**), yours truly(S).

P2: So tell us about your job (what??? there goes my prep of why mba down the drain)

S: Blah blah... mentioned web application and ERP (poocho poocho).

P1: You got promoted so what is the difference in your responsibilities?

S: (Not again)... told that no difference... 2 min discussion on it

P1: When did you start feeling that you need to do MBA?

S: told about a year back...(cutting me short)

P1: This is your first attempt?

S: no its 3rd.

P2: Then why did you give it before? peer pressure?

S: No family pressure.. then explained that family wanted me to become doctor and stuff...

P2: So you wanted to prove yourself...

S: In a way.. yes.

Then had a discussion about time investment in medical field and engineering(8 yrs compared to 4 in engineering).

P2: You work in Bangalore? then why the centre is Delhi?

S: Explained that due to some work related goof up I am stuck with Delhi as center.

P1: Ok so what happened in the last 2 attempts?

S: 2005.. converted IMT but did not join as wanted to study from IIMs only.

2006.. Pathetic percentile so no calls

2007.. "got calls"

P2: What all calls did you get this time?

S: All of them

P2: What's your percentile?

S: (With a straight face)99.99

P1, P2 burst into smiles.....

P2: It can not get better than this?

S: Yes ma'm it can not get better than this.

P1: What changed in the last 2 years? how did you manage good percentile this year?

S: Patience... then a small discussion on it

P1: Ok, so since you got multiple calls, where will you rate L among them?

S: (Aww comeon.. can you not ask me something else?)(with a big smile).. Ma'm it's a dream come true and frankly speaking I have no idea where I can rate L among others.. to me they are almost the same.

P2: Ok, so which college will you fill in case of multiple converts?

S: (are we not done here??).. (again smiling).. I have no idea ma'm.. perhaps the one that comes first.

P1: The one that comes first? but that is not how decisions are made , this is illogical.

S: (Me and my big mouth) Ma,m I will be so happy that there is a very good chance that I will make such an illogical decision.

P2: Which exam did you give to get into your engineering college?

S: Explained... and then had a small discussion on my college.

P1: Ok so what kind of reading do you do?

S: Anything that I can lay my hands on

P1: Last book?

S: Witch of Portobello.. currently reading "Grapes of Wrath"

P1: Author?

S: (thinking) Sorry I can not recall it (Stupid me... the only question that i did not know).

P1: What do you like about Paulo?

S: Silver lining in everything, but I am very much critical about his way of presenting things. then again a small discussion on it

P1: So you think it makes people pessimistic ?

S: (Confused).. Ma'm I said he looks out for the silver lining, so I guess, it makes people more optimistic than pessimistic.

P2: What did you learn out of that book?

S: Nothing as I was reading only for reading Paulo's style of writing (one question that I should have elaborated upon).

P2: What do you do in free time?

S: I discuss things with my friends on any topic.

P1: Rate yourself in the GD

S: 5/10

P2: Why not 2 or why not 8?

S: Spoke moderately.

P1: Then how come you are able to discuss things with your friends?

S: Two reasons:

1. I am more comfortable with them and
2. they are willing to listen when others are speaking (the only question where I think I should have been more diplomatic).

P2: So you were not that comfortable with them?

S: No ma'm I wasn't.

P2: Ok we are done.. you may leave..

S: Thank You

Interview experience of akshatarwal

Result : Converted

Profile

X: 84.8

XII: 84.2

B TECH(chem) : 78.7% (University silver medal)

Work ex: 19 months at ANSYS Fluent Inc.

CAT:

QA-85.27

LR- 99.69

VA-99.73

OA-99.70

other calls: I, MDI-PGPM, FMS(FT), SPJain

venue: IHM,mumbai, 9th feb, 2 pm (PANEL 1)

GD/ESSAY:

"Morality is the creation of the weak to deter and limit the strong."

no of candidates: 8 (1 was absent)

over-all: The discussion was good and people came up with good points. There was this one guy who was trying to speak a lot but overall I would say this was a good GD.

My individual performance: I was the 3rd to enter and came in 4-5 times in the discussion. My points were appreciated by the group so it was good.

PERSONAL INTERVIEW:

Time duration: around 20 minutes (2 panelists)

* This panel was asking from everyone about maths. Average duration was about 15 minutes. I was the last to be interviewed.

P1: Prof who was fond of maths.

P2: The prof who was asking general questions.

M : Moi.

EXP:

P1: So Akshat, come in have your seat.

M: Thank you sir.

P2: So its been a long wait for you, what were you doing all this time?

M: Sir, I was talking to my parents, talking to other people, making new friends and contacts.

P1: You had a senior from your college in the group, what did he tell you about us?

M: Sir, he was in a hurry, he just told me to be myself and everything will be fine.

P2: Ok, Akshat how would you rate your performance in the GD.

M: I said it was ok.

P2: Ok, as in below your expectations. Show me your file.

M: Sir, I would rather say that it was above my expectations.

P2: Why ?

M: Sir, I am a shy person, and sometimes I am silent in presence of new faces, but today I was able to overcome that and I spoke well, that's why I am happy. (think they were satisfied)

P2: Why this shyness? Are you from a village school?

M: No sir, I have done my schooling from DPS (vasant kunj) New Delhi.

P1: Oh DPS!! DPS students do a lot of things besides academics as well, isn't it? (guess he was trying to get at MMS scandal)

M: Yes sir, Our school encourages us to go for extracurricular activities and that's why I have pursued music and badminton throughout my schooling and college.

(**P1** smiles) (I smile too)

P2: Tell me about your father?

M: Told

P2: Mother

M: Told

P2: Are you an only son or do you sister as well?

M: Yes sir, I have a sister, she is a fashion designer

P2: Oh, fashion designer, why didn't you think of becoming one?

M: Sir, I didn't want to become one. I think one designer in the family is good enough for our needs(Smiling)

P2: So your family is well settled. you must be looking for a rich girl that's why you want to come over here?

M: Sir, as of now, I haven't thought about girls. (smiling,they smile too)

P1: Ok, we know you are good at science, lets discuss something different, what about literature?

(I think , oh shit now what!! give a meek smile)

P1: What kinda books do you read?

M: Sir, I read newspapers and magazines but I am not much of a reader, I prefer playing badminton and singing in my free time.

P1: Surely you must have read textbooks in school? Could you quote some lines of a poem?

(I was dumbfounded)

M: Sir, let me think.(after a pause) Sir I recall some lines of a hindi poem by Ramdhari Singh Dinkar.

P2: All right go ahead.

P1: Hindi is a language I don't understand but you may go ahead.

M: I said the lines

P1: What was your favourite subject at school?

M: Sir, Physics.

P1: Not maths?

M: Sir, of course maths as well because a certain degree of maths is involved in physics but I would say that I like physics more.

P1: Who won the Nobel prize for physics from India?

M: Sir, CV Raman

P2: What did he do?

M: Talked abt raman effect

P1: What is it?

M: (could recall) Sir its related to optics and cosmic rays, I can't recall exactly.

P2: Ok, anyone else who won the Nobel prize?

M: sir, I can't recall right now

P1: Ok, We give you a hint, he is a relative of CV Raman

M: I said its Chandrasekhar but I am not sure what he worked on.

P2: So who is your favourite physicist.

M: I said my current boss is my favourite (smiling)
(both were surprised)

P2: Where do you work? whats your job profile?

M: Told them

P2: Who is your competitor in india?

M: Told none as such because CFD is mainly used in Europe and in America

P2: Doesn't ISRO use CFD ?

M: I said yes, but they use it, not major clients.

P2: How do you define a major client.

M: Told

P1: Ok so you like physics and you have a great mentor at your office. Why did you write cat07 seriously and why do you want to come over here ?

M: Sir, It was on the suggestion of my mentor that I thought about management education. He suggested that in order to move up the corporate ladder one requires skills and blah blah blah(think they were satisfied)

P2: Ok Akshat, so you were the best singer at college.

M: (smiling) Yes sir,

P2: Who's your favourite singer

M: Sir Shaan and Mohd.Rafi

P2: Why mohd rafi:

M: Told (they were satisfied)

P2: Could you sing us a Mohd Rafi song

M: yes sir(smiling) (sang mere mehboob almost for a minute)
(both looked to be impressed)

P2: Why do you like this song?

M: (tried to tell them about music and classical music,)

P2: (he cut me and asked) Why this particular song?

M: Sir because of the feelings portrayed by the song.

P2: What feelings?

M: Told them about the situation of the song and love.

P2: But you haven't thought about girls, then how can you understand the feelings behind this song?

M: I said, if I fall in love, this will be the first song I will sing for the one I love. (me smiling)
(both were smiling)

P2: What do you about premarital sex. Someone in your group mentioned that?

M: Sir, personally I am not for it.

P2: Then why didn't you raise an objection.

M: Sir, everyone is entitled to his/her opinion and its these opinions that enrich a discussion. That's why I didn't raise an objection.

P2: Ok, What do you think about relationships. Where are they heading?

M: Sir, are you talking about brother-sister, father mother relationship or live-in relationships?

P2: Family relationships?

M: Sir I come from a closely knit family and I believe that and family and relations are the anchor around which we shape our lives. I believe we should respect our elders and parents and learn from them.

P2: Its good to hear such things from a young man like you.

M: Thank you sir (smiling)

P2: What about live in relationships?

M: Sir, we live in a democracy and everybody has the right to do whatever they feel is good for them. I personally am not comfortable with this idea.

P2: Ok Akshat , what calls do you have?

M: Sir, L and I

P2: Ok Akshat, You were silent for some time , but we have noticed something is worthy in you. all the best.

M: Thank You Sir.

Interview experience of Tortured_Soul

Result : Converted

PROFILE:

Acads:

X : 82.4%

XII : 80%

Undergrad Major - 81.6%, ECE from NITJ

Work-Ex: Wipro tech, 19 months.

CAT %ile:

DI : 98.34

Quant : 99.51

Verbal : 99.61

Aggregate : 99.91

Any other special thing about you:

Played chess at the state level, NTSE scholarship holder.

GD:

Topic: **Great spirits are violently opposed by mediocre minds.**

Number of People present: 10

Time: 30 min essay followed by 12-14 min discussion.

Brief Snapshot of Discussion:

I start off with writing a weird essay, full of examples. Short on content. Bullet point some of the reasons I feel are responsible.

Anyway before the GD starts, he instructs us to spread out. We are sitting in a U, I am bang in the middle, four on left, 5 on right. IIT boy starts off well... next guy starts speaking greek and latin. 3-4 entries later I jump in, tell them that change has 3 stages, initial ridicule, then opposition then people gradually change. Dozed off for the noisy part of discussion. Then jump in with people are worried to lose power example Guru Gobind Singh, fight for belief. Get good airtime here.

Jesus Christ example discussed. I try to chip in again. This time entry is difficult. Badly cut.

Discussion tangents off. Mumbai situation discussed[no idea why], even Nandigram, Singur discussed.

Somehow Sania Mirza also came into picture. Again came in, tell them the story of how even a 6 yr old kid faces problems in Taare Zameen par and say people lack of understanding plays a big role here.

Butchered a guy who said that only illiterate are responsible... tell him most scientific theories are also mocked.

NRN Murthy comes into picture. Finally I summarized.

Rating: I felt that I got a really really difficult group. We came very close to fish market scenario many times. An average performance for me. Probably third best in the group, I'll say 6.5/10.

PI:

Panel Members Intro:

[I do not intend to ridicule any of the panelists.]

Strategy prof [**P1**], Finance head [**P2**]. Me tortured soul [**TS**]

BTW, both are eating pakoras and I am pretty hungry.

Questions:

P2: Sell yourself to us?

TS: blah.. have qualities of a good manager
both **P1**, **P2** pounce

P1: What are those qualities ?

P2: You are giving vague answers. Be more specific.

TS: I have skills like.. blah 1, example, blah 2 example. blah. Summed it up with 'If selected, I will make you guyz proud.. [yeah 'you guyz']

P1 while making sure his pakora has lots a ketchup. What is the difference between maintenance and enhancement projects.

TS : Tell him lots of things, with examples..

P1 Gives me some scenarios: I have some release that I don't find good enough, I want to build from scratch, is it enhancement.

TS: Nope, enhancement has a platform where you make changes... *give example of oracle's fusion.*

P1: Which is difficult?

TS: Difficult to say. Sometimes enhancements can be tough, depends on requirements.
They seemed satisfied. move on..

P1: Are low cost IT jobs sent to India?

TS: Started off that way.. 9/11.. but Indians smart.. companies like Wipro i.e. my company, TCS, Infy handle now give complete solutions.

P1: What is innovation wrt to Wipro?

TS: Sir tagline, applied innovation. Give trivia [source: wipro website]...

P1: No, there is a specific term.

TS [lookin innocent and confused, I seriously had no idea what he wanted to hear]: Sir, that's the tagline.

P1: What is the 'Innovation Council'?

TS [try to remember what I had read on the website]: Council has done a lot.. given suggestion.. quality control.. *throw more trivia..*

P2: lookin into my file for a weird subject and finally zeroes in on:

tell me something about neural network and fuzzy logic.

TS [:tries not to look completely shocked, recovers soon. then starts off]: sir, neural networks..

P2 cuts in: talk in simple layman language, we don't know much about this.

TS [shit!! they know about this subject... anyway let it be]: Neural is from neuron, human mind works like this... blah blah. my brain knows glass is hot, so won't touch it again.

then start giving example of how child learns to write.

P2: trying to sound funny: whats fuzzy logic, sounds like funny?

TS [with a grin]: fuzzy now is blah.. give example of washing machine.

P1: Smiles, Gobbles another pakora: whats GSM and CDMA ?

TS: Sir GSM stands for... mulitplexings... something..

CDMA stands for...[explain without any details. Did not remember much. Though I feel gave most details.
Panel shrugs and moves on]

P1: So what have you learnt at NITJ?

TS: I have learned a lot. Knowledge is..

P1 Cuts in: Are you from Punjab?

TS: Yes Sir, Jalandhar...

P1: Punjabis are jolly fellow, hehehehe...
TS: looks on, little dazed by this.... fake a smile..

P1: Which attempt was it?
TS: This is my nth attempt.

P1:What's your score in CAT, what calls do you have?

TS [grinning]: Sir my hard work... 6 calls...

P1[grinning]: So you are a smart person[thanks for the compliment sirjee]. I won't ask you the most freq asked question where you will go in case of multiple converts [TS lets out an audible sighs of relief]. Just tell me how you see yourself 5 years from now?

TS: Sir business leader.. mid level manager...

P1 [shakes his heads]: You give very vague open ended answers.

TS: Sir not zeroed in.. still options are open.. difficult to commit now..

panel did not seem too happy here.. after this the tide started changing.. I was a now to interviewed by the proverbial bad cop!!

P2 [smells blood]: Do you read newspaper daily ?

TS: [*weekly nods n feebly says*] I try to keep my self updated.

P2: What is the ruling party in Bangladesh?

TS: No idea [very quickly]

P2: Pakistan?

TS: I think its president's rule...

P2: Are you sure?

TS: No [I wanted to say "of course not", but then again...]

P2: Nepal?

TS: I think its maoists.. [*I can't believe it either*]

P2: What!!! And you say you read papers, do you even know about the Indian government?

TS [realizes **P2** is the bad cop]: [*with a feeble smile*] sir UPA..

P2: What's UPA??

TS: United Progressive alliance

P2: sure..

TS Nods vigorously..

P2 [not done yet]: Name the parties in UPA..

TS: Sir Congress..

P2: Ok, what more

TS: Sir left..

P2: Are they part of govt?

TS: Sir, they arm twist a lot. They gave problems with nuclear deal [*this was a bait. Not taken.*]

P2: They are not a part of government, just support.. what else..

TS [looks left, for some strange reason thinks about titanic sinking, then in a matter of fact tone and a sheepish look]: Can't recall anymore

P1: Do you read?

TS: Yes, Jeffrey Archer being my favourite author.

P1: Which ones have you read?

TS: Twist in Tail, Kane and Abel, Prodigal Daughter, Eleventh Commandment, Not a penny more not a penny less, etc.. [**P1** yawns and nods, **P2** is already lost in his thoughts. I think he has already made his mind]

P1 [taking one more dig]: What is Anand's rating?

TS: You mean elo rating.. he had a elo rating of 2810[its 2801, i had read it. remembered the digits.. just mixed them up]

P1 n

P2: That's it... That's it.. All the best Ankit.

TS: Thanks sirs...

Interview experience of shaurya1985

Result : Converted

Btech in Mech from IIT D 8.04/10
Exp 7 monthT
Percentile 99.81 BLACKI

GD - Thinking about worst prepares for the worst

Wrote a decent essay...tried to analyse different dimensions of the topic...as in when worst is bound to happen and you cannot do anything, when you can avert or minimize damage of worst if you plan properly, when you should not think about worst..and about balanced approach when you allocate resources to deal with the worst when it happens..gave examples on these.

GD was also pretty Good..I was happy with my contribution.

I was first in my panel.

Panel of 2 (Was really impressed by the panel; they were really gud)

YP - Young Prof
OP - Old Prof
Me - Me

Greetings etc

YP: Tell me something about yourself ?

Me: blah blah blah (Also spoke about my 3 interns during my stay at IIT and my interest in sports).

YP: Tell me about the internships ?

Me: Told...YP went into specifics of my voluntary internship with a NGO after my 2nd year but it was fine.

OP: Why do you people do 3 interns? You are only required to do 1 intern? I have specially seen this phenomenon in IITD people? Every year my mail box gets filled with intern request?

Me: Sir we used to hav 2.5 months vacations every year. I had wasted my 1st year vacations. So wanted to use them in more constructive manner and something which adds to my personality.

YP: What did you do in your first year vacations?

Me: Sir I used to play cricket..generally relaxed..

YP: That is not wastage of time..you charged ur self..relaxed

Me: Yes sir..but I did not do anything constructive.

YP: I think its only to add something on your CV

Me: Sir frankly that is definitely one of the motivations..but also this gives the opportunity to use time in more constructive manner.

YP: You have certificates in football, hockey and cricket

Me: Yes sir..I played in inter hostel sports tournaments during my stay at IIT.

YP: What was the final score of Man U vs Arsenel match that was played last night?

Me: Sir, it was 2-0 Man Utd after 60 mins (Actually it was 3-0)

YP: Fair enuf...it was 2-0

YP: Which was the last book you had read?

Me: The Other side of the midnight by Sidney Sheldon (I guess I was over honest here)

YP: What was it about?

Me: Sir it was about a woman called Miss Page who was very beautiful but from a weak background. As she grew up she realized that the world is very ruthless especially the male part and she would have to use her beauty to her advantage to survive (Was actually very embarrassing for me).

YP: So you deal with data a lot (My job profile..I am a domain consultant in a data analytics firm). How would you interpret this..there are 2 data sets...both have mean = 6 ...first one has SD = 0.5 and the other one has SD = 6.

Me: Sir..the second data set has more variability...more extreme values..(gave an example)..something like 6, 0, 12, -1, 13...

OP: Can you give an example where we can see such a distribution?

Me: Sir probably in an exam which students of very different aptitudes are giving..

OP: But is it possible in a CAT like exam

Me: No sir..in CAT like exam the distribution would be more towards normal

OP: So can you give some realistic example?

Me: (thought a lot..after 1.5 mins) Sir in 1971 India Pak war, the defence requirements of India in that year and the preceding year may show that kind of distribution. (Still cant believe how could I come up with this!) (Both panelists laughed)

YP: Give me a realistic example of an event whose probability of happening is 1?

Me: (Don't know why but nothing concrete struck me..after 1 min) Sir the probability of this panel taking at least 2 interviews in next 2 hrs is 1

OP: (Surprised) well you mean to say that its probability is 1..I can make you sit here for 2 hrs and you will be proved wrong..or there may be fire here and we may have to stop the process

Me: Yes sir

OP: Think about another example?

Me: (tried to think but I was blank..after 1 min) Sir my mobile is switched off..the probability of my mobile not ringing is 1 given the scenario that I don't switch it on.

YP: What if I take your mobile and switch it on and it rings?

Me: Sir the domain I am considering here is that until it is switched on, it won't ring.

YP: How would you interpret probability = -0.5?

Me: (Surprised..started thinking in terms of tossing coin but quickly realized it was a trap) Sir it's not possible..probability can only lie between 0 and 1.

YP: So you mean to say its only a theoretical concept?

Me: Sir I haven't really come across this even in theory

YP: (Now the tech part) You must have heard abt Nano? Why is it that its overall dimensions are pretty small but still it is spacious?

Me: Sir I have read a bit about Nano but do not know very specific details..

OP: Where is the engine of Nano?

Me: Sir at the rear (I was right but not very sure)

OP: What!!! Engine at the back???????

Me: I am sorry sir..engine is at front but it is a rear wheel driven car (This I guess was a blunder...though I was sure about rear wheel driven thing).

OP: Give examples of other rear wheel driven vehicles?

Me: Sir usually these days most vehicles are front wheel driven as they are more stable.

OP: Don't go into details..just give me examples?

Me: Sir I am not sure.

OP: gave some examples of vehicles (Also mentioned bicycles)

Me: Sir bicycles..normal cycles are rear wheel driven

OP: Give an example of rear wheel driven automobile?

Me: Sir I am not sure

OP: What about Trucks?

Me: Sir..I am sorry.But I don't really have an idea on this.

YP: Lets talk about tyres..why cant we use completely solid tyres in automobiles?

Me: Sir may be there are cost implications...also it will mean additional weight.

YP: A car is about 600-700 kgs..how does wheel weight have major effect ?

Me: Sir during steering...it will require extra power.

YP: What if we use a material X which is strong and light?

Me: Sir I think that can be a option which can be explored if there are no major cost implications.

YP: Why do you think it hasn't been explored till now?

Me: (Mumbled something)

OP: You know I expect certain kind of curiosity from people coming from IITs. You are a mechanical engineer from IIT Delhi. Has something changed in IITs?

Me: Sir nothing has changed. But I would like to clarify something. We do not do all the mechanical engineering courses at IIT. There are some compulsory courses and some other are electives.

OP: But course on automobiles must be basic for you guys?

Me: No sir..it was an elective which I didn't do.

YP: Which electives did you do?

Me: TQM, Powerplant technologies, mini project..

YP: TQM..hmmm....What is Kaizen?

Me: Sir I have heard of this term...One of my friends did his intern with Tata Motors..there they used to use this..something related to quality...not sure actually

YP: What is JIT?

Me: Just in Time..Explained the funda

YP: What is Kanban?

Me: Sir...I have heard of it..can't recollect..I am sorry sir

YP: What was your cat percentile?

Me: 99.81

OP: What calls do you have?

Me: Sir all 6.

YP, OP: Thank you, All the best!

Me: Thank you sir.

IIM Lucknow - Year 2009

Interview experience of adityarockz

Profile:

X : 93.0 (CBSE)

XII : 95.8 (CBSE)

BTech : IIT Kharapur, Manufacturing Science and Engg. 8.3

Work ex : 8 months on Jan 2009. Fair Isaac, Software profile.

CAT %ile

Quant : 45 -- 98.08

DI : 41 -- 97.37

Verbal : 82 -- 99.74

OA : 168 -- 99.89

Any other special thing about you:

Decent achievements in quizzing and creative writing at all levels at school and college.

it was the last GD/PI of the season. And since I did not know what to make out of the previous interviews, I so desperately wanted to be able to say that I would surely get into at least one and hence gave IIM L with all my heart.

IIM Lucknow Essay/GD/PI

The topic for the essay was “**Good judgement comes from experience and experience comes from poor judgement**”.

I love abstract topics and hence started off from the word ‘Go’ and was the only one in my panel to complete the entire space provided.

Started off with “Failures are the stepping stones to success and when our ancestors coined this phrase what they intuitively meant was exactly the topic we had.” Pitched in 3 main points in the essay

1) Sachin Tendulkar cutting down on strokes on one side after repeated failures and then going on to make 241* against Australia

2) Japan recuperating from WW II and learning that military is not the way to go but economic development through R&D in science and technology

3) King Ashoka making a poor decision to fight the Battle of Kalinga and learning from the blood bath and making the right decision to follow Buddhism

Essay had 5 paras – the start, one para for each of the aforementioned points and then the conclusion.

Started concluding when the lady said 2 mins left.

Some guy in the panel started off before the lady could complete saying “You can start the discussion.” He was like “ Good afternoon. We are here.... Good evening.... Today afternoon.... I forgot the topic... “ Everyone had a hearty laugh including the panelists. (My Tip : It isn’t everything to start. But if you so sure you wanna start then at least don’t panic.) I started off with the failures point from my essay. Put forward Sachin point and people lapped it up. Discussion was recursive and beating around the same point. Also put forward Google was a stroke of good judgement at the start itself. Okayish kind of GD. Could have definitely spoken more.

Was the 4th guy to be interviewed.

One lady prof, Prof Neerja Pande (L1) and one male prof, Prof. Kashi Naresh Singh (P1). Chillax panel.

Usual pleasantries exchanged.

P1 takes my dossier and starts verifying marks and all.

L1: So Aditya, Let me compliment me you on your beautiful handwriting

Me: (pleasantly taken by surprise) Thank you ma'am.

L1: And let me say you have written a wonderful essay. Very well structured and some very valid points in there.

Me: Thank you Ma'am.

L1: Why did you not put forward all your points in the essay? Good that we have introduced essays. Otherwise all your points would have been lost.

Me: I did not want to throw the group off when they were discussing something else and speak something quite tangential to the discussion.

L1: No. See, when the group is digressing from the point, you should act the leader and then bring them back on track. You should be blunt and just put forward your point irrespective of what the group is talking. Later when you do your MBA, you will face many such similar situations and hence I expect you to lead in such cases.

Me: Alright ma'am. I'll learn to do that.

L1: And you have a very high score in your class XII. CBSE that too. How did you manage?

Me: I wanted to get through BITS and during my year, it was based on marks. So I had to do my best.

L1: So you should have managed into it easily.

Me: Nopes. Did not get into it.

L1: (Flummoxed) Why???

Me: Told about normalization and how CBSE there are hardly 10 ppl under cut off and in AP and Tamilnadu state board there are scores.

L1: That's pretty unfair and we too face a similar situation when assessing your board marks and.... (she spoke of the profs dilemmas for 2 mins on that)

P1: Still checking and verifying certificates and marks in courses too

L1: So what did you do when you didn't get in?

Me: My mom mailed the BITS admission board and had some correspondence and they made 4 zones for CBSE the following year and the year next to it, they had BITSAT

L1: Ohh!!! That's very nice. Anyways you got into IIT and so that didn't affect you so much. Instead of accepting it lightly, you took up the matter (and the praise continued). [Thanx mom]

P1 finally completes his checking.

L1: So tell me where do you see yourself 5 years from now.

Me: I am looking forward to setting up an academic institution at my home town. My parents already have set up a school. Want to take it to greater heights (usual *blah blah*(explanation) about having to study in residential schools for lack of good educational facilities, also some incidents that inspired me)

L1: So you wont be sitting for placements?

Me: I have planned out my future. I don't think I'll be sitting

L1: So whats your percentile?

Me: told

L1: Wow. How many marks lesser than the 100 percentiler?

Me: Around 40.

L1: Ohh!!! That's a little far off but your score is very good. (The praise!!!) So you must have all 7 calls?

Me: No ma'am. No Shillong.

L1: *Flabbergasted* (to P1) What's with Shillong? What do they want? What is their criteria?

P1 puzzled and wants me to explain

Me: They have a high B tech cut off. I think it is 87% or something.

L1: But you have a good graduation score.

Me: Mine is 8.3

L1: *smiles* Ohh!!! Then you wont be getting a call. How have your other interviews so far been?

Me: All decent barring Kozhikode.

L1: How has this interview been so far?

Me: Very jovial and interactive.

Both smile.

P1 takes over

P1: So I can see you have done a few courses that are taught at IIMs – Operations Research(OR), Advanced OR, Management of Inventory systems. Engineering Entrepreneurship. Can I ask you a few questions about that? Will you be comfortable? Do you remember?

Me: (give a smile) Yeah you can ask (Seriously hoping he doesn't because I don't remember one bit of any of the courses I did in the Industrial Engineering department)

P1: The reason is you have just 8 months of work ex. So that is why I want to ask acads.

Me: (Wow!!! Find a new get away from IEM subjects) Sir, you cannot discount the work ex. It is not like training or on the bench. I've been on the job from day one. And I have been working on live products and *blah blah*(explained)

P1: Ok tell me about your company and what you do.

Me: Make good use of the opportunity and talk about FICO scores and all

P1: Ok. How good are you with your course subjects. You have good grades in core.

Me: I am quite comfortable with acads on core subjects. :-)

P1: How do you measure the hardness or smoothness of a surface.

Me: Can't recall the instrument name. For hardness we use Mohs scale.

P1: Have you heard of Brennans number.

Me: Yes sir. That is used to measure the hardness/smoothness of surfaces.

P1: If I give you a surface and tell you to determine its surface profile what will you do?

Me: Had an experiment in college where we used a ruby head machine on a surface and then map surface profile etc etc

P1 looks at L1 and says done.

Both wish me luck.

IIM season complete. Nice relief. I knew I was through when the lady said "Lovely hand writing". Its good to have something you can be so sure of.

Interview experience of karthik000

PROFILE:

Date : 26-Mar-2009 2:00 PM

Location : Hotel Monarch Luxur, Bengaluru

Acads:

X : 91.4% TN Matriculation

XII : 96.4% TN Stateboard

Undergrad Major - 8.2 CGPA. College of Engineering, Guindy. Anna University

Work-Ex:

Oracle - 30 Months

CAT percentile

DI - 86.65

Quant - 89.26

Verbal - 97.74

Aggregate 97.67

Any other special thing about you: NCC Cadet for 3 Years. Award winner in Oracle.

GD: Panel 4 - One Old Prof. and a Young Prof.

Topic: If you want peace, you have to prepare for war.

Number of Ppl present : 7/10

Time: 2:00 PM

I wrote a decent essay.

Points in the Essay -

I had multiple viewpoints - Peace for a country would require preparation for War. All Nuclear countries want Peace. Japan. AK 47.

Peace for a society would mean waging a war against social ill practices, health hazards, cultural conflicts. AIDS campaign. Sex Education.

Peace for an Individual would mean, keeping oneself physically and mentally fit. Training in the gym, Yoga, meditation, hobbies.

Peace for an Economy would mean to have best fiscal practices. Having best Policies and Procedures

Peace for environment. Global Warming. Tsunami warning systems.

Brief Snapshot of Discussion:

For the majority of the time, the group was talking about warfare in the military sense. Indo-Pak. BJP. Congress. Two aggressors.

Cold war. Then cultural war, Sri Ram Sene. Economy. Elevation from poverty. We also discussed about war on oneself. It was a decent GD.

No summary was asked.

PI:

Panel Members Intro:[Same as the GD Panel]

One Old Prof (OP)

One Young Prof. (YP)

and Me (RK).

Questions:

I was waiting outside, when the guy who went in earlier came out and told me that I should go in after 30 seconds.

I went in after 30 Seconds and the first question stumped me.

YP : Do you like four letter words?

RK: Yes Sir.

YP : What about them?

RK: My blog spot. arc-a. Four letters. Love - Four letters. IIML - Four letters.

YP : Okay, describe yourself with 4 letter words.

RK: Dude.... Good.... LOVE... BEST.... TECH...SOFT...

YP : Okay.. describe yourself with 5 letter words..

RK: (I couldn't remember even a single 5 letter word. I remembered only friend, bro, cool... none of them were 5 letters)

-- Silence for 15 seconds --

OP: (Breaking the silence...)Its okay.. You must be exhausted.

RK: I'm sorry Sir.. I just can't recollect any words..

OP and **YP :** Its okay.

YP : okay.. Now tell us about yourself.. in as many words and letters as you want...(Smiles... Smiles all around..)

RK: <Standard answer>

YP : (Cutting me in between) Why have your grades decreased throughout your 4 years??

RK: Sir, we had relative grading, I was still in the top 15 of my class.

OP: But still your grade would've decreased in the top 15. From 1 to 15. (He was also telling something about only profs knowing how Grades work.)

RK: I accepted and told him about my NCC responsibilities.

YP : Okay.. what are the types of joins you can do using rows???

RK: (Rows?? Joins?? There are joins for tables only.. what are row joins???) Sorry Sir?

YP : If I give you two ropes how many different types can you join them?

RK: I remember a few joints.. Figure of eight knot, clove hitch, pulley knot..

YP : Fisherman's knot. Can you do it now? If I give you some rope?

RK: Sir I don't remember Sailor's knot right now.

YP : (Laughing..) If that is the learning.. why would you leave your acads for NCC?

RK: Sir.. The major work was in arranging the camps.

YP : Okay.. for tents, how will you nail the tent pegs? Straight or Slant?

RK: I know the pegs aren't hit straight, but dunno if they've a forward or backward slant.. I've never used tents.

YP : Why? Then where did you stay during the camps?

RK: We stayed in the officer barracks.

YP and OP: (Both laughing..) To travel from one room to another.. you need camps???

RK: No sir... it was a Technical camp. We had a two point camp. One in Vizag and other in Lonavla. We don't have firing license in our college so we had firing in Lonavla.

YP : What rifle did you use?

RK: We used .22 rifle Sir.

YP : .22 rifle?

RK: Yes sir.

YP : What did you do in Vizag?

RK: We visited the only decommissioned Indian Submarine.

YP : What is SONAR? What is it used for?

RK: Sound Navigation on ranging. It helps in navigation and detection of objects in the Sub's range?

YP : What is the Principle?

RK: Reflection of Sound from bodies. I'm not sure about the frequencies.

YP : How would you differentiate between a whale and submarine??

RK: Reflection from metal and reflection from a tissue body would be different.

YP : That's okay. Using Commonsense?

RK: Hmmm... Not able to think of anything Sir..

YP : How would a submarine move?

RK: Oh.. okay sir.. with the movement...

YP : A sub would move in a straight line, a whale would go zig zag. Unless its a drunk whale... (Laughs...)

OP: Joins.. unless its a dead whale.. (Laughs again...)

-- Pakoras and tea arrive --

OP: What're your roles and responsibilities?

RK: I started explaining what I'm working on. Localization of Oracle Apps.

OP: More questions on why it is needed?

RK: Explained.

OP: Oracle is a good company. Your salary seems to be lesser.

RK: No sir, I've mentioned my take home for that month. It doesn't include the ESPP and Variable pay.

OP: Okay. You must have monthly perks and stuff. Okay.

YP : He's from Chennai.

OP: Okay.. you are from Chennai. What is the problem that Chennai faces as a city?

RK: Water is the major problem Sir.

OP: Why is it so? It is a coastal region.. then what is the big deal? Water all around you?? Water water everywhere not a drop to drink??

RK: You can say so Sir. There are few desalination plants and Metro water has started Desalination plants as well. But the process is very costly. Not practical for mass use.

OP: You've heard about reverse osmosis? Explain it.

RK: I explained Osmosis and told them what reverse osmosis would be. Did as best as I could.

OP: How else could we solve the water issue?

RK: Kaveri water issue.

OP: Supreme court had suggested something on it..

RK: Supreme court judgement. Karnataka not obliging to SC order. A paper was also published. But no actions from either state resources.

OP: Then I guess, the only thing to do is, both Karnataka people and Tamil Nadu people should vote for the same govt. and then this issue would be resolved.

RK: Just smile and nod.

YP : What was the last book you read.

RK: The Goal. By Eliyahu M. Goldratt.

YP : What is throughput

RK: The output of an assembly line.

YP : Fair Enough.

YP : What other calls do you have?

RK: This is my only call Sir.

YP : All the best.

RK: Thank you Sir.

OP: All the best.

RK: Thank you Sir.

YP : Tell the next person to come in after 30 seconds.

RK: Okay sir.

MISC.

No Why MBA?

No Acads.

Very chilled interview. They were smiling throughout.

Interview experience of implex

Result : Not converted

Cat percentile : 99.97

There were 8 students in the list but two were absent.

Essay and GD:

We were given a topic to write an essay for 20 minutes and then 15 minutes more to discuss the same topic. The topic was " Beginning of a journey does not guarantee success"

I started my essay with "Well begun is half done" but what about the other half? Later followed on with examples of hare and tortoise, Edison, football cricket and all other. Added valuable points how we can turn a good or a bad start into success. Overall a very simple topic and I wrote a decent essay will give 8-9/10

GD was chilled out, I chipped in with valuable points like continuous evaluation is required .Redefining of goals, review of achievements etc, Gave examples again of Edison, football.. Only 6 people were there, all chilled out. I think we were finished in 12 mins and profs felt that we have nothing more to discuss and said that is fine.

Interview:

P1: Prof to my left, Prof. Sanjeev Kapoor

P2: Prof to my right, Prof Krishna Kumar (Not sure though)

M: me!

P1 came and called me in..

Pleasantries and P2 asked me to sir. Thank you etc.

P2: xxx, You have done electronics engineering from IIT Kanpur. You have done very well till +2, what happened there?

M: give my reasons.

Some discussion follows, both look convinced.

P2: Ok , tell me the recent developments in electronics engineering.

M: I speak about smaller and smaller chips, new semi conductors etc.

P2: But that is all electronics? tell me about electrical.

M: Sir, I am more focused towards electronics and communication, at IIT, we are taught all three and have to pick one or two for specialisation. Still in electrical, the nuclear deal can be said the latest development when concerning India. India is going to upgrade from 4000 MW to 20000 MW of nuclear power by 2020.

P2: Ok, have you heard about clean gas technology in power?

M: No sir!

P2: Ok fine. What do you read apart from electrical engineering?

M: Sir, I am a follower of football and read anything and everything about it. I am also into blogging.

P2: Good, football ok!

P2: Who is the current world champion?

M: Sir, Italy won the last world cup in 2006 and Spain is currently ranked 1 in FIFA rankings.

P2: When is the next World Cup.

M: 2010 in South Africa.

P2: Which is the most important position in football?

M: Sir, people think it is the central forward, but I believe it is the goalkeeper. I think his mistake can be very costly. One mistake of the goalkeeper can cost us a match. Attackers get numerous chances to score goals.

But, once a goalkeeper lets an easy one in, the whole team comes under pressure. He is the most important player on the pitch.

P2: Do you know Pele? What was special about him?

M: Sir, he is regarded as the best footballer ever. He had this amazing knack of cutting through defenders, but he was a team player, his goals were full of passes. One of his goals is very famous when from midfield he took the ball and the goal was scored after 13 passes.

P2: Good!

P2: Do you play football?

M: Yes sir, but had to quit.

P2: Oh, because of the operation?

M: Yeah sir!

P2: Ok

P2: What else do you read?

M: Sir, I am not that big a reader. But the last two books that I read are, Atlas Shrugged and Kite Runner.

P2: And? (he didn't hear kite runner properly)

M: Kite runner sir!

P2: Who is the author of atlas shrugged?

M: Ayn Rand

P2: What is so special about this book?

M: Sir, the imagination is very vivid. One can find any all kinds of emotions in this book. She has seen the world of today so early. Her imagination of reservations and fight between capitalism and socialism is very much what is happening and has happened.

P2: The book is very thick and has very small print (says to p1 and me). How much time it took you?

M: about one and a half month.

P2: Good! Have you heard of the book alchemist?

M: Yeah Sir, I have heard the name of the book, not read it.

P2: Do you know the name of author?

M: No sir!

P2: Thats fine.

P2: Suppose in your job it is necessary to bribe the customer to get business. What would you do?

M: Sir, I am not in favour of bribes. One should try other means.

P2: Suppose there is no other way. And your company, although doesn't encourage bribes but sees no wrong in it either and has funds allocated for it?

M: Sir, in that case, I will have no option. If the company can get no business, we are losing everything.

P2: Ok

P1 takes over

P1: Yeah, bribing is called facilitation fee. There is nothing wrong in it?

M: Sir, well it is not ethical but when you have no other options, you have to go for it.

P1: Right!

P1: Can you tell me the probability of you getting into IIM L?

M: Do you want a mathematical answer, or you want me to take a prediction?

P1: Give a mathematical answer.

M: Sir, for that I would need some stats and also .

P1: What do you need?

M: Number of seats and number of calls given .

P1: Assume 500 calls and 100 seats.

M: Sir, we would need to assume that there will be no absentees in the interviews and everyone who gets an admit joins.

P1: Ok, then.

M: Then probability of my selection is $\frac{499 \times 99}{500 \times 100}$ which will be $\frac{499!100!}{400! / 500!99!400!} = \frac{100}{500} = \frac{1}{5}$

P1: Suppose we have 50% reservations for girls?

M: We will need to reduce the number of girls candidates called from 500 and the calculations would change.

P1: Fine.

P1: So, you are from Bokaro Steel City, Tell me about your family?

M: Sir, My father works with Bokaro Steel Plant and my mother is a homemaker. My elder brother is a mechanical engineer working in Pune. My younger brother is studying mechanical engineer from NIT Jamshedpur.

P1: Oh all engineers. good very good.

M: Yes sir (smiles)

P1: The guy who left before you asked me to ask you a question. Should I ask you that?

M: Sure sir!

P1: What is the size of a football field?

M: Sir, it depends what kind of a match it is. For international matches it is 70-80 yards in width and 110-130 yards in length. For domestic matches , it can be different.

P1: It is meters?

M: No sir, yards.

P1: Good, why do you think he asked me to ask you this?

M: May be because I spoke about football in the GD.

P1: Good, how does this answer tell me that you are suitable for management?

M: Sir, this answers shows I am well informed about my hobby and follow it with passion. Thus, this shows that I will do justice to my management studies and will do the same in my work thereafter.

P1: How many interviews you have had? All over?

M: No sir, this is the fourth, I have IIM C left.

P1: Which calls you have?

M: A C I KL

P1: Which you don't have?

M: B and S.

P1: ahh, you have so many calls, you will convert one of them, and will get into management, very good chances.

M: Yes sir, I am very confident of converting at least two.

P1: Good, that was I asking tell me your probability of getting into IIM L.

M: Sir, I would give myself 70%.

P1: Why 70 and not 100?

M: Sir, 10% weightage is for work ex. and 5% for grad score. So, I am basically competing for just 85% and I have done reasonably well for 70%. So I said 70%.

P1: Fair enough!

Looks at P2.

P1 and **P2:** That will be all, Thank you.

M: Thank You sir!

All in all feel good, they never stressed me out. P2 laughed throughout the interview. P1 was also very cordial.

Interview experience of lucky2

PROFILE:

Acads:

X : 95.84

XII: 84.8

Undergrad Major - GPA/percentage - EEE from NITK, Surathkal - 78.78%

Work-Ex:

NIL/Sector - Number of Years

Electronics(DSP) - 2.5 yrs

CAT percentile:

DI :99.79

Quant :99.98

Verbal :99.87

Aggregate : 100

Any other special thing abt you:

NTSE awardee, some extra curriculars

ESSAY & GD:

Topic:Patience is a bitter plant but it bears a sweet fruit.

Time: 20 min for essay, 2 min to think(after essay). 20 mins to discuss

They asked us to submit the application form at the beginning(before essay).They told us when to start and stop. Also, this was made clear to us as soon as we entered. They allowed us to use rough sheet , but did not provide any.

The discussion was the best I have seen till now, both in terms of group behaviour and in terms of my contribution. Everybody was giving others a chance to speak. And we brought out a variety of examples.

PI:

(I was 4th - panel4)Panel Members Intro:2 middle aged Male profs (P1,P2) (they did not introduce themselves - not that I would have remembered their names)

Questions:

(the previous guy asked me to go in after 30 secs. I went and waited outside the room. They then called me in.)

P1: (asked me to hand over my certificates as soon as I entered)What does your name mean??

Me: (jackpot!!) Told - told them the meaning, and how it is got(told a bit of Sanskrit grammar here) - also told them the story behind my name - why I was named so.

P1: (smiling) Introduce yourself. You may mention both what is there and what is not there in this form.

Me: <told>(I can do this in my sleep now)

P1: You said SPICMACAY. Which artists did you invite?

Me: <mentioned a few>

P1: You said you are interested in Carnatic music. Why didn't you invite MS Subbalakshmi?

Me: Sir she is the best artiste.(Don't know what I said exactly here)

P1: So did she say she won't perform for SPICMACAY??

Me: No sir, SPICMACAY has an artistes list which is decided by the national panel. She was not on that panel, so we could not invite her.

P1: So your name means vishnu, and you are interested in carnatic music. So can you sing the Vishnu sahasranama for us?

Me: Sorry sir, I don't know that sir.

P1: Then what can you sing for us?

Me: I can sing a composition if you want.

P1: ok. sing 1-2 lines for us.

Me: <sang a couple of lines from my favourite composition. The start was a bit shaky, but a decent effort. After the first part there was a pause, I asked them if I should continue. They said not required. It's ok>

P1: So you are an electrical engineer from Surathkal - Which professors taught you??(He seemed to be from my college)

Me: <told>

P1: I have heard that fans have a capacitor. Why is that?

Me: <told. was able to give a good answer>

P2: What is the main business activities in that area??

Me: <told abt port , MRPL etc>

P2: Who owns MRPL?

Me: Don't know sir.

P2: Ok what other activity?

Me: Told about education, it being an education hub.

P2: Name a few well known management institutes.

Me: Mentioned about NITIE, Manipal.

P1: How observant are you? Very observant?

Me: Not very, only a bit.

P1: how many steps are there in the lighthouse at Surathkal?

Me: Don't know sir, not very sure.

P1: Have u climbed it?

Me: Yes sir, in my 1st year.

P1: Then take a guess.

Me: (thought for a few secs - did a rough estimate) 500-600 steps sir.
(they left it at that)

P2: The number of management institutes in India is increasing day by day. Is this good or bad?

Me: It is good only if they are maintaining high standards of quality. <talked abt too many ppl, too few seats.>

P2: So how can we ensure good quality?

Me: We already have some of the top institutes like IIT's and IIMs. The new institutes can take guidance from these in coming up with their curriculum etc etc.

P2: IITs and IIMs work because they are government funded. The private players are in there to make money. (He named a few of the private MBA institutes. Gave a small lecture here. But his voice was a bit feeble and I got only parts of what he said. So just kept nodding and smiling. At the end I said private institutes also should quit being money oriented and take up social responsibility)

P2: What should the govt do to maintain quality.

Me: They should set up boards that regulate these institutes. We have the AICTE for technical education, and it should be more stringent in its approach.

P2: AICTE is in charge of management education also.

me: Yes sir, but it should be more stringent in implementing the quality norms.

P1 Which was the last book u read?

Me: <mentioned Medici effect. he was still waiting, so I mentioned that I had read Wings of fire before that>

P1: What is that book about?

Me: <told>

P1: Why is it called "Medici" effect.

Me: <told abt the activities of the Medici family - who were a banking family in renaissance>.

P1: Are you sure it was a banking family? or was it a dynasty?

Me: I think banking family sir. That is what the book said about them.

P2: Have you heard of Machiavilli ?

Me: I think he was a famous painter sir.

P1: What!! painter??

Me: And also a philosopher sir.

<P2 told something about him - I didnt get what he said>

P1: Never mind. Its ok.

P1: Which other calls have u got?

Me: Told

P1: Which did you miss out?

Me: Shillong. I did not apply.

(both of them were slightly shocked by this)

P1: You did not apply!! where is shillong?

Me: Not sure sir, probably Assam.

P1: Good that u did not apply.

Me: Actually it is a pretty new institute sir. At NITK, there was a change in the system from our batch to the next - from marks to grading system, and the whole teaching methods changed. They were trying out new things, and I saw that there was some confusion and difficulties that the students faced. So I did not want to apply to a young institute.

P1: Ok . Fair enough. (seemed convinced) You may leave now.

(returned the documents and the photocopy)

MISC.

I might not remember the order correctly.

-- NOTE: most of the questions were based on what I said in my intro.

-- I think I might have missed out some questions.

the whole PI lasted ~12-15 mins .

IIM Lucknow - Year 2010

Interview experience of sk_nitjsr

PROFILE:

Acads

X -94.5%,ICSE,2000

XII-82.6%,CBSE,2002

Undergrad –B.Tech in Mech Engg from NIT Jamshedpur,2007,CGPA -8.89/10

Work-Ex:

S/w Sector-30 months

CAT (2009-10):

Aggregate: 96.54 (NC-OBC)

Extra academics : Decent extra curricular

Any other special thing about you: nothing special

Interview & Essay

Venue: Indi Smart Hotel,Kolkata

Date : March 23,2010

Essay :

Topic: Legalising doping in sports in modern times

Number of People present : 7 out of 9 (2 absent)

Time:15 min

Brief Snapshot of the attempt: one page was given to be written on both sides. I couldn't conclude well, ran out of time!

Time given : 15 min

Rate your preparation(0-5):3

Rate your performance(0-5):3

GD:

Time allotted was 15 min...but 2 guys were absent ..so cut down to 11 min...very organised GD...no fish market...everyone was allowed to speak..no summary/conclusion asked..GD on the same topic as the essay..

PI:

Panel Members Introduction : P1(jovial..around 45 yrs),P2 (old and serious looking)

S: me

Questions:

P1: so where do you work?

S: told

P1:your designation?

S: told

P1: promotion policy of your company? What designation are MBAs offered?

S: told

P1: so you are a mechanical engineer. What is the difference between a mini bus and large bus from engineering point of view?

S: told - power,cc(*Power*) etc. The panel was not so convinced.

P1: Difference between car and mini bus then.?

S: mumbled something, not convinced

(Meanwhile P2 going through my file)

P1: what happens to fuel economy when number of cylinders are increased?

S: told not sure.

P1: .whats the role of banks in nation building? (*thankfully changes topic*)

S: told

P2: will give you a word,add some adjectives to it Word is 'growth'.

S: sustainable,higher,inclusive.

P2: now tell me what are these, and how India will achieve this growths?

S: told, convinced.

P2: What is financial inclusion? What can be done for that?

S: explained well.

P2: what was your rank in your department in college?

S: told.

P1: Which technology you are working on?

S: PL/SQL(Oracle)

P1: What is data dictionary?

S: told.

P1: What happens if I drop a table and want to rollback.

S: told,"drop" is DDL - auto commit, no rollback is possible.

P1: How to manage the tables.. When many people are handling it. How to prevent unnecessary manipulations?

S: talked about DBA activities.user roles and privileges.

P1: If everyone is having privilege to do everything on tables, How to change the code to handle such things?

S: Talked about triggers which will be designed to take backup/view before any such action.

P2: Last yr Mr Chidambaram waved off the loans of the farmers.Was it justified ? or just a political gimmick.

S: Talked about the financial crisis world was facing. Monsoon too added to the woes. So a rational step with a bit to gain political mileage.

P1: What all calls?

S: IIM B,L,I,K.

P1: Nice talking to you.Thanks.

Rate your preparation(0-5):3.5

Rate your performance(0-5): 3.5

Any other relevant detail.

Interview was chilled and relax,enjoyed and no stress at any point of time.On an avg 15-20 min for interview.

No need to carry photocopies. Work experience people - last and first salary slips with joining letter will do.

VERDICT: Converted!

Interview experience of One_Stop_2_Hell

PROFILE:

Acads

X : 83.6%, WB Board

XII: 82.3%, WB Board

Undergrad : BE Mechanical, 82.4%, B.E.College, Shibpur, 2004 passout

Work-Ex: 66 months till date

NTPC 29 months, Thermax (present) 37 months

CAT (2009-10):

DI : 97.59

Quant : 96.95

Verbal : 87.36

Aggregate : 98.14

(category GEN)

Extra academics : University Medal for securing Highest Mark in Mechanical Engineering

Got certificate of Merit in NTPC

Any other special thing about you: nothing as such.

Interview & Essay

Venue: Indismart Hotel, Kolkata

Date : 23.03.09

Essay :

Topic: Essential services like water, electricity should not be privatized

Number of People present : 9 (2 absent)

Time: 15 mins

GD on the same topic immediately after essay was completed.

GD was quite decent. No fish market. Though my performance was not so good, chipped-in only 3 times with two decent points. Everyone spoke and no summary was asked to make. Overall ok.

My performance 4/10

PI:

I was the last in panel to be interviewed. Long wait was killing me. But had nice chit-chat with other fellows, that helped me in killing time. Thanks to Abhinav, Rajendra, Shouvik, Samson.

Panel Members Intro: One Jolly Fellow (say J), one serious but quite modest fellow (say S)

Questions:

Me: Good afternoon sir.

J : (nodded and asked to have seat). So you are from BEC, Shibpur ! You have two beautiful playground in your college- Lords and Oval !(these are name of the grounds. Don't get confused. God knows how on earth he came to know this!)

Me : Yes sir.

J: In which you used to play?

Me: Lords.

J : What's special about Lords? Why not Oval.

Me : Told something

J : BEC(*Bengal Engineering College, Shibpur*) has become full fledged university from deemed university.

What are the changes that followed?

Me: Told about better placements,numbers of faculties,better infrastructure,inclusion of Pure science departments etc..

J : What do you do exactly in Thermax?

Me: Told about my profile

J: Why did you leave NTPC?

Me: Told. about changing my domain of works. In NTPC, I was in Power Plant operation but didn't have any exposure on detailing/designing. In Thermax, I do detailing, knowing power plant's every aspect.blah blah (*explained*)

J nodded to S to take over.in between S was checking my certificates.

S: Should we stop all thermal power plants as these create pollution ?

Me: a long explanation, said it's not possible right now as growth will be hampered. Everything depends on electricity and coal is our major fuel. We can mitigate CO₂ and other GHG(*Green House Gases*) by taking CDM(*Clean Development Mechanism*) measures. Parallely we may give emphasis on renewable energy and many other things. (I'm a veteran of Power sector so it's too easy to explain a lot), seemed convinced.

S: What is carbon Credit?

Me: Told.

S: Elaborate more about carbon credit.

Me: Told about concept. CER(*Carbon Emission Rating*). Present value of Carbon credit. it's a measure of kyoto protocol. etc etc.

S: I've heard number of Tigers are coming down. What's the reason?

Me: Told about Poaching. Skins are much valuable. Sunderban Zone is a vulnerable zone as we share a common border with Bangladesh. it's very difficult to safeguard completely and also local fishermen sometimes kill Tigers to safeguard themselves.etc etc.

S: How can be it prevented ?

Me: Said about more strict security and vigilance. (I forgot to tell about mass awareness). not so convincing. but ok. I had many talks about sundarban.

Suddenly J took over and gave me a GEMSCLIP.

J: Is it a machine?

Me: Yes sir.

J : Why?

Me: It increases our comfort !

(Both were laughing)

Actually it has mechanical advantage more than one. so it's a machine

J: Prove me with help of a diagram...

Me; drawn. (hope it was ok.)

S: You didn't get through IITs and NITs. Don't you repent for that?

Me: Told something. like , I was from a remote village, didn't have any exposure of IIT prep blah blah (*explained*) regarding NITs. With my rank I could make a seat in various NITs. Explained BEC(*Bengal Engineering College*) was good enough and also recommended by seniors and family etc.

S: What does RBI do?

Me: told about monetary regulation. Tackling inflation etc with the help of various tools like CRR, Repo rate, reverse repo rate etc.

S: What is CRR?

Me: Told.

S: What is Repo rate?

Me: Told.

S: What is Reverse Repo rate

Me: Told.

S: How does CRR regulate market?

Me: Explained very well and they were convinced.

suddenly...

J: Tell me in two mins. Why MBA?

Me: Told.

J: what do you think who should hire you in IIML?

Me: Told about my wish of continuing with energy sector. Any small company with higher job responsibilities as power sector is booming and also told that I might take study leave also though it's not decided yet as thermax is also growing...blah blah (*explained*).

S: Why did u study about RBI? you are a mechanical engineer.

Me: I'm very much interested about stock market sir.

Both smiled and hinted interview is over.

S: Nice talking you...thank you.

Me: Thank you sir.

Any other relevant detail.: J was always smiling...S sometimes

Interview experience of amit.ryk

PROFILE:

Acads

X %,Board, year : 87.4

XII%, Board, year : 82.6

Undergraduate Stream(BA, BE etc) (Specialization , Percentage, Year, Institute) : BE(CSE), 74.7, BIT Mesra Ranchi

Work-Ex:

Sectors, Company - Number of months:

Software : 30 months

Oil & Gas Marketing: 14 months

CAT (2009-10):

DI : 91.85

Quant : 94.94

Verbal : 93.2

Aggregate : 96.91

(category if applicable) : General

Extra academics :

1. Teach India Volunteer
2. Rower
3. Quizzing
4. NSS secretary of my university
5. Badminton captain in my company
6. Debating and Extempores

Interview & Essay

Venue: Indismart Hotel, Kolkata

Date : 23.03.2010

Essay : Should essential services like electricity and water be privatised.

GD Topic: Same for Essay.

Number of People present: 6 out of 8.

Time: 15 + 10 minutes

Brief Snapshot of the attempt: The GD went very well and everybody got a chance to speak. A girl in my group started the discussion but afterwards I took the charge. Always talked to everyone in the group and also we all let each one to speak and make their points. I put forth a lot many points like

- a. need for quality of service.
- b. timeliness and effectiveness are also important these days.
- c. government should be an enabler as it is not the core competence of the govt.
- d. One guy told about private companies will only make money and no subsidy to poor. I told with this UID thing we can achieve that also even if a private company runs that service.
- e. also since govt has proved not so effective so we should try for some alternatives.
- f. the girl in the group said we can try out for a PPP.(Public Private partnerships)

Rate your preparation(0-5): 3.5

Rate your performance(0-5): 4.5

PI: (around 25 minutes)

Panel Members Intro: One lady (L) and one Gentleman (G)

Me (M)

Questions:

L: Introduce yourself.

M: Told my Ramkahani (*Explained*)

L: So you volunteer for teach India. What work you do as a Teach India volunteer?

M: Told about my project in the Red Light area in Kidderpore, Kolkata.

L: So you are a CSE grad. Tell me what is a compiler?

M: Gave the Aamir Khan's version of a compiler.

L: How does it work?

M: Said about the working of the compiler.

L: What is kernel in an Operating System?

M: Said.

L: Name few Operating Systems.

M: Said.

L: How is Unix different from Windows?

M: Bata diya. (*Explained*)

L: How is Unix different from Linux.

M: Yeh bhi bataya. (*Explained*)

L: Why is Linux named so?

M: Told the answer.

L: Two plus points and two negative points about Unix.

M: Yeh bhi bataya. (*Explained*)

L: So you have read Operation research. Tell me what is the purpose of OR?

M: Answered that.

L: Can you name any process or algorithm used in OR?

M: No madam this nothing is coming to my mind at this point.

L: Passed the baton to G. G sir you wanna ask something.

G: Hmm. You have in all 3.5 years of work experience right.

M: Yes sir.

G: Do you think you company is doing fine?

M: Yes sir.

G: That means your company is perfect and needs no improvement.

M: No sir it's not like that. Ways of betterment never stops.

G: Then tell me on what two fronts your company needs improvement. (Mine is an OMC Oil Marketing Company).

M: Sir I think there are two ways which can enhance my company's performance. And they are: First More leeway in terms of deciding the pricing of products and second Improvement in internal communication and flow of responsibilities.

G: do you think that the government should abolish subsidy on Petroleum products.

M: Yes sir but in a phased wise manner. Cited some examples from the Kirit Parikh committee that how we can remove the subsidy from petrol and that will impose an extra burden of just 50-80 rs on the users. And sir for products like kerosene the real needy can get it through UID Project of Nandan Nilkeni and the rest can be sold at market driven rates.

G: But tell me,, government takes heavy amount of taxes on petroleum products. Is it justifiable?

M: No sir. Apart from that there are many phases where government charges taxes, even for movement within states in some cases. But it provides subsidies. So why to charge at the first itself. Gradually it should lower down the tax rates on petroleum products.

G: Will the passing of full burden cause inflation.

M: May be in the short run but in due course of time it will balance out and things will move fine.

G: Tell me what is you take on Women's reservation bill.

M: Sir I think we need to improve the basics and then talk about this bill. As an example most of the girls in villages do not go to schools because of lack of toilets and things like this need to be improved first.

G: No M I didn't ask that. I asked whether this bill should be passed or not.

M: Yes sir but without any divisive criteria like quota within a quota.

G: Okay Okay. Turns to L.

L: Okay M thanks a lot.

M: Thank you madam.

M: Stood up and walked a few steps.

L: Ohh M please come.

M: Yes madam.

L: What others call do you have.

M: Madam Indore and MDI.

L: Okay that is great.

G & L : Thank you and please send the next guy after 1 minute.

M: Okay sir. Thank you madam.

Rate your preparation(0-5): 4

Rate your performance(0-5): 4.5

MISC.

Any other relevant detail : Both L and G were very cool.

Later I saw G's profile on IIM L's website ans she is a prof of OR there.

So guys at Indismart read a little bit of OR (Operation Research).

Interview experience of Rahul.nitjsr

PROFILE:

Acads:

X - 82%, CBSE, 2000

XII - 84%, CBSE, 2002

B. Tech, Civil Engg., 9.14 CGPA (out of 10), 2006, NIT Jamshedpur

Work-Ex:

IT Sector, TCS - 39 months

CAT (2009-10):

DI - 92%tile

Quant - 92%tile

Verbal - 99%tile

Aggregate - 98.6%tile

(General)

Extra academics: Nothing substantial

Venue: IIML Noida campus

Date : 26-Mar-2010

Essay & GD:

Topic: In India, should minorities be given the first right to resources?

Number of People present: 8

Time: 15 minutes for writing the essay and then 12 minutes for the GD.

Brief Snapshot of the attempt:

They collected our essay sheets after 15 minutes and the GD started. Everyone was given a rough sheet to jot down points.

Was a pretty cool GD. Everyone spoke well. Nobody summarized. Panel did not ask anybody to summarize either.

PI:

Panel Members Intro: Lady Prof (L), Gentleman Prof (G), Myself (M)

Questions:

G: So...where's your hometown? Is it Noida?

M: No sir....its Lucknow.

G: Where did you do your Xth and XIIth ?

M: Told them...(both were different places)

L: How come so many places?

M: Told them my father is in the army and gets transferred.

L: How many schools have you been to ?

M: Told...

L: Let me see you file (I passed on my file to her)

G: Why the switch from Civil to IT?

M: Funde diye.(Explained)

G: (smiling..to me and to L) I wonder what will happen to construction sector...everybody's going into IT

L: Asked me about the industrial training I did in college

M: Answered...

L: What are the different techniques in surveying?

M: (totally stumped...ye toh padhna hi bhool gaya tha!!) Tried but could not give a complete answer...confessed that I did not remember.

M: Asked me about extra curricular activities I had mentioned in the form.

G: So how do you design a structure?...asked the process..

M: Told him whatever I remembered.

G: How is earthquake resistant design done. Japan is earthquake prone country but how come they manage to build tall buildings?

M: Explained as best as I could.

G: Asked L if she had any other questions.

L: I'm done

M: Thanked them and came out

Both the panel members were cool and friendly. No panic attacks during the interview!!

Interview experience of anshuljain_iitd

PROFILE:

Acads

X %,Board - 86.4%

XII%, Board - 79%

Undergrad Stream(BA, BE etc) , Specialization, Percentage, Year, Institute -
Chemical engineering BTech from IIT, Delhi, cgpa 8.71 (2nd rank in department)

Work-Ex: 45 months as technical consultant to refineries and petrochemicals

Sectors, Company - Oil and gas

CAT (2009-10):

DI 99.53

Quant 92.75

Verbal 99.52

Aggregate 99.72

(category if applicable) general

Extra academics : 2nd ranker, won many merit awards at IIT-D

Any other special thing about you: 1 yr exp in usa, 5 months in philippines, six sigma certified, certified internal auditor

Interview & Essay

Venue: IIM L noida

Date : 26th march 2010

Essay : In India, minorities should have the first right to country's resources

Topic: same as essay topic

Number of People present: 10

Time: 15 min for essay and 15 min for GD.

Brief Snapshot of the attempt: wrote quite a decent essay, was quite updated with respect to minorities, satisfied ; had a more than decent GD.

Rate your preparation(0-5): 4 for GD and 0 for essay

Rate your performance(0-5): 4 for GD and 4 for essay

PI:

Panel Members Intro: **P1**(male professor), **P2**(lady professor), me

introductions:

professors were really friendly, I was extremely comfortable with them. I was smiling nearly all the time and at times laughing too at my stupid answers. I just loved the whole experience. They were constantly trying to trap me in my responses and to their annoyance, I was able to come out of it nearly every time and they probably realized after sometime that both they and me realize was going on and started smiling at every instance.

Me: good afternoon sir and madam

P1: good afternoon

P2: good afternoon, have a seat

Me: thanks

P2: give me your file

Me: handed over

P2: tell us about yourself briefly

Me: well rehearsed answer

P2: so you work in refining sector and have been to refineries

Me: yes madam
P2: tell us about your job responsibilities there?
Me: explained well
P1: asked what my parents do?
Me: told
P1: asked about crude oil
Me: told
P1: asked me economic analysis about petrol price
Me: got stumbled
P1: What are the various components?
Me: excise duty, import duty, state tax etc.
P1: who charge these taxes
Me: answered
P1: how many litres in a barrel
Me: 42 * 3.78
P1: why don't you have ready made answers to anything? why are you so tentative?
Me: explained that 1 barrel has 42 us gallons and each galon has 3.78 L
P1: again, giev me economic analysis
Me: again stumbled,
P1: tell me what part is tax out of Rs 50
Me: around rs 15 - 20
P1: as a chemical engineer you should have known that
Me: yes sir
P1: u talked about "sarva shiksha abhiyan" during GD. Whats that?
Me: explained. in b/w told objective is 100% enrollment
P1: only enrollment and both **P1** and **P2** grilled on that
Me: realized the trap in b/w and corrected myself. In b/w talked about mid day meal scheme
P1: who is called literate in india?
Me: those who have studied up to class XII.
P1: started laughing
Me: corrected my self, told up to 8th class and should be able to sign
P1: don't make guesses
P2: why mba?
Me: gave a structured explanation saying want to benefit society with my initiatives
P1: pounced on it, asked me about how will poor be affected
Me: satisfied him by giving a good explanation and told him what exactly I m looking for
P1: good
P1: discuss jatropha (related to my why mba answer)
Me: told used in bio-diesel
P1: impact on agriculture?
Me: explained
P1: then, what should be done
Me: I told him innovations have to me made. Gave an explanation related to why mba..was totally satisfied
P1: tell me about global warming
Me: explained
P1: which are major greenhouse gases?
Me: co2, water vapor, methane, CO...main is co2
P1: is co2 released from car exhaust?
Me: yes, discussed about sox (*Sulphur Oxide*) and nox (*Nitrous Oxide*) too
P1: satisfied.
P2: you have written six sigma, please tell about your role?
Me: explained about my various initiatives.
P2: what is six sigma?
Me: explained well
P1: what is its equation
Me: don't know sir, but based on normal distribution
P1: write equation for normal distribution

Me: don't remember sir

P1: asked about social problems that India is facing

Me: discussed about illiteracy is the root cause

P1: then Kerala should not have any problem

Me: counter argued and explained about unionism and strikes etc

P1: satisfied

P1: we are done

Me: sir I have a question

P1: started laughing

P1: then said ask

Me: asked about entrepreneurship cell in IIM L in a sophisticated manner

P1 and **P2:** replied in a nice manner

Rate your preparation (0-5): 3

Rate your performance (0-5): 3.5 - 4

MISC.

was smiling through out. Felt somewhat good.

Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode

Interview experiences during the admission seasons between 2005 and 2010

IIM Kozhikode - Year 2005

Interview experience of RAHUL ABRAHAM MAMMAN

GD:

I had my IIM K GD/PI on March 15th

Venue IIM K ...Time slot 11.30..Reached at 9 O clock ..met a lot of friends.. but they were waiting for their interviews.....we were chatting

My Group was a group of 6 .Either two didn't turn up or they got their dates changed..

The GD Was about West Vs East..with development we become more western....pretty vague..

we all spoke well..but whether the content was correct or not ..I have no idea

I had my PI first ..as I had asked for that ...since I had FMS the very next day ...

PI :

First question

Q:How did you improve profitability in your business ?

A:Three min talk

Q: How did you bring down inventory levels ?

A: Three min talk

Q: Your dad seems reasonably successful..he doesn't have an MBA right ? Why do you need one ?

A: That's true..I want to gain experience work for some time....get the whole feel and I would love to have a chain store group of my own..hence I feel an MBA would be helpful .

Q: What about acads ?Have you learned accounts ?

A: Yes sir

Q: What is a book of final entry ?

A: Explained

Q: Name some books

A: Mentioned only cash book at first..when asked again mention sales book

Q: Again some question was asked..which I dint understand ?

A: I said Balance sheet ..apparently that was wrong..didn't want to bug him and ask again what the question was

Now checking my mark-lists asks...so you have learned biz statistics in 1st year...I start smiling ..the smile you give..when you think ohh god ..I am dead.....Both the professors also smiled.....

Q: What is median ?

A: Explain

Q: What is standard deviation ?

A: Again explain about it

Q: What is it used in ?

A: I mention six sigma ...stuff like that .quality control everything that I could think of .

Q: Next the lady takes over from there....So which course in Economics have you done in B.Com

A: I haven't done anything of economics .

Q: But you must have done something ?

A: I said Principles of Business Decisions was quite close to Eco....with costing et al

Q: OK what is Marginal cost ?

A: Explained what the marginal cost is .

Q: What is break even ?

A: The point where cost is equal to earnings

Q: What is margin of safety ?

A: Answered again

Q: What is Contributionhow it is calculated

A: I forgot at that moment ..I knew it ..but forgot at that moment ..I told that to them though

Q: What is Marginal Cost used for ?

A: I talk about it..even bring in exports

Q: What is dumping ?

A: ..It's selling at a price lower than the Indian Market or domestic market .

Q: What is Price Discrimination ?

A: Answered again

Q: What is the difference between Price discrimination and dumping ?

A: I said about the illegal part..I said that's all that I know about it

Q: What else do you do besides studies and the business part ?

A: I mention reading and coins .

Q: What is the oldest coin u have seen ?

A: I talk about the silver coins of the Roman civilisation

Q: How did you get into coins ?

A: Explain first through getting foreign coins in the change we got at the shop .. then through friends..now there is a society

Q: What does the society do in promoting coin collection ?

A: They hold auctions ...seminars and also meeting point

Q: ok what other calls do you have ?

A: All other IIM calls

Q: What is your percentile ?

A: 99.87

Q: Did you go for coaching

A: I was good at DI an English..but Maths I needed some help hence I did go for coaching

Q: Where did u go ?

A: I went to IMS Cochin for coaching

Thank you ..you may leave

Though I didn't answer two questions or so..I think I have done well.. but only time will tell.

Interview experience of cacophonix

Continuing the interview summary series here is the third and the last of mine.

Profile :

IITD 2002, Elect

CAT %tile

OA 99.30

DI - 99.22

QA - 99.11

VA - 89.09

Venue : IMI, N.Delhi

Time : 11:30

GD Topic :

It was a three page long topic, the essence was Globalization is leading to trade being spreading across not culture.

I made a 2-3 points .. overall was very satisfied with my GD performance.

Interview:

2 panelist - P1 and P2

MD: Good Afternoon Sirs.

P1: Afternoon Manish, please have a seat.

P1: Manish, can you give us your file?(hand over)

P1: Manish, you have switched 3 jobs in 2 years, any particular reason for that ?

MD: (this has to come everywhere..) Blab blab...

P1: Okay fair enough, so tell me about your work at XXX ...

MD: Told them about project planning, execution, quality assurance etc etc ..

P1: No no tell me how do you go about doing it..

MD: Explained...

P1: So, you have been with XXX with 6 months, you must have finished at least one project by now..

MD: (Smile) - Sir I have finished 5 projects with XXX

P1: (smiles...) - So tell me, there is an opportunity cost involved with doing MBA, losing two years of salary, plus paying tuition fees and you will be getting older...

MD: (laughs) - Sir, it will happen at job as well, I am not in a timeless zone you see... said flows from long term goals... opportunity cost will increase only..

P1: Okay so after working for 2 years, how do you think you performed better than others in group discussion ?

MD: (did I ?? expression) - Talked of personal perspective being added...

P2: When did you go to Germany ?

MD: I went there in 2001 on my summer internship and then again in 2002 for six months.

(On this point they exchanged the file and form)

P2: (Looks at my photograph.. surprised) - When did you get this photograph taken.. ?

MD: (OMG) - Sir it was in September 2004, I have been losing my hair very fast, but I am happy I am looking more mature... (all laugh)

P2: And do you still write poetry?

MD: Yes sir I do, infact I have recently written a poem on Tsunami Victims titled "Haardik Badhaai"

P2: Haardik Badhaai, isn't it a strange title for a tragedy ..

MD: Yes sir, I wrote it for people celebrating New Year Eve, where in the country was struggling against such a tragedy.. I conveyed that even if they can celebrate in such an atmosphere then my best wishes to them...

P2: You are very sensitive ..

MD: Sir, I think more than being sensitive I am very rational.

P1: Okay Manish, you have done Psychological Basis of Behavior", Did u like that course ?

MD: Yes sir, I did... talked of intuitive learning, experimental learning...

(talk shifted to Freud and his theories.. well handled)

P1: Macro Economics ?

MD: Sir.

P1: What did u learn from it?

MD: Law of demand, supply, National income accounting, macro economic problems such as unemployment, inflation... how can govt make polities to control them...

P1: So how do we calculate national income....?

MD: Talk of GDP and GNP... etc

P1: Difference between the two ..

MD: explain ..

P1: What is taken for per capita income - GPD or GNP .. ?

MD: (bowed here) - Sir I believe none.. it is NNP or NI ...!!

P1: Hmm.. what is that ?

MD: Explain that we need to subtract taxes etc.. add savings..

P1: Okay so for state per capita income ... what would you use GDP or GNP between the two ?

MD: GDP, No statehood to any citizen..

P1: Something more... what if that is possible to do .. ?

MD: For all our calculation the point of transaction can only be used... so GDP ... (I think it didn't satisfy him...)

P2: On what factors does transmission losses depend on ?

MD: Length of wire, area of cross-section and material as these will decide the resistance, and voltage as it is inversely proportional to current..

P2: So what is the voltage in high tension wires ?

MD: 22KV, 44KV and 132KV

P2: What would it be for a line from NTPC to BHEL ?

MD: High tension or industrial supply ?

P2: No high tension...

MD: around 100KV

P2: and what is the material of wire ?

MD: alloy of Aluminum.. copper in the middle..

P2: Why so ?

MD: for the strength ...

P2: But that will increase the resistance..

MD: No sir, as the current flows only of the surface of the conductor, no electric field inside a conductor...

P1: Manish, are you still associated with Janam (jan natya manch)

MD: No sir, don't get time from Job and was busy preparing for CAT ...

P2: How many calls do you have..

MD: From IIM A and IIM I

P2: How was IIM A ?

MD: Not good sir, I think I didn't do justice to my potential.. .

P2: Thanks a lot Manish.

MD: Sir may I take my file... .(ends....)

That was it friends... finally its all over.

Interview experience of Eccentric

Profile :

B.Tech : IIT KGP 02

Work Ex. 2.5 yrs

CAT % 99.77

It seemed that 3 people out of total 24 didn't turn up making it 21, my name was first on the list.. But somehow, thanks to intelligent profs, panel 2 and panel 3 were formed prior to panel 1 each with 8 people leaving us only 5.

A vague topic about the cyberspace and effect on junta..dual identity/egos'... very nice GD everybody was speaking comfortable and after about 10 min (everybody had spoken twice good points) they asked us to stop. Just about in 5 min a fellow came out and asked me in.. I was the first one to go in for interview, expected a stress and very small one say 10 min, only 2 panelist were there A,B

A: Welcome Mr Kumar.. come have a seat.

B: Didn't you expect to be called this soon?

Me: yea but this is fine.. I am comfortable..

A: Which engineering..??

M: Manufacturing/Mech?

A: Then how come in software your knowledge is wasted..!

M: No sir..engineering sets a logical thinking pattern bla ..bla..

A: Ok no doubt you befitted.. but there is no connection in manufacturing and software. why you did manufacturing ?

M: No choice bla..bla..

A: So ended up by default into your job too..??

M: No I changed to job of my choice last year..

A: And you are here by default..??

M: No sir this is conscious decision by choice..

A: Why MBA?

M: funda...business processes/finance/risk management.

A: But MS might be better for you...

M: More funda .. behavior aspects..

A: You know which behavior courses we offer..??

M: I told 3-4.. he was looking like he expected a dozen more..

A: But to me it seems like you might not be suitable for MBA??

M: (trump card) Why do you think so ?? what do you expect??

A: Told me in 1-2 minutes about a corporate manger with a stable mind he wanted his students to be..

M: Maybe I might not be exactly what you are saying but I would be ... told something about my long term goal..

A: Why don't you apply for a Phd(now how MS changed to Phd)??

M: Some more gyan..

B: Ok Ok if you don't wanna take good advise fine..asked about the project/responsibilities..

M: Explained ok types..

B: Asked about project in previous company Automotive Research association of india..??

M: Explained him in detail.

There was a bit of argument about crash test worthiness or Mercedes and maruti/alto etc..

B(his trump card): Ok Atul this stuff is getting boring.. I give you 10 min to make myself interested in you??

M:(puzzled??)what??

B: Try selling me something new?

M: Ok I told him I will make you familiar with NIMS puzzles..I need 10 min.. started with first puzzles and asked him his strategy what he step would he take... he played along for couple of min then he said.. its fine..

A: (he was going through all my subjects all this time..) Somehow he spotted a marketing management.. what do you know about it ?

M: Sir that was way back 4 yrs ..nothing...

A: Are you a mangement aspirant ?tell me something..

M: ok there used to be 4 Ps of market Price,Product and Place..gave some little gyan about these 3 and 4th I don't recall..

A: (smiling) Anything else

M: Yes there was a topic for market differentiation .. on demography..age sex..income etc..

A: What is that called?

M: Perhaps market segmentation

A: Somewhat satisfied ..ok you may leave..

M: thanks...

So overall that seems to be nice to me... I think they were cool.. it lasted for more than 20 min.. and all question were leading.. except his picking of marketing management!

Interview experience of srinal2000

Hi guys,

Had my K interview @ LIBA, chennai on the 27th at 9:00 AM.

Profile :

Xth - 76.6

XIIth - 86.2

BE (ECE) - 76.9

Work Ex - 29 months in RIC.

- Panelists : Prof Saji and Prof Sarkar (I know for sure Prof Saji, checked up in the website, and I assume the other mild and soft spoken prof to be Sarkar ji...he was bespectacled and lean)

GD Topic:

"If you believe only you should do everything either because You don't trust anyone Or because you are the most qualified one, then:

(i) you will always be busy

(ii) You will be unhappy with others because they are not doing what you want? "

Nice and pleasant GD. Absolutely well behaved junta.....me contributed some nice points alluding to an Ideal Team situation.....the best part was that every other member while talking chose to look at me. Now that's the biggest advantage of occupying the centre chair

Now to the interview or something like it.....

Ji = Prof Saji and K = Prof Sarkar, S - Srini the me.

Me wishes them, hands over certificates to K and takes the "electric" chair.

Ji : You are among the privileged few who go on to have a career in the same field as they had studied in their BE. I have gone through your profile...you would have earned a lot more had you gone over to IT. (I had done a GNIIT course and had mentioned Freelance s/w coding as my hobby)

S: (pleasant smile on). I actually do have a great interest in IT and that's probably why I didn't take a job in that sector. I believe the structure and the "professional" style of coding there would kill all the interest I have in that field. That's why i do freelance coding. I am in touch with that sector always.

K meanwhile was scanning my certificates rather meticulously....he actually did it for more than 9 minutes.

Ji: Then what if you go on to a management career and realize that it actually kills your interest in management. (Now that's an outstanding question)

S: Oh no sir, I know precisely what to expect. Right from a young age.....I have been exposed to management. I have worked in my dad's company, he owns an FMCG marketing enterprise.

Ji: Define FMCG. (Now talk about leading an interview)

S: Fast moving consumer goods.

Ji: What are the products that you will classify as FMCG?

S: Sir, it is an all encompassing term. Generally these are the goods that fall under that category.....and gave him some examples

K: Would you classify Stock Market Shares as FMCG?

S: No

Ji: Would you classify Rice as FMCG?

S: No (Amazingly they didn't go on to ask me why.....actually branded rice can be categorized as FMCG)

Ji: Ok. What do you know about Shannon??

S: Have heard of the name....you are talking about the Shannon code aren't you sir (ji nods).....can't remember his works.

Ji: Ok. Is your network a proper cellular network?

S: Strictly speaking no.

Ji: What???? Then what is a cellular network?

S: Defines it for him. And when ji insisted to be extra precise....tells him that strictly speaking TDMA networks can be classified as cellular networks. Ours is a CDMA network and the technology can not be classified as a cellular network strictly. (this is a debatable argument.....problem is when the word cellular network was coined...there were no CDMA networks available.....it was actually for analog communication systems..not even for today's digital system.....but today all AMPS systems can be classified as cellular networks.. However ji did not press me for explanation)

Ji: Ok. Explain the CDMA technology for me...how is it different?

S: I went on to define it and explained the pseudo-random sequence involved.

Ji: Stop. What is a pseudo-random no?

S: (Me after few seconds of hmmm...In our case, we use a specific algorithm to generate these random no's so that we can code and decode in sync.

Ji: No no....in general what is a pseudo-random no and how is it different from a random no?

S: Oh, you want me to explain the significance of the word pseudo(ji nods). No sir, I cannot put my finger on the exact difference.(stumped for sure)

Ji: Ok. What will the probability distribution of a pseudo random no be like. Throws a pen and paper fwd.

S: Strictly speaking. It will be a straight line (without even making an effort to draw)

Ji: Ok. Draw me the poisson probability distribution.

S: Sorry sir...I am weak in probability.

Ji: (Laughs)....so you are weak in Maths.

S: No sir. me is strong in quants and general maths. Probability is perhaps the only area i am weak in.

Ji: Ok. What is a complex no?

S: Defined it for him. (ji asks me more info on the imaginary no) I defined the imaginary no in mathematically terms.

Ji: Tell me the physical significance of the imaginary no. What does it represent?

S: Well sir, I can use it to represent the phase of either V or I. For eg. let's take an Ideal Inductor.....voltage leads current by 90 deg and I use this imaginary no to represent that phase difference.

Ji: Ok. Ok. Have you heard of this VAT?

S: Yes sir. Goes on to define it for him.

Ji: Why is it that the traders are protesting it??

S: I seriously don't understand why sir.

K: (presently looks up) What value does a trader add??

S: Well sir, for each product there are lots of brands. By stocking up only few brands and ensuring its sale by projecting it to the customer, a trader adds value to that product.

Ji: What about a super-market? He doesn't project it to the customer?

S: The same reason applies. He is not going to stock up a poor brand.

K: (with an ever-pleasant smile on) What about stock brokers? They get you the stock that you want him to purchase. Surely he doesn't add value!!!

S: (slowly it dawns as to what exactly they are looking for) Sir, he is a part of the chain that sees goods produced by the manufacturer being sold to the ultimate consumer. Without him the chain is no good.

Ji: Ok. (whew!!) How do you quantify the value he adds?

S: I would do that by the margin he earns.

Ji: Ok. Looks to K.

K: (By now he has completely finished going through my certificates). Ok. Explain how this r-world application works. What technology are u using presently?

S: Goes on to tell him briefly. CDMA-2000 1x is the exact platform we are using for this data app sir.

K: Can I have live video/ data on my r-world app??

S: Presently no sir. CDMA - 2000 1x EV-DO is the platform that would enable that. Presently we have not yet upgraded our network to that tech.

Ji: Ok. You have mentioned Freelance software coding.....what are the projects you have done on it?

S: Went on to tell him my works...and concluded by saying that my present area of interest is the BREW platform.

Ji: Ok. Ok. Any questions for us.

S: How can I customise the course?

Ji: Well you can take up to a maximum of 3 majors.....it's all credits based. You can do a major in IT.....it will cover Telecom as well.

S: How dynamic is the course content? How often do you update?

Ji: We do it once in 6 months or 1 year usually. It is need based. This year we will be taking off some courses, and there will be some new courses.

S: Why is there no course content mentioned for the Operations major on the website?

Ji: It is very much there.(I didn't know that he was a professor tutoring in this major).

S: How much of the material is available online sir?

Ji: Rather surprised.....we have our intranet portal. Most of the material is available online.

S: That's it sir. Thanks for your time.

Ji and K: All the best. Just call in the next guy, huh.

Me smiles and makes a quick exit.

Honestly I didn't know what to make of my interview. No standard questions. And no specific grilling. Today as I checked up Ji's profile, I know he is someone in IT. That he didn't ask me questions in that field given my interest, puzzles me.

Had anyone asked me what's my probability of cracking the interview... I would have asked him to look who's right behind him.....and would have given him a roberto carlos style freekick.

Overall, my heart says I have a chance.....my brain asks me "tell me how" and at the end of the day.....I am a pagalguy

To all those who have their interview pending..

Interview experience of NewView

Had my GD-PI at Chennai - 9.00 am on 26th feb....

I reached the venue at about 8.20 am. Couldn't meet any PGites(Members of Pagalguy.com)... though I think there should have been some of them (Pardeep was there -). Our names were called and we were taken to 3 different classes - all the groups had the same GD topic. Each group has 7-8 members.

Profile:

10th - 87.0 %

12th - 92.7 %

B.Tech - IIT-M (Mechanical)

CGPA - 8.25

Work Ex. - NIL (Fresher)

CAT - 99.62 %

GD :

The arrangement was predetermined and we were guided to our seats. It was a semi-circular arrangement.

Topic:

NGOs do a lot of work and help the society. But these days, running an NGO has become a lucrative business and has ceased to be a completely social venture.

The GD was quite peaceful. Everyone got a chance to air his views, no airtime hogging. There was one guy whose voice was very soft. Even he got considerable airtime. No female all the 3 groups (about 21-22 males).

We were given 2 mins to think and 10 to discuss. I must accept that the discussion was shallow, with everyone coming up with only examples of NGOs and their work.

No summary was required.

Interview:

I was the last one to be interviewed. Had to wait for about an hour and a half. From the feedback that I got from those who had their interview before me, they were varying the type of questions - one guy had a complete acads based interview, other had a pure HR interview... so I think they didn't want people coming in later to have any sort of advantage.

Panel of 2. The moderators were the interviewers. One of them came into the waiting room and called out my name and accompanied me to the interview room.

two profs - A and B

Me - V

A: Sit. Your eye is Red..

V: Infection sir.

A: Why did you not wear glasses then?

V: Caught it Day before sir. Have been to an ophthalmologist.

A; Ok.

B: so you are from IIT eh? Give me your file.

A: You have been placed in X- such a good company with good salary... why not join it. Why go for an MBA?

V: blah... blah...

A: (dismissive) You mean to say that you can't learn about management in X. That these people don't know management?

V: blah..blah..

A: (again dismissive) You are interested in management, you are a mechanical engineer and you want to join X which is a software company.... You are contradicting yourself!!

V: No sir. You have got a wrong idea about what I said. I meant ...blah...blah...I wish to learn about ERP if I ever join X.

A: Ok.. you have your own logic which I am not satisfied with... and you don't seem to listen to good advice...anyway...What do you understand by ERP?

V: blah..blah...

A: what is MRP?

V: blah...blah....

A: They both sound the same ... what is the difference?

V: (so do they to me) tried to explain ...though unconvincing...

A: Ok Leave it... You must have heard of SCM... what is it?

V: Supply chain management.... blah...blah...

A: What is the difference between SCM and ERP?

V: (caught on the wrong foot) again tried to make up something...didn't work..he seemed very unconvinced...

B: Oh! you had taken Statistics and probability...

V: (Didn't expect that they would go into my maths courses - saved them for IIM-C interview)yes sir..

B: what is a probability distribution?

V: blah..blah..

B: Can you give me an example?

V: Normal distribution.

B: Take this paper and write the equation.

V: Wrote

B: What sort of distribution is this?

V: Continuous.

B: Good. Give me a discrete distribution.

V: Do not recollect ,sir.

B: Give me another continuous distribution..

V: Binomial, geometric.

A,B start laughing aloud.

I realise that they are discrete. My biggest faux pas...

V: Sir they are discrete...

A: and what about normal... discrete or continuous?

V: continuous.

A: Ok, you can go.

B: wait .. You have taken special functions and partial differential equations...I have asked this question to several IITians and none have answered it so far...let me see you answer... give me a special function.

V: Gamma function but I don't recollect the equation sir.:huh:

B: (guess he didn't listen to me) good. write the equation of the gamma function.

V: I do not recollect sir. But I vaguely remember that it involved integration of e to the power something.

A: Can you relate it to normal distribution?

V: (Do you suffer from an auditory malfunction?) I don't know sir.

A: Ok you can go.

B: Wait! What did you do in computer simulation? (last semester course in Industrial engineering minor)

V: (I didn't attend the classes as the prof doesn't take attendance)Give him some globe about being introduced to C language(should have been GPSS) and then about Genetic algorithms.

A: Directly to GA??I don't get it??

V: (so what can I do?) Sir, this is a course in the minor stream - Industrial Engineering.

A: Ok tell me what is a GA?

V: Some gyan...

A: You have got some idea but that is not complete...anyway you may go now.

V: I get up

B: What other calls have you got? all six?

V: No sir...only A,C and L

B: Best of luck for the others...(laughs)

That's it folks. I had prepared for OR thoroughly and mentioned it twice in the interview, but I guess they made out that I was prepared for OR. So not a single question on OR. :sad:

I guess that was not the best of the lot... So, next up IIMA!! Here I come!!

Learnings:

1. Do not expect anything. go with an open mind.
2. Prepare all your undergrad subjects well. They can ask on any subject. Especially those in the first two years. Stress on Operations and Mathematics.
3. In GD, don't get into any argument with anyone - happened in our GD. Two guys got into an argument. Just let people say what they want. The moderators will decide whether it is relevant or not.

IIM Kozhikode - Year 2006

Interview experience of shrutz

Thoughts, Musing and Random Factoids You NEVER Wanted to Know About My IIM-K GD/PI Process!

Okay, so here she was. Shrutz in the Big Institute. I plonked my bags into a room on the IIMB campus a day early and went around asking seniors for information on filling the forms! (Small aside here: You can get LOST in the campus. But it's really pretty. I can live without the cardigan/jacket, but the semi-lukewarm-water masquerading as hot water was too cold for me to take... literally!) I was put up in a really pretty hostel room from where I could look at the peaceful vistas of... construction work. Yeah, looks like many more seats up for grabs this year But, yeah, the setting is really idyllic. Unfortunately, I got lost along the whole executive block-CC-administration maze a couple of times. I am still not entirely sure where I had my GD and PI!

PS: Looks like there's a nice Cafe Coffee Day outlet *somewhere* on the campus!

D-Day dawned as bright as a new penny.

My GD/PI process started at 2 PM. I was escorted there (no, not shouting and screaming!) by a friendly senior, who also helped in the nervousness department. ("Don't be.") After being mistaken for a PGP student by another of the prospective K-students ("Where's the K interview taking place?"), I plonked myself on the nearest seat (which was a huge cement block) near the interview rooms.

First impression: There were close to 30 people! Wall-to-wall. People looking nervous, checking the certificates, yapping away, verifying their certificates. And there I was, unusually quiet. (Poor me.. shocked) After verification was done, I finally met a PG user! Yeah, Shekhar, that's you. We spent the next 5 minutes exchanging information (aka gossiping!)

At 2 sharp, a very sharp gentleman escorted the 10 of us Noumea-acquainted souls into Panel#3 and arranged us along a table. Yours truly was #3. Our panel was blessed in that there were three of the fairer sex. Yeah, I am sure the guys must have been so happy. (yeah, right!)

We were handed small slips of papers and asked to read through the passage and make points (if we liked) for 3 minutes.

I looked down.

10 lines.

10 lines that made sense only after I shook my head a few times.

"Modernity is an ambiguous word. It depends on societies. *yada yada* The present was its flower"

I shook my head again!

Squinted.

Thoughts of CAT VA came floating back into my mind, unbidden....

I pushed the treacherous doubts back and stared at modernity again, and decided to do what I usually do for GDs.

Fly on the moment...

Suddenly, "You may start"

Dead silence for 2 seconds while everyone looked at each other, wondering who the unfortunate neck on the chopping block would be.

"Ahem, friends, today the passage that has been given..." yeah that was me.

Yay! I started.. Uhm, So WHAT?

After 7-8 minutes of people talking in a very rational and peaceful manner, the moderators had enough.

("Where's the blood? the gore? the vehemence? Some good points, maybe?")

All in all, quite a peaceful GD, though I disagreed with one lady who said "the most peaceful GD I have attended." Makes me ask "How ARE the GDs in Hyderabad?!"

Not too many points were brought up. I wasn't too happy with my performance. I just tried to stay out of trouble and kept a low profile throughout, came into the GD only thrice.

Since you people have gotten this far into the experience, let's move on to the PI. (yeah, lucky you!)

Venue: Panel Number 3

Interviewers: Two extremely cordial and chill gentlemen (who even opened the door for me! Seriously!). P1 and P2, say?

Setting: Fluorescent lights and very chatty, informal atmosphere.

P1 takes the file from me and starts looking through it. P2 is reading my form (oh NO!)

P2: "You have mentioned here that you are from Army background and were inspired by your mother's entrepreneurship. Could you explain?"

Me: "Yes sir! My father's an Army officer. My mom has a petrol bunk..."

P1: (interrupting) "She owns it?"

Me: "Yes sir."

P2: "Where in Trivandrum?"

Me: "... (No, not giving it to you!)"

P2: (Ascertaining actual location...)

Me: (confirms)

P2: "Okay, let's hear something about you."

Me: "I am Shruti George, doing my eighth semester *yada yada* hobbies *blah blah* I believe in giving 110%."

P2: "Why not 120?"

Me: (Huh?) "Sir, it can as well be anything higher than 100. (so cliched!) Just a number!"

Me: "I am okay at academics."

P2: (looks down at file) "You call THIS okay at academics?"

Me: "You can always strive to be better!"

P1: "Are you the topper?"

Me: "No sir, top 10% in class!"

P2: "Okay, you've said being the placement coordinator was a cathartic experience. Explain"

Me: (launching into long winded explanation)

P2: (after hearing everything.) "Yes, I understand. but why?"

Me: (confused) "well, sir..." *Another story*

P2: "What does cathartic mean?"

Me: "Life-changing"

P2: "Not exactly."

Me: "Sir, I will check it up!"

P2: "Do that!"

Edit: It's more to do with ONE moment that is life-changing. *Sigh* I had an answer to that too. Ought to have used it : (

P1: (closing the file) "So, Miss. George. You said you play the violin."

Me: "Yes sir."

P2: "Name a famous Malaya-lee violinist."

Me: "Err." (Yeah! I ought to have seen that coming.)
After some painful exchanges....

P2: "Look that up too. So, can I ask you ANYTHING about your hobby?"

Me: (realization ALWAYS dawns late) "err, sir, I actually learned the WESTERN violin."

P2: "Oh, yes! So what's the difference?"

Me: "Some talk on chin rest, tuning, musical notations etc"

P2: "Are you a novice or are you good?"

Me: "I am quite okay. Gave three grades of ABRSM."

P2: "VSM?"

Me: "Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music"

P2: (nods his head and looks at P1)

P1: "So, Miss. George, what about your schooling?"

Me: "I had a semi-Army schooling."

P2: "Semi?"

Me: "Unlike most Kendriya Vidyalayas, our school had more Malaya-lees."

P1: "Miss George, Malaya-lees can be in the Armed Forces too."

Me: (hopefully, without missing a beat) "Yes sir, but my classmates were settled in Kerala for 12 years and were mostly bank officers' kids. This was peculiar to my school."

P2: "Pattom?"

Me: "Yes sir. The school was marvelous!"

P1: "You're from Kerala. Whom do you think will come into power?"

Me: "Sir, it's obvious it will be the Opposition. It's the pattern"

P1: "Why?"

Me: "Sir, Malaya-lees are very politically aware. Added to the anti-incumbency factor and the view that the government has done nothing to address the problems of the common man. The deficit is huge and the Treasury is in shambles."

P1: "That's been a problem for ages"

Me: "Yes sir. For a long time."

P1: "Do you think there's something wrong?" (Scribbling marks down)

Me: "It's easy enough to be in our positions and say 'This is wrong' I think the government, like so many others, got caught in the same old."

Talk about IT-tourism and BMW-cum-hartal, trade-unionism

P1: "What do you intend to take up as a specialization?"

Me: "Sir, either Finance or Marketing."

P1: "Both are very different"

Me: "Sir, I intend to see at the end of the year what I am really good at!"

P1: "What makes you think you will make a good manager?"

Me: "Sir, I am very enthusiastic"

P1: "Just that?"

Me: (correcting self) "Since I have been young, I have been at the forefront of most activities *self glorification*"

P1: (nods head and smiles)

P2: "I have a final question. You talked about trade unionism. Did you ever have to face it in the business?"

Me: "Yes sir. Once" (long story)

P1 and

P2: Thank you.

I almost ran out....

PI was really chill. No academics. Awesome panel.

I had the longest interview, ALL of FOURTEEN minutes!!!

Think I did okay. Let's see!!

All the best, to all!

Interview experience of brijesh8421

I had my GD/PI for IIM K on 13th Feb 2'o clock. My panel was Panel 2 (Prof Saji Gopinath and Prof Jayevelu -checked from IIM K site)

GD topic was something regarding modernization ,contributed some 4-5 points.

Interview was very good. Cannot consider an interview as no work experience (I am having 4.5 years work experience) related or academics related question were asked.

1. First question was to explain the meaning of my fathers name

Ans. Explained

2. Mentioned following stocks trend as one of my hobbies so asked me what are circuit filters??

Ans. Explained that circuit filters are pre specified percentages in which specific categories of stock can move. For example for a stock if 20% is the filter and it has already risen by 20% ,no fresh orders will get executed and vice verse for sell orders if it has fallen by 20 %.Asked me whether it applies to all stocks ,told them that it depends upon the category in which specific stock lies. Gave example of Infosys that its an A category stock so no filter are applied and it can rise or fall even 50% or more in a day.

3. Do you think that 10k levels are sustainable for the market

Ans. Even though the markets are at 10k level PE ratio is just about 18.In 94 when the sen sex reached 5k PE was around 50.So don't think market are overvalued. There can be a short term correction due to profit booking,but as the economy is growing ,so is the earnings of the sen-sex companies and hence see a positive outlook for the market.

4. Asked something related to FII investment.

Ans. Told them that FII investment is a short term investment,they can just pay the capital gain tax and get out of the market any time. Also in India FII investment have a huge sentimental effect even though their actual investment may not be that high. Told them how FII moved the market from 6k to 10k level with just 40k crores of investment. Told them how FII jack up the prices of sen-sex stocks and top 200 companies stocks ,as they only invest in this companies and as the basic indices on these companies gives an impression as if whole market is doing well.

5. Why left is opposing FDI?

Ans. Explained that it is due to political reasons. FDI in India generally means privatization (gave airport privatization example).Majority of trade unions in India are aligned with left,so they feel that once the control goes to private management they wont have their say. Told about strikes .So was countered by saying that strikes also do happen in private companies. So countered it by giving example of Toyota strike in Karnataka where employees were sacked . Explained that a private company will handle the situation more strictly.

6. Why MBA after about 5 years of experience ?

Ans. Told them MBA was always on my mind and was attempting for that. Asked me how many times I have given CAT. Replied 5 times. Asked me any calls till date. Replied got 4 call (A,C,L,K) in first attempt,Got 1 call (k) in 3rd attempt but could not attend GD/PI because of Infosys training which I was attending that time. Asked me how many call this year. I said only K. Asked me for my score card .I gave it (Percentile is 99.35%)

7. Asked me difference between bribing and lobbying ?

Ans, Suppose I want to start a business in Karnataka. If I go to the minister and explain him the benefits my investment will generate for the state i.e employment etc and than ask for say free land , subsidized electricity and free water will consider this as lobbying. Here everything is in open. But suppose I say directly that look 2% will be your commission,will consider this as bribing. Gave some examples to prove my point .Was trying to explain that if I am doing any favor to a political party by donating to his party or at

individual level and if its in public knowledge will consider it as lobbying ,but if the transactions are not transparent will consider it as bribing.

8. What do you feel about ethics as your company (Infosys) talks a lot about ethics??

Ans. Firstly I feel that when Infosys says we are an ethical company that doesn't mean that other companies ,say TATA, Wipro or Satyam etc are less ethical. Feel that it is kind of marketing tool and it doesn't cost them anything. Also because of the accounting debacles (Enron) etc which has happened in the US,it has become necessary for companies to highlight whole point of ethic.

9. Countered me that your chairman (Narayan Murthy) is on board of a bank and the same bank is using your company's banking software product (Finacle) .Do you think its ethical??

Ans. Replied that NRN is a businessman first and then an ethical or unethical person. Also I don't believe this as an unethical behavior,as such things may not be intended and just be co-incidental.

10. Told me that looking at what I have written in my form I seem to be a boring person. Dont u think a manager needs to have an all round personality.

Ans. Knew that this question was asked to create stress. Replied back saying My manager is handling 120 people and I don't think he has got a well round personality. Asked me is he an MBA ?.I said no. So told me then why you need to do mba. Told them that his peer,person of his age group, who has done MBA is currently at sales head level so this explains the difference between MBA and non MBA. To stress my point explained difference between Indian managers (strong analytical skills,poor marketing skills) and global MBA.

11. Do you think Infosys,Wipro recruits people who have very few interests so that they work for 12 hours a day and 7 days a week and don't have any other interests.

Ans. Countered them by saying that most of the people working in IT industry are bachelors and majority of them are staying thousands of km away from there home,so the company becomes kind of second home for them. Also gave my example saying that if i go to office on Saturday ,Sundays its not always for work. We surf net,play TT,etc.

So this was my interview experience.

Interview experience of despe

Hi junta

My profile

CAT %ile-99.14

Calls LICK

Computer engineer on bench

IIM K interviews started in Bangalore today. There were 3 panels in morning slot & 10 students each.

I reached at 8.45 & was asked for degree certificate & work experience certificate. I asked them about the co-curricular activities certificate copies which was mentioned in the call letter but they said they don't require it. For work experience I gave them 1st & last salary slip + appointment letter but they said they were looking for a work experience certificate from the company. I asked if that can be done later on. They said ok.

I was in panel 2 & 3 magnanimous souls had decided to abstain from the process (as if that mattered in the end), so we were actually 7 people under panel 2 with 1 lady & 6 guys.

C my interview was a comedy of errors, so some conventions:---

P1. first panelist, fair, smart, young (around 25 & had a French beard

P2. second panelist, relatively young (around 35, a little overweight & dark complexion

(.....) will show what I was thinking

[.....] what happened

Group discussion

The GD topic was same for all 3 panels, something like is Indian growth restricted only to growth in sensex

There was a horse shoe shaped table with 5 people on either side, mine was no 5 & sheets of paper on everybody's desk.

P1: Your topic is written on sheet of paper, after I ll tel you can see, then contemplate for 2 minutes & I will indicate to start & after 10 minutes I will again indicate that u should wrap up in 2 minutes.

We opened the sheets & comedy started,mine was blank....., I told them & P1 asked me to take sheet of one of the absentees.

[hardly 30 secs passed]

P1: start (common u said 2 minutes not 30 secs)

A guy started with all the gyan, sensex consisting of 30 companies, having 1/5th of market cap etc. the lady spoke about India's growth in nuclear sector & than I intervened & said the growth should be measured by the growth of people of India & still only 28% Indian have access to sanitation facilities & 20 % don't have access to drinking water. In all it was a real cool GD[the coolest 1 I had seen]with a lot of points being repeated, very cordial & everybody like pleading with others, please cut me I don't have more to say. In all the lady made some good points like nuclear growth, & sports etc. I chipped in 7-8 times, about political growth (rising stature), tried to tell why agriculture was not growing & that we should not be 2 happy about sensex growth because real measure of economic growth is FD on which we rank low. Substantiated this point by telling that all EU countries have to maintain their FD near about 2-2.5%, so this is the measure which world looks at but we are giving too much emphasis on sensex (around which the entire discussion was revolving) due to media hype & also told that FII investing in India because interest rates in US were very low & now since they have increased from 1 to 4.5 % so the inflow may start reducing but that wont mean India is not growing to which somebody said then other stock exchanges except ours must also grow & I told that yes china, japan & almost all developing economies stock exchange are growing. In between I tried to structure by saying that since all of us feel that India grew in some sectors & not in others so let us take diff sectors & discuss about growth in them but one guy said we should not do that & allow the GD to continue the way its going, I said ok.

P1: 10 minutes over.....,the moment he said a guy said let me conclude & started concluding & almost everybody added something to the conclusion, so it was a common conclusion & we all shut up[though we still had around 1.5 minutes left]

P2: To the only guy who chipped in just once, u conclude & he did

Interview

We were called in the order of our names in the list[the same in which we sat in GD] & mine was 3rd [as 2 absentees were before me].The lady had the first interview & she told they started by asking about how Sania's & Kartikeyan's achievements shows India's growth & some thing like that & that they were taking stress interview.

(.....tht means 1st ques to me would be about FD because I mentioned that, tried to recall & thought it was something like income-expenditure or vice verse.....)

The other guy came after the interview, with his data form in his hand, as he had forgot to mention his college name & engineering branch, he said it was not a good interview, which I didn't understand.....why.

I was waiting at the gate, P1 comes out, tells to wait & goes to loo.

(.....i was in real fun mood thinking, what if I go to loo & stand with him.....will it embarrass him.....) anyway he moved out & called me & they didn't ask for my certificates during the entire duration of interview [some 20-25 minutes.....about 5 minutes lengthier than others]

P1: OK Gaurav.....yes

Me: (.....what do u mean by yes.....) waiting

P1:[again]yes

Me: (.....what? Do u expect me to say no.....) still waiting

P2: What is smar****?

Me: [heard that first time], pardon

P2:[holding & reading from the data form] What is sm****

Me: Sir please take my form, u are asking me from somebody's else form.

P2:Oh! The forms are not in order & then I helped him in finding my form

Me: (.....common, is it interview or fun.....what were you doing in the last 10 minutes, reading somebody else's form, how will u ask me questions now.....)

P1: You mentioned something about DU in the GD

Me: Pardon

P1: You mentioned something about EU in the GD, that was totally irrelevant, what does EU have to do with India's growth.

Me:Sir, what I saw in GD was that their was a general opinion that since sensdex is doing well, that means economy is growing but I wanted to tell that FD is a criteria which is considered more important by the world & to be an EU member you have to contain that to 2 – 2.5%, that's why I mentioned.

P1: What is FD

Me: Fiscal deficit, the difference between income & expenditure

P1: Whose income & whose expenditure

Me: (.....common leave this topic, I m not comfortable.....)Sir, the govt's, its actually the difference between how much the govt has spend & how much it earned[I don't know if this or everything I told about

economics was right or wrong but P1 laughed a lot at me during the course of interview & I too reciprocated at times]

P1: So you mean FD should be less & if the only thing is to reduce it than we can do that by increasing income tax rates, so govt will have more money.

Me: (.....common, no more economics.....)No sir

P1: why

Me: (.....OK!!, u want fun I ll have fun 2.....)thinking.....sir if u increase tax rates than all the companies which are coming in India will have to pay higher taxes so instead of coming to India they will go to other cheaper companies, so FDI (.....suicide No 1.....) will decrease & tax collection will also decrease.

P1:You mean if FDI is more, that means economy is doing well

Me:Yes sir it shows that people have confidence in economy & its doing well & more money flows into that country.

P1: So the only thing that should be done to reduce FD is increase FDI

Me: No Sir

P1:Do you know US has got the highest FD[started laughing]

Me: Yes sir, I know that it's the biggest borrower & has got the highest FD & that's why I didn't mention US but EU

P1: Tell me other things that can be done

Me: [thought for 5-10 secs] Govt. should reduce its non-planned expenditure (.....suicide no 2.....)

P1: What is non planned expenditure.

Me: Everything that is not covered under 5 years plan, for example, when some calamity like tsunami struck, you can not plan that in advance.

P1:You mean, govt should not have spend money on helping people after tsunami.

Me:No sir, I mean the other things like sops & benefits given to MP's & subsidies (.....suicide no 3.....) given to people should be cut because they put a lot more burden on govt.

P1:Now you are contradicting yourself[started laughing].....tell me what subsidies should be cut & what should not be.

Me: The subsidies which help people living below poverty line should not be cut, like that on rice or wheat but the subsidy that helps middle class & for which the middle class can pay should be cut like cooking gas, petrol & diesel (.....suicide no 4.....)

P1:Don't poor people use cooking gas

Me: No sir, they use kerosene

P2: Are petrol & diesel subsidized?

Me: (.....what the hell, I read that in a magazine, is it my fault if they gave the wrong information.....) Sir I read that cooking gas is subsidized by 50 bucks & petrol & diesel by 1 re.

P2: Then how do the oil companies make profit, if it is subsidized

Me: Sir there is a price administration mechanism (.....suicide no 5.....)

P2: What? Is that so? How does it work

Me:[really didn't know what I was about to say was rite or wrong] sir there is a committee comprising of govt & representatives of oil companies which decides about the prices depending upon the prices in the international market, they sell on that prices & that's how they make profit, but a bit of burden is passed to govt too.

P1:Now you are again contradicting yourself

P2:How much profit did IOC make

Me: I don't know

P2:Did they make any profit at all?

Me: Yes, they are hugely profitable but I don't know the figures.

P1: Should there be a price administration mechanism?

Me: I personally feel it should not be there

P1: Why ?

Me: [thought for 5 secs] Sir I feel the govt should not control the market & allow the demand & supply to govern the prices because free competition also helps in all round development & allow other small players to come in the industry.

P2: come-on, we are asking about price mechanism & not about entry of new players, why are you linking the two things. Anyways tell me.....are there curbs on any new player entering the oil market

Me: No

P1:You are saying govt should not adjust prices, what the govt is for

Me:[thinking for 5 secs] (.....what a vague quest? Never thought about that.....) Growth

P1:[started laughing], How do u define growth

Me: (.....what the hell.....)[started smiling because I knew I was already f***d & there was nothing better to do]by growth I mean, when there is improvement in state of living of people, when their purchasing power increases... (.....suicide no 6.....)

P1:Wait wait, what did u say

Me: (.....determined not to use purchasing power again.....)sir I mean when people have more money

P1: No, you said purchasing power

Me: yes I did

P1:Tell me how does the govt ensures such growth

Me: By regulating, by providing fair

P1:[started laughing real high,even covered his face so lest I might count his teeth]

You are again contradicting yourself, you said govt should not regulate & now you are saying govt should regulate.

Me[I too shared his laugh, gave a broad smile & said]Sir, I think I was not able to communicate it properly, I ll try again, what I mean to say is that, the govt should regulate but to ensure that nothing unfair is done, scams are not there, people's interest is met But it should not regulate everything & things like prices, it should not let the burden go to the people.

P2:You mean govt provides a cushioning effect when it comes to petrol & diesel

Me: Yes

P1: What will be the implications if diesel prices rise

Me: Sir I feel a person who can afford car definitely afford a bit more.

P1:[smiling] Diesel is not used only for cars but for transportation & other things also

Me[.....deemag ki batti jali.....] oh yes sir,that will mean the prices of commodities which are transported over long distances will also increase & ultimately the consumer will have to pay.

P1:Why does not the govt allow petrol & diesel prices to rise

Me: Sir, these are the commodities which affect a very large %age of population, if the govt increase the prices than opposition will raise a hue and cry & it may not augur well for the govt.

P2:U have written in your form, that you like reading non fiction & biographies,tell me 5 non fictions u have read

Me:[Now I was prepared with 4-5 biographies & though I have read a lot of non fictions but all around an year ago & was focusing on biographies now] freedom is not free, u can win, zen & the art of motorcycle maintenance

P2: What zen

Me:[didn't understand much of what was said in zen, so I cut P2 in between & say] & biographies of Jinnah & Iaccoca [by this time I had forgotten all about other non fictions & just wanted to stop him from asking zen]

P2:I said non fiction, not biographies

Me: [thought hard but only 1 I remembered was Freakonomics & didn't want to mention that after that much of immaturity that I d already shown in economics]alchemist

P1:That's not a non fiction

Me: [smiled]not exactly, yes it's a story but he talks more about listening to your heart & following your dreams so I say its just like non fiction & on that count I will say even atlas shrugged & fountainhead are like non fictions

P1: OK , complete P2's question, tell him 5

Me: I have already told 6

P2:Thought I don't agree Paulo Cohelo or Ayn Rand to be non fictions but any way, tell me the first line of atlas shrugged

Me: (.....common I didn't know I was supposed to remember 1st lines of all the books I have read.....) don't know[smiled]

P2:1st line of fountainhead

Me:don't know[smiled]

P2:First line of alchemist

Me:[remembered looking a word sycamore in dictionary on 1st or 2nd page of alchemist.....so I told] About a sycamore of trees growing at some place

P1:Name that place

Me: I don't know

P2. What is the philosophy of the zen & the art of motorcycle maintenance

Me: (.....WHT THE HELL, all this trouble & again you are back to square one.....any way I ll not give up)sir basically there are 2 parts, the first one talks about the changes that technology brings in a person's life,there is one person who adjusts with it & another one who does not & the first part of the book deals with that. The second part is about the university education system where the author feels that university education system focuses too much on theory & everybody is expected to read everything & not what they like & the author even says that he likes backbenchers & failures because they are good at what they like.

P2: Tell me about the philosophy given there

Me: I don't understand what you exactly want (.....I think I have already summed that nicely.....)

P2: No tell me the philosophy given there

Me: (.....oh, thank you, that makes it much more clear.....)sir he talks about how university education does not help in real growth for example he gives an example where he told his students to write an essay about a city & students were not able to then he told them to start from a brick & write about that &.

P2: How is a bench period?

Me: Sir, its a real cool period, where it depends on you how you utilize it & nobody is there to tell you what to do. I mean after your college when there is somebody always there on your head to tell you what to do & also

in job there is someone to tell u what to do but in bench you are all up to yourself & if you want you can really utilize it by doing something good or you can enjoy. Overall its a very cool period.

P2: Is it good to have bench

Me: It depends on how much %age you have on bench, for example in my company out of 200 people who joined 190 are on bench, now that's real bad but if say suppose bench % age is 4-5 % then its really good because its not actually a bench but a resource pool, the moment you have a new project you can put people from this pool in that so i feel a small bench %age is actually good.

P1: You said your biggest achievement is organizing a blood donation camp in your university is that an achievement

Me: Sir, I feel that's an achievement because, this gave me a chance to give back to the society, though I have other personal achievements as well but they are more on a personal level, than a social level, so I feel it's the biggest achievement

P1: No I don't feel so, I mean there are hundreds of such camp which happen everyday in India & it requires to be stored & lot of blood is wasted because of that. What difference one more camp makes, how is it achievement

Me: Sir its not just one camp, it happen every year now.& blood is something for which you don't know, when the need will arise & I am aware of the fact that blood banks have a limited storage capacity but I had already talked about that to miss xyz [person from rotaract blood bank whom I contacted] & its not that we tell them that u have to come on this very date, they keep an account of how much inventory they have & how much more they want & when to go for it, I mean this is an issue which they would manage & they are managing it so why would I go into that.

P1: U mean there were no blood donation camps in your college

Me: I don't know, but I was there for 4 years & there was none in my 1st 2 years.

P2: The way I look at it either u are a very big loser or you are trying to act smart, tell me what you are doing

Me: [smiled] Sir can you tell me the criteria on which you feel I am a loser or I am acting smart

P2: No, its just what I feel, you tell me which one of the two you are.

Me: [big smile] Neither, it was just that I went there to donate blood, talked to them , when I was there & they agreed to come to my college. I don't think it has got anything to do with being a loser or acting smart.

P2: How many times have u donated blood

Me: blood thrice & platelets once

P2: U must be having that blood donor card

Me: No

P2: Why?, they give it to every blood donor

Me: The first time I donated, I did that in a blood bank & I received a letter & a memento. But the other times I did not donate in blood bank but by looking at notices in my hostel, i.e. I directly donated in the hospital because I wanted to know that my blood will be used rightly & they do not provide any cards in the hospitals.

P2: Tell me something which will bring you a smile

Me: (.....was thinking about saying, that smiles of my friends will bring me a smile.....)

P2: Tell me a question that I d ask which will bring you a smile

Me: [smiled] Ask anything sir

P2: No you tell me

Me: [smiled] Ask me something based on the criteria on which you are going to judge my admission

P2: No u tell

Me: Ok ask me about my achievements in college or how I got job in Accenture

P2: [silent & just smiled for the first time in the interview]

Me: (.....common, what the hell, now ask.....)

P1: You have written under weakness, that u feel irritated that something wrong is being done & no one is doing anything about that, how is that a weakness

Me: Sir that is a weakness, because sometimes I behave irrationally because of that

P1: Give example

Me: I can give u two examples, 1 from my company & another from my college, Ok I ll give u example from my college

P2: Give the one from your company

Me: Well this is one instance out of 3 that I faced in my company but I ll give this example because here is where I felt I behaved most irrationally. When we joined the company two components were missing from the salary package that was initially offered. The lady who was very senior from finances was not listening to anyone. There were 150 people in the room & she had even refused to use the mike & said she will throw anybody out, who will speak, I grew restless, stood up & asked "are these the ethics that you follow in this company", the lady took notice & asked what I meant & I told that we are not being given what we were promised, are these the ethics you follow & you expect us to follow. After which we were actually given 1 of the missing component

P1: Ok but how is that a weakness

Me: See it was my 2nd day in the company & I was just 1 resource out of the 150 odd resources they had & they would have thrown me out, because I talked to a very senior person like that

P1: But did they throw u out or u resigned

Me: No they didn't throw me out but I resigned later due to some other reasons

P1: Then how is that a weakness

Me: See if I would have continued & there had been 2-3 such instances with my manager than he would definitely not recommend me going up in the ladder.

P1: You mean to go up in the ladder you would not speak

Me: No, I mean you would speak but you should know when to stop. I'll give u another example from the same company, we were asked to work for 6 days & told to fill the time sheet for 5 days. I filled for 6 but it was send back to me & then I had to fill it for 5, now you might say that I did unethical thing by filling for 5 days but I feel that to change the system you first have to make yourself important to the system, now if I would have said that I am not going to fill, they might have thrown me & the system would continue because right now I am just a small resource which can be replaced by another one but I did show them that I was not satisfied & what is important is to show them the virtues of following their own stated policy. So you would always resist any thing unfair but you would know how to change that & for that u have to stay in the system.

P1: You mean to say, that you should oppose wrong things but at times you have to agree to your boss

Me: yes

P1 & P2 thank u & best of luck

Me: (.....i just want to tell you one thing & want to tell it loud.....DAMN!! I AM A COMPUTER ENGINEER, NOT AN ECONOMIST.....)

Anyway, though I know I am screwed.....but I enjoyed every moment of being screwed & had lots of fun.

Interview experience of yossarian84

6 Feb 2006, 9:30@IIM-B

Reached IIM-B around 9 AM..went into the wrong building..had enough time to go back into the actual one.

GD topic - India's growth - Sensex
10 people at GD, 2 moderators
Moderators

Baloonboy - BB (I am sure IIM-K guys know which professor I am talking about)
Bald, dark,thin guy - SK

Extremely decent GD. Was nothing like the numerous Mock fish markets. Everyone got a chance to speak and make decent contributions. I must have come in about 4-5 times. about 3 original points....satisfied with the GD effort.

BB was writing something down every time I stole a look at him... SK kept staring at the group

Interview - was the 7th guy to get interviewed....all the guys before me told me that the panel was extremely cordial and were asking mostly academics-related questions.. they even did that to a guy with 6 years of work-ex.

My PI

SK: So you are coming from Hyderabad? Tell me something about Hyderabad.

Me: Quili Qutb Shah...Bhagmati

SK: (cutting me short) No no..not history..tell me something current

Me: talked about Congress Plenary. Infrastructure. IT hub..

SK: tell me something about IIIT

Me: blah blah...research....advanced courses

SK: What advanced courses have you done?

Me: blah blah...had prepared a couple of them..so paid emphasis on E etc.

BB: We are going to give you two minutes to talk about the Karl Marx philosophy...start now

Me: started with capitalism...communism..control lying with the government....state owned lands.... (stupid me repeated the point of government yielding power)

BB: Do you think this philosophy is relevant in the current world

Me: Gave example of USSR breaking up, China moving towards liberalization, entrepreneurship etc

SK:You have done AI? What are Asimov laws

Me: (didn't watch I, Robot that well)...We focused more on Problem solving etc

SK: Still you should know..its very common

Me: : (

BB: You have done a course on Philosophical Discussions on Human Desires...What was it about?

Me: (50 courses in my grade-sheet and u ask me about a Humanities course wasn't really prepared for this one.)..said something about controlling Human desires...would had been saner to have diverted on Ethics...somehow Globalization slipped out

BB: How is globalization going to benefit the poor?

Me: Blah blah...gave an example of FDI in retail benefiting producers

SK: how would it help them?

Me: talked about better distribution networks..organized sector..current state disorganized

SK: How can u say disorganized?

Me: No market research. No distribution networks

SK: So what would happen to those kirana shops?

Me: Technology has to replace at some point of time..blah blah

SK: Who pays the cost for millions being displaced

Me: Would generate employment at various levels....

SK: what are the current foreign retailers doing now?

Me: I said there aren't any in India as yet

BB: Are you sure.. what about P&G, HLL etc?

Me: Consumer goods...I said I was talking about retail stores being set up..like Wall Mart

BB: So how would it benefit us?

Me: (I thought I told ya) Producers Consumers blah blah

SK: How would they earn money then?

Me: Distribution ..that's how WM does it in the US

SK: But who is going to pay for all these people getting displaced?

Me: The society has to pay the cost...takes time before changes can percolate

SK: (cutting me short) What kind of answer is that??? What do you mean by society

Me: Government has to look at Macro level

SK: (again cutting me short) If you were in an IT company and on the bench..you would have been waving a red flag

Me: (silent)

SK: What is your comment on that?

Me: (WTF??? Comment of what?) Sorry, sir I didn't get you

SK: If you were in an IT company and on the bench..you would have been waving a red flag

Me: (yeah that helped..%@)*\$@) I agree I would feel bad..but from the government's perspective..

SK: You are again giving diplomatic answers.....

Me: Can u please give me few seconds.... (thinking.. rephrased the same thing in different words)

SK: If the government was right why did Naidu loose, why did Krishna loose?

Me: Talking about infrastructure.....in Hyderabad

SK: What good has it done for rural people..So many suicides?

Me:would take time before effects get percolated....

SK: People dying....unemployment blah blah...

Me:but the government has to look at things from a long-term perspective...beneficial in the future

SK:What kind of answer is this?

BB: Can u tell me the unemployment rate now?

Me: I am sorry

SK: Compare it with Unemployment rate in 1990

Me: I don't know..but I am assuming it has come down

BB: What has come down? (I wouldn't have been surprised if he had pulled out a gun to fire shots at me)

Me: (stole a look at BB..he was smothering a smile...covering his mouth with his hand).... The number of people unemployed

BB: No it has gone up? What is the use of globalization if unemployment is increasing

Me: globalization long term solution..competition...will take time before effects get percolated ...development across sectors...blah blah

(BB started nodding....wish he had started nodding earlier)

BB: what is the geographical size of India

Me: Don't know exactly..gave him some approximation about length , width..multiply..made an assumption that the rectangle is too big..so 50-60% of its area... (nodded again)

BB: (nodded..wrote something down) What is the preamble of India?

Me: (said something about sovereign, socialist, secular republic)

BB: What does it mean?

Me: That we are committed to these things in our constitution

SK: What is so discrete about the Discrete Mathematics that you did? (teasing smile). why is it called discrete... (go bash up my maths prof..GO GO)

Me: More to do with computing. Graphs. trees.

SK: What is the diff between indefinite and definite integral?

Me: explained

SK: I didn't get indefinite

Me: explained again

SK: applications of indefinite?

Me: sorry

SK: What is a random variable

Me: Don't know. Did course a long time back

SK: (smiles)

BB: Do you follow current affairs?

Me: Yes sir I do

BB: Iran IAEA vote

Me: long term planning....nuclear energy deal

BB: Current breakup ?

Me: take a guess. 2% Nuclear, 10-12% Thermal, Remaining Thermal

Sk - What is the name of the knot that you are wearing? (pointing to my tie)

Me: looked down to see my tie totally disheveled....moved it a bit..were u talking about the way it was looking sir? (shouldn't have done that..shouldn't have done that..)

SK: (laughs) No no..what is the name of the knot?

Me: Don't know the technical name. I assume its a double knot. There is a single knot too

BB: What calls have you got?

Me: LACKI....

BB: Ok good (what good??..good, you have other options too. cos this one is out... Or the "Good work man" walla good?)

(30 minutes of interview...no question on hobbies.. reasons for MBA..grades...why those..they didn't even ask me to tell them about myself)

Mad Mad interview...Wasn't able to answer a bunch of questions...Hope that doesn't happen again !!!

Adios

Nipun

IIM Kozhikode - Year 2007

Interview experience of soumyajyoti

Profile:

X% 86.6 (CBSE)
XII 80.8% (West Bengal Board)
Dual Degree (Aerospace Engg) IIT Kgp:- 8.3 (cgpa)

CAT - 99.87 %

Venue: Dadar, HMATC (Mumbai)

PANEL II: (Everybody in our plan seemed to have ≥ 5 calls)

GD Topic (something like this): "Retrenching should be done. It actually helps the government to create more jobs in the long run. There should be some clause that the employees who are retrenched should be given salary for 6 months."

Very Peaceful GD. There were 8 people, and all of us got chance to speak, and speak a lot. I crept in 4 times. But personally felt I could have done better. I would rate myself 6/10.

PI:

Once again far more peaceful than I had imagined. There were two profs. One young prof (Y) and the other old (O).

O: So your name is SOUMYA, What does that mean ?? Is it that you are a very calm sort of person??

M: Told some Crap.

Y: Oho SOUMYA JYOTI BASU!!! Are you anyway related to JYOTI BASU?

M: No Sir. In fact that is the only thing that matches between us though not completely.

O: So whom do you prefer?? Buddhadeb or Jyoti Basu?

M: Sir Buddhadeb...

O & Y: Why?

M: Crap...

O & Y: Why don't you tell us something about yourself ?

M: (Crammed Answer):satisfie: Just Offloaded

O: So Soumyajyoti you are an Aerospace Engineer...Can you tell me how does an aircraft take turn?

M: Told

Y: Where is the Rudder located??

M: (Hey common even a class X student can answer you that)..Told

Y: How does the Aircraft go up and down??

M: Told (Y cuts in between)

Y: But I had heard that it is the nose of the aircraft that pulls it up.

M: (Bhai mere galat panga le rahe ho) Explained that the body of the aircraft has got hardly anything to do with flying. And explained the phenomenon.

Y: Okk then tell me what is a gyroscope.

M: (Arre Bap) Sir I don't remember everything about it. The only thing that I remember it has got something to do with two different rotational motion about two different axes occurring simultaneously.

Y: Okk

O: So Soumya can you tell me about an aircraft that India is trying to build than can avoid RADAR detection.

M: Sir are you talking about trying to build indigenously??

O: Yes..

M: Sir I am not aware of any such development.

O: Does such aircrafts exist??

M: Yes Sir...(Gave a few examples)

O: It is being build in collaboration with Russia. (Smiles)

M: Sorry Sir .(Smile)

Y: Do You know Kalpana Chawla used to dream about flying in space. And one day she did that. Do you have any such dream?

M: Sir, I don't have any dream of flying in space.

Y: You are an aerospace engineer.

M: (Told some crammed answer once again) that Aerospace engineering is not only about flying it involves lot of Computational Mathematics. And it is this part that I Love.

O: So you must be dreaming something. Can you narrate one such dream ?

M: (May be they wanted me to narrate some dream regarding being a Manager, I didn't want to get into this sort of a conversation).. Sir actually dreams are aplenty. And I can't single them out.

O: So are you into a SW company? What does your company do?

M: Sir it is more of a mechanical simulation service provider company. And for that it provides a software . This software is made based on the concepts of Computational Fluid Dynamics.

Y: Okk CFD

M: Yes Sir.

O: So What Do you exactly do?

M: Told

Y: See CFD is a pretty boring subject for a layman. It involves huge equations. I mean how do you cope with it. Do you find it interesting??

M: (Trying to Trap HUH:grab😁 Sir I agree that CFD involving only the equations is boring..then told BLAH BLAH...how much I like Computational Mathematics)

Y: (Tells something I could not understand why).....Soumyajyoti ..If you join the PGP course in IIM K..you will find lots of courses on Computational Mathematics, which I am sure you are going to Like.

Y: Now Soumyajyoti you seem to be very strong on your core things. But how much do you rate yourself on current affairs. Are you keeping track of things?

M: (Didn't want to rate...Kept the answer confined to the last sentence)..Yes Sir

Y: Who is the IIT KGP alumni in limelight??

M: Told...added some crap.

Y: Any other Alumni you know about?

M: Told about Vinod Gupta.

O: But I thought Vinod Gupta was from IIT Powai..

M: Told

Then Y and O started talking between themselves on Vinod gupta and Sanjay ** of IIT Bombay.

Y: Have you heard about Khosla?

M: (I did not heard about this Khosla) No Sir.

O: Okk, No Problem.

O: Tell meWhat is the effect of Fluid Dynamics research on Bio-Medical Engineering.

M: (Got confused about genetic engineering & Bio- Medical Engineering ...O Corrects me)..Told something that seemed to convince them.

O: So how is Kharagpur? Any noted landmark??

M: 🇮🇳 (Arre Kuch to matured sawal pucho)

Y: Is it still the longest platform.

M: I don't know if it has recently changed. But the Bold letter words still hang on the platform.

O: Is Kharagpur a polluted Town??

M: No Sir absolutely not.

O: But I think I read about it somewhere...

M: Sir I am not sure...

O: Can you name some polluted places in India?

M: Came up with SURAT and HOWRAH (my hometown)

O: Yes Yes Howrah has to be polluted with so much traffic and so many industries.

O: Is the Ganga Polluted in Calcutta??

M: Told... Added some crap on the chemicals discharged from the factories along that belt..And how it is killing the micro-organisms ...etc etc..

O: Have you heard about Suspended Particulate Matter??

M: Told

Y: How can you stop them?

M: Adding some filter at the exhaust.

Y: What Kind of filter ? Water??

M: (Had absolutely no idea on filters) May be water . It depends on the chemical composition of the SPM. If it is soluble in water even water can be the filter. (Don't know if that was a good answer)

According to the custom they look into each others eyes.

Y: Okk Soumya You can go now. Before that can you show us your certificates.

M: (Tried to hand over all of them.)

Y: No Only the experience Certificate.

M: Okk Sir 😊??:...

Y puts his hand forward for hand shake....I don't know whether that was for a bye bye..

O: Thank You Soumya. Now please close the door after you go out.

M: Yes Sir

Interview experience of Ashish Abraham

State - Tamilnadu
Class X - 88.17(ICSE)
Class XII - 93(TN state board)
Degree/Else- 71.8(NIT Trichy final year)

CAT 2006 -

Over ALL- **99.41%**
DI - 99.80
VA - 93.90
QA - 95.27

Calls - CLIK

GDPI Date - 5th feb
Time - 2 pm
Panel - 2

Hi people....

There were 3 panels with 10 members in each.. I was in panel 2. one was absent. So only 9 of us were there.

GD Topic :

The GD topic was some XYZ board(sorry I forgot the name) has formed some ABC committee to regulate the advertisements.. this is because many ads are very misleading especially those on healthcare, etc. etc..(don't remember).

In the initial 10 seconds, no one wanted to start! Then PG "piyush" (name of fellow PG user) started.. Every now and then 3 or 4 will start talking but soon people let one guy talk.(the moderators did not intervene). Not many points were discussed. I chipped in only 2 or 3 times. The problem was I entered the discussion pretty late.

We were asked to keep our data form and the GD sheet on the chair and leave the hall. No summary or concluding to be done..

I was 4th to be called for the interview.. panel 1 and 3 got some probability and statistics questions... Gaussian curve.. Laplace transformations..

Now I had written analytical skills as my strength. I was pretty tensed as to what was in STORE for me..

The guys before me had interview for 15 min each.

Ok, now let me explain the interview I had..

PI:

Me..

Tech (who virtually asked all d questions) and

HR (who was busy looking at my certificates and.. my body language I guess!!)

Me: excuse me.. may I come in?

Both: yes

[I took my seat handing over my file to the hr guy]

Tech: (laughing..) ashish you have written MBA will give you better career prospects in the IT industry. how is that possible???

Me: Well sir, it will help me get into the managerial line..

Tech:so you want to specialize in IT only?

Me: I am a computer engineer and i feel i will b able to use what I have learnt.

Tech: So you are not looking at other specializations like marketing..

Me: Finance and systems are two options I am looking at. I will b able to make up my mind in first year.. (now he was happy I guess..)

Tech: So you are in final year?

Me: Yes sir..

HR: What you have got so many D grades? in file systems, ...

Me: Sir grading is relative in my college.

Tech: How many students are there in your class?

Me: 49

Tech: So ,what does D grade mean?

Me: Somewhere between 30-35.

Tech: Out of 49??

Me: Yes sir but it is just in those subjects in which I have got D.

Tech: So overall where do you stand in your class?

Me: around ..

Tech: Oh..so what are the subjects you have in your final year?

Me: Advanced DBMS , industrial economics(i was praying that he does not ask questions from this..) , high speed networks and distributed OS.

Tech: Advanced DBMS..hmmm.. what is data warehouse?

Me: Sir, data warehouse contains huge amounts of data which can be analysed to improve the sales..

Tech: Analysis? but isn't that called data mining?

Me: No sir, it is a part of data warehousing only!

Tech: Is a data warehouse volatile or non volatile?

Me: A data warehouse contains huge amounts of information sir. So it can not be volatile..

Tech: So what do you say? volatile or non volatile?

Me: Non volatile

Tech: Are you sure?

Me: Yes sir.

Tech: Did you study about data warehouse in college?

Me: no sir, but i have done a project on data warehousing.

Tech: They say when data warehouse is used and when normal transaction DBMS is used is subject oriented. what do you say?

Me: Yes sir.. it depends on the purpose. Normal transaction DBMS is used for normal queries. Now take the example of a school database where the number of records may not be more than 5000. We can use queries to get info on a particular student. Data warehouse is used in enterprises where millions of records are stored and analysis of the data is useful to improve the business..

Tech: ok.. so do you know OLAP.. OLTP..?

Me: OLTP is OnLine Transaction Processing. It is the normal update, delete , insert operations performed on a database. OLAP is OnLine Analytical Processing. It is used for analysing the huge amounts of data present.

Tech: So data warehousing is only for old data?

Me: No sir, it contains a lot of old data.. may be of the last 10 years. But it is continuously updated and it can take the updated data into consideration too.

Tech: Are you doing that project now?

Me: No sir, i have already done that project. Now I have been selected by HP to do my final semester project with them.

Tech: So where did you do in your data warehouse project?

Me: I did that project in Wesgrow International, Chennai which is a Microsoft Certified Partner.

They had developed software for ROMS stores. So I used their data to do the project. It had about 1 lakh records. hence it was good.

Tech: And how many fields were there? (aiming to nail me I guess!)

Me: (no idea..) around 10.. (it must have been close to 20!!)

Tech: What were the fields?

Me: (good that I mentioned only 10!) Sir, it was item id, batch id, category id, price, service tax, sales tax, discount...

Tech: So was that data from one source?

Me: No sir, the shop had five outlets. so we collected data from each of the outlets.

Tech: So it was just queries? no analysis as such?

Me: No sir, it was not just queries. I developed about 8 cubes to analyse the data.

Tech: What tool did you use?

Me: I used SQL Server 2005 Analysis services.

Tech: h ok.. so what could you conclude.?

Me: We could compare the sales of the 5 outlets. also we could see that certain outlets had surplus of items and certain other outlets had shortage of those items. So a logical conclusion was to transfer them(what a difficult conclusion!!).

Tech: Oh ok.. so do you know software development models?

Me: Sir..?

Tech: Software development models.. any two..

Me: Waterfall model..

Tech: Ok then..

Me: Hmm.. sir iteration??

Tech: Ok.. what is the difference between a waterfall model and a spiral model?

Me: (shall we get back 2 datawarehousing please!!) well sir.. in spiral model, the product is continuously validated and checked.. the process is in the form of a loop. In waterfall model it is a 4-step process where each step is done one after the other and then maintenance alone can be done!!

Tech: So waterfall model is a waste?

Me: No sir.. it depends on the purpose.

Tech: ok.. when is waterfall used?

Me: (please!!! change the topic!!) Sir, waterfall can be used in any normal project like an outsourced project for example (whatever!!) where the team here can build the product and send it. The team abroad can use it directly without any need to go back and validate!!

Tech: (looking at the hr guy.. giving him the nod to ask me questions..)

hr guy: (smiled at me..)

Me: (smiled back at him!!)

HR: Why are you so tensed?

Me: (I just smiled back!!)

Tech: How do u think the interview went?

Me: I think it went fine!

HR: How will you improve india's condition?

Me: (?? what exactly does he mean??) sir a lot can be done.. but being a student.. the first thing that can be improved is our college education. I feel there is not much industry interface..

HR: So what can be done?

Me: Sir, now in my college we are being funded by World Bank under TEQIP. HP and IBM have plans to start labs in our campus. Now that is a step in the right direction. We get to know about what is being used in the industry..

Tech: But what can you do about it as a single person?

Me: Sir.. if I get into the managerial line I can encourage companies to visit colleges and start labs!!

Tech: Ok ashish thank you.. all the best..

Me: Thank you, sirs.

looking back at my interview I can only think of Data warehousing! lol..

A very friendly panel.. I was still so tensed!! guess I could not handle the big moment.. not much chances of clearing this I guess..

Your feedback is welcome.. and someone with good knowledge in data warehousing, please tell me I was right!!

Interview experience of vaibhavthakur

Hi all,

Had my IIM K GD/PI on **5th Feb 9:00 AM at Monarch Hotel,Bangalore.**

Here is my experience.

I was in panel 1. (The same group as alibaba)

My profile:

B Tech(Hons.) in Agricultural and Food Engineering from IIT Kgp 2006 passout.

X- 77%

XII- 71% (Both state board)

Industrial project at AMUL in "Six Sigma" (You'll know why this was important L)
Awarded Best B Tech project in my final year.

Extra Currics:

President, department in final year

And few other positions of responsibility

Hobbies (Again proved to be very imp): Astrophysics, cosmology

CAT %ile :

CAT 06

Over all 99.36 %ile . Calls LIK + AL(ABM)

Work Ex: 7 months in software industry

Venue : Monarch Hotel,Bangalore.

GD :

It was a small paragraph on land acquisition ,infrastructural development that the country needs.Projects like water resources, road development and sewage water treatment are needed for the country's industrial development.

Was a small GD as time allotted was only 2+10 mins.

Had a okayish GD. Entered thrice with ideas related to SEZs and root cause for reluctance of farmers to give away their lands.

I was the 5th guy for the interview. There were two panelists.

P1: Old guy. Very friendly and peaceful.

P2: Relatively young guy. Too much acads oriented. Operations research prof.

Me: Poor me

IS: My Inner Self

P1: We will check your certificates first.

I handed my file to him. He started scanning through my certificates.
(IS nervous and shaking)

P1: Hmmmm...so you received the best B Tech project (BTP)award in your department.

(IS: Yeah Yeah Yeah !!)😄

Me: Yes Sir

P1: And you were also the departmentt president?

(IS: Yeah Yeah Yeah !!)😄

Me: Yes sir

P1: You know I am also from IIT Kgp. 87 passout. At our times they didn't have this award.

(IS: Yo Kgp)

Me: Sir they offer this award to department's best BTP and also to institute's best BTP.

P1: You also did a good work at AMUL in six sigma. That's good.

P2 was just smiling at me the whole time. Both looked impressed at this point.

("at this point")

P1: Ok, tell us something about yourself.

Me: blah blah blah

P1: So Vaibhav, define six sigma.

Me: Six sigma is quality management technique...blah. Minimize variations in the process...blah.

P1: You said something about normal curve. What is it?

Me: Probability distribution ...blah blah.

P1: What is Cpk Index?

(IS: What the hell is that?)😳

Me: I don't know sir.

P1: CP index?

IS: :(

Me: Don't know sir.

P1 (slightly aggressively): You have done a project in six sigma and you don't know about Cpk and Cp index.

P2: (In between) ...and got a "very good" grade also.

Me: (Silent)

P1: (handed me a blank sheet) Write the equation of normal curve.

(IS: Oh no)

Me: (wrote half of the equation) sorry sir I forgot the other half.

P1: Draw a normal curve.

Me: Did that.

P1: What is this? (indicating x-axis in the curve)

Me: Sir parameter for which we are calculating the variation. It is asymptotic to the normal curve and....

P1 (cutting me in betn): the normal curve is asymptotic to the line.

(IS: Totally confused)

P1: Tell me what parameters determine the nature of normal curve.

Me(nervously): told

P2: Can we apply six sigma for determining the quality of IIMK students?

Me(after thinking for around 10 secs): Yes sir we can but then I need to know the number of IIM K students who are not up to the IIM standards and number of students who were rejected but were upto the level because these will be counted as defects.

P2 was nodding his head and looked satisfied
(IS: Little relaxed after initial disaster)

P1: Do you know statistics?

Me: (Looked like a dangerous question so played safe). Sir I studied that way back in my XIIth.

P1: Asked something about mean,mode, median etc.

Me: Told him.

P1: What the hump in this normal curve (pointing to the figure) signify?

(IS: Leave normal curve for Gods sake)

Me: Sir it shows the number for maximum probability.

P1: It is probability density.

(IS: S**t)??:

Me: Yes sir.

P1: What is partial differential equation?

Me: Told.

P1: Tell me something about D*** PDE. (Don't know what kind of PDE that was)

Me: Sorry sir I don't know .

P1: Asked me some method for calculating standard deviation for normal curve and some mathematical formula after writing some variables on my sheet.

(IS: Bhai Normal Curve chor de)

Me: Told him something but he was not satisfied.

P1: Do you know probability?

(IS: Cool, finally he shifted his focus from normal curve)

Me: Yes sir.

P1 Gave me some problem. I solved it but with a small mistake.

P1: Explain.

Me: Explained.

P1: I didn't ask you this. My question was....

(IS: Nervous)

Me started thinking but P1 asked me to give the sheet back after 15 secs

P1: Do you know Laplace Transform?

Me: No Sir.

P1: Can you write the equation for spring mass system with damping. 🙄

(IS: Yeh kahan se aa gaya bhai. Did you misread my dept as mechanical?)

Me: Wrote some equation trying to recall it from my 1st year but missed some part (obviously)

P1: What do these terms mean?

Me: Explained all but one term which I wrongly wrote as dx rather than dt. Silly mistake.

(IS: what was that dx??...thinking)

P1: (Looked fed up with my wrong answers) Tell me something about your job.

Me: Told.

P1: Asked me to explain few technical terms which I used in describing my job.

Me: Told.

For the whole time P2 was smiling at me. Finally he decided to enter.

P2: What do u think about all this controversy going on with linking of rivers?

Me: Explained properly by giving example of Gujarat's CM Mr. Narendra Modi bringing Narmada to Gujarat and utilizing it properly etc etc

P2: But what do you think about these protests by environmentalists ?

Me: I think they are wrong...blah blah. Said something about short term losses and long term benefits.

P2: What do you think about current IT boom? Who should be given credit for this; Govt or private companies?

Me: Told him. Supported the companies.

P2: Why companies? Govt spent so much on you and you are saying companies.

Me: Supported my answer. Both looked satisfied.

P2: What do you know about Calicut?

Me: Told him something about beauty etc.

P1: Do you know anything about history and about old dynasties of calicut.

(**IS:** 10vi kaksha ke baad se aaj tak history nahi padhi)

Me: No sir.

P1: Tell me something about Mohd. Yunus.

Me: (Taking a breath for answering)

P1: (trying to give me hint) He is from Bangladesh and....

Me: (Interrupted him fearing that he may speak out the whole answer) Yes sir and he is the chairman of Grameen Vikas bank etc etc. and won the nobel prize.

P1: In which field?

Me: Economics :(

(**IS:** Kya bol raha hai bhai)

P1 : Economics !!

Me: No Sir. Peace prize.

P2: So astrophysics is your hobby....?

(**IS:** O hell yeah)

P2: Name some physicist who won a nobel prize.

Me: Stephen Hawking.

P1: He didn't win a nobel prize. did he?

P2 (before I could say anything): Give me some Indian scientist.

Me (nearly instantly): Chandrashekhar.

(**IS:** Finally some feel good questions for me)

P2: What is a black hole?

(**IS:** Mazaa aa gaya)

Me: Spoke for about 2 mins on space time curvature. How gravity distorts this curvature and how black hole distorts this. Singularity . etc etc

P2: What if I jump into a black hole? Will I come out from any other part of the universe?

(**IS:** Hmmmm he knows about it. Its a trap)

Me: Yes sir it's a probability. One of the unstable solutions of Schrödinger equation gives possibility of worm holes....blah blah for 2 mins.

P1: You said something about unstable solution. What do you mean by unstable?

Me: Explained.

P1: Thank You.

Me: Thank you sir.

No questions on dept subjects and extra curricular. Committed many suicides in the interview. I think chances for K are slim. Anyways, L interview is round the corner. Will have to work hard for it. That's it puy.

My advice: Brush up your first year fundas regardless of your dept. And expect very deep questions from the areas on which you've worked in the past.

Interview experience of nagi_nov3

Profile:

GraDexter: BE Trikal NIT Surat 03
Exp : 43 months IT exp

Date: 12th Feb 2:00 p.m

Venue :

Hospitality Management Applied Training Centre (HMATC)
Veer Savarkar Marg,
Dadar (W)

Total 30 people are divided into 3 batches all have same GD topic, I was in Panel 2.

GD topic:

"Industries should share some part of their profit with the local communities, because they are using their natural resources "

Pretty decent one, all of us contributed except one or two people.

Interview:

Dexter (me 😊) : Good evening, good evening to interview panel there are two profs. (it started at 5:20 p.m)
I'm the 9th guy in the list of 10

Panel: Show me your certificates

Dexter: Handed over my file to him

Panel: So you are from Sardar Patel NIT

Dexter: Yes sir, Sardar Vallabhbhai NIT (in my mind I was praying, please don't ask me about trikal)

Panel: Who is he?

Dexter: Our first finance minister (he is our first Home minister)

Panel: laughs

Dexter: I too laughed along with them.

Panel: What's his nick name?

Dexter: I guess it is 'Iron Man'

Panel: Are you sure?

Dexter: doubtfully, yes sir.

Panel: one panel confirmed and asked why he was called so?

Dexter: May be he take very rigid decisions, and he didn't compromise ...

Panel: (laughs) And are you sure?

Dexter: don't know sir, i think he is a good follower of Gandhiji.

Panel: Ok, tell me about Surat

Dexter: Surat is having so many textile and diamond industries.

Panel: Why so many diamond industries there?

Dexter: I guess, Gujarati people get raw material from Israel and they will do the cutting and diamond trading
(want them to drag to Israel, but of not much use)

Panel: Why so?

Dexter: I spoke to so many Gujaratis' in Israel and they said so.

Panel: So you have been to Israel?

Dexter: Yes sir

Panel: Does Surat have diamond mines?

Dexter: no sir

Panel: Did Israel?

Dexter: Yes sir (laughs)

Panel: Are you sure?

Dexter: Yes sir

Panel: Then why is Surat not is Ahmedabad?

Dexter: Don't know.

Panel: What else..., oh textiles!

Dexter: yes sir , Surat and Ahmedabad both contains so many textile industries.

Panel: How are they doing?

Dexter: I think good

Panel: Are you sure?

Dexter: No sir, don't know.

Panel: You never tried to explore Surat?

Dexter: we tried but no idea about industries.

Panel: Some office related question

Dexter: answered pretty well

Panel: Some CSR thing

Dexter: Explained well

Panel: About leadership

Dexter: Explained well (in a swing all HR questions are fours and sixers 😊)

Panel: Do you know about center limit theorem?

Dexter: No idea

Panel: Did u heard about that?

Dexter: I forgot that :(

Panel: Did you heard about binomial distribution?

Dexter: I heard that sir.

Panel: Can you explain me by taking equation?

Dexter: No sir.

Panel: You might have forgotten all things .

Panel: When did you completed your graduation?

Dexter: 2003 sir

Panel: So you might have forgotten everything.

Dexter: Things are seems to maiden overs :(, by collecting whole courage I said I am good at probability (probability, I guess one panel member likes it)

Panel: How many calls?

Dexter: 5 sir

Panel: Which one is missing?

Dexter: B sir

Panel: Lets take probability of conversion a call is 0.3, can it be possible?

Dexter: Yes sir all calls can have a different probability even

Panel: So tell me the probability of converting not more than 3.

Dexter: I took the paper tried various things.

Panel: Both are laughing

Dexter: Binomial thing striked in my mind (bingo)

Dexter: started writing $(0.3 + 0.7)^5$

Panel: That is $1^5 = 1$ no need to expand

Dexter: Sir please let me complete

Panel:Both laughed and told me continue

Dexter: After 2 mins me succeeded 😊

Panel: I want in $5c_4$ and $5c_5$ terms.

Dexter: I wrote $1 - \dots$ (correct answer), and with confidence I said both are correct ones

Panel: He started laughing at my confidence, and said will they add up to one ($5c_4, 5c_5$ and rest)

Dexter: Yes sir, both are mutually exclusive events (this is a huge six 😊)

Panel: Laughs

Panel: You can go now.

Dexter: Do i need to submit my xerox copies?

Panel: No need, do you want to apply for reservation?

Dexter: No sir

According to me, its good one no one will be able to answer 100%.

Interview experience of harshadk

Finally, D-day arrives !

Profile :

10th - 80 + %

12th - 80 + %

B.Tech (Pune University) - 70 %

Work Ex :

7 months in a large automobile company

11 months in my own firm

CAT score : 99.31(OA)

DI - 96.68

VA -96.31

QA -98.88

Date : 14th Feb

Slot : 2 pm

Venue : Mumbai

GD :

Topic : Panchayati Raj should be promoted in india. village committees should be given power to develop infra, education etc in their villages.

The best GD I have ever been in, including all mocks. Very very peaceful, everyone had a chance to speak. The issue was discussed pretty decently. I gave structure to the discussion a couple of times, which others followed. Came up at regular intervals with decent points. Wasn't the best speaker or the one with the most airtime, but was decent.

Interview :

Was the 6th person to be interviewed. Was 7th actually, but one fella turned up after the gd, he was told to attend everything the next day.

There were 2 panelists, the HR guy (H) and the acads guy (A). and of course I.

H: You are looking very good. (was one of the few to wear a blazer)

I: Thank you Sir. Good Afternoon (didn't get a chance to say it before anything else)

H: Good Afternoon.

H: Please pull out the chair, and sit at a distance from the table, and keep your file on the table.

I: Ok (Huh ??)

H: Tell us about yourself (this was asked to EVERYBODY in our group).

I: blah blah.... started my own firm in blah blah...

H: Your own firm ? (checks form). You are the Director ?

I: Yes sir, with 6 others.

H: What are you into ?

I: blah blah

H: Turnover ?

I: Blah

H: But your salary is quite low compared to your turnover...

(A quietly pushes a blank piece of paper in front of me..... I was like no acads, no acads... please)

I: blah blah about different divisions.... my division not doing as well...

H: Ok.... what's the name of your firm ?

I: blah...

H: What does pvt. ltd. mean ?

I: (expected Q) blah blah and blah... looked happy

A: lets talk about mechanical engg. (Nooooooooooooooooooooo :neutral:). What's your favourite subject in mech?

I: Non-conventional energy sources.

A (looked a bit irritated) : No, some core subject...

I: Mumbled something about it being an elective in the final year...

A: Tell...

I (resignedly) : Machine design and thermodynamics.... I mean mostly machine design..

A: How do you design a machine ?

I: :(

A: What's a machine ? (before I could answer, started pointing towards different things in the room). Is this a machine (an AC). pointing to the fan - is that a machine?

I: Yes.

A: Tell me how you would design a machine, it's functions, etc. take any of these machines.

I: Started with a fan. It makes air move in the downward direction...

A: You haven't designed it yet and are talking about its functions...

I: Sorry sir... There's a shaft, below which is the motor...

A: Talk about the motor..

I: The motor converts electrical energy into mechanical one..

A: Don't evade Qs. How does it do it ?

I (stressed out now) : :neutral:

A (gives up....) You have forgotten everything from your acads...

I: Yes sir, a bit....

A: Not a bit, everything...

I: Err, yes sir...

H: How does an aeroplane stay afloat ?

I: Due to the shape and angle of the wings, air is pushed down during forward motion. Due to the reaction force, the plane stays afloat. (hope that's correct)

H (looks satisfied) : And a rocket ?

I: It's kind of similar, only in a rocket, the thrust is due to the exhausted gases.

H: Then why doesn't a fan move up ? (did I come across as THAT dumb 🙄 ??)

I: ('huh' look on my face) : Sir, there is a shaft above which is connected to the wall, and physically prevents any vertical motion....

H: (looks satisfied) Ok. (A has probably given up on me, and is going through my file. goes through my certificates and stops and peers at cut-outs of my articles in the Hindu, as if to say, what's this doing here.... then moves on to my photographic portfolio... had taken it in a separate file.... and flips through it with a boooooooooooooooooored look)

H: What rank were you in your college ? as in in your class..

I: In my final year, in the top 5-6 (Pune unive considers only final year scores for B.E scores)

H: Out of a class of 60 to 80 ?

I: Yes (was sure that A found that VERY hard to believe !)

H: I think this 11 months is this firm of yours have made you completely forget your acads...

I: (quiet.... kya bolne ka.....)

H: What did you do in XYZ?(I worked in XYZ before starting my own firm) Were you on the shop floor ?

I: No sir, I was a trainee. We were moved around to different plants and had to understand the various processes involved.

H: Oh, ok, ya, trainee.... Why didn't you stay in XYZ for longer ?

I: My partners and I felt that it was a great time to enter the ***** market, and we had experience in it before...

H: Ok, ya, you've said here that you are interested in the business side of things....

H: Why MBA ? then looks at the stuff in the form and nods his head and says Ok...

H: You want to be in marketing ? (had written a lot about marketing, branding and stuff)

I: I am interested in it. I will decide after the first year.

H: Have you heard of any ancient strategists / economists ?

I: (missed the word ancient) : Amartya Sen...

H: laughs... He's ancient ?

I: Sorry sir, I missed that.

H: You've heard of Kautilya ?

I: No Sir

H: You haven't heard of kautilya ? (both laugh)

I: No sir

A: Chanakya ?

I: Heard of him... don't know much

A: What was he ?

I: No clue

A: He was a strategist.

I: Ok....

H starts going through my form, while A is busy filling up my scores in various parameters....

H: whats this wildlife census thing ?

I: I worked with the forest dept for the census of the Indian Giant Squirrel in Bhimashankar Sanctuary...

H: What is this animal ?

I: blah blah about it....

H: How is it done ?

I: blah blah about squirrel behaviour, census done by counting nests, each squirrel builds on an average 6 nests..

H: 6 ?? wow !

I: Yes sir..

A: What are flying squirrels ?

I: blah blah

A: Where are they found ?

I: Forests of central india, sanctuaries like tadoba, melghat....

H: How large are the giant squirrels ? larger than the normal ones..

I: pretty large... larger than a cat..

H: Ok.... there's an animal which is of that size.... long... fights with snakes..

I: It's a mongoose.

H: Do they also build nests ?

I: No sir, its a ground dwelling mammal...

H: Hmm.... there's a sanctuary on the border of Kerala and TN / Karnataka. which one is it ?

I: I am not sure... I'll take a guess..... bandipur ?

H: Correct...

H looks at A, with a done? look.. A is probably relieved to let me go...

H: Ok, thank you, best of luck ! please close the door when you go out.

I: Yes Sir. Thank you.

Interview time : 15-20 mins. standard for all 3 panels.

IIM Kozhikode - Year 2008

Interview experience of anir-iim2005

Here's the season opener

Profile:

10th 88

12th 78.7

B.Tech.

West Bengal University Of Technology, 8.01 (CGPA)

CAT

OA - 99.73

QA - 97.20

DI - 99.37

VA - 98.53

GD

Topic - Something about poaching. How it is leading to number of tigers coming down in Madhya Pradesh, and we must understand that we can't live without other species.

Couldn't think of many points. Scribbled only 3-4 on the sheet. Over to plan B, start the GD . Was literally waiting for the signal to start and spoke out as soon as I heard "Start". Gave a statement of the problem at hand and was in the middle of my point (giving structure to the discussion), when the guy sitting to my left broke out abruptly. Discussion went on smoothly afterwards, although I could notice parallel discussion taking place a number of times. Made it a point to keep quiet in those scenarios. Entered 3 more times in the GD with 3 original points. That was about it in the GD. also, I noted down (shorthand) almost all the points discussed during GD. They were taking back the sheet, just in case they check the points noted..

PI

Was 4th in my panel. Panel members (Same as GD panel)

T. N. Krishnan - Faculty - Organizational Behaviour and Human Resources

Chaudhuri G - Faculty - Quantitative Methods and Operations Management

I will describe them as TK & CG.

CG called me in and asked me to switch off my cell. I informed it's already switched off. Wished them and took my seat.

CG: Hand me the Form and introduce yourself.

TK: Give the certificates too.

Me: Handed over the entire file. TK started looking at it.. While I started with my intro. It was not my prepared intro though. CG kept asking questions, starting with "Your Name?" . Described my academic details, work profile in reply to specific questions.

CG: Ok, so you are a B.Tech in IT. You must have had some favourite subjects in college.

Me: (hmm..acads..) Sir, OOPs, Software Engineering, DBMS...

CG: fine. Describe DBMS.

Me: Described in detail.

CG: Good, do you remember basic things in stats?

Me: I will try sir...

CG: ok, what is Standard Deviation?

Me: Again, described in detail.

CG: What is Coefficient of Variation?

Me: (Thought about many coefficients, but couldn't recollect which one is this) Sir, I can't recollect. But I know Coefficient of Correlation..

CG: Fine, then describe Correlation.

Me: Described what is positive, negative Correlation and so on..

CG: Don't need so much details. Just describe what is correlation between two variables..

Me: (Then what was I describing till now?? ??:) Anyways, took a piece of paper from them and drew some scatter diagrams and told whatever I knew about correlation..

CG didn't look too satisfied but didn't ask any more...

CG: So you are from Kolkata, tell me some social issue here..

Me: Could have said the Strike yesterday, but intentionally told about some communal thing (Taslima Nasrin issue)

CG: ohho ya. So, what was the issue?

Me: Described in detail. CG seemed satisfied (It went till where Taslima is right now)

Me: Also, infrastructure issues like not enough % of roads.

TK suddenly burst in - Is that social issue?

Me: ??: Sir I mentioned it's infrastructure issue.

CG: So? Isn't that still a social issue?

Me: (Arre bhai, wohi to) Yes sir, they are very much related. I see it as - Every issue is social, since it has a social impact and that's why the issue comes up. We can sub-categorize within social issues like Infrastructure issue and so on..

CG seemed satisfied again..

CG: Ok, what about the Strike? It was yesterday, right? What was the issue?

Me: Described this very well. CG asked the place etc, answered well.

CG: Good

Me:

Over to TK now as CG started noting things down from my form.

TK: How many states in India?

Me: 29 sir if we count Delhi as a state.

CG: 29 or 27 (There is history here. They asked the same qsn to the previous guy who had answered 27)

Me: (Already had a discussion outside, consensus was on 29) I think 29 sir.

TK: ok, count

Me: Started from North states. Did okayish here. Could show 28 + 1 (Delhi).

TK: Why did you leave CTS?

Me: Explained well..

CG: You know about Narmada issue?

Me: :(Yes sir, little bit. Told about the dam thing.

TK: Is it a new dam or old one?

Me: :(Totally forgot. Told "I don't remember sir".

TK: still..

Me: I really don't remember sir, but it may be a new one.. (Mentioned I am not sure at all, again).

TK: Isn't there any existing dam?

Me: Sir, Sardar Sarovar Dam, I can state the name. But can't link afterwards.

TK: Ok, you may go.

Me: (Shit, ye kyun, sab to thik tha bhai, you could have ended on a better note) Thank You sir..

Left with a smile on my face.. of course kicking myself for such an overlook. But who could expect Narmada here:(

Learnt about the issue outside, but what the heck..

So, a totally so-so experience.. Can't tell what to make of it, but I guess that's the case with everyone..

Few days break now. After that, Over to I (and L).

All The Best to everyone here..

Interview experience of harshadk

Hello !

Had my K interview today morning :

Date : 12.02.08

Time : 9 am

Venue : Mumbai

Profile :

X : 84

XII : 82

Grad : 70 (Mech., Pune University)

Work Ex : 7 months in an automobile giant, 11.5 in an entrepreneurial venture, 9 again in the auto industry, in an ancillaries firm, marketing role

GD : Role of Labour Unions in Companies. Lot of points against labour unions already given in the topic slip. How they should not resort to strikes and should co-operate with management for benefit of both parties, etc etc.

Comments : Fairly OK discussion, 3-4 times became a fish-market for 10-15 seconds as 4-5 people tried to speak and kept speaking. Stayed out of such free-for-alls. Got in with 3-4 points. Reasonably happy with performance here.

PI :

Was the fourth person to go in. First fellow had a very general interview, lasting 20 min. Next 2 were short ones, around 10 min.

Interviewers : 1,2

Me: Me

I entered and wondered whether to keep the file on the table or on my lap. Was keeping it on my lap as there was no space on the table.

2: Give that to me.

1: Introduce yourself.

Me: Name, education, current job, entrepreneurial venture before this job...

1: (Cutting me) Why did you start this ?

Me: Started to blah....

1: Why did you start this after mechanical eng. ?

Me: Blah Blah

1: So you are a mechanical engineer...What were your favourite subjects ?

Me: (Rather apprehensively) : Err, Thermodynamics

1: State some thermo-cycles which are used

Me: (Was gonna start with Carnot but suddenly realised the last part of the question) : Rankine cycle, Refrigeration Cycle

1: Explain the refrigeration cycle. Draw it.

Me: Drew the T-S graph of it. Showed the directions and stuff.

1: Ok. What about Rankine cycle ? How is it ?

Me: Its similar, but direction is opposite.

1: Show it.

Me: 😊 (Drew the arrows in opposite direction.)

1: What other differences are there ?

Me: Err, none.

1: Sure ? (then made a minor change to the cycle)

Me: Yes, that is there.

1: That's it ? Nothing else ?

Me: Yes

1: (Makes another change to the cycle.) What about this ?

Me: yes, that also should be there (Didn't know whether these 2 changes are necessary. Was under the impression that it can be like what I had drawn also. Anyway, I wasn't arguing with him about something I wasn't sure of)

1: (Gets angry) : First I said that, you said yes. Now I said this, you say yes again. Whatever I am saying you are agreeing...

Me: (Sheepishly) Yes...

1: Ok, thermo clearly isn't your strength. (Refrigeration Cycle to correct nikala :neutral:) Suggest something else.

Me: Applied Mechanics.

1: you remember that from first year.

Me: A little...

1: Drew a string and asked me what direction the forces would be.

Me: Answered (Correct, I think).

1: (Made it a little more complicated.)

Me: Answered, don't know whether it was correct. No reaction from him.

1: You were in abc after grad.... so you must be knowing about IC Engines. (Rhetorical question, went on with it). Explain me what happens in the combustion chamber.

Me: Explained the first 2 strokes correctly though with a bit of hesitation (wanted to make sure i didn't goof up on this easy one).

1: What happens to the outlet valve during first and second stroke ?

Me: Has to be closed. (was wondering why is he asking me such simple questions. Either he's convinced that I really don't know anything, or this is a trick question 🤖). If its open then the air-fuel mixture will escape, which wont do.

1: Ok, go on.

Me: Started explaining compression stroke, when he kind of lost interest. Continued...

1: Ok Ok...

2: What is cost-reduction ? (Had mentioned it in the form in job responsibilities) Define cost reduction. What is Value engineering ? (Asked for 2 more definitions in the same go which I promptly forgot due to information overload).

Me: Explained cost reduction.

2: Define it.

Me: Gave some not-very-convincing definition.

2: (Stated something which was outside my definition but was cost reduction) Is this cost reduction ?

Me: Yes.

2: Why isn't it covered in your definition ? A definition should be comprehensive. Try again.

Me: Yes sir. Explained, this time was slightly better.

2: Ok. Give some examples.

Me: Explained in detail about what I do in my company (cost reduction).

2: What about Tata Nano ? How did they achieve cost reduction ?

Me: Spoke about how they gave their vendors target prices and stuff.

2: No, give me proper examples of cost reduction in nano.

Me: (Thought for a while). Told about how the IP is located in the centre of the dashboard to save costs when they come out with a LHD variant.

2: (didn't look too interested, just nodded.) So what about abc ? How did they achieve success with xyz product ? You have been in abc for a long time....

Me: (Puzzled look) : Sir, I was there for 7 months after grad. I left that...

2: You did ? Where's your form ? (Picks up a form from the table which doesn't look like mine. I try to see properly whether it is mine or not.)

Me: Err, that's not my form.

2: (Slightly bewildered). It isn't ? Where IS your form ?

Me: (Polite shrug)

1: Oh, here it is.... at the bottom of the pile (Has he already thrown me out ?)

2: Ooooooh, you are an entrepreneur....

Me: Yes.

2: Why did you leave it ?

Me: Told reason number 1.

2: But why leave it ? you could have continued...

Me: Explained again, this time in detail.

2: Why not split up and go out on your own ?

Me: Explained that nature of business did not allow that....

2: What do you want to do in your career ?

Me: I want to make a career in marketing....

2: Ok. I am very impressed about your articles... (Have written for the Hindu, was carrying the cut-outs)

Me: Thank you sir.

2: You are into photography also. You've won prizes. Where's the prize winning photo ? Show me.

Me: Not carrying it now. Have it outside in my bag. Can get it if you want.

2: No, let it be. What was it of ?

Me: Explained.

2: Oh, so that's the experience you wrote about for the Hindu...

Me: No sir, that was different. This one happened in xyz place.

2: And what about the squirrel ? (Had written about an experience I had with a baby squirrel which I helped back into its nest). That photo is also from there ?

Me (Wondering where this is going and why) : No sir, explained how I'd got the shot..... tried to put it funnily. (Both laugh)

2 to 1 : I'm done

1 to 2 : Me too

1: Ok, Thank you, Harshad. All the best. And keep writing, we are impressed with your articles.

Me: Thanks (I get scared when interviewers wish me luck at the end of the interview. Plus I get wary when there is too much praise. Experience from last year :-|)

Came out.... Had been 15-17 minutes long.

Don't know what to make of it. The acads screwing was bad. Otherwise defended the entrepreneurial thing to my satisfaction. Don't know why it went on a completely different track mid-way....

Cheers,

Harshad

Interview experience of FutureMBA

Hi All Puys,

I had my GD/PI on 14th at Mumbai.....am late for post SORRY !!

My profile

X 82

XII 82

Engg 70 :huh:

Wrk ex 20 months

CAT 99.75

LIK Calls

We had GD on Media related topic of which the content was that Media is not playing its role properly. What can be done. And whether it is correct. (Something of this sort, I don't remember exactly. Few lines were there on a piece of paper)

I had decent contribution (5 to 6 times) in my opinion...till the PI I had this feeling only :sarcasm:

PI 2 faculty members

Mr Rupesh Kumar Pati (RP)

&

Mr Ramesh K K (RK)

I went in and at the starting when I was about to sit after RK Sir told me to sit, RP sir asked Am I nervous? I said no. He replied OK we will make u.

RP: U were dominant in GD. Wat do u think.

Me: Sir our group had energy as we all had good points to discuss.....

RP: I can't see any progress in GD

Me: Sir we were giving more examples that is true but we had discussion on both the faces of the coin, also I agree that we cud move forward and can had some conclusion

RP: No points on education and Awareness about diseases

Me: Sir I gave point on awareness of different programmes of government by media channels

RP: OK. Now tell me from where we attack u first acads, work profile, economics, general..we will ask u all so tell me your first choice

Me: (Sahi main nervous kar k hi rahega) Sir (with smile) I am comfortable with all, if u want u can start wid anything. Pause but still if u want a preference than I say with work ex as I am in TCS a software major but in different vertical Embedded systems and not in IT Services.

RP: Ok what is Embedded Systems

Me: Told

RP: Not clear

Me: Again in very simple terms with examples of Microwave and Washing machine(I don't know he got satisfied or not)

RP: Is AC an embedded systems

Me: Yes

RP: How??

Me: Explained

RP: And my CAR is it an ex of embedded systems

Me: Yes, in fact I am in Automotive embedded only for A US auto major Chrysler

RP: OK. U R in TCS. Your company kicked some employees. Why? And What is EVA ??

Me: Told that a regular annual process. Don't know the exact form but it is something related to variable allowance based on performance not for us it is for seniors

RP: But still u must know something about it

Me: (yaar abhi to itna bataya) Again told about the appraisal and all

RP: Laughing, you don't even know how will you get promoted in your company.

Me: Smile (I think I explained it well. He must want something specific)

RK: Ok why shall I select u ?

Me: (I have a long answer wait my friend) Sir I can work in team as a member and as A leader....
(interrupted)(I wanted to give examples)

RK: what is a leader

Me: Told

RK: what is your opinion about leaders from India?

Me: M K Gandhi greatest of all and explained

RK: Contemporary?

Me: Narayanamurthy and Tata

RK: Ok what is leadership?

Me: I want to quote Jack Welch.....and explained

RP: So you won't give any answer as May be , can be

Me: Sir if i know the answer I will tell u yes, If i don't know the answer I will tell I don't know and if I have a doubt I will ask your permission to guess

RK: tell me something about your family?

Me: told in short

RP: Ok so you are in CSR team as well. Expalin CSR to me?

Me: yes. Told

RP: what is ISR ? and which is better?

Me: Told and told in my opinion ISR is better

Then we had a long discussion on various points and examples given by him to me of ISR better than CSR. I told you asked in my opinion and I think CSR is better for me as and gave a lot of reasons and examples.

RP: (In the end) Yaar ISR is better. And therefore companies are moving towards ISR.

RK: Ok tell me about recession. Is US going through a recession?

Me: Told that not right now but expected in next few quarters as In US definition of recession is....and explained

RK: So is it different in USA and other places?

Me: no sir I mean Recession is.....

RK: Ok what status is Indian economy? Growing? Can grow more? Hurdles? As a fin minister

Me: Sir we are growing , a lot of scope is there more to grow, and hurdles in my opinion are 1) Agri sector and explained and we discussed a bit about GDP and all.

2) Infrastructure and explained

Rk: what TCS CSR is doing for infra?

Me: Sir afaik nothing directly

(In between they asked me about my calls and I told LIK) (they asked me that you will go to I only as you are from Indore) (I told nothing like that , no location preference for me college is more important than any other thing)

RK: Ok interview is over. Tell me how was your L? say you will get selected or not.

YES OR NO

Me: YES Sir

RK: How was K? say you will get selected or not?

YES OR NO

Me: Sir YES as we discussed a lot on various topics.

RK: Laughing..Good luck for your YES:confused:

Me thank you. Can I hav my file back. shaked hands I don't know why and came out.

May be I am missing something as a long Interview. Will update soon.

Interview experience of akshaysathya

Hi everyone, had my GD & PI on the 11th of Feb in Mumbai and sorry for posting so late

Name: Akshay Sathya

Education: X - 81.83 (SSC, AP)

XII – 85.60 (State board , AP)

BE – 73.58 (CSE, Vasavi College of Engineering, Hyd)

Work Exp: Cognizant Technology Solution (14 months) – Hyd

Edelweiss Securities Limited (Software function)(1 month till date) – Mumbai

CAT 2007

OA: 98.87

Quant: 98.30

VA: 94.70

DI: 94.51

Panel: 2 profs (P1 and P2)

P1: was kinda saint looking. But changed my opinion after the interview

P2: A young prof

Number of Candidates: 11

GD:

Every candidate was allotted a number and were made to sit in that order (mine was 7)

Topic: A statement quoting a person saying that the Navaratnas should function as Private organizations.

The GD was pretty good but the group was revolving around the point that the govt and the Private organisations should play a part. 2 candidates didn't speak at all and were asked to give a reason during their interview.

I came in 3-4 times in the GD and I had position advantage as I was at the bottom of the U though the panel was right in front of me. On the whole a decent GD but could have done better.

I was the 7th to be interviewed.

Walk in with a smile and greet them both .

P1: What is the meaning of your name (Akshay)

Me: its a mythological plate which gives food when needed i.e. akshaya patra

P1: He asks me the exact meaning of it

Me: I don't know

P1: It means Inexhaustible

Me: Oh yes! And I correlate with my explanation

P1: Tell me about your self

Me: blah blah blah

P2: So Akshay are you responsible

Me: Yes sir! (Confidently)

I had made a mistake of writing Strengths and weaknesses in the alternative careers section. So I pasted a white paper on it and made the changes.

P2: He shows me that mistake and tells me that I should be careful as even though these are small things they are important (Didn't seem to get too bothered by it though)

P2: What does Edelweiss do (My current company)

Me: IB, PE blah blah blah

P2: Do you know what do they mean

Me: yes sir

P2: What is your opinion about the Indo- Us nuclear deal

Me: It is a good deal but a few details in the agreements related to the deal should be changed (Didn't try to take a strong stance and portrayed both sides of the story)

P2: If its good then why are the people opposing it

Me: told him about sovereignty, blah blah

Had mentioned that the deal had a point which was interfering with India's foreign policy and had an indirect implication on the Iran – Pakistan - India gas pipeline

P1 &

P2: Wondering if such a thing was there Though they didn't stress on it..... and moved on

P2: What do you know about the Ram Sethu issue

Me: blah blah blah

Seemed satisfied with my explanation

P2: What is my opinion about Raj Thakeray issue and how is it affecting economically

Me: Told him how Mumbai is the financial hub and how everybody plays a part and mum being a cosmopolitan city everybody plays a part and if the Up and Bihar people are being forced to leave then it would reduce the number of taxis as they form the major chunk and would effect the transportation blah blah blah.....

Also gave a common mans perspective of how the taxi walas take people for a ride and charge more (just to give a view of the other side of the coin)

P2: If your were an advisor to the PM what would you suggest

Me: (Think!!!!) I would tell the PM to interact with Raj directly and since the issue is more political than other , give him a position of responsibility and make him feel important (This is the best I could think of at that moment) (didn't seem too convinced with my explanation)

P2: Was smiling and said that more such issues will happen as it is an easy way of getting responsibility

P2: What is your opinion about Telengana issue in AP (I am from AP)

Me: blah balh blah (Seemed satisfied)

All along P1 was staring at me prob to make me uncomfortable .I was looking at both the Interviewers while talking

P1: Is trekking your hobby

Me: I have been for a trek in the Himalayas once and would like to go for more but I am not able to a due to time constraints ... so cant call it a hobby but an interest.

P1: "To kill a mocking bird" is there a movie too? Who is the actor? Have you watched it?

Me: yes and Gregory peck. Have seen bits and pieces of the movie

P2: Did you have operations in your eng.

Me: no sir! (I am a Comp eng.)

P2: What is your favourite subject?

Me: Object oriented programming

P2: everybody before you said the same thing.... Tell me something else

Me: Software Engineering

P2: What is java and oracle

Me: (Huh! Figured that they don't know much bout comp subj) explained convincingly

P1: Java has a logo of a cup with steam coming out why?

Me: Java is a coffee bean blah blah blah

P2: Did you have and management subject in eng?

Me: Yes sir! Managerial economics and accountancy

P1: Do you know a balance sheet

Me: yes sir ! but very briefly

P1: What does it represent

Me: Blah blah blah

P1: What is net worth of a company

Me: explained without financial jargon

P1: What is NAV?

Me: Explained

P2: What is market capitalization

Me: blah blah blah

(Seemed ok with the answers though could have done better)

P1: There is tax exemption on investments made How much tax exemption do you get?

Me: I have no investments and so don't get any tax exemption

P1: Any idea what is the listing price of Reliance IPO?

Me: (Reliance IPO got listed on the day of my interview and my interview was at 9:00 AM) I don't know sir ... didn't get access to TV sir but If the scrip gets listed above 500 then Anil Ambani will be the richest in India above LN Mittal

P1: What was the price band of Reliance IPO?

Me: (Could not rem) I cannot recollect it sir.

P2: How much is the education cess?

Me: (Damn it! I have seen it some where but could not rem the exact fig) I am not sure sir but I guess it is 4% (Turns out it is 3 %)

P2: Laughs and tells P1 that everybody is giving a different figure .

P2: What is the southernmost point in India?

Me: Confidently! Kanyakumari (though Indira point is the southern most ... but in the main land it is Kanyakumari .. they didn't seem to mind the answer)

P2: Which state is it in?

Me: ummmmm! (Tamil Nadu or kerala) kerala sir

P2: Are you sure ?

Me: No sir! I cant recollect it right now

P2: Chndigarh is the capital of ?

Me: (Damn it ... I am really bad at geography) Punjab

P2: What is the capital of Haryana?

Me: (L) can't recollect it right now

P2: Hmmm! Capitals (and makes an entry in his paper)

P1: How many states are there in India?

Me: 28 sir (Didn't seem to have a problem with my answer and seemed satisfied but I was confused whether Delhi is a state or not ... if it is so then it is 29)

P2: Do you know what you want to do after your MBA?

Me: Yes sir! Would like to join an IB or PE

P2: Do you know what they mean?

Me: yes Sir! (Was ready with the answer ... but didn't ask)

P2: Thank You Akshay!

Me: Thank You sir

As I was getting up

P1: What do you think about the interview?

Me: It was an experience sir.

P1: You have a very good and pleasant smile Always maintain that!

Me: Thank You Sir! (This made my day But as I pondered over it, I couldn't figure what to make of it ... was it a compliment or a hint?)

Overall it was a nice and pleasant interview .. but don't know what to make of itSeniors! any comments about my performance? K is my only call ... my first and last chance Hope I make it.

Interview experience of ameya.maddy

My second IIM GD-PI was a special one for me and I tried to remain as calm as possible as I reached the centre a good 1 hour before the official start time. I was better prepared with acads for this one, using the 10-day gap between the last GD-PI and this one to brush up on basics of data structures, algorithmics, databases and computer networks. The IIM-L experience had been a decent one, considering it was my first IIM GD-PI, and that saw me much more relaxed and less anxious than I was before the IIML GD-PI. I met a few people who were in the same slot as me for the IIML GD-PI, but saw many more new faces. I chatted with many people, but one among them stood out because of his not-so-common profile. This guy, a B.Tech from the Indian School of Mines Dhanbad, worked with Reliance Petroleum and his job was to perform mathematical modeling for their drilling operations. In fact, he had spent 6 months on one of their offshore oil rigs. I was intrigued by his profile and tried to gather more information on the work he did there. IIM-K was his lone GD-PI call and I told him to leverage his rather unique job profile to the fullest.

The conversation with others mostly centered around the volatile stock market, the P-notes issue and the listing of the Reliance Power stock, which was to happen later that day. Like everywhere else, there were speculations galore on the fate of the most subscribed IPO in India's securities market history, which gave me some interesting insights into the listing process courtesy some hardcore stock market followers.

15 minutes prior to the official start time, a professor came to the room where we had assembled and announced the itinerary for the day. Like the IIML process, we were to be split into 3 groups, only this time there would be 11 members per group, as opposed to the 8 at IIML. The professor then escorted our group to the "Syndicate Room" on the fifth floor of the building, where awaiting us was another IIMK professor, who bore an uncanny resemblance to the Swamiji in the movie Sarkar. This room was much smaller than the room for the IIML GD-PI, almost to the point of being claustrophobic to accommodate the 13 of us (11 of our group plus the 2 moderators). The seats for the GD had been arranged in a J-shaped formation (which I had never seen or heard about at any GD before – we were told to mostly expect a U-shaped or a crescent shaped formation), with very little space between two seats. I have a propensity for making a lot of hand movements when speaking (something which would be pointed out in my PI later) and therefore I made a conscious decision to restrict my hand movements to prevent me from accidentally nudging my neighbours. In order to effectively do that, I placed the file containing my certificates on my lap (since the chair had no holder) instead of placing it on the table behind the chairs (where others placed their files) so that I would have to keep my hands on it to prevent it from slipping off my lap. Pretty ingenious, eh! I was told by the moderators to sit at the 4th position from the head-end of the J (which was nearer to the moderators), which also meant that I would be the 4th one to be interviewed.

The GD

As expected, we were given 2 minutes to read an excerpt from an article. The excerpt was about the Navratnas (the top 9 profit making PSUs) losing their hold on the market due to the entry of private players and advocated that the government relinquish control over these in order to bring about a professional approach towards managing them. The final line of the extract even stated that the government should not remain in the business of running companies. I scribbled some points based on my understanding of the extract so I could use them in the GD. At the end of 2 minutes, the moderators told us to start. Due to the unusual J-shaped formation, the discussion seemed to be concentrated at the lower end of the formation, and I could enter the GD only after 6 or 7 interventions by others, though I had made a couple of unsuccessful attempts to get in before that. In fact, one could clearly identify two people who had most of the airtime, while the guy to my extreme right was completely shunted out (courtesy, probably his disadvantageous seating position), until one of the guys at the centre, noticing that, offered him a chance to speak towards the end of the GD. The GD began well and made for a good structured discussion, until, towards the end, it became a case of "who quotes the maximum examples about the boons and banes of privatization". None of us (including yours truly) made a concrete attempt at reaching a consensus, and before we knew it, the moderators halted the GD some 12-13 minutes after it began and told each one of us to summarize (verbally) beginning with the guy at the head end of the formation. I had barely managed 4 interventions and the points I made were as follows:

- The difference between disinvestment and privatization. I brought up this point so we could discuss the various ways in which private participation in a company can be enlisted.
- PSUs not bracing themselves for competition in sectors in which they enjoyed a monopoly prior to the opening up of the sectors to private players
- The importance of the government as a facilitator and regulator
- I quoted the example of the growth of the telecom sector after the monopoly that MTNL/BSNL enjoyed was done away with, while the TRAI being retained as a regulatory arm of the government.

The moderators then collected our PI forms and we were asked to exit the room. The post GD- pre PI discussion between us candidates during the tea break centered around identifying the Navratnas, with most people anticipating this as a PI question. I wasn't particularly pleased with my performance in the GD and decided to switch off from the discussion going on about the ensuing PIs in order to regain my composure. Considering I would be the 4th one to be interviewed, I made a conscious decision not to ask the first 3 candidates what questions they were asked in the PI, once they came out of the interview room.

The PI

After waiting nearly 75 minutes post the GD, my turn to face up to the IIMK interviewers finally came. When I entered the room, only one of the interviewers greeted me; the other interviewer (aka Swamiji from Sarkar) seemed busy reading something and was sitting in a reclining position in his chair. Hereafter I'll refer to the two interviewers as I1 (the one seated to my left) and I2 (Swamiji, who was seated to my right):

I1: So (perusing through my PI form)...tell us about your hobbies.

Me: Sir....one of my hobbies is following air crash investigations....

I2: (Interrupts, rises from his chair and looks at me with a penetrative, somewhat intimidating gaze, a la interrogation style)That's interesting....can you tell me about Vishakha?

Me: (Slightly surprised)Sir..you mean Kanishka?

I2: (Nods)Oh ya..Kanishka.

Me: Sir, in 1984, an Air India Boeing 747 crashed off the east coast of Canada (it actually crashed off the coast of Ireland..but he seemed either not to notice that or noticed it but did not deliberately interrupt me) after a piece of baggage containing explosives planted in its cargo hold, exploded, killing all people on board. Since the majority of the victims in this attack were Canadians, Canada spent a lot of time and money into its investigation; in fact, it's the most expensive investigation in Canada's aviation history, spanning nearly 2 decades.

I2: Recently there was some controversy over a conviction in this case. Can you tell me what it was? (In the same interrogation style)

Me: (I drew a blank at this point; probably I was intimidated by Swamiji's general demeanour) Sir... I don't know.

I2: (In a calm yet purposeful tone) You told us this is your hobby. We would not have asked this to someone else.

Me: (Just then it struck me) Sir recently one of Bhindranwale's (of Khalistan fame) supporters was convicted of masterminding the attack, based on the investigation carried out by India. However, the Canadian investigation could not corroborate the same, and there were allegations that the conviction was carried without granting a fair trial to the accused.

(I was not at all convincing and confident in my answer; hereafter I became very conscious of the perceived bad start to the interview and the effects were more or less visible in my subsequent answers. Somewhere in my head, the words "Every new question is an opportunity" kept reverberating.)

I2: What are your other hobbies?

Me: Sir singing.

(I never gave a single word answer to this question and always took it as an opportunity to exhibit my passion for singing. However my confidence had been slightly dented due to the visibly poor start and I stopped right there, hoping he would ask me to sing, like I was at the IIML interview. Instead I was asked something totally unexpected; this is where they would have had the chance to gauge my response in an unfamiliar situation with a slightly dented confidence)

I2: Do you sing ghazals? Can you tell me what is their specialty?

Me: Sir I myself am not an avid ghazal singer or a listener. But from what I've heard, ghazals are generally slow paced with very little variations in pitch. Also there's a lot of emphasis on conveying emotions through the way words are pronounced. For example, the word tanhai (loneliness) when pronounced in a particular manner conveys a romantic aspect to loneliness, while when pronounced in another manner conveys the despair, the misery associated with it.

(I felt I was much more convincing in this response. The interviewer's body language though, seemed to belie that)

I2: What do you mean by 'very little variations in pitch'?

(I feel my far from convincing answer to my previous hobby probably led him to probe deeper into how much I know about singing – this is a conjecture I'm making from looking at his demeanour)

Me: Sir the pitch of one's voice is its perceived frequency. When one sings at a higher pitch than normal, one is actually perceived to be singing at a higher octave than normal on a particular scale. The opposite is true for a lower pitch. In ghazals, there is very little variation in the perceived octaves at which one sings.

(I know that was a lot of jargon – and that's probably how the interviewer perceived it to be; but to know what I'm talking about, listen to the song Aye Ajnabi from Dil Se and the vocal variations in it and you'll know how it is unlike a ghazal)

I1: You work in a IT company. What's the kind of work you do there?

Me: Sir, our project is based on a concept called Number Translation...

I1: (Interrupts) All you IT people keep talking in terms of projects. What's a project?

Me: Sir a project is a group of interrelated tasks we have to achieve in a given timeline at a cost which is either fixed or proportional to the time taken.

I1: So every project has a deadline and a cost associated with it?

Me: Yes. At the beginning of any project, we have to give an estimated time and cost quote to the client, which if approved, leads to us commencing work on it. The aim is to complete it in a time as close to the estimated time as possible.

I1: So what's the deadline for your project?

Me: Sir, ours is an ongoing project. We get contracts for a particular piece of work on a quarterly or a half yearly basis which is generally for a complete application.

I1: But just now you agreed every project has a deadline and now you are saying yours is an ongoing project?

Me: Sir I meant, if you consider each piece of contracted work as a project, it does have a 3-month or a 6-month deadline.

(Not very convincing with my last response as I felt I failed to convey to him not to take the literal meaning of my words – read 'project' and 'piece of work')

I1: (Pauses to peruse through my PI form) You have mentioned your strength as 'good teaching skills'. Can you give us a 1 minute presentation on any topic of your choice?

(I instinctively rose from my seat – as if suggesting I was about to leave the room – and started on 'PL/SQL basics'. I spoke about the shortcomings of SQL and how PL/SQL with its features overcomes it and how

control is passed back and forth between the SQL and PL/SQL engines during the execution of a PL/SQL procedure or a function. What I'll remember most about this is the look of surprise and possibly amusement on the interviewers' faces when I rose from my seat to make the presentation – something which they probably did not expect I would do J)

I2: (After I returned to my seat) Recently there have been suggestions about making Narayana Murthy the President. Do you agree with those views?

Me: (This was déjà vu for me. And for those who have already read my IIML GD-PI experience my answer too will be a déjà vu J) Definitely yes. He's a role model for many of us in the company and is an epitome of integrity, which is essential for any leader to be looked up to. Also he has been a key contributor to Infosys' success story and much of the goodwill that the company enjoys stems from his image as a person. I'm sure he has it in him to connect with a larger set of people, if made the President.

(I2 then gestured to I1 as if he had had enough of me and indicated that he carry on)

I1: You are a module lead. Now imagine you need one more person in your team and you have to choose from one among two persons – person A is 100% technically competent but has 0% managerial skills and person B is 0% technically competent but has 100% managerial skills. Who would you pick?

Me: Sir it would depend on the requirements of our project. If our project demands a high level of technical competency which cannot be acquired in a short time span, I'll prefer person A over B and train him or her on the managerial aspects which are lacking. However if the technical competency that our project demands can be achieved in a couple of weeks of training, I'll prefer person B over A.

I1: You can choose only one. Who will you choose?

Me: Sir its difficult to select any one without setting a context.

I1: (Now forcing the issue) But as a manager you will be required to make decisions like these. Choose any 1 and justify.

Me: Sir, as a manager I will also be required to do what is in the best interests of the project and I believe choosing any one without giving due consideration to the project requirements would be tantamount to not upholding that interest.

I1: (Finally relents in a feeble but slightly deriding manner) Kya yaar....tumko ek choose karne bola woh bhi nahi kar sakte!

I2: (Jumps in) Do you follow the newspapers?

Me: Yes

I2: Could you list 3 issues of socio-political national importance that have been making headlines recently?

(Its strange that outside of the interview, one is easily able to recall at least 5 issues without much effort. But in an interview situation, one tends to become tongue tied and hard pressed for some recollections of the same. At least that's what happened with me)

Me: (After much effort) The Indo-US nuclear deal

I2: Second?

Me: (After double the effort) The local v/s outsider debate brewing in Mumbai

I2: Third?

Me: Ummm...Sir, I can't recall anymore.

I1: Have you heard about the Sethusamudram project?

Me: Yes Sir. It's a project that envisages dredging of a canal in the Palk Strait between India and Srilanka so that Indian ships and cargo vessels don't have to circumvent Srilanka to go from India's west coast to the east or vice versa. However, right since its inception, the project has been mired in political controversy over the Ram's Setu or the Adam's bridge being dredged to build the canal. Environmentalists have also voiced

concerns over the purported damage to the marine ecosystem that the project may cause. And recently, the navy has alleged that the government is expediting the approval of the project without giving due consideration to national security. They have cited the threat to Indian ships and vessels from the LTTE which controls the northern part of Srilanka.

I1: Please hand over your file to me. (I handed him the file which I had kept in my lap until then)

I2: You could have kept the file on the table. Why did you not keep it here? (In a polite tone)

Me: Sir...no specific reason.

I2: You seemed very tense during the GD and very restless as well, as you seemed to be fidgeting with your file. And you didn't speak much. Why?

Me: (Visibly more conscious and feeble and nodding as if to agree with him) Yes Sir its true that I didn't speak as much as some of the other members of our group, but I believe I made some incisive points.

I2: (Interrupts before I finish, while playfully stroking his long beard) Also, you speak a lot with your hands?

Me: (Ah...the umpteenth time! In fact one of my friends jokingly says that I would be dumbstruck if someone tied my hands J) Yes Sir many people have told me that (with half a smile).

I2: What are your thoughts on privatization?

Me: Sir it certainly brings in a more professional approach to management with higher accountability and being deadline driven, its more focused on performance. However social responsibility does take a back seat over profitability.

I2: But you see that there are certain sectors like defence that cannot be privatized. What do you do to increase accountability there?

Me: Sir our defence forces are considered one of the most professional and one of the best in the world. If there is need for greater accountability, its in the process of acquiring new technology for our armed forces. Here it can be achieved through greater transparency in the acquisition process and of the ways to do that is the government acquiring technology directly from private sector Indian companies like L&T which have a reputation for manufacturing defence technology, instead of relying on a network of agents to acquire the same from foreign companies. This would also reduce India's dependency on foreign assistance.

I2: Why do you think the Indian government relies on these network of agents?

Me: Sir I'm not sure of the actual reason, but it may be because of vested interests of certain bureaucrats, who are known to receive kickbacks for allegedly shady defence deals, the Bofors issue being a case in point.

I1: (Pointing to my 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th semester engineering mark sheets) Why are these of a different colour?

Me: Sir these examinations were conducted by our college, which also issued their mark sheets whereas the others were conducted by the Mumbai University, which issued the mark sheets for the 1st, 2nd, 7th and 8th semester examinations.

I1: (Handing over the mark sheets to me) For your next interview, please arrange them properly.

(That was surprising. I had arranged them in chronological order and thought that was how they wanted them. In hindsight, it struck me that I had handed them loose mark sheets from my file, which may have ticked him off; so the first thing I did after this interview was to purchase a transparent folder for holding my certificates)

Me: Right Sir.

I2: All the best for your future (Ummm...does this mean a future devoid of an IIMK admit?)...you may leave.

I thanked both interviewers and heaved a sigh of relief that it was over. I felt I did well in patches and felt I could have handled certain questions differently, in a much better manner. In fact, over the next few days, I must have gloated over this one the most, considering the next one at the 'Big One' was just 5 days away. As I

exited the centre, I was glad not many people mobbed me about my experience, as I felt completely drained and the only thing I was looking forward to doing was reaching home and catching some shuteye.

IIM Kozhikode - Year 2009

Interview experience of shanky2005

Profile :

X: 89% Gujarat Board
XII: 80% CBSE
Undergrad Major - Computer Eng.
GPA/%age: 81.90

Work-Ex:

NIL

CAT %ile:

DI: 99.64
Quant:96.90
Verbal: 96.67
Aggregate: 99.56

Any other special thing about you:

Following will be used in interview:

Am from Surat

All India 10th In Common proficiency test for Chartered Accountancy

Will Join family Business after MBA

GD:

Topic: Long topic about an American doctor helping Haiti medical system by community based medical service.

He believes that equality of medical service is a basic right.

But people want food along with drugs. And racism , sexism etc is prevalent in society.

Number of People present:11

Time: 2 minutes to think and 10 minutes to discuss

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: holistic view should be taken. basic necessities like food water and sanitation should be ensured.

People felt that poverty alleviation was the important task.

someone mentioned it could be removed by employment.

Causes regarding poverty of people were discussed.

GD was peaceful. But social aspects were not discussed in detail.

It was a horrible GD for me because I entered it only twice and that too, the points did not connect with the others, I feel.

PI:

Panel Members Intro:Prof with french beard(P1)

Prof with moustache in coat(P2)

Me:M

Questions:

P2:How are you?

M:I am fine thank you

P1: Where have u come from?

M: Today from friend's place, from Surat, I came yesterday

P1: Ok tell us about your friend

M: Blah blah

Pause

M: He is doing his mba from **** Mumbai

P2: Why don't u join ****. dare to think beyond IIM.

M:No sir I will want to join IIM only

P2: So you are not daring?

M: If daring means to leave IIM and join ****, then yes I am not.

We both laughed

P2: So why have u given CPT?

M: Gave the reason.

P2: What all you studied in it?.I told

P2: What is the consumer Surplus? draw

M: Drew it. Made a small mistake. He questioned me and was laughing, i was defending it and then saw the mistake and rectified it

Discussion on concepts of consumer surplus, producer surplus in detail.

P2: What is depreciation in accounts? Why do companies want to increase it?

M: Told and gave benefits of increasing n decreasing depreciation.

P2:laughing: but companies only want to increase it..Why?

M: Shrugged(laughing along with him)

P2: Where is loss shown on balance sheet?

M: Goofed up a bit.

P2: Laughed, discussed some more and said: So you still need to learn more accounts

M: Yes

P2: What about computer engg?(laughing)

M: I need to learn it a lot more.(both laughing)

P2: what all subjects in final sem?..told

P2: Final yr project? Told

P2: Discussion regarding project, I could not answer properly. Left it at what is digital signature?

P1: So you are from Gujarat? where are u basically from?

M: Been in Gujarat since birth

P1: What does your father do? describe family business, size and scope.

M: Answered

P1: Industries are closing in Surat. Why would u go there after MBA?

M: Told

P1: Why not take a job? where are u placed? why did u take placement?

M: Told that took placement for backup.

P1: Ok thank you.

Comments: interview was approx 20 minutes. I m grateful they did not go deep into acads.

P2 was laughing and jovial.

P1 was serious but had an understanding face. No stress at all..

Interview experience of Ijv

Profile :

X - 88.8 % (Maharashtra State Board)

XII - 87.17 % (Maharashtra State Board)

Undergrad Major - Civil Engineering, 70.9 % (Mumbai University)

Work - ex - 35 months, Larsen & Toubro ECC Division, Ports & Harbours Division.

CAT - 99.14 %ile

Panel - 2 members

P1 = Prof Saji Gopinath

P2 = Prof Joffi Thomas

GD Topic

Time: 2 mins + 10 mins

It was a 10 line newspaper / magazine clipping. It went something like this...

"In the year 2006, TIME magazine voted "YOU" as the man of the year. Social technologies have given power back to the people.

Examples of Wikipedia, YouTube and social networking sites. During the aftermath of terror attacks in Mumbai, power of people was seen.

Government seems to losing power. You are the power now"

Had a very good GD. Absolutely no fish market. All the group members were like angels , no cross talks no cutting etc.

I could come with about 4-5 points, which I could elaborate to my satisfaction.

We talked about that, previously information was not available freely.

Now with web based learning, people are better informed and can raise their voices and be heard.

Talked about things like RTI, blogging, social n/w, how President Obama used this media to reach out to people.

Eg of Second Life, virtual reality. We also talked about how people misuse technology eg Napster, P2P n/w, copyright infringement.

In totality, we discussed positive and negative aspects of people empowerment,

how education has a role in empowering people and their judgements regarding its use. The role of government etc was also discussed.

I felt that the process was a bit short though... around 2 mins for thinking followed by 10 mins ka discussion.

Personal Interview:

Time: 25 - 30 mins

I was the first one to be sacrificed today at the altar of panel 2 :(

P1: Tell me about yourself ?

Me: Blah Blah ... Civil Engg ... worked with L&T for 3 years ... selected as an Internal Management Trainee ... ISO 9001 Internal Auditor .

.. IPMA Level D Certification ... to like to work in project management related roles ... Blah Blah.

P1: Selected as GET or MT ?

Me: First as GET, then became MT ...blah blah

P1: Tell me about the job sites u worked at ?

Me: Blah Blah ... Mundra Port ... L&T, Hazira Works ... Blah Blah

P1: Your role and responsibilities ?

Me: Blah Blah ... project scheduling ... resource allocation, levelling, scheduling etc ... Blah Blah

P1: What do u know about resource levelling ?

Me: Blah Blah

P1: Have you worked on MS - Project ?

Me: Yes

P1: What are the different types of resource allocation ?

Me:

P1: Ok, work allocation and material allocation, what are the differences ?

Me: :-|, some trash answer

P1: Have u done resource levelling yourself ?

Me: Blah Blah

P1: Is your role more oriented towards contractors or project scheduling ?

Me: Have to do both

P1: Which do you do more ?

Me: More oriented towards contractors.

P1: Thought so, L&T na ... Anyways I wasn't expecting you to know about resource levelling.

Me: :-|

P2: So when did you leave your job ?

Me: May

P2: After working at such a high post, why did u leave ?

Me: Blah Blah.....

P2: So what did u do for these 10 months ?

Me: MBA prep ... IPMA certification ... pursued my hobbies

P2: What is this IPMA ?

Me: Blah Blah

P1: Come on now, for someone like you it will take hardly any time. What else did u do ?

Me: :-| (Aur kuch nahin kiya toh kya bolun ?)

P1: What are your career goals ?

Me: Finally ... Blah Blah Blah ... Project Mgmt..

P1: OK, so what all did u study in Project Management ?

Me: Blah Blah

P1: Differentiate CPM / PERT ?

Me: Blah Blah

P1: How do you do PERT ?

Me: Blah Blah

P1: How do you get the formula for likely time estimate ?

Me: (Yeh to nahin sikhaya) From Normal Distribution Curve

P1: No, wrong

Me:

... and so it begins ...

P1: So, what will be the significance of critical path ?

Me: Max time

P1: For CPM right, not for PERT ... dont you think it will be mean time ?

Me:

... then a long discussion about time estimates ... whether it will be mean, max or min ... normal distribution curve ..

....I had no clue what P1 was talking about. Managed to give a fight :(

P1: So you are saying that critical path will give 50% time duration ?

Me: (When did I say that ?)

P1: You have low marks at grad. You flunked a subject also. You must be a poor student..

Me: Blah Blah ...

P2: So what did u do for these 10 months ?

Me: (Phir se ?) Repeat story ...

P2: I think you left because you are not comfortable with site work ?

Me: Solid gyaan baaji

P1: (Pointing to a column) Is that a column ?

Me: :-| Yes

P1: How do you know ?

Me: Explained about load bearing and framed structures.

P1: (Pointing to a wall) Is that wall taking any load ?

Me: No ... its a framed structure so no load.

P1: Then why is that wall there ?

Me: Its a partition wall :-|

P1: Why is a partition wall needed ?

Me: To separate rooms :-|

P1: (Pointing to another wall with stone cladding) What is this wall made of ?

Me: Bricks / Concrete blocks :-|

P1: How do you know, why cant it be made of that stone ?

Me: (By now I was about to pull out my hair in agony ...) Its a framed structure ... no load on wall ... not feasible to build a stonewall in a modern building.

P1: Who says so ... go to Cuddaph... you will get houses made of stone

Me:

P1: (Pointing to a potrait of Taj Mahal) Have you seen Taj ? Analyse the dome for me.

Me: (By this time I figured out that the prof had to be a Mech Engg...) I decide to stay away from shell theory and hoop stress etc...

Point out the arch theory, compressive loads and end anchorages.

P2: So what did u do for these 10 months ?

Me: What ? Again ? ... ohhhh :(.... Reading etc

P2: Read what ?

Me: Blah Blah ... "Who says elephants cant dance - Lou Gerstner Jr" ... Blah Blah

P1: Ohh so did he make the elephant dance ?

Me: Blah Blah

P2: Why should elephants dance ? Don't u think we should be afraid and scared when elephants start dancing ?

Me:afraid ?? ...mutter something about being competitive and dancing if survival demands.

P2: Name a few Indian elephants ?

Me: Blah Blah ...

P2: What is the size of L&T elephant ?

Me: (Major goof up ... talked about order booking instead of turnover)

P2: What is ECC component ? % and gross ?

Me: I calculate as per my previous ans.

P2: Your figures are too low, you are wrong.

Me: (Plz let me goplz)

P1 & P2: You may leave.

Me: Ohh... thank god.

Later I come to know that P1 is a major Ops God @ IIMK. A Mech Engg with L&T background. Just my rotten luck :(!!. No wonder I was grilled heavily into PERT. N P2 seemed to be obsessed with my break.

I think I could not convince them about how I utilized my time during the break. Any how a wonderful experience.

The profs were very cordial. They were smiling all the time (on my stupidity of course).

With my low CAT %ile I don't think this will convert. Still hoping for the best

... And thus a little boy was sacrificed at the altar of an Ops God.

Interview experience of akkyagrawal

PROFILE:

Acads:

X: 92.67 %

XII: 83.83%

Undergrad :

Computer Science Engineering - 71.xx %

Work-Ex:

NIL/Sector - Number of Years: 7 months in s/w dept of a leading US bank

CAT %ile:

DI

Quant

Verbal

Aggregate 99.93

Any other special thing about you: Lots of extra-curricular certificates...Wanted to be grilled on them rather than the technical stuff..

Had mentioned cricket and counterstrike as my hobbies...

GD:

Topic: Janaki is working in some BPO or IT company. She is now called Jane. For her, 4th July is the Indian Independence Day.

Works when people are sleeping. No social life, identity, etc. So this industry is killing the current generation of India.

Number of people present: 9

Time: 5 minutes to go through the point, 15 minutes to discuss.

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: An average discussion I would say.

One guy started off and another one followed when the panel asked us to start.

Other details regarding writing the points are same as the above post...

PI:

Panel Members Intro: Two people..One elderly man(P1) and one lady (P2)...

P1 was apparently the boss around as he was the one who had come up in the waiting room and announced the different GD groups.

I was the first one in my group to be grilled.. Got 3-4 minutes break after the GD.

Questions:

P1 called me inside... Inside, they had called up someone to adjust the a/c temperature.

P1 was busy with him.P2 made me sit down... P1 took a look at me and asked me for my PI form and certificates while also in conversation with the a/c guy.

P2: So Aakash, what do you do??

Me: Well, I work as a software professional with XYZ bank in their Private Banking(PB) department.

P2: Which bank did you say??

Me: XYZ...

P2: So, what exactly do you do as a software professional for Private Bank?

Me: Explained to her, what exactly the PB department was supposed to do and where the software came into picture.

P1, meanwhile, had started checking my documents, specially my CAT admit card and score card (He actually took them out of my folder to check)

P2: So, what is your role??

Me: We have development and support teams here in India. I am into development.

P2: Hasn't recession affected the software department of your firm??

Me: No. On the contrary, we have been on a hiring spree..

Ours is a comparatively newer department in India and we are looking to expand.

P2: How long have you been working??

Me: 7 months, mam.

P2: From where did you do your graduation? What's your background btw?

Me: I have done engineering in computer science from Nagpur.

P2: So, how did you get placed? Through campus or you switched??

Me: Through campus, mam!! Ours is the first batch of graduates in our company..

P2: So, you are lucky!!

Me just smiled...

She looked at P1 at this point..He was going through my PI form now...

P1: So Aakash, you have been working for last 7 months??

Me: yes sir...

P1: So, why you want to switch now??

P1 grilled me some more on this topic, that I should continue working for some more time and then think of an MBA...

..answered them as best as I could...

After this, he again passed it over to P2. She again went back to my company...

P2: What should be the role of a responsible bank in this moment of crisis??

Me: Explained with the example of my own bank...

P2: Do you think India has been hit by recession as well??

Me: Mam, our IT sector has been hit because we are dependent on US for most of our business.

But, otherwise India overall isn't in that bad state.. We are, by and far a self-sufficient country and far-better placed to see off this recession...

P2: What can India, as a country learn from this whole recession episode? Considering that India is going the US way with housing prices and all??

We had some discussion on that...

P1 again took over...

Asked me a couple of questions about my current job responsibilities...

And little bit of technical skills...Not in very detail...Asked me to explain classes in C++...

was asking questions in the middle of explanation to check the comprehension...

after that...

P1: So, what are your hobbies??

Me: Playing and watching cricket...(and as an afterthought) Playing counterstrike...

They both started smiling when they heard about counterstrike...

P1: So you play cricket?

Me: Yes...

P1: What do you do??As in are you a bowler or batsman??

Me: Sir, I do both...

P1: What type of bowling do you do??Fast/Spin??

Me: Spin..

P1: Off/Leg...

Me: Sir, can do both equally well...

P1: Ok..Tell me..What is the speed at which an off-spinner bowls??

Me: Sir, that would hugely vary...

P1: Give me a range...

Me: Sir, I think 70-100...

P1 (cutting me off): kmph or mph??

Me (with a smile): kmph...

P1: So, is this the speed at which the bowl leaves the bowler's hands??Or the speed at which it reaches the batsman??

Me: Sir, it is the average speed...

P1: Average speed??How do you calculate it??

Me explained the concept of average speed...

P1: Lets say, the bowl leaves the bowler's hands at 100 kmph... At what speed will it reach the batsman??

Me: Sir that would depend on a lot of factors...

P1: Such as??

Me: Such as, is it a full-toss or does it bounce...

P1: Lets say, its a full-toss...What else??

Me: The wind direction and speed...

P1: Lets say, there is no wind...

Me: Then, it will reach at the same speed...

P1: Are you sure??

Me: Yes sir...In an ideal case, it will..

P1: What about the air??

Me: But sir, you said there is no wind...

P1: I said there is no wind...Air is there..

Me: Sorry...In that case, it will reach at a speed less than 100 kmph as air would provide friction...

P1: At what speed??

Me: I don't know, sir...Sorry...

P1: Isn't there any fixed rate of decrease??

Me: Sir, there would be a fixed rate..But I don't know how much.

P1: It will be fixed??

Me: Yes sir.

P1: Lets say...I drop a ball from an airplane...What will happen in that case??

Me: Sir, in that case, the rate wouldn't be fixed as there are varying densities of air in between..

P1: And in the case of bowling??

Me: Sir, it is taking place at more or less the same level.. So, the rate would be fixed.

P1: Ok.. In the case of a bowl dropping from the plane...What will happen to its speed??

Me: Sir, it would increase as it comes down.

P1: Will it go on increasing??

Me: Yes sir..

P1: Or would it become a constant after a certain time??

Me: No sir...It would keep on increasing.

P1: Till it hits the ground??

Me: Yes sir.

P1: So, have you heard of liquid viscosity??

Me: umm...Yes sir... Have heard of it.

P1: So, tell me what is it??

Me tried to explain something in my own words... (When I later checked the definition, I found it wasn't too bad...)

P1: So, if we decided to throw a lead ball in the ocean, what would happen to its speed?? Will it increase or decrease indefinitely??

I decided to quit at this moment...

Me: I am not sure, sir...

P1: Physics is not one of your favourite subjects it seems...

Me: Right now, no sir...

They looked at each other...

P1: I think we are done... Aakash, do you have any questions for us???

Me: No sir, thank you...

P1: You seem relieved...

Me: Yes sir...

P1: Why??What happened??

Me: Sir, I was expecting some more grilling...

They both laughed...

P1: Ok...You can leave... All the best for your other interviews... Have a good day...

Me: Thank you, sir...

Interview experience of sbahadur86

Hey guys, here I come with my IIMK experience ...

Profile:

X – 90.60 (merit certi. in science)
XII – 93.00 (merit certi. in chemistry)
B.Tech – NIT, Surat (CGPA 8.44)

Work-ex

9 months – XYZ CAT coaching institute..as faculty...

From the form

- Hobbies – blogging, and about nanotechnology
- Alternative careers – teaching
- Anything else to add – final year project..

Reached HMATC, Mumbai about 45 min in advance...at about 9.15, 3 people came in, divided us all into already defined 3 groups... and took us to their respective halls..I was in Panel 3

GD:

It was a short case about 'China Prices'. As in, the prices in China are very very low. The importers, factories, retailers, consumers as well as the government are benefited due to that. But the working conditions are deplorable, with very low wages, hazardous in terms of accidents, and causes pollution. The passage said that when the workers will protest against this, the prices will go up... but the workers might not have a choice, as in a poor country. They are better off doing a petty-paying job, than do something like begging, prostitution or something unlawful... The last line was that the low costs have a moral costing to the retailers and consumers....

This is roughly the case given to us, put in my words....There was NO QUESTION after this, nothing specified as to what should be discussed etc...

I started the GD, pointing out what things can be discussed etc. Then couldn't enter a lot after that...not too good a GD....

PI :

Contrary to the other experiences here, my interview was more of the form of a stress interview...quite grilling...

I can't list out the exact Q & A process because it was quite muddled and the interviewers kept reverting back to previous questions....

- He started with tell me about yourself, then switched to another question before I could start speaking....tell me:
- He said you did not say a lot in the GD, inspite of starting well...why? .. I said about not able to enter properly and all...
- And he said, so we give u a chance to speak, add anything to the GD if you want...I did....Advise to fellow guys – analyze the GD once before the PI and think if u can add something...you don't want to be given a chance like me and then have nothing to add...
- He also asked what I was taught about GD in the coaching institute....
- What is RACUTEL (final year project) ... gave a good one-line answer
- What is nanotechnology? – again gave a good one-line answer

- Then he started off about lightning arrestors ,asked if steel is a conductor, which type of steel is a conductor, what is the difference between steel and iron...(got a bit confused here with the barrage of questions...gave some messed up answers...missed opportunity)
- What does earth do with all the charge it gets through the earth terminal in plugs and all....is there something like global charging? (mumbled something about it being dissipated, but couldn't make it clear enough after that....)
- What is a semiconductor - told about conductivity between conductor and insulator...
- Is Cu a semiconductor? – told no
- Is conductivity the way to define semiconductors..? I said I can define it by conductivity, he said you, of course, can do anything, but what is a proper definition...
- Asked about the semiconductor, how it works in a tetravalent element...started with C to explain tetravalency, he jumped in, can C make semiconductors...told it can't, I am just using it as an example, then switched to Si
- Why can't Carbon make semiconductors? – told about nucleus bonding, 2,4 structure and all...
- Any other parameter specific to semiconductor? – told about modifiability of conductivity by careful doping
- So is water a conductor? – said distilled water is not
- If I add salt to it? – told yes
- So, since adding salt changes conductivity of water, so water should be a semiconductor...? :crazy eye: – said it was actually NaCl causing conductivity and not water.
- Why? – told about NaCl disassociating into Na⁺ and Cl⁻ .. they gave me such incredulous looks at this....it actually disassociates??? Asked twice, I said yes it does...:tell me:
- Is NaCl solid a conductor – said no
- molten? – said not sure....It is I guess...
- Some more discussion about semiconductors followed.....
- What is a resistor? – told
- So a semiconductor is a resistor....said no, it is a different way of classification
- He insisted, said since semiconductor doesn't allow a lot of current to flow, it is a resistor...I said, in that case, even a conductor can be defined as a resistor with low resistance....though said this with a smile...
- What is a Gate...sought some clarification as to what area is he talking about...digital gates, FET gates etc...
- then explained the concept of BJT being used as a logic gate..
- So what is a definition of Gate – told that output should be based on input
- A resistor will give me output voltage if I give it some input voltage....told that it should be about logic low or high depending on input levels
- Asked is it continuous...misinterpreted this as asking about delays..said there will be a switching delay/...then he clarified and I said that digital output will be obtained...
- Asked about digital and analog...differentiate... - did so...
- So why is this called a gate?...said something about processing input.... (should have said about filtering inputs..)

That's it to the marathon post.

Interview experience of justfun

Hi Friends,

MY GD/PI was on 27th March 2009(Friday), 9:00 AM slot.

Profile:

10th CBSE – 84%
12th CBSE – 79%
B. Tech – 8.73(10)

CAT 98.45%

Work Ex. :

I have 40 months work ex in EDA (Electronic Design Automation) and telecommunication industry. I left my job for 2 years in Feb 2005 to prepare for civil services exam. Unfortunately, I could clear only the prelims and not the main exam.

MY GD/PI was on 27th March 2009(Friday), 9:00 AM slot.

GD:--

Topic: -- Internet is killing creativity. People are just borrowing ideas from it. It has affected their language. They are socializing less. God save this generation from Internet!

A good GD which did not turn out to be fish market. Every one got a chance to speak.

I could enter three-four times.

A guy said something like our language is changing to SMS language. I said that language is a dynamic thing. If we read whatever Chaucer, father of English, wrote in 14th century, we will see how much we have deviated-

-in our current English usage from it and it can be no one's argument that this change is for worse.

Again, I entered at one point saying that sites like Rediff.com which provide a message board allowing users -to comment have incorporated a false sense of participation in political process.

People are turning into keyboard warriors thinking that they have fulfilled their responsibility as a citizen just by voicing their opinion on internet.

Then the discussion veered towards borrowing of ideas and I said that plagiarism is an issue but it depends on the ethics of the person.

Also, it actually helps when we want to undertake some new project;

we can look for other works done in that area and borrow ideas so that we don't keep reinventing the wheel.

PI :

P1: an old professor

P2: a lady professor

P1: You have written about leadership in your form. What is the difference between a leader and manager?

Me: Leader is a much stronger term than manger. Leaders have a vision. They have certain type of mysticism attached to them.

P1: Ok tell me one leader.

Me: Mahatma Gandhi because he could inspire people to rally around him on such themes like salt and turn it into the civil disobedience movement.

P1: No No business leader

Me: Bill Gates

P1: Indian?

Me: Dhirubhai Ambani

P1: what about Tata?

Me: Yes the fact that he could visualize a demand for 1 lakh car and deliver it despite rising costs of input and problems in West Bengal puts him into the leader category.

P1: Compare Ambani and Tata on ethics and social responsibility.

Me: Fact is that there have been allegations against Reliance business practices. Mr. Ramnath Goenka, editor of Indian Express, in 70-80s investigated Reliance closely and raised various uncomfortable questions for the company. Since there has not been any such incident against Tata, I feel they are beyond reproach. But till Satyam fiasco happened, no one could have suspected Mr. Raju also.

Smiles from P1 and P2

P1: You have heard about what Nestle is doing in Moga district of Punjab.

Me: Sorry sir, I haven't

P1:- What would you say about AMUL's social responsibility?

Me: I would compare AMUL with another Gujarat industry Jamnagar petroleum refinery. The fact that AMUL channelizes the local resource, giving it a brand name and ensuring value addition to local milk producers puts it into a better light than Jamnagar plant. There may be spillover effects of that refinery in local economy, but it contributes less substantially to local population than AMUL.

P1: you have heard about the business practice of India Coffee House?

Me: sorry sir, I haven't heard about India coffee House.

P1:(very surprised) -- Your hobby is quizzing and you don't know about it.

Me (now embarrassed) – Sorry sir, Is it some sort of coffee chain like Barista?

Do they have presence in North India?

P1: No, it is a hotel and they are everywhere even in Delhi.

P1: Ok tell me about your present job.

Me: I work in Electronic Design Automation (EDA) industry in which we supply tools to help the semiconductor design companies in designing electronic circuits. I work in synthesis area where we make tools which can convert a Verilog code into the circuit needed to implement its functionality.

P2:Your alternative career option is teaching. When and what did you teach?

Me: I used to give private tuition during my IAS preparation. I used to teach Physics.

P2: You like Physics.

Me: yes maam.

P1: Why did you want to become an IAS officer?

Me: I am fascinated by the diversity in the IAS officer's job. No two days are same for him. I think he is the biggest manager of all as he has to do disaster management, financial management, people management everything.

Unfortunately, I couldn't clear the second level of examination.

P1: You are earning Rs x per month. After two years, when you pass out and you can't get a job matching it, will you regret it?

Me: There is one Herzberg's motivation-hygiene theory in work motivation which says money is a hygiene factor whose absence can make you dissatisfied but its presence automatically doesn't lead to job satisfaction. It is the nature of the work, chances of personal growth and job responsibility which lead to satisfaction. So, I would not be disappointed.

P1: why do you want do an MBA?

Me: Sir, my 3.5 years of experience in EDA and telecoms sectors has provided me with assignments ,which were challenging but myopic as far as giving complete picture of product development cycle is concerned.

Secondly, when I look at the educational qualification of top executives in my EDA industry, which is not an industry where MBAs are dying to come, there also I find if there is one degree which is more common than others is some sort of management degree. (P2 at this point shakes her head in approval) .

I feel that challenges for top level executive are different than for a mid level or entry level executive and a formal grounding in management teaches skills which are difficult to acquire just by experience. I want to do management so that my lack of these skills doesn't become glass-ceiling for me later.

P1: See you passed out long back. Do you think you will be able to cope with academics once again?

Me: Yes sir, the fact that I cleared CAT is a testimony that I am not completely out of touch with academics. Also, I spent two years preparing for civil services which were also basically my exposure to textbooks and acquiring new knowledge.

P1: How will you find the inverse of the matrix?

Me: Divide the adjoint of matrix by its determinant.

P1: What is Cramer's rule?

Me: I explained on paper how it can be used to solve simultaneous linear equation by creating a matrix of coefficients.

P1: No ,that is wrong.

I think I could not explain him properly because I checked it and basically I knew about it but probably couldn't structure my thought at that moment.

P1: What is a continuous function?

Me: A function for which at every point in its domain left limit, right limit and value of the function are equal.

P1: Any other way to check whether a function is continuous or not?

Me: We can check its graph and it should not have discontinuity

P1: Heights of 100 students is given – Is it continuous or discrete function?

Me: Continuous because height can take any value

P1: Collection of all points between 2 and 3--Is it continuous or discrete?

Me: Continuous

(Guys, am I right or wrong? I am confused about the above two question)

P1: So which calls you have?

Me: Only one.

P1 Checks something in his data sheet and asks why?

Me: I guess my lower overall score.

P1: See our students generally are of the age group 23-25 years. Would you able to fit in?

Me: Yes sir and I will be bringing diversity to your batch and a fresh perspective in classroom discussions. I have read the whole graduation level syllabus of Psychology as it was one of my optional in IAS exam and I'll bring ideas from it in discussion.

P1: So what did you think about GD in the morning?

Me: I think as the topic was very close to what we all do everyday, and not vague as in some GDs I have heard of, everybody had something to say. It was a healthy discussion and not a fish market as has happened in some of the earlier GDs I have attended.

P1: Which one did you attend?

Me: Career Launcher mock GDs.

P1: So what did they tell about GD?

Me: They said that content is king. Many people emphasize that it is the way you speak but unless you have something interesting and fruitful to say, it will not matter. Howsoever well you speak. Don't use slang. Also, when you are sitting in chair, you shouldn't position yourself in such a way -

-that you block the view of the person sitting next to you cutting him off from GD. You shouldn't use exaggerated gestures.

Also, if one of the members is having a difficulty entering GD, you should help him by telling the group to listen to his point.

P2: Did that happen today?

Me: since everyone was contributing, there was no need for it.

P1: how much did Career Launcher charge?

Me: Rs 500

P1: (surprised) that's cheap.

P2: You must have read economics for you IAS examination.

Me: (mar gaye—yeh topic kahan se aa gaya? Abhi tak to thik hi chal raha tha...) yes maam we had to read about WTO, IMF, World Bank, planning in India and stuff like that. It wasn't theoretical economics but more like its applications. Now I was waiting with bated breath for the dreaded Economics questions.

P2:- OK so your hobby is reading fiction novels. Which are your favorite authors?

Me: (I was so relieved I felt I should thank her for not grilling me on economics. :-))

Salman Rushdie, Ayan Rand, Joseph Heller.

P2: You have read Salman Rushdie

Me: Yes mam I have read one of his books Midnight's children.

P2: What did you like about it?

Me: His style of combining magic realism with India's story after independence (kucch bhi bol raha huun...)

P2: Which books of Ayan rand?

Me: We The Living, Fountainhead and Atlas Shrugged.

P2: So you like Howard Roark's character.

Me: Yes mam

P2: But she talked about a laissez-faire capitalistic system. Do you think her view is discredited in the light of recession?

Me: I don't think so mam. This system has its flaws but it is the best we have.

The best would be a system where we could combine Keynesian emphasis on government spending and laissez—faire

but I am not sure if it can be done given that they are basically talking about two contrasting things.

There is no point in going back to Communism or Socialism as it is dead.

(Was it a mistake to say so in front of professors from Kerala – a bastion of communism? Not sure about their political views.)

P2: Don't you find Rand's philosophy self-centered?

Me: Her point is that those who find her philosophy self-centered have no self.

P2 starts smiling

Me: She has argued for this in her book "virtue of selfishness"

P2: Yes I have read that book. Ok I am done

P1: Ok thanks, you may go

Me: thank you sir and maam

I have low CAT score, which will contribute 55%, and decent effort in GD and PI, which will contribute 45%, in overall criteria of selection.

Keeping my fingers crossed for result day, 10th April 2009
(had to uncross them while taking lunch/dinner but still have kept them crossed whole day.... :-))

Interview experience of TheFallenAngel

Profile :

10th : 82.2
12th : 85.4
b.tech : 65.2 (B.Tech Electronics ,ISM Dhanbad)

CAT :

DI 98.11
QA 96.02
VA 93.64
OA 98.60

Work Ex: 33 Months in Infosys working for a US Based Mortgage Lender

Time :9 am
date :11 mar 09

Venue :IIM Bangalore

Note: The one in Bold are added after my first posting of experience.

Hobbies: Philately, Numismatics, Reading Books, Playing AOM n FIFA, Watching Football, Social Networking.

Anything special: Was NTSE rank holder (17th)

Also wrote one of those few Elec Engg who would have read Geology, Thermal, IC Engine Deisgn Etc.

GD:

topic: People talk about entrepreneurship a lot and get into a B-School n finally end up being a Manager; so a B-School can never make an MBA-Entrepreneur.

Time to think : 5 min
Discuss: 15 min:
No of people: 8 (2 Absentees)

Well GD was more dry with a lot of people pitching in a lil(sic) of irrelevant points at times due to dryness of the subject.

Well everyone said MBA was required and also few were talking about tech contribution made by Manager and Entrepreneur is same to GDP n the country, also they talked about Fields untouched in India and the need for MBA to succeed as an Entrepreneur.

Someone said ,Graduates make better Entrepreneurs.

Also someone talked about 1st generation entrepreneurs and rest all are tough.

Someone also said penetrating a existing market is tough.

**Missed previously Someone Said India mein Entrepreneur ke paas paisa nahi hota
People Talked abt NRN, Naukri.com (one guy wanted to talk about indian entrepreneurs only,
he spoke about it)**

My points:

Entrepreneur should have attitude, passion for the job and risk taking ability which can never be taught by a b-school.

I quoted Lary ellison, Google, Yahoo, Virgin, Microsoft etc to state you need not be a Grad to be an entrepreneur.

I quoted the example of Ambanis and told how they established Rel Comm, Rel Energy etc out of RIL. so entrepreneurship is not only limited to 1st gen guys.

I said Virgin launched Virgin Cola in US,UK where Coke , Pepsi are 1st n 2nd and now Virgin cola is 2nd in both the markets.

I said if you have an idea you can definitely approach a VC and get it funded if your idea is real good.

Also was a watchman twice once the topic was becoming India Centric, I told it was no where mentioned it is India alone and also Again said we are deviating from the topic when someone said contri(sic) to the GDP.

I think My GD was fairly good

PI :

P1: Ramesh KK

P2: Joffi Thomas

Me: The Power House ready to be massacred.

I entered and there is pin drop silence,

P2: Do u want to ask us any questions?

Me: No Sir, I have lot many friends in IIMK n my Mentor as well told me a lot about IIMK, I have no questions.

15-20 sec silence again then, :snipersm:

P2: OK, Your name sounds a little weird, can u tell me something abt it in detail.

Me: Sure sir, started explaining my roots are from warangal and it was called Orugallu then and my surname is Oruganti and talked about the rest of the name as well. Then he said, So you from warangal, then I said sir my fore fathers moved to Vizag and my dad settled in Hyderabad.

P2: So, what is your Hometown or native what ever you want to call it as?

Me: It is tough to find roots and I would call myself an Andhraite and an Indian but if asked to associate myself to a city I would say I am a Hyderabadadi as I am more linked to there.

P2: Tell me about Bihar, you studied for 5 years there.

Moi: Sir, Biharis are real good and it is not the way the media portrays them to be. Only a few power thirst leaders play the caste trump and the whole state gets a bad name.

P2: So you say it is total caste-ism; how you are going to eradicate that?

Me: Bringing in social awareness among the people, it is tough to do it but someone must take it up and educate them about the malices etc.

P2: Will you do it, have to heard of a engineer being killed in Bihar in recent past?

Me: Well sir, few of them have been killed as they did not agree on the demands of the contractors and MLA's but it should not deter someone from doing something. If I am the one, I will take it.

P2: So, what if you are killed?

Me: Sir, there is risk everywhere it should not deter you from doing something and may be many are thinking of the same and none are coming forward; someone should start it, then why can't it be me. I will for sure if I get a chance to.

P2: You, an electronics engineer,

Me: Yes sir.

P2: So, what is a resistor?

Me: Foolish enough to say it is a passive device. But said it functions as a load when a potential diff acts across it and has a predefined power loss depending upon factors like resistance value etc.

P2: Can an AC signal be a Analog Signal?

Me: Yes sir, sure it can be but a very low frequency (one 50-60 Hz ki hi freq hai :eh:

P2: Tell me the difference between Resistor and Semiconductor?

Me: Basic difference is we can regulate the flow of Holes/Electrons in a semiconductor device by regulating the voltage where as Resistor is the same always

P2: What is the use of regulated supply in Electronics & is transistor active or passive(**buddu kahika mein**).

Me: It is 3 yrs since I read them and I prepared on few topics and I really don't know at the moment why it is required.

P2: OK, lets talk about ur work, what u do @ Infosys?

Moi: Sir, I work for a mortgage lender and I do the testing of the loans locked and other business logic and rules.

P2: You work for a mortgage client. Is the client still there ?

Me: Client was a very safe player only into prime loans and he is really strong.

P2: How big is he?

Me: It was 180-190 Billion one and 7th largest US Bank in October last year.

P2: It must have fallen a lot now?

Me: Yes sir, it will be around 110-115 billion now but still it is in top 10.

P2: Is it still in profits or losses?

Me: Sir, it is in profit, EPS shrunk for \$1.91 to 62 cents this Quarter.

P2: What is EPS?

Me: Net Profit (After Taxes, Depreciation)/Total Shares but Pref Dividend is also this I remember afterwards when Amru reminded me on Call

Now the silent P1 Jumps in.

P1: Why you have ear rings?

Me: Sir it is a tradition and not a fashion.

P1: Is it Diamonds you are wearing in your ears and also you are wearing a lot of rings?

Me: Sir, I am not fond of rings as such, but my uncles who are real good astrologers said I better wear them as they will do good.

P1: Do u practice astrology?

Me: No sir, not much have just started to do it, I am interested in it because of the calculation and interpretation involved in it.

P1: So why is the culture of earrings prevalent in your customs any reasons?

Me: I have no idea as such.

P1: hints about health

Me: Yes sir, I wear a 5 metal bracelet as it takes the heat from the body and various metals help in different ways in healing the body

P1: So you follow any rituals

Me: well I do sandyavandhan in the morning sir, other than that nothing much.

P1: Once a day, you don't do it thrice?

Me: Sir it is tough considering the work environment you live in, so I feel something is better than nothing and hence do it once

P1: Tell me about stamps, how much is your stamp collection worth?

Me: Sir, I have some 15k-16k stamps, stanlry-gibbons se worth hoga 4-5 lacs atleast.

P2: How do you trade stamps?

Me: Social networking sites, we find people and then fix a trade and send by post.

P2: There is chance of cheating

Me: Yes sir, but we gotta do it because it is our passion. I lost some 4-5 letters that way. Even I have 2-3 trades stopped because of MBA admissions, I need to send them before they think I am one cheat .

P1: Have u heard of a note of 50 rupees with no Indian flag on it. It came when HM Patel was the RBI Governor.

Me: I have no idea sir.

P1: Asked a few questions about currencies collection.

Me: I told him exchange rates are too high for us to collect Notes and hence I collected only Coins

P1: Which is the first stamp and what is the Black *****?

Me: Scinde Dawk was 1st stamp in 1852 and Black Penny is what you are talking about.

P1: Do you have them?

Me: Sir they are really rare and are worth millions according to catalog value, i don't have them.

P1: Ohh.. you Listen to Music?

Me: Classical (**Should be Classic**) and Psychedelic Rock

P1: so you play any instrument?

Me: Long back sir, I used to play Veena, My sister is doing a diploma in it.

P1: Types of Veena

Me: Tanjavur, Nujiveed are there. (**pardon my ignorance these r the places where they are manufactured not types. Vichitra veena, Rudra veena are types of Veena, I was telling P1 ki meereko utna nahi aata Veena ke baare mein**)

P1: have you heard of Rudraveena?

Me: Yes sir, it is real hard to play, strings are real tough.

P2: You are still a technical guy more than a MBA?

Me: Sirjee, I am real good at mathematics and also the market gained by my extensive reading and client interactions taught me a lot, also my real life experiences in derivatives where I lost a lot of money just because of lack of knowledge of technicals.
So, I feel MBA will teach me this through my course.

P2: **Your monthly remuneration is 3,76,000 ?**

Me: **An idiot i am, filled annual one, was filling it yesterday night watching UCL :(an idiot i am to fill form the day before**

P2: **So, u were filling it yesterday?**

Me: **Sir,I filled it in a A4, but was copying it to the form yesterday.**

P2: Did u Read business news? Tell us one thing that happened Yesterday?

Me: Yes sir, Mark To Market Rules should be made by SEC not the Congress (US market bounced back a lot after it)

P2: That is US, tell about India?

Me: nothing of significance happened yesterday as far as i remember.

P1: what is the revenue of Infy?

Me: Somewhere around 16000-17000 Crore Rupees (told 4 -4.5 Billion \$ also as \$ oscilalted wiht 39-52)

P1: Which is India's Biggest Co?

Me: Took Market Cap and said Reliance Industries Ltd. (bhuddu saala Should have asked Market cap or Revenue)

P1: Revenue RIL ka?

Me: Around 130000 Crores approx Rupee itna oscillate ho raha pata nahi kya hai exactly

P1: Are you sure RIL is bigger. I feel a PSU is bigger than RIL?

Me: AFAIK it is RIL, I don't know about the PSU (It is IOC)

P2: So, how many CAT's have you given?

Me: Sir five of them, I gave one in my 3rd year as well.

P2: What happened in your Previous attempts?

Me: Sir, I was a little weak in VA part and everytime I got destroyed by VA. This time I took care of it and managed calls.

I Told them about my near 99.xx n 99.xx n no calls situation for the past 3 years (I wrote this as my weakness as fear of past failures sometimes haunt me in my present pursuit and I lost many IIM calls just because I was scared for a 40 Qn paper in VA)

P2: Tell me what is India's GDp & GDP rate?

Me: It is around 1.1 Trillion Dollars

Sir last Quarter Q3 it was 5.3 and 9 months ka is 6.9 and the CSO projected 7.1 for the year will go for a toss and i feel it will be around 6.5-6.6 for the year.

That's all Folks Khel khatam Duklam Band aur mein chala awaiting Results.

How did I do? I know was idiotic at times :(

Verdict: Convert

IIM Kozhikode - Year 2010

Interview experience of CATch-22

Hey everyone!!

had my gd/pi at IIM K itself, on 22.03.10, 2 pm. Oh, the campus is awesome!!

wonder why no one has posted so far. anyways, here goes.....

Acads

10th-93%

12th-94.5%

grad-78%

work ex- 20 months(oil industry)

cat %ile : 98.82

qa-92.75

va-94.6

di-99.4

Essay topic : "An eye for an eye makes the whole world go blind. Otherwise only I will be blind"
15 mins. and you have to complete it within the time frame, thats the whole game here.

GD topic : An article about leadership. How leaders were different in the past and present. How a leader like Gandhi was, and how today's leaders seem to just quote our old leaders and give more importance to fame.

GD - Was "almost" a fish market. Though everyone got to spoke i guess. And focus was on politicians and media. Narendra Modi, Rahul Gandhi, etc came up. At some points, more than one person spoke, but the panel didn't intervene.

PI

---START----

P1: IT/Systems guy

P2: Operations guy

As i entered the room, P2 left.

P1: Introduce yourself

Me: blah blah....ending with me directing a short film that won a prize and about hobbies(watching movies).

P1: Asked about my short film, contradicted me, and in the end neither of us reached a conclusion.

P1: So do you watch foreign movies?

Me: Yes

P1: Why?

Me: Because they represent a different culture(named a few foreign movies), and movies in India are not able to focus on some issues, and even if they do, they don't get a release due to the censor board(gave the examples of Black Friday, Fire)

P1: So you think fire should have been released in India in all theatres?

Me: yes

P1: So you want all the people to start believing in lesbianism?

Me: So that is not the point. The movie's focus was on oppression of women, and not on lesbians. It is due to the oppression that they turned to lesbianism.

P1: But i think the people of India will see lesbianism before they see any other element in the movie.

Me: Deepa Mehta was ready to delete the obscene scenes and release the movie(Don't know whether this is true!!) even then, it didn't get a release, so the focus on the larger issue of oppression of women was forgotten..blah blah blah..

by this time, P2 had come back and intervenes

P2: Tell me about your work

Me: blah blah and said something about 'network'

P2 corrected me on the word network, and i agreed. (seems network has some technical definition in operations)

P2: So you have implemented this business model?(it was mentioned in the data form)

Me: yes, blah blah....

P2: (contradicting me)- this model cannot work. it does not give any special improvement to sales

Me: Maintained my stand, tried to convince him it is not so.

In the end, he smiled and asked me to sign, and said i can go.

I couldn't believe it was such a short interview; signed quickly and left.

Verdict: Converted

Interview experience of rajaramvarun

PROFILE:

Acads:

X **89.57% (Merit Ranker, Gujju Board)**

XII **89.38% (Merit Ranker, Gujju Board)**

Undergrad Major - **6.96/10 (NIT, Warangal)**

Work-Ex:

16 months (as on date) / FMCG, Export imports

CAT %ile:

DI **96.xx %ile**

Quant **91.xx %ile**

Verbal **99.xx %ile**

Aggregate **99.62%ile**

Any other special things:

Joint Secretary of Mechanical Engineering association Photography portfolios, conducted an exhibition of my photographs recently. College Tennis team captain (or so I wanted to believe). A few other certificates (DumbC, scrabble, etc)

Essay: Genetically modified plants can improve food security for a country like India which has an ever growing population.

Wrote some points. Cited pros and cons. How productivity can improve drastically due to pest control, minimisation of use of pesticides. Cited cons like loss in soil nutrients. Weighed both pros and cons and was about to conclude when the paper was snatched.

GD:

Topic: A big paragraph was given. Well the gist of it was, is change required or not!

Number of Ppl present: 5. Well this part was hilarious. 3 panels should ideally have had 10 people. about 16 odd people from 30 didn't turn up!

Time: 15 min

Brief Snapshot of Discussion:

Scary discussion with just 5 people. So ample time to talk. Everyone came up with a number of points. It happened to be the most civilised GD I've ever been in. Oh, wait! Correction! It happens to be the only group "discussion" I've ever been in, a good drift from the usual fish markets. Galileo, Obama, Martin Luther King, Gandhi, Raj Thackeray and Steve Jobs--All dusted, discussed and discarded. Overall a good discussion. I think the profs seemed impressed (again so I assume)

Other Salient Details: No summary was asked

PI:

At this juncture I'll mention that, when I initially checked my GDPI Venue details about 2 weeks back, the time of the process was 9:00 AM. So there I was, sitting in the waiting room with all the other fufu (future fufu) at 8:00 AM. The admin announced all the names and I wasn't on the list. I went and informed him (and yes meanwhile all the profs were in the room too). They asked me to check my call letter and whola!! Magically the time had transformed itself into 2:00 PM. Made a fool out of myself and came back at 1:00 PM.

Panel Members Intro: F1--Fundu marketing prof S1--Smart Industry guy, S2---Scary Alumni, Me--Varun Rajaram

Questions:

F1 looks at my certificates.Doesn't show any interest.Meanwhile S1 and S2 keep staring at me.I offer S1 my photography portfolio,he refuses.

F1: So,Mr.Rajaram your interested in photography huh?Tell me what all did u do?

Me (Now ur talking sir!): Published 2 portfolios.Conducted an exhibition.Thoda aur detail bataya.(F1 betrays no emotion)

F1: So what kind of photography are u interested in?

Me: Sir,primarily street photography and landscape.

Meanwhile S2 is thinking,"Aur ek aaya! Lagaata hu iski! "

S1: Ok tell me about your job responsibilities

Me: Told

S1: You mentioned Sudhir Mohan Trehan(Crompton greaves MD) in your GD.Do you think his autocratic style of running the company is warranted for?

Me: Gave reasons about how he initially had to take hard decisions.and then later became approachable.I used the word casual instead of approachable but later corrected myself.

S2 has meanwhile decided how he's gooing to have my head in the interview.Chalked out a complete plan.Thankfully F1 was in the panel.Else I would have been dead.

S2: So Varun do you read?

I've heard this being a trick question.So i was careful.

Me: Not much sir.I read a lot of magazines and the newspaper.Politics mainly.

S2: Do you know who is Dale Carnegie(where did that come from)

Me: No sir but I know who is Andrew Carnegie

S2: Ok who is Andrew Carnegie

Me: Told

S2: What is CMU?

Me: I pass sir!

F1 meanwhile has finished seeing my certificates and has gone on to do a second round.

S2 to F1: Sir,what do you wanna ask him?How about Narendra Modi?

F1: Yes! Of course! Tell me about Modi and his recent case.

Me: Didn't take extreme views.Said there is just one blemish on his entire career.He's done a number of things.Went on to mention a few things

F1: So grad from NIT Warangal.Why Warangal?Why a naxal infested place?

Me: Gave reason.Top 10 colleges in the country.Good faculty,infra,etc

F1: What's your take on the Telangana issue?

Me: Gave reasons.Pros and cons.

F1: Choose a side

Me: Sir,I think I can't because this requires healthy debate

F1: No but still choose one.

Me: Sir,I think I'll be against it and blah blah blah blah.

S2: OK you favourite subject in high school.

And that is where I faltered.

Me: Sir,mathematics.

S2: Ok,what is Fermat's theorem?

Me: Told

S2: Is it proved?

Me: yes sir. Some Harvard guy using moduli and number theory.

No one betrays any emotions. However, I would mention that at every question we had a discussion. The panel was smiling and I was smiling.

F1: Ok 2 lakh people gave CAT. If I assume your percentile is 99, then how many people are above you and how many are below you?

Me: Sir 1999 above me and 197999 below me.

F1: So there are 2 Varun Rajarams who gave CAT!

Me: Oops! Sir 2000 above me and 197999 below me.

F1: So you know for sure those 2k are above you.

Me: Oops! Sir I made an assumption. However you can't really determine.

(Everyone smiles)

S2: Ok here's a definite integral for you.

Me: Er..gave some funda..should have said I don't know

S1: Tell me about cross margins in your job?

Me: Er...cross margins?

S1: Profit margin decisions

Me: (whew) Gave major blah blah.

Meanwhile,waiter walks in

Waiter: Sir, sandwich and coffee

F1: Arrey,Varun,you'll have sandwiches?

Me: No sir.

F1: Accha coffee?

Me: Yes,sir!

F1 to waiter: Arrey bacche ko coffee do!

F1 to me: Dekh jab tak tu coffee khatam nahee karega tab tak we keep grilling you.

Me: As you wish sir!!

(Everyone smiles)

F1: Anything you want to ask us

Me: None at all

F1: IF you were the interviewer then what would you ask us

Me: Gave some funda

F1: ok you may go.

Overall average interview. Don't know what to expect. Everyone was smiling. It's something I can never figure out.

Interview experience of supersourya

Profile

Cat 2009: OA 99.00

VA 90.99

DI 97.96

Quant 98.5

Xth: 92.6(west Bengal board)

XII th: 90.9 (west bengal board)

CGPA : 8.6 (IIT Kharagpur, Mining)

Work Ex: 0

Category: general

Slot : 23rd March 2:00 PM Kolkata.

Essay Topic:

Genetically modified seeds should be introduced to address food security problems in a large country like India

Time : 15 mins.

I thought I wrote well as I had fair amount of idea about the topic and got time to conclude reasonably.

GD :

Time: 2 mins to think and 15 mins to discuss.

A paragraph related to bringing about a change irrespective of its consequences...it was an abstract topic so everyone interpreted it differently and the discussion was not coherent. But everybody in our group of 7 spoke equally and spoke well enough.

Interview :

Panel of 3.

2 profs were there. prof P1 was very rude (maybe intentionally) prof P2 was all quiet and calm and the 3rd one was probably an alumni(A) and he was ultracool.

I enter the room

P1: Introduce yourself

Me: I am from the city of joy Kolkata..

interrupted

P1: but Its no longer a city of joy because of traffic problems etc

A: and also there is no joy in KKR's form in IPL

We then had some general discussion about Kolkata city

A: tell me why is it called city of joy?

I knew the answer and was to about to tell..

P1: you do not know why but it is a city of joy

Me: No sir I know....and the reason is..

P1: Ok carry on with your intro.,

Me: told about my college a bit....

P1: I know there are lots of poor people around your college, why isn't your college doing anything to alleviate poverty

Me: Its absolutely wrong that our college is doing nothing ...we are doing our bit like

Interrupted

P1: But then why is poverty still there?

then I told about some generic problems existing in India which causes poverty...I told about corruption

P1: Ok tell me if you were the prime minister what will you do to eradicate corruption??

I gave some general funda but P1 was not satisfied and concluded this is the problem in India we all know what is the problem but don't know how to avert it.

A: Do you read newspaper regularly?

Me: yes

A: which one?

Me: ET

A: tell me a new term that you have found there

Me: Repo Rate

Then discussion about repo rate and inflation and all(had it all under control)

A: you are from Mining?

Me: Yes sir

A: what is the difference between mineral and ore?

Me:Told

A asked another question from mining but I couldn't answer

P2: (finally spoke out) What is your favorite subject?

Me: Operations Research(purposefully didn't go for any mining subject but on retrospective should have gone for one)

Then they started grilling me on OR by asking all sorts of questions I think I answered and explained 70 % of those correctly...rest I got confused...

All three were asking question from OR but P1 was most aggressive and very quick to catch any mistake

A: Tell me something about David Headley

Me: told quiet a lot(though made a silly mistake in between and told he was a CSI agent rather than a CIA agent.)

P1: Ok then do you have anything to ask?

Me: asked something about the exchange program in IIM K

P1: Yes it is there but your performance in OR suggests you will not be going for that program

A stepped in and told about the program in detail.

I thanked everybody and left and tried very hard to keep the smile that I had when I entered(even while thanking P1)

Interview experience of aniketcoep

My Profile:

Acads:

X **87.46%**

XII **94.17%**

Undergrad Major - **8.13/10 (Electronics and Telecommunication from College of Engineering, Pune)**

Work-Ex:

8 months - IT sector

CAT %ile:

DI **100 %ile**

Quant **96.95 %ile**

Verbal **99.80 %ile**

Aggregate **99.99%ile**

Any other special things:

Lots of extra curricular activities - mainly Cricket and Quizzing

Venue: Dadar Catering College, Mumbai

Date: 24th March, Time: 9 AM

On reaching the waiting room, you are asked to wait for your name to be called out, after which your documents are verified. At 9 AM, the profs walked in and wrote the essay topic on the board. They gave us 15 minutes in total (writing + thinking)

Essay Topic: 'Man is a credulous animal, he needs something to believe in. If he doesn't find anything good to believe in, he'll believe in something bad' (On those lines)

I couldn't write much, as I spent too much time thinking about the structure, flow etc. My advice : start writing within the first 2 minutes!

After the essay, we broke up into 3 panels and shifted to our specific rooms for the GD.

GD topic: A short article of 5-6 lines about Urban Water Management.

The topic was a bit strange I guess. I started off and made 4-5 entries. Not a fishmarket, overall a nice discussion. Not much content though.

I was last for the PI. Had to wait for almost 3 hours for my turn. Panel had 3 Profs. I shall call them P1, P2 and P3 from L-R.

After I took my seat, P1 and P2 were looking at my file.

P3: Tell us something about yourself

Me: Standard reply

P1: Why don't you take up Quizzing as a profession?

Me: Haven't considered. Maybe later.

P1: What type of Quizzing do you like?

M: Sports

P1: Tell me who won India's first Olympic individual medal.

M: KD Jadhav.

P1: Second?

M: Leander Paes.

P1: Which were your favourite subjects in engineering?

M: Communication and Computer Networks

P1: What is the difference between GSM and CDMA? (The most common question that anyone can think of!)

M: told

P1: Tell us about the 3G spectrum and the problems they are facing.

M: told

P2: How do I communicate between 2 computers directly?

M: Serial port , Parallel Port, LAN

P2: Give details of how to do so using LAN.

M: told

P3: Which foot do right arm bowlers land on while bowling?

M: Left

P3: Tell me a bowler who lands on the right foot.

M: Dunno, but Sohail Tanvir is a leftie who lands on his left foot.

P3: Thanks. You can leave now.

M: Thank you.

Very serious interview, no smiles, no jokes, no conversation. Just direct Q&A. I hope this helps, best of luck for your GD/PI.

Indian Institute of Management, Indore

Interview experiences during the admission seasons between 2005 and 2010

IIM Indore - Year 2005

Interview experience of THUSSU

Hi there my interview was at Bangalore at 9.15 on the 20th.
Three people - one bored, rheumy *sardar*, one dark upright mustached fellow, and one huge, pale funny-looking chap. the last guy did all the roll-calling, explaining etc.

My background: **MBBS, Percentile 99.27, Xth 91, XIIth 91, College: 64%**

CASE:

Shubha joins a company after her PGP. She has to leave the comfort of her home and live alone in the city, hoping to learn and become self-confident at the same time. The company has a democratic work culture. When her immediate boss Ashok goes on leave, he allocates her a new supervisor called Suresh. The latter does not give her much work but later complains to Ashok that she is incompetent. Ashok notices that Suresh is using her to do her personal work and Shubha seems to be happy doing these petty tasks. She evens refuses to do some work allocated to her by Ashok. Ashok complains to the CEO. Shubha refuses to do the CEO's bidding as well as she thinks she must only please her immediate supervisor. She is asked to resign, failing which she will be terminated. What should Shubha do?

Was a peaceful GD with four people from my Time group, and one girl. (The pretty girl went to some other group.

PI:

Sardarji (S), Middle guy (M), and Biggie (B)

S: Why do you want to do an MBA?

Me: blah blah blah

S: Why not health management or hospital management?

Me: Explained

S: Gave up after 2-3 min with 'well the decision is yours'

[Thought I answered with confidence and conviction but don't know what to make of the last statement]

S: Tell me about community medicine, public health, forensic medicine.

S: (Pseudo medical Question) Thyroid hormones stem cell research, color blindness, carcinoma, edema etc.

Me: Answered with aplomb.

Shifts to M

M: Talks about photography, what camera I use, film and film speeds.

Me: Know and tell all.

Shifts to B

B gives me an integration and differentiation problem.

I do the first but I am not sure so I say so, although he can see my answer. Tell him that I can't do the second one (have marked as such in the form) - Although my math scores from 10th and 12th are 99 and 96 respectively; don't know if that's good or bad.

Asks me about the trajectory of a thrown ball but I can't give him the equation of a parabola

B: Health minister of India

Me: Don't know (Who knows Ramodoss?)

M: Health minister of Karnataka

Me: Don't know (still don't know)

B: How many calls?

Told him

S: Are you from Bangalore?

Me: No sir, I am from Kashmir, now settled here

S: That explains your name.

They indicate that the Interview is over so I thank them and leave

Don't know what to think.

TIP: Irrespective of work-experience, they are concentrating on academics, academics and academics. So be prepared.

Interview experience of Eccentric

My background: IIT Kharagpur 2002 Mechanical.

Work experience: 2.5 yrs software

My weakness: no clue about thermo or fluid Mechanics.

Case Study was ok , started off well spoke 3-4 times.

I was 7th for interview. Three fellow A B and C

As soon as I entered the room somebody called out (I am still not seated)

A: So Mr. Kumar how many types of Boiler are there?

Me: I am glad he didn't ask me what is a boiler.

Smiles and tell him I have no clue and I am bad at thermo but good at probability and statistics.

All three panelist smile and the fellow tell *Me Mera number bhee aayega!*

A: Asks what a MPFI is ?

Me: Tells him about normal fuel injection and some vague clue about what MPFI should be and instinctively I am close to being correct.

(Meanwhile B asks for my file and starts studying it)

A: What is moment of inertia?

Me: (What the heck that was 7 years ago, never touched again) I think for a while and explains him in bits how to get that (This I should/could have done better)

A: Asks about the axis them?

Me: Luckily recalled that told him.

A: What is $I^*\alpha$?

Me: (Goofed up) Don't know!

A: You are an IITian do a dimensional analysis and tell me?

Me: I did and got dimensions of energy. Told him it is energy!

A: Which energy?

Me: Rotational (should have been Torque dimensions are same)

A: Ask about Laminar flow.

Me: Tells him what is is.

A: Ask a question about flow in a pipe and ask me define parameters. [I am still thinking whether I read these words during my graduation.]

Me: Sir you can check my mark sheet only three P's I scored in graduation are in Thermo Fluid and Prime Movers (But I am still I good Mechanical engineer with 7.8 CG!!)

A: Tests my patience with 3-4 more question in fluid and thermo.
I keep on saying I don't know most of time.

At this point A closes the form I have given him. Now he plays on my strength.

A: Ok what are types of probability distribution?

Explains well.

B: Gives Me a sort of case of sampling study and asks me to define some parameters.

Me: Took some time and explained decently.

A: Some more cross question.

Handled well mostly

B: You want to cross a river ask Me for depth I'll tell you either mod, Median or Mean what do you want.

Me: I wouldn't like to bet my life on either of values.
Smiles.

C: (He speaks) You play chess who is current champion ?

Me: tells him Kasporov/ tells him ELO of Kasporov and V Anand ! Ask about more GMs' tells him a couple more.

A: Ask me since when is Kasporov ruling ?

Me: Perhaps since 94 , no clue.

So this is over they tell me it is nice to meet you .
Me leaving.

B suddenly: What are other calls ?

I tell him a LACKI

He say best of luck for 'other' calls !!

That's' it. No introduction. No work experience question (Damn I am there for 2.5 yrs)

Interview experience of manu011

Had my IIM - I interview today...

My background : **Mechanical engineer from IIT Delhi, 2 years of work ex in software.**

Reached there by 9.00 AM. 21 people - divided into 3 groups of 7 each.
3 panels of 2 interviewers each.

My group of 7 was taken to a room for G.D

Some case study about a guy who is having problem running his business.

He is in deep shit - what to do ?

I started off, talking about some of the problems.

Cool GD ; everyone got a chance to speak.

No problem at all.

Then we were asked to write a summary - 5 minutes for writing summary, negative marks if u exceed even 1 sec after 5 minutes are over.

Then came the interview.

2 people A1, A2 and Me. I enter the room.

Me: May I come in?

A1: Yeah yeah. Come in. Please be seated.

Me: Thank you sir.

A1: So Mr. Manu you have done your engineering from IIT Delhi

Me: Yes sir.

A1: And you come from Rajasthan?

Me: No sir, U.P

A1: Who is the CM of UP?

Me: Mulayam singh yadav.

A1: What are the problems that UP faces?

Me: Political instability, poverty, population, agriculture etc.

Tried to to say something about all this.

A1: So u had a 8 CGPA in IIT good very good (He misunderstood my last semester SPGA to be total CGPA ; good for Me)

A1: Mr. Manu you are earning so well, then why do you want to do an MBA ?

Me: Some general stuff ; Technical + management [blah blah blah]

A2: Give me your file / certificates.

A1: Yeah. Continue.

Me: Some more stuff..[blah blah blah]

A1: What are your job responsibilities over here?

Me: Some generic stuff.[blah blah blah]

Now A1 keeps quite and A2 takes over...

A2: So you have this course in IIT. Do u remember anything of your IIT studies?

Me: Yes sir, some parts of it.

A2: Which courses?

Me: Thermal, power plant engineering, IC engines and other courses related to automobiles.

I had great interest in automobiles.

A2: Ok. So divide an automobile in different systems.

Me: Engine, clutch, break, body etc. Named 10 - 11 systems.

A2: We'll start with gear system. Tell us something about it.

Me: Told them about its working.

A2: What is torque. explain to a layman.

Me: Gave the definition, tried explaining it.

(A2 asked something more on gears n torque, which I didn't knew.)

A2: What about hydraulic power steering systems? How do they work and how are they linked to gear systems. (some related questions also)

Me: Answered them.

A2: Tell us something about MPFI systems.

Me: blah blah blah.

Some more questions about MPFI, which I didn't knew.

A2: Which power plants have you visited ?

Me: Badarpur power plant.

A2: Tell us about their working.

Me: Blah blah blah.

A2: How many types of turbines are there ?

Me: Told them that ever I knew not much though.

A2: How many types of power plants are there?

Me: Thermal, hydel, nuclear, wind tidal, etc. more about them.

A2: Name some thermal power plants ?

Me: Badarpur.. don't remember any other.

A2: Name some nuclear power plants ?

Me: Don't remember.

A2: You don't remember nuclear power plants. They are so famous Tarapur etc.

Me: Yes sir yes sir.

A2: Where do we have wind power plants in India ?

Me: Gujrat and Maharashtra.

A2: You can leave now have a biscuit.

Me: Thanks.

A2: How many calls do u have ?

Me: 5

A2: Which one didn't sent u a call?

Me: Bangalore.

A2: Best of luck for all of them.

That's all folks.

Interview experience of altruist

I am working in Bangalore. Have 20 months of work ex in IT.

I have done my **electrical engineering** from **IIT Roorkee (CGPA 8.1)**
10th -92% and 12th 84%

My IIM Indore interview on 20th Feb is as follows:

There were three professors say P1, P2, P3. I was their prey so I will call myself Victim V.

P1 seemed a nice guy. P2 was bald and looking into my eyes at all times. P3 looked very serious.

V: Good Morning!

P2: You haven't filled up the no of months of work ex in the form. (Puts the form in front of me).

V: Sorry. fills it up with the pen they give Me.(One hell of a start)

P2: (Takes back the form and looks into it)

P1: Can u show Me your certificates?

V: Sure (gives him the file)

P2: What is FDI?

V: I tell him.

P2: Why is currently important?

V: Tell him a little bit about the UPA government policies and hw it is encouraging FDI which is giving more money to industries. (didn't really explain well)

P2: What is SEBI?

V: Tell him the full form.

P2: (Immediately asks the next question) Can FDI be done an IT company?

V: Says yes. It can be done. Currently IT industry is not under the government though it is regulated by the government. FDI can be made. Gave an example of July Systems which received FDI. (wasn't really sure initially but later I came strongly and said it is allowed ; however initially had some doubts)

P2: You work in a private company? (I say yes) How is a private company different from a public company?

V: tell him about being listed in the exchange and stuff (This was easy)

P2: What is "limited" in Pvt Limited company.

V: I am not sure about that. Maybe it deals with ownership of the board of directors but not sure. (should have skipped it)

P1: Your company is private limited. You should know this.

V: Yes, I should know this. I will find out. (Smile)

P2: What is an IPO?

V: Tell him in detail .Cited the example of TCS in the process.

P2: Any news on the IPO front?

V: I Mention the jet airways IPO.

P2: Any IPOs in future?

V: Mention Hutch and UTV

P1: You have got good grades in Economics and Management courses in college. Good

V: I smile and say thanks

P1: Can u name any books you studied?

V: I fumble and say no. I don't remember. I studied from my notes. I am missing the name of the book.
(wasn't really sorry)

P1: Then IIT Roorkee is just like any other college.

V: No, Our professor is this subject was good and it was better to study from the notes. From the books we get the entire details which might not be required.

P1: So do you think the education system is not good?

V: I say no. It depends on the students as to how much they can learn from the institute and put that to use.

P2: Do u remember any other course books in other subjects? Like Digital Electronics (smiles and says that u have got A in both the courses (management and economics in digital electronics it was much worse)

V: I say yes. In digital we had Morris Mano.

P2: Analog electronics?

V: We had some books like Millman and halkias.

P1: Ok name some publishing houses in India and abroad.

V: In India we have Tata Mcgraw hill and Mcgraw hill abroad. We also have harper collins and double day abroad for publishing novels.

P1 and **P2:** P3 U can now ask.

P3: You are an electrical engineer. Tell us the difference in Electrical engineering and Electronics?

V: The difference lies in the fact that electronics engineering deals with large values of current and voltage about 220 V etc while electronics deals with low values of current and voltage say 5V.

P3: (Immediately next question) So is there is a fine demarcation between both , say some voltage level?

V: No there is no demarcation like that. Many electrical equipments use electronic materials.

P3: What is an UPS. Is it electrical or Electronic?

V: It is electrical. It might use Electronic equipment inside. I am not sure.

It is a inverter as well as a voltage regulator.

P3: What is the unit of power?

V: (stumped for a few seconds.) Watts.

P3: Any other?

V: Kilo watts

P3: Smiles (I also smile)

P3: Then what is Ampere?

V: It is the unit of current

P3: What is switchgear?

V: Switchgear is the mechanism used to protect electrical transmission and whenever there is a fault in the lines it uses a tripping Mechanism to protect the transformers and the generators. switchgear consists of relays and circuit breakers and depending on the relay speed and accuracy circuit breakers protect the electrical systems. (blah blah....)

P3: What is electronic switchgear?

V: I don't know. Maybe it is something similar but not sure about it.

P3: What is electrolysis?

V: Gave them the proper answer with anode cathode and the electrolyte which should be a liquid with ions so that when electricity is passed the cations move to anode and anions move towards cathode.(Something like that which was correct , the professor were ok with it)

P3: Can sugar solution be used.

V: It can be used but it will be a very poor conductor as it doesn't have many ions salt solutions is used.

P3: Can u explain why?

V: Usually salt solution consists of a strong cation and a strong anion. In water they easily break up into ions and these ions help in conduction .Gave them an example of sodium sulphate kind of salt. (Some more blah blah.)

P3: Can you give an example where electrolysis is used?

V: A battery is an example though they use a solid electrolyte.

P3: Asked a couple more questions which were easy.

P1: Ok .Have u got any more calls ?

V: Yes, I have got calls from all the six IIMs.

P1: Best of luck of them. (All smile)

V: I smile and say thanks. (Go out)

In the middle of the interview a peon comes inside to give tea. Due to the noise and nobody was asking questions then, I looked back to see who it was. I don't think it was a problem.

Interview experience of fruskee

B-tech (Mech) + M-tech (product des)] from **IIT M.**

(Overall CGPA: 8.1)

2 yrs work experience in design. (Branch job)

99.95 overall percentile

Had my IIM I GD/PI yesterday at IIMB.

Case Study:

A Family consists of Ajay (father), XXX (mother), Vijay (Son), Anjana (Daughter)

Ajay, XXX and Vijay are highly educated and successful in their respective professions and each of them want Anjana to pursue a different career.

Anjana, a topper all thro' her school, joins Medical school though she had been preparing for engineering entrance exams.

But after a month or so, she comes back home with TC. Reasons for leaving: didn't like the practical sessions of dissection in Medical school, new hostel environment, ragging, etc.

6 junta in our group. Went on peacefully. Everyone got ample chances to make their points. I think I did fairly well in the GD. Started the GD and overall came in around 4 to 5 times.

5 minutes to read the case study, 12 minutes to discuss, 5 minutes to write the summary on the last page of the blue PGP application sheet. (I was wondering why they had a full blank sheet)

Interview:

Sardar (1S), 2I, 3I

1S: What are your qualifications?

Me: Explained Dual Degree, B-tech (Mechanical), M-tech (Product Design)

1S: So you are a Mechanical Engineer ?

Me: Yes sir.

1S: Explain the principle of working an Induction motor.

Me: 3 magnetic bars, current through a coil of wire, etc. (Was not very confident)

(I guess 1S did not knew the answer himself, he went on to the next question)

1S: What are the different types of lathe machines?

Me: Manual operated, Automatic or Computer controlled

1S: That is a very general answer.

1S: Anyways who is Sunil Dutt?

Me: He was a former actor and currently he is Member of parliament from the SP

1S: Samajwadi Party, right? (I didn't knew that he was the current sports minister)

Me: I think so.

1S: Who is Barkha Dutt?

Me: NDTV reporter.

1S: How are Sunil Dutt and Barkha Dutt related?

Me: I am not aware of any relationship between them.

1S: His daughter or his sister's daughter???

Me: I don't know? I am not aware of any such relationship between them.

1S: Not aware? OK. (Guess he was enjoying having fun with Me and was forcing Me to commit errors)

1S: Who are the female CMs?

Me: Jayalalitha, Rabri devi, Shiela Dixit, Vasundhara rao scindia

1S: That's all?

Me: I think so.

1S: Which state CM is Mayawati?

Me: I guess UP.

1S: UP or Uttaranchal

Me: I think UP (Again a forced error)

1S: OK

1S: Which state CM is Amika Soni ?

Me: I dunno

1S: (after some time) Jharkhand

Me: OK (why is he behind me ; why did I agree???)

2I: Do you read Newspapers, magazines, watch TV?

Me: Yes sir. I do.

2I: Which are the SAARC Countries?

Me: India, Pak, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan (missed out maldives)

2I: What are their currencies?

Me: India & Pakistan : Rupees, Nepal : Rupiah? I don't know the remaining but their currency value is close to the rupee

2I: Which are the countries which were in news recently?

Me: Nepal (blah blah), US & Iraq (blah blah), Sri Lanka + Indonesia + India (tsunami) (Could have spoke a lot more..)

2I: Who is the King of Nepal?

Me: Gyanendra

2I: Who is the king of Bhutan?

Me: I don't know.

2I: Who is the king of Japan?

Me: I don't know the king but I know that they are changing their rules so that they can have a female heir to the royal empire, blah.

3I: You have done some courses in management at college. You seem to be inclined towards management from a long time.

Me: Yes sir (never even dreamt that they will go through my grade card in such detail. I had infact done my Minor in finance management. But never Mentioned it anywhere because of obvious reasons)

3I: What are the principles of management (POM)?

Me: I don't remember them exactly. It's basically to increase customer satisfaction, increase shareholders value, etc?

3I: Are those POM?

Me: No sir. These are the tenets of business but I can't recollect the POM right now.

3I: Have you heard of EOQ?

Me: No sir. (Should have guessed it at least)

3I: What do u know about inventory management?

Me: [blah.. blah]JIT.

3I: What is the diff b/w JIT and EOQ ?

Me: I don't know what EOQ is.

3I: What do you know about OR?

Me: Linear programming, simplex, transportation problem, duplex

3I: Give an example problem of simplex Method application. Describe it on paper.

Me: Gave one.

3I: What is the objective function? What are the constraints?

Me: Wrote them on paper (This was the best part of the PI. Gave solid example and equations)

3I: What is Break Even point?

Me: Point at which the cumulative profits over the years = initial investMent.

(Should have simply Mentioned as no profit no loss situation or revenue = expenditure)

3I: Your interview is over. Please collect your certificates and Admit card.

Me: Thanks everyone and leaves

Finally done.

IIM Indore - Year 2006

Interview experience of and then there was 1 more

IIM-I was my first interview. Reached the place one hour before.
Went and found the block where our interviews were to take place.

Venue: IIM B , K block

Date: 13 Feb

Time 2 pm

My Profile:

10th: 80.4%

12th: 81.4%

B.tech (CSE): 67.92 (passed out in 2005)

Work-ex : 2 months in a S/W services company

We were around 25 people in the waiting room and the person comes in at 2:10 and takes attendance. 2 minutes later one prof comes and takes some people with him, then another takes some more and the remaining 8 of us are asked to wait outside.

Then two persons (can't find a better description) came and arranged the room and called us in one by one. I was the third.

GD:

"Mr. Ronaldo is looking on the beach at Nariman point as if he is counting the waves but he actually has a problem on hand.

Mr Ahuja is a young dynamic MBA from University of Delhi hired for International Sales. He is a good writer and outgoing and very popular with colleagues. He had brought in two orders which gave huge profits to the company.

Mr Singh was with the company for 20 years and was Best Employee 3 times, He is thoughtful, thinks of things in the long term and has contributed to the profitability of the company. He was also responsible for countries like Dubai, England in the past. He has said many times that 'Whatever I do should have long term implications' (*or something like that*)

Mr. Ahuja is friendly and helpful to subordinates but puts a lot of pressure when an order has to be delivered. He is impatient and likes to get things done then and there.

Because of delivery date given for some order by Mr. Ahuja, the production comes under lot of pressure. And in doing so the quality falls and the goods are returned by the customers.

Mr. Ahuja says 'Getting order is my job and delivery is your job'. When asked by Mr. Singh, Mr. Ahuja says that he got the order on his own strength and.. (don't remember the exact words but something on the lines of I make the decision). So the issue goes higher up.

Mr. Singh asks Mr. Ronaldo to shift Mr. Ahuja. Mr. Ronaldo is perplexed because till now Mr. Ahuja has delivered profits to the company and this is the first time a slip has occurred. And Mr. Singh has been consistent and has the long-term in mind.

Mr. Singh knows Mr. Ahuja's father who is also a businessman. Mr. Singh's son and Mr. Ronaldo's daughter are classmates. Mr Ronaldo knows both of them have their strengths and weaknesses.

What should Mr. Ronaldo do?"

That was the case and I hope I have written all the details. We had 5 minutes for reading, 16 for discussion and 5 for writing summary!

The GD was pretty cool with almost everyone getting to talk how many ever times they wanted to talk and towards the end there was half a minute silence 🙄. It was boring and everyone was looking at each other hoping it would get over soon. In between, one member even summarized the line of action to be taken. I talked 4-5 times but made substantial contributions each time (at least the next two speakers continued what i was talking about)

Then the summary, I wasn't even halfway through when they asked me to stop :(.
Oh and we were supposed to use the last page of the Interview form to write the summary.

Then we were told to wait outside and that we would be called in any order (and I was like 'oh shucks , my train at 6:45')

PI:

They take their time and call the first person in and he comes out after 25 minutes saying that they asked him about almost every subject on the mark sheets. (*Ok here go my chances for a six*). He had some 94% in Engineering from PSG Tech, Coimbatore.

They wait for some more time and call the second person in. He comes out after 23 minutes (I had a digital watch) and says they asked some weird acad questions like Application of Laws of Thermodynamics in Telecom (he was doing his telecom engineering)

Then one of the two comes out (P1) and looks at me and signals me in and then confirms Sajeev right?

I stand at the door and ask 'May I come in?' (*dumb i know but it seemed to be the form thing to do*)

I go, take my seat.

P2: Show your certificates. P1 takes them and starts going through the **M**.

P2: So you have got a job. Don't you want to continue working ?
(still no reply from my side and my face was like why are you asking me this)

P2: (*in trailing voice*) You are getting a good salary. So do you want to continue if you get a seat ?

Me: (*sort of realise that I have to say some thing*) Saar.. (before I could say anything else)

P2: So what was your favourite subject in college?

Me: In my first year..

P2: No! in all of engineering?

Me: Algorithms, AI, Networks..

P2: Why is Artificial Intelligence called so?

Me: blah blah about Artificial Intelligence

P2: Why use computers? Can't others be used.

Me: more blah .not that confidently but mostly right.

P2: What algorithm is used to retrieve data from memory? (*where did that come from*)

Me: don't remember sir.

P2: Tell me any algorithm that you know

Me: (Tell some sorts and searches and add bankers algorithm for good measure.)

P2: What is complexity?

Me: Blah blah

P2: explain using example

Me: Talk about Bubble sort and quick sort and so on so forth

Then after about 6-7 minutes, P2 gets bored and understands that my 67.92 is a reflection of my acads and asks the other one to have a go at me.

P1: So you stay in Tirumalgherry, tell us what is there in Tirumalgherry?

Me: Sir, it is an area where quite a few military people stay and they have their canteens and so on

P2: What do they have?

Me: (ok) EME

P1: full form:
Me: Electronics and Mechanical Engineering
P2: Electronics?
Me: I am sorry sir , it is Electrical
P1: They have something there, what is it?
Me: (try to think and remember but no chance) Don't know sir
P1: A friend of yours has come to Hyd and wants to visit places. Which 5 places will you take him to?
Me: Charminar, Golconda, Prasad's IMAX(for the amusements there 🎡), Tank bund, Hitec City(*what else for a S/W engg*)(*forgot Eat Street*)
P1: So why are Hyderabad and Secunderabad called twin cities?
Me: blah blah
P1: Who is the governor of AP?
 me: Till the cabinet reshuffle it was Sushil Kumar Shinde, now the governor of Orissa has got additional charge of AP and he happens to be Rameshwar Thakur.
P1: So where did you stay in England? and why did you go there?
Me: blah blah
P1: What are the similarities that you find between here and there?
 Me (*you could have asked me so many things but why this?*): Start of with something but move on to differences(used the word bravado so they are a little bit interested and then I spurt a lot of crap)
P2: Name of your college
Me: Insti....
P2: when was it started?
Me: 2000
P1: You are working in Karnataka , who is the Governor of Karnataka?
 Me (Shucks I don't remember) : Sir I am not working in Karnataka and I don't know the Governor.
P2: You should know. (*I think I smiled*)
P2: What were you doing before you joined your company on October 22 ?
Me: We had training at the company and then taken on rolls
P2: How were you selected for training?
Me: Exam, GD,PI
P2: How many wrote?
Me: 16 selected out of some 600 and odd
P2: What is it ? An *online test*?
Me: No, normal
P1: Recently a major religious incident took place in Karnataka. Do you know about it?
Me: No I don't know.
P1: It was covered extensively, it happens once in 12 years..
Me: Sir, I know what happens once in twelve years but not what happened in Karnataka recently.
P2: What?
Me: (*me talk about the dip in each river....*)
P2: Where in AP of late?
Me: Godavari Khani,...
 P1 to **P2:** Anything else ,no you can go
Me: say thanks(*What? Nothing on Economics, No hobbies, No Why MBA (I know I filled in the form but still)*)

While closing the door, the door bangs.

Interview experience of anupthomas

I had mine today at IIMB, at **2.00 pm**. I went there quite early, met some acquaintances (whom I had met for L/A interviews) and made a few new ones. We were taken to room K23. Three people were absent. One lucky soul who had a taste of IMI interview in the morning (Apparently, he mistook M24 where IMI interviews are being held for the place for IIMI interviews) also joined us. We were split into different groups based on the usual God-knows-what basis.

GD:

The case study for GD was about a certain Satpal Singh who had a divorce from his wife, who belongs to a very affluent family. He had three people reporting to him, all of whom joined around the time of his divorce and all of them won some major deal or the other with a Singapore based company over a period of 2-3 years and when a formal contract was to be signed with the head of the Singaporean firm, Satpal finds out that the head is none but his erstwhile wife, Ms Sunanda. What should Mr Santa Singh..err..sorry...Satpal Singh do?

Discussion was chaotic, to say the least. Everyone seemed to have an opinion and to be in a hurry to express it. All of us smelled a cleverly designed plot by Sunanda to destroy Satpal professionally, and all of us seemed to want Satpal to go about this professionally. But the way we put it across was not very professional.

Anyways, I enjoyed a decent amount of air-time (the amount one should expect when entropy is increasing, that is) and it looked to me the only girl in our group (and of course me 😊) was the only one who wanted to have a discussion. Others were too eager to speak, or too surprised at the chaos.

PI:

We were told that the interviews will be in random order. First one went in, came out after around 20 minutes and told us that he was asked some questions on work, acads and some general questions. While we were still talking, one panel member came out and asked me to go in.

Mine was a very long interview, which went on for upwards of 30 minutes. Just as the data form of IIMI being very similar to that of IIMA, my PI was also strikingly similar to my PI for IIMA. A bit of work ex, some related acads, some unrelated acads and some GK.

I offered a courteous 'Thank you' when I was offered a seat, and greeted both the panel members with a warm 'Good Afternoon'. My data form was still in P1's hand, and he was going through it.

P1: Tell me something about the work that you are doing now.

Me: It is called average cost inventory system, sir. It is used to track the store level inventory of a prominent retail chain in the United States.

P1: Oh...Have you ever learnt any related concepts in your mechanical engineering degree?

Me: Yes, sir! I have had a course on Industrial Engineering in my seventh semester where I had studied some concepts in Industrial Engineering.

P1: Like?

Me: (I had IIMA interview the previous day, and was grilled a bit on economic order quantity. I decided to try my luck again) Sir, concepts like Economic Order Quantity etc.

P1: What is the expression for EOQ?

P2: At least, can you tell us the factors affecting EOQ?

Me: Sir, ordering cost, demand and inventory carrying cost.

P1: Ok. What are the other factors, which might affect it?

Me: (Confused) I don't think there is any other factor which needs to be considered, sir.

P1: Compare the EOQ of a manufacturing firm which produces components for automobiles and an FMCG which sells soaps. What will be the difference in EOQs?

Me: I think, there will not be any difference other than the safety stock that the FMCG company will have to maintain. If they don't keep a safety stock, they might face conditions of lost sales.

P1: OK so?

Me: Sir for the automobile company, they know before hand what the demand is going to be, and can plan accordingly. But for FMCG, since they have to prevent loss of sales, they will have to keep a safety stock. So, EOQ for the FMCG Company will be higher than that of the automobile company.

P1: Some more questions on this and went on to some mechanical engineering, had to draw a block diagram of energy flowing from engine to the track and Thermodynamic Law involved. I said it is only the First Law of Thermodynamics is involved. He asked me to define it, then define the internal energy, usual efficiency of Internal combustion Engines, and he asked me how best to improve the efficiency (I suggested the use of fuel cells and remove mechanical components as a way). Then he asked me to compare the efficiency of diesel engine of a truck engine to that of a locomotive. I first mistook it for a comparison between a stationary engine and a truck engine, but later P1 made the question clearer, and I said the locomotive engine will have a lower efficiency because of the higher volume and higher pressure-volume work involved.

Then P2 started off:

P2: You have mentioned literature as a field of interest (*I had specifically mentioned Malayalam literature 😊 I planned to narrow-down the area of coverage, hehe*) Who won the Nobel Prize for literature for this year?

Me: I am not sure, sir. I didn't follow the Nobel Prizes this time.

P2: Any Indian who won it?

Me: Rabindra Nath Tagore, sir.

P2: For which work?

Me: Gitanjali.

P2: Which year?

Me: 1913.

P2: 1913...What are the literature awards given in India?

Me: We have Saraswati Samman as the biggest award, sir. Then we have jnanapitha award (I didn't say gyan pitha...I hate the Hindi pronunciation of that word)

P2: What are your other interests?

Me: (*I have mentioned them also, sir*) Sir, listening to Malayalam film music, watching cricket and football.

P2: How many World Cup cricket tournaments have taken place so far?

Me: (Did a mental arithmetic – $((2003-1975)/4) + 1 = 8$) Sir, eight tournaments.

P2: Eight?

Me: Yes, sir; 1975, 79, 83, 87, 92, 96, 99 and 2003.

P2: How many did India win?

Me: We won only 1983 world cup, sir.

P2: How many did England win?

Me: England hasn't won any yet, sir.

P2: What is the highest score in one day cricket?

Me: 398 for 2 by Sri Lanka against Kenya in 1996.

P2: What is the lowest score?

Me: I am not sure, sir. I think it is 54 by India against Sri Lanka (Later I found out that it is terribly wrong; it is 37 by Canada against Sri Lanka)

P2: Who bowled the first ever ball in a World Cup match?

Me: I am not sure, sir.

P2: It was an Indian.

Me: I know it was an Indian sir, and I know it was against England. But I can't recollect who it was.

P1: You were not even born that time. It is OK.

P2: Do you know any Indian who batted for full sixty overs and still scored less than 40?

Me: Yes, sir. Sunil Gavaskar.

P2: He is very much a technically correct batsman. What do you think?

Me: I agree sir; he was a very good batsman, who was technically very correct.

P2: Still he scored only less than forty, batting for 60 overs. What do you think was the problem?

Me: India didn't have much experience in one day cricket that time sir. So an effect of Test cricket would have crept in. Also, England had posted a mammoth total of 334, which could have put the Indian batsmen in the defensive.

P2: Did he bat for sixty overs?

Me: Yes sir. He carried his bat through.

P2: Which all are the countries which play one day cricket?

Me: (I was confused...there are so many of them)...All the countries which are playing one day cricket now, or the countries which have ever played, sir?

P2: Which are playing now?

Me: All the ten test playing countries play one day cricket also. Apart from those we have Kenya

P2 (interrupts me): Tell me which all countries played in the last world cup.

Me: (I thought this was child's play to me. I decided to go overboard). Sir, in group A, we had India, Australia, Namibia (fumbled here...couldn't remember a fourth country in that group L I repeated the three countries once more and said "then, mM..hM..")

P1: (had a satisfied look on his face) No, that is OK...leave it...

P1: One more question...There was a film by Ramu Kariat named "Chemmeen". Who's work was that based on?

Me: Thakazhi Shivashankara Pilla (I followed a perfect Malayalam accent to tell that name)

P1: Did he win any awards?

Me: For the film?

P1: No, I am asking about the writer in general.

Me: He is a jnanapitham laureate, sir.

P1: OK...that is it. Thank you.

Me: (to both the panelists) Thank you sir.

I get up and leave taking my certificates etc. When I am half way through, P1 says...hey one more thing... Please come back and take a seat.

Me: (confused, went back and occupied the chair.Forgot to offer my thanks)

P1: You have mentioned your family income as xxx per year, but you yourself are earning yyy per month.

Me: Sir, the figure I have quoted is just my family income. It doesn't include my income.

P1: Oh...I had actually planned to ask you this, but forgot. I am sorry. So this is just your family income?

Me: Yes sir, if you want I can make it Zzz, so that it includes my income also (Luckily, it was just a matter of adding one more digit).

P1: Please do so. It is supposed to be inclusive of everything.

Me (adds one more digit and returns the form to him)

P1: Thank you.

Me: (Thanks the two professors again and leave)

People waiting outside told me that it went on for 30-35 minutes 😨 I never felt it, and didn't want it be over so soon 😊 I would have loved to sit for another 15 minutes discussing cricket ;-)

Interview experience of gitanshu

I had my GD on 16 march at Delhi 2 pm slot

GD:

Case study on Chand magazine

Decent discussion. 8 guys and a girl. Everyone contributed decently except the lady. At the 14th minute, the panelist actually asked the lady if she wanted to add something to the discussion to which she said sir I have been contributing in between and then he allowed the discussion to resume for two minutes again.

Ours was the largest panel and we were asked to wait as we would be called in random order.

PI:

I was the last person to be interviewed at 6.
Last man standing all others had gone by now

2 panelists
smiling accounts stud (SAS)
guy with killer looks (KLG)
and poor me (ME)

SAS: Please come in

Me: Good evening sir

KLG: It must have been very frustrating to wait outside for so long

Me: Smiled (*agar select ho gaya to who cares n otherwise what choice did i have? You guys had my cat admit card bhag bhi to nahi sakta tha*)

KLG: So your friends who had their interviews earlier must have told you what all are we asking ?

Me: Sir, mostly the guys that you interviewed were engineers and just one person with commerce background. And he told me that you are asking questions on Economics

(*blunder! itna frank kyun ho gaya? Probably because I wished he would again ask me on economics, which I think I would have handled*)

SAS: Ok, then I will not ask you Economics

Me: smiled (*kya kar sakta hoon re>*)

KLG: So you are from Radhakrishnan school?

Me: Sir, I have done my schooling from 3 different schools

KLG: (*totally uninterested*)> So tell us something about Dr. Radhakrishnan? Who was he?

Me: Sir, he was the President of India and an educationist. His birthday is celebrated as Teachers' day.

KLG: (not willing to let me go) but when was he President of India?

Me: Don't know sir

KLG: (*CHHODUNGA NAHI SARE DIN ME EK TO MURGA MILA HAI*)> OK Gitanshu, tell me which other Presidents you know in chronological order?

Me: Don't know sir.

KLG: Tell me the recent ones

Me: (*FINAL NAIL IN THE COFFIN*)> Sir, right now we have Mr Kalam. Before him, we had Mr K R Narayanan for two terms and before him, we had Dr Shanker Dayal Sharma

SAS: Are you sure bout this? (with a lovely smile on his face>

KLG: So how many Presidents India has had till date ?

Me: (*blunder pe blunder*)> Sir 12 terms and 11 presidents.

SAS: Are you sure? (again with a lovely smile. Sir get a trademark on your smile>

Me: Sir, I think that I am not too sure.

SAS: Gitanshu, only Dr. Rajendra Prasad has been elected twice in Indian history as President and Dr Radhakrishnan was the Vice president for those two terms and then he was made the President. So he was the second president on the third term (*all this in a manner jaise koi nursery student ko padhata hai*)>

SAS: So Gitanshu, (he seemed to like my name. Called me by my name again n again> what do you know about revenue recognition principles?

Me: I fumbled but told him after he handed me a hint

SAS: So Gitanshu, which system do you follow in your business ?

Me: Sir, we follow the cash system

SAS: That is an extremely conservative approach

Me smiled

(SAS was in mood to teach. Probably had a craving to speak as the whole day he might have been listening to the candidates quietly, while KLG WAS GETTING RESTLESS to leave)

SAS: So, how do you account for revenues, in case the project is not completed?

Me: Sir, we follow the percentage completion method

SAS: besides that

Me: sat numb while SAS was piercing me with his killer smile

SAS: How will you account for the revenues when the project is completed?

Me: Sir, we will find the actual costs. Then this can be done

SAS: So how do you apportion the expenses?

Me: Sir, the percentage basis or the actual basis.

SAS: No Gitanshu, tell me the basic principle by which this is done?

Me: Sir, I cant recall but the expenses are matched with the revenues

SAS: WHAT (he actually raised his voice> is the principle called?

Me: Sir ,,,, (N BEFORE I COULD ANSWER, he said Gitanshu, it is called revenue matching principle)

SAS: Ok, What is the difference in hire purchase system?

Me: Sir, in hire purchase system, the buyer is the lessee and the seller is the lessor whereas

SAS: exactly whereas in the instalment system, the property in the goods passes onto the buyer on the date of the sale. So Gitanshu, how do you recognise the revenues in the instalment system?

and before I could muster the courage to answer, he got into the teaching mode

SAS: See 80000 cost sold for one lac 20 instalments on receipt of the first instalment 5000 revenues 4000 costs 1000 profits

Me: (I got into the student mode> But sir, the 1000 also includes the interest component

SAS: Exactly, that is what we do in India and that is why the accounts are not reliable. So what do you know of the cost recovery method ?

Me: (*yaar itni badhiya class chal rahi this firse interview mode mein aa gaya*> I don't know sir 🙄🙄🙄)

SAS: (*firse teaching mode in cost recovery method blah blah blah for 3-4 minutes*)

Me: Very useful sir.

asked me then few questions on my family business which I managed quite well

By this time, KLG WAS TOO RESTLESS AND IRRITATED

SAS still interested in his student. So GITANSHU, which are the rivers in and around DELHI

Me: Sir Yamuna and HINDON

SAS: A pretty standard answer. You must have been told by your friends that this was the question that was asked (again that big smile>

Me: smiled 😊

SAS: So why was Yamuna in news in the recent times?

Me: Sir, because of the cleanliness drive and because of the lack of water to the sonia vihar water plant.

SAS (with that trademark smile): So GITANSHU, how familiar are you with current affairs. Do you keep yourself updated ?

Me: (timidly) Occasionally sir

SAS: (the smile got wider) But current affairs do not happen occasionally. They happen daily

KLG: (*bas bahut ho gaya. ye nalayak kuch bhi answer nahi kar raha and SAS usko chhod hi nahi raha hai*> So (the affectionate gitanshu wasnt there with KLG> do u know the things like Calculus, Permutations and Combinations ?

Me: I have studied them sir

KLG: Ok, thank you

Me: Thank you sir

(SAS smiled again as I said him thank you>

SAS: GITANSHU which other calls do you have?

Me: Sir, I have 4 calls 2 are over and Calcutta is tomorrow

SAS: Please be prepared for the next interview

Me: Sir, I don't have much time but i will try my best

That's it

I didn't do anything which can be looked upon in this interview but why was SAS so affectionate, i am still not able to figure out. Anyways if his affection can help me then i don't mind.

Interview experience of bkmiictian

March 18, 9 AM

Profile:

CAT %ile: 99.93(All sections above 96)
 B Tech. Info n comm tech(ICT), DAIICT, Gandhinagar, 4th yr
 Acads : CPI 2.73/4 converted to percentage: 74.6%
 12th:83 CBSE
 10th:88 Maharashtra
 Work-ex : NIL
 strong extra curriculans

GD:

8 in the panel. I was 5th. But the PI was in random order.

Case Study:

3 guys - Mr. Hirendra (GM Fin), Mr. Gopalan Nair (VP Fin), Mr. Mohan (Chief of operations) of TL Ltd, a construction company. The company is building a plant for Bikes Ltd. If the plant is operational before the 31st March, then Bikes Ltd will get tax benefits. Mr. Gopalan is also the brother in law of the MD of Bikes Ltd. Now the project is running successfully in Feb. Some load shedding was anticipated in march. Currently, 3 power generators were being used. Mohan estimated that if the power did fail, 10 more will be needed. So Mr Hirendra suggested hiring these 10 generators. However since the project was executing well, the company did not hire all the 10. Hirendra was out of station when suddenly there was power failure in March. In the meantime, the corporate office had already shifted one of the generators to some other site as all were not being utilised here. Gopalan tried to hire the required 10 generators but could get only 7 as there was shortage of generators since this load shedding was anticipated. So he issued funds to purchase the remaining 4 generators. The project was completed on time. In the board room meeting, Hirendra got angry with Gopalan as to why did he spend extra on the project when he could have rented more generators or shifted some from the Valsad plant in Gujarat. Hirendra is higher up in the hierarchy compared to Gopalan. What are the issues and what should be done to resolve them?

I spoke 5-6 times. Decent contribution. Better than average but could have been better. However, I am happy with my performance especially after my last GD where I couldn't speak even once 😊. Was a bit aggressive initially because of the same reason.

PI:

Panel: 1 - mathematician and 2 - tech guy from Bihar.

1. What does your dad do?

M. My, dad, Mr. ****, is **** in **** Ltd. Some more info.

1. So you are also a Mechanical engineer?

M. No Sir. I am doing my B.Tech in Information and Communications Technology.

1. So a telecom engineer?

M. No Sir, ICT is a new degree offered only by our institute. For the first two years, we are taught both communications and IT. After that, we are offered electives and can choose to specialise in a particular field. I specialised in computer science, specifically theoretical computer security.

1. Ok, then tell me what is a sinusoidal?

M. Drew a sin wave and talked about periodicity, finite y value and similarity in shape to a basic sine curve.

1. What will be the function?

M. Wrote the series formula

1. I mean, what will be the general form of a sinusoid when expressed a $y = \text{something?}$

M. $y = A \sin(\omega \theta + \alpha)$. Told what is what.

1. Won't every sinusoid be a sine?

M. It can also be a cosine, it all depends on what values you set for A, ω and α in the equation.

1. Do you know what a step function is?

M. Yes Sir. Drew it.

1. Can you tell me of instance where a sinusoid and a step function is used? Separately, not together.

M. Sir, I have taken most of my electives in computer science. Communication related courses were done in the first two years. However, I can answer this question (with a sheepish smile). A sinusoid can be used when analog signal is being used. The various modulation techniques will use a sinusoid. A step signal will be used in digital communication, not necessarily a binary 1 0. It can have various levels...telephone..(interrupted)

1. You have done a course on digital circuits and processors? What did you learn in that course?

M. Sir, our professor used a custom designed processor to teach us assembly language. 8085 is the conventional processor that we covered. The main objective of our professor was to teach us to be able to use any given set of assembly instructions.

1. What was the textbook for the course?

M. Sir, our professor Mr. R N Biswas (very reknowned prof. IIT Kanpur 27 yrs work-ex!! Thought he would know) does not follow any textbook. He gives his own notes and used the custom processor. Towards the end of the course, we were also taught 8051, serial port and parallel port.

1. Where will you use which one?

M. Sir, a parallel port can allow you to transfer 8 bits simultaneously. So, I would use it for high data rates or when I am sending characters. However due to the interference we cannot use it for long distances where a serial port will be used as only single bit is transmitted at a time.

1. Explain to me what are random variables and also give me an instance of blah blah(don't know all that)

M. Sir, I don't know. (Just the beginning)

2. What do you know about satellites? What are the types? (*Yeh bhi communication pe aa gaya*)

M. Sir there are geo-stationary satellites which have an orbit of 36000 km. Then there are low orbit satellites (interrupted)

2. I am looking for names.

M. INSAT series. A, B, C.(interrupted)

2. Can you name any satellite launching sites in India?

M. Hassan

2. Any other?

M. None that I can recall. I was very much interested in satellites up to 10th and also did a project on the **M.** But have lost touch since.

2. Rockets? Any facilities? Coastal areas?

M. Blank stares

1. Name the states on the western coast?

M. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka and Kerala

1. name the major ports on this coast?

M. In Gujarat, Kandla; in Maharashtra, Mumbai, down South I don't know.

2. Have you heard of Asian tigers?(Damn I knew this, but it didn't strike me then, read on for some fun)

M. Tigers in Gir?

2. Tigers or lions?

M. Oh yes, I am sorry it is lions. Regarding tigers...**uM.** Only thing I am able to recall is a statement from a novel.

1. What is it?

M. Sir, a novel by Robert Ludlum - Bourne Supremacy, ' something about Thousand tigers - told the statement but unable to recall now' (For the record, Asian tigers are India, China and Japan) Also mentioned something about National parks.

2. Where are these two located?

M. I don't remember sir. 😊

2. You are from Gujarat. So do you know, what is the golden triangle?

M. Golden quadrilateral? **uM.**

2. Don't guess, do you know it?(he smiled)

M. No sir, I don't know. I was just trying to recall whether any two states have something special in common with Gujarat. I don't know the correct answer.

2. What is Iridium?(Somewhere when talking about satellites, I had mentioned this word)

M. Sir, it was a project initiated in Europe, I think, in France. Although i am not sure of the place. India was also invited. It was basically started as a competition for the GPS system which is based in US and will get outdated in sometime, once its satellites stop functioning one by one. However this project was scrapped as

the plan was not practical and the projected costs were very high.//some more detail... it is actually a project in US :(

2. Have you heard of the Ranvir sena? Where is it based?

M. No idea sir.

2. Ok, have you heard of Laloo Prasad Yadav?

M. yes, Of course sir. He is the railway minister.

2. Which state is he the minister of?

M. Sir, he is the railway minister at the centre. (interrupted)

2. Then who is the railway minister for Bihar?

M. Sir, there is no railway minister in a state government.

2. Are you sure?

M. Yes, u**M...** yes sir, I am sure. Certain aspects are under the direct purview of the centre. e.g. the railways are divided into regions like western, central, etc rather than state based and hence probably the states don't have a railway minister. However whether a state needs a railway minister or not is debatable.

1. You had a course in 7th sem - Introduction to modern algebra. You also had a course named linear algebra and matrices in 2nd se**M.** I do not know the difference.

M. Sir, we had Math courses only up to the 4th sem with the last one being probability. Introduction to modern algebra was offered as an open elective course which was based more on abstract mathematics and not related to engineering mathematics.

1. Yes, but you studied it in 7th sem? So what did you do in that course?

M. Sir, we covered topics like ring, field and groups.

1. Do u remember what a commutative ring?

M. *blank stares* u**M..** Yes sir

1. Can integers form a ring?

M. Sir, a ring needs 2 operators and a set. the elements of the set have to satisfy the three properties on both the operators to form a ring.

1. Are integers a field?

M. Yes sir

1. What integers can form the ring?

M. Sir the whole set of integers is needed to form the ring, with the operators addition and multiplication.

1. What if there are less integers?

M. A ring cannot be formed.

Ok, thank you. Please take a biscuit.

The interview lasted about 20-25 min. Lots of acads and GK. Acads not even related to my field. However, it wasn't as bad as it looks 😊 I never lost my cool and always smiled when i didn't know. A couple of times there was general laughter. Overall, the interview was very cool.

Interview experience of keviv

Last one of the season for me.

Here goes the description.

Profile:

Background: fresher, B.Tech ICT (DA-IICT, Gandhinagar)

CAT %ile: 99.97

Calls: BLACKI

Date: 25th March

Venue: IICM, Vashi (UTI institute, 3rd floor)

Time: 2:00 PM

Panel: 1 (not sure)

GD:

8 people in the group, one lady. I was the only fresher. Vinz and Rohan are also in the same panel. 5 minutes to read, 16 minutes to discuss, and 5 minutes to write the summary. Summary has to be written down on the back of the yellow form.

The case was about a person who joined family business after studies and did pretty well there. Thereafter, he entered into the education field which was quite close to his heart. He set up schools and colleges. Then he plunged into politics, became an MLA and then an MP and was, in all probabilities, going to become a minister soon. The management of the schools and colleges was looked after by his family members. But a week before the celebration of the completion of a decade of his schools and colleges, one of the schools of his is derecognized by CBSE and the colleges also face some case in the court. To add to his woes, the HRD minister cancels his visit to his celebrations. So what should he do?

Utter crap case. Of the one page write up given, 3/4th page had some of the other information about the person in question. Only the last 1/4th section spoke about the problem and so the problem wasn't clear at all. And therefore, we had quite a lacklustre discussion.

PI:

They were calling people in random order. Luck wasn't with me this time. In 3 out of my previous 5 interviews, I was 2nd and in one I was 1st. But today I was 7th!! And with the panel spending 30 mins with each person, it was a long long wait for me!

P1: Bored interviewer

P2: cordial interviewer

Me: Yours truly

When I was called for the interview, I went to the door and knocked to appear civilised. But the room was designed such that the sounds from inside could not be heard outside. And so I could not hear when they asked me to come in. I knocked thrice, then made sure that I was knocking at the right door and finally barged in!

P1: So Vivek, How are you?

Me: Fine sir.

P1: Long wait for you huh? Must be bored?

Me: Yes Sir. A long wait. But I was busy solving Sudokus.

P2: So, you are very much interested in Sudokus?

Me: No sir. But a good way to spend time.

Now, without any other formalities, P2 just jumped to acads.

P2: You have this course probability and statistics? Why this course in IT?

Me: Explained that mine is not IT but ICT where we have subjects from IT, CS and ECE. The course is relevant for CS and ECE fields.

P2: Ok. What is Baye's theorem? (Hands me a sheet of paper)

Me: Told.

P2: What would be $P(B/A)$ if $P(A/B)$ is given?

Me: Told

P2: Give an example of Baye's theorem.

Me: After thinking for a while, started telling about different coloured balls in a container and drawing balls without replacement.

P2: No. I don't want this bookish example.

Before I could think of another example, he asked the next question.

P2: Is Baye's theorem applicable to all kinds of events?

Me: Tried to say something about if there are $B_1, B_2 \dots B_n$ events and they should be independent.

P2: No. what should be the relation between A and B?

Me: Couldn't really understand the question. So clueless stares.

P2: Have you heard about mutually exclusive and independent events.

Me: Yes. Explained.

P2: Given an example of independent events.

Me: Questions asked by this panel and those asked by the other panel are independent to each other.

P2: What happens when A and B are mutually exclusive?

From this question, he led me show that the theorem cannot be applied when A and B are mutually exclusive.

I wasn't really convinced but let it pass by accepting whatever he said.

P2: Where can Bayes' theorem be applied in electronics?

Me: Couldn't think of an example there.

P2: In communication?

Me: Talked about information theory. Told them about the probability of receiving a message x_1 , when the transmitted message was also x_1 and when the transmitted message was other than x_1 .

P2: In what type of practical channels the prob. $P(X_1/X_1)$ would be 1 and where would it be less than 1.

Me: In no practical channel it would be 1.

P2: So, in the decreasing order of probability, what would be the list of channels?

Me: Optical fibres, copper cables, wireless.

P2: Working principles of these channels.

Me: Told.

P2: Why more noise in wireless. Tell mathematically.

Me: Gave a physical explanation. Told them that didn't know the mathematics.

P2: How can the noise be compensated?

Me: Told about repeaters.

P2: Give a practical example.

Me: Told about optical amplifiers used in optical fibre channels at appropriate intervals

P2 now signals to P1 to take over. All this while P1 gave a terribly bored look. He seemed to be very tired and didn't show any interest in my answers. And when it was his turn to interview, he asked pure GK questions.

P1: Which states are ruled by BJP?

Me: Told.

P1: CMs of these states.

Me: Told and added that wasn't very sure.

P1: Which states ruled by Congress?

Me: Gave some names.

P1: CM of karnataka.

Me: Don't remember the name but Dharamsingh was replaced by son of Dev Gowda.

P1: CM of Kerala?

Me: Don't know.

P1: Who rules in J&K?

Me: Congress with NCP.

P1: NCP??

Me: I am sorry. NCP is in Maharashtra. It is NC in J&K.

P1: In UP.

Me: Told

P1: Which of these governments is more development oriented?

Me: Told about Gujarat and Maharashtra.

All these while, I would look at P2 for assurance because I wasn't very sure of my answers and P2 was giving a nod whenever I gave a correct answer.

P1 signals to P2 that he is done.

P2: You have campus placement?

Me: Yes, in _____.

P2: It's a nice opportunity to get some good experience. Why not go for it?

Me: Told about willing to have a continuity in my academic career.

P2: Thank you vivek. Take a biscuit.

Me: Thank you.

This was it. 20 minutes. Compared to others I had a pretty easy interview. One guy in the other panel was asked to explain every single thing written on a pencil (HB Bonded lead etc.) A lot of direct GK was being asked. Don't know how does that serve any purpose.

Thus ended the season for me. Now begins the nail-biting wait for the results. Hope my first tryst with CAT becomes the last one too.

IIM Indore - Year 2007

Interview experience of Rosagulla

Well folks,

Here goes my date with IIM Indore

Date - 8/03/07

Time - 9:00 a.m.

Venue - PESIT college of Management

City - Bangalore

My profile (for reference) -

CAT 06

OA - 99.13

QA - 96.96

DI - 93.93

VA - 98.98

Electrical engineer.

Work exp - 32 months in a well-known IT company.

Decent academics and extracurricular.

Case Study - There is this guy Rishi who owns a Telecom company. He has taken a license, is in heavy debt and the company profits start declining owing to competition and other players coming in. He had earlier started a business in IT sector with his friend. Later the friend goes off for higher studies and he starts his Telecom business.

The company financials are struggling. He has not disclosed this to his executives and is afraid that they would leave if they come to know. He is sure he can pull the business back on track if his senior executives co-operate. What does he do?

A page long case study given along with an extra sheet.

5 minutes to read, 15 minutes to discuss and 5 minutes to write the summary. Supposed to be written on the last page of your application form.

Decent discussion, entered 6-7 times.

The group converged on the course of action to be followed did a sort of SWOT analysis of the company and almost all points were well covered.

Rating - 8/10

PI - Candidates were being called in random order. I went in 5th.

Players -

BP: A young Bengali professor.

SP: A professor who asked questions of social importance and general awareness.

Me: ME

JD - My Name

BP: Come in JD, take your seat.

Me: Thank you sir.

SP: Give me your file

Me: Here sir , [handed it over]

BP: So, JD you work for <xyz>.

Me: Yes sir.

BP: What are your job responsibilities ?

Me: Explained

BP: You have done you Electrical engineering. What is a transformer ?

Me: Explained(Requirement, concept, working, application.Power Xr/ Distribution Xr).

BP: What is shell type Xr ?

Me: Drew and explained ,explained it's use.

BP: Okay, what are the different types of losses?

Me: Iron losses, copper losses; there method of calculation and design inputs specific Iron loss curves etc.

BP: What is Ohm's law?

Me: Explained.

BP: What is resistivity?

Me: Explained.

BP: What is conductivity & conductance ?

Me: Explained [*Bekar main hi dara diya tha bhai logon ne , doesn't seem to be a technical guy*] [I dn't know why I am scared]

BP: What was the major project that you worked on ?

Me: Started a little jittery, but pulled off well.

Microprocessor based speed control of separately excited DC motor , bridge rectifiers , firing angles.AC/DC converters. Feedback loops. Very efficient and quick response time.

BP: So what other methods to control speed ?

Me: Explained.

Over to SP.

SP: U are a bengali right; when did you go to Bengal the last time ?

Me: Bengali but brought up in UP.

SP: Okay what is Uttar Pradesh's main contribution to GDP ?

Me: Sugar cane industry. Mustard industry[Explained]

SP: What are the major industrial areas in UP ??

Me: Not too sure, but pulled it off.

SP: Any major private player in UP ?

Me: Not sure.

SP: What about Sahara India ?

Me: Yes, they are one.

SP: Their business ?

Me – Explained.

SP: What is Uttar Pradesh's main problem as a state ??

Me: General .managed somehow.

SP: Do you know of Bimaru states?

Me: (Yes sir, read yesterday Explained.

SP: Have you heard of poverty line, how is it measured ??

Me: HDI ; parameters like nutrition, sanitation etc .identified by a central committee ; people not meeting the minimum criteria are supposed to be below poverty line. [pulled it off somehow]

SP: What percentage of India is below poverty line ?

Me: Not sure but probably 25-30 %.

SP: Nods.

SP: Ok JD.Thank you.

Me: Thank you sir.

BP: [Smiles] Don't forget to take your CAT admit card.

Me: Thank you sir.

So, that's it guys....Did well in the academics part and so-so in the general awareness part.

No major blunders.

I'll rate myself **7/10**

Suggestion -

- 1) Revise your academics. Helps a lot plus it's an added advantage.
- 2) Prepare something about your state ; Main occupation, major problems, etc.

Interview experience of Prerna Jain

My background

X-79.2%,

XII-92%.

College - SRCC with aggregate of 72% in graduation

Done with grad in 2006 and currently **working with a paper firm as accountant.**

I was the only girl in my group.

The Group Discussion started.

I initiated the same and gave a perfect structure so that everyone followed the same lines. In between I made timely entries with good content and made my presence felt throughout the Group Discussion.

In short, I feel it was a very good one and I never add to the curse. In short I feel that my performance was good.

Then came the interview. they were calling randomly however we felt that they are calling the weak candidates who dint perform nicely at Group Discussion at first.

There were two panel members.

Q-1 Tell about yourself ?

I told them about my graduation and working and strengths and what all things I am good at.

Q-2 You know about Aishwarya rai and Sushmita Sen. These people are winning laurels in the field of glamour, so how does it affect our country?

I told them that it highlights the Indian image on globe.

Q-3 But how does it affect the GDP of nation?

I said that they attract the various offers from Hollywood and bollywood and this brings in revenues. Also talked on advertisement front tourists etc.

Q-4 But they pressed it again that it means so high revenues to change the GDP?

I said revenues are indeed helpful and whatsoever it helps in growth.

Q-5 Where are liabilities and assets in balance sheet?

Told them.

Q-6 Why liabilities on liabilities side ; get me the logic ??

I couldn't answered, tried and then said, " I don't know"

Q-7 In which field Amartya sen got the Nobel Prize ???

I got nervous and said wrong-I think in literature...

Q-8 What is his profession ?

I said same-literature.

Q-9 He said isn't he a journalist ?

[I created the blunder now] Oh yes yes Journalist.

Q-10 Asked my work-experience. I told that.

YOU CAN GO NOW.

I stood up and said that I want to add on. I told them about my part time work experience and then said that I am comfortable more with economics.

Q-11 Can demand curve be positively sloping?? Draw it ?
I drew and explained perfectly.

They smiled and made me sit again.

Q-11 My friend got a swiss watch and as its price increases, its demand increases. Why?

blah blah blah ; I told that too nicely.

Q-12 3-4 more questions on tax and economics.
I answered all well. [Just one small question not properly ; but rest okay]

Q-13 The health minister was in news recently in relation to movies why?? [He gave a hint that Shahrukh in devdas]

I thought it was because of ban on smoking but this hint confused me and I said slowly liquor but then said i don't know. However there was some issue on ban of obscene scenes on Television but health minister was not involved in same.

After this, I knew it was a bad group discussion.

Q-14 Who is health minister ?
A - Out of nervousness and feeling low ; I couldn't really recall the name.

Q-15 One last question on economics and I replied that.

Interview experience of Madguyfrankenstein

Hi All,

Sorry for the late post. Had my B interview days after my I interview and you all know how the net centre systems work.

Venue : PESIT, Bangalore

Date and Time : 13 Feb, 9:00 am

CAT : 98.79

Work Ex: 43 months

G.D : Same case as told by few others from Kolkata.

Khosla -> market survey-> transparency stuff.

We had 7 members for the discussion(1 person was absent).

We were told before start that 5 minutes would be given to prepare. 15 minutes for the discussion and 5 minutes for the summary.

But our discussion would have gone only for 10-12 minutes (Everyone in the panel felt so though no one could be 100% sure about this.)

Summary : Though we were told 5 minutes, we were asked to stop well before that. Almost everyone in the panel had one liner or two liners as summary.

I was half way through a word when the professor asked us to stop. I thought I will just finish the word(rush of blood or sheer bad luck) and got some flak for it from the professor. He came to my place and struck off the last word I had written. I apologized for my action and told him was just completing the word.

PI : I was the sixth to be interviewed and the panel had already run out of time by the time I went it. So while everyone before me had a 25 min interview, mine was around 17-20 minutes only.

P1: So u are working for?

Me: xxxx

P1: Tell me your job profile?

Me: Told him

P1: So you an engineer?

Me: Yes

P1: Electrical and Electronics?

Me: Yes sir.

P1: Tell me about 1G,2G,3G etc

Me: [A very very general and ordinary answer]

P1: Diff between CDMA and GSM ?

Me: Again a very general answer. (Basically told what shashank had told me while we were waiting for our mock interviews at time). Also pointed to the panel that these were topics that were not part of my curriculum.

P1: But you are an electronics engineer ?

Me: Yes Sir. But if you have a look at the subjects I studied, it was more of electrical and some electronics as well.

P1: Oh Don't you have a mobile?

Me: Yes Sir.I do

P1: What is GPRS and how does it work?

Me: (What!!!) Sir, I don't know how it works and told him the expansion. Turns out that the expansion was wrong too.

P1: Ok. What are the other subjects that you studied?

Me: Machines, Digital Electronics, maths is 4-5 semesters.

P1: Ok , tell me about your work. How do you gather requirements for your product ?

Me: Told about my work. Told them gathering requirements was not part of my profile.

P1: So, you don't know how it is done?

Me: Sir , I have a broad idea of how it is done and went on to explain it and said about a separate team available to get this done.

P1: So you actually write code in java?

Me: Yes Sir.

P1: Can you tell me what is polymorphism?

Me: Sure. Started explaining it. P1 intervenes

P1: Can you explain with code?

Me:(Gleefully) : Sure sir. Write a simple program to bring out the concept.

Hands over the baton to P2 who was going through my certificates till then

P2: So you are basically from Hyderabad?

Me: No sir. I am from Chennai currently working in Hyderabad.

P2: Why was the city renamed to Chennai?

Me: blah blah

P2: When was the state of TN founded?

Me: Dunno sir.

P2: Is there any connection between forming of AP, TN and Karnataka ?

Me: Yes Sir. Talked about Chennai not being part of TN initially and division in broad terms.

P2: Mahabalipuram is near Chennai right?

Me: Yes Sir.

P2: What is the temple that is there?

Me:(Thinking of the reasons one actually goes there) Told them about the pandavas etc.

P2: What is the deity there?

Me: Not sure sir.

P2: Ok Which king built the temple?

Me: Don't know sir.

P2: At least which clan ?

Me:Don't know sir

P2: You know hindi?

Me: Yes sir.

P2: What is the script on which hindi is based ?

Me: Devanagari

P2: Languages that are based on this script ?

Me: Told him a few.

P2: What about Gujarati ?

Me: I don't know that language but would think that is also based on this script sir.

P2: Marathi ?

Me: Same answer from me.

P2: Tamil ?

Me: Was really caught here ; wasn't really sure so accepted that fact again.

P2: Ok Thanks , you may leave.

Me: Thank you sir and almost got up.

P1: You have any questions for us?

Me: Since I was almost standing and was too drained by the experience, told a No when in fact I had planned a few questions to be asked if at all they asked me.

P1: Thank You

Me: Thank You Sir

And left.

Overall was a so-so experience. Got some flak for continuing the summary and lot many no no during the interviews.

Interview experience of Stormage

My IIM-I interview today in Bangalore ; PES college 9am batch

Profile:

X/XII - 88

Grad - B.tech IIT-B - 8.6/10

Work ex - 1.5 yrs in L&T

Cat percentile 99.44

Group Discussion was about some panelists taking interview.

They had to choose between 4 candidates, whom do they choose and why.

There were 7 guys no fish market. Came in between frequently and did a good job.

Was the second last to be called in[Painful wait]

(Two professor's **P1 & P2** and **Me**)

P1: So Abhinav, you are a civil engineer? Have you read fountainhead?

Me: No sir, but have heard its quite a good book.

P1: That's surprising there is a character of a civil engineer there you should read it.

Me: Yes sir it is on my "to-do" list ranted off with some my recently read books freakonomics etc.

P1: Any fiction?

Me: Very Few , gave some name[was hoping he would ask me about freakonomics but didn't]

P1: OK, what is the difference between BOT and BOOT projects ?

Me: Explained terminology and mechanism.

P1: (Continues to pester me on the same)

Me: Repeat same answer and finally change course to my recent task.

P1: So how is an EPC project different from BOT?

Me: Explained.

P1: So in this project you have gone through contract document?

Me: Yes sir.

P1: Asked whole lot of stuff from work experience - all commercial terms , bank guarantee, bid bond, force majeure , act of god, indemnity, letter of credit, liquidated damages , why should bank pay on contractor behalf ? (I am from contracts management these terms will seem a little vague)

Me: Answered all of them except a few which I said no idea (felt really good at this point)

P1: Who planned Chandigarh ??

Me: (I knew this guys name.) Sorry sir, not able to recollect it now.

P2: Which city resembles Delhi maximum level of architecture etc?

Me: Sir, my best guess would be Lahore.

Now P2 starts:

P2: Abhinav, have u heard of e-choupal from ITC ?

Me: Yes[Explained basic stuff , direct procurement from farmers, removing middle man, csr initiative

P2:(pestering on) What kind of goods are procured using e-choupal ?

Me: Agricultural products, tobacco, cash crops.

P2: Tobacco is a cash crop?

Me: I don't think so.

P2:Anybody can grow tobacco?

Me: Same answer again.

P2: Ok what does ITC gain out of this ?

Me: Again say a win win situation for company and farmers.

P1: Then what does the "E" stand for

Me: Farmers will be able to see the prices , inform company of yield and get best price.

P2: But do u think villages have Internet , You are from Maharashtra.

What percentage will have net access ?

Me: Very few

P1: So who will set them up ?

Me: ITC will do that.

P1: Then there are so few villages ; how should ITC go about it ?

Me: (*maar dala bhai...main L&T se hun ; [tum log mujhe ITC ke baare mein kyun pucch rahein ho]*) [You are killing me , I am from L & T ;why are you asking me questions on ITC] Sir it will be upto ITC discretion , ranted out some lines of business ITC is in.

P1: Says you are making one guess statement after another.

Me: Sir I am putting my best educated guess.

P2: So what is share of ITC breakup of revenues in business ?

Me: Confidently said ITC into cigarettes, hotels, paper and retail recently. Cigarettes will contribute to 80% of its revenues.

P2: 80 %!!! Are you sure ? (i think this is wrong ; someone please confirm)

Me: Yes it is a cash cow for ITC.

P2: Who are ITC competitors?

Me: (*bhai mere...main L&T se hun...tum log kyun le rahein ho*)[I am from L & T ; why are you doing this ?] Said I know of ITC, Godrej Philips couldn't think of any other indian brand so said Marlboro among foreign.

P2: Are you a smoker ?

Me: (*bhai itni le li*)[I am finished]No sir I am not (*agar sach bolta to aur lete*) [If I told the truth , then it would have been more worse]

P2: What are major brands of ITC ?

Me: Gold Flake, Wills, Insignia.

P1: You must have heard a lot about Compaq and HP , even though HP acquired Compaq why continue as different brands ?

Me: Brand loyalty , identification , association. ; Answered well gave example of how Lenovo has different strategy.

P1: Still pestering on.

Me: (Again same thing , different brand , two area HP more high end expensive not for compaq , anyways both bring revenues to mother company. (*bhai yeh ganne.se itna hi juice niklega... machine mein baar baar gusane se kuch nahin hone vaala*) [The sugarcane will yield this much juice only , why are you inserting the sugarcane again and again]

P2: Ok thanks Abhinav

Me thank you

Lasted for around 25 minutes.

Interview experience of The Last d'anconia

My IIM-I interview at 2 PM.

Around 2:20 PM a batch of 32 is divided into 4 groups with 8 people each.

GD : Case study on one Auto Manufacturing company called "Vahan Motors" which is launching a 10-tonne truck into the market. After they finish all the tests etc they realize that people generally load the trucks with 18 tones. What should the VP Production do?

We were given five minutes to think and 16 minutes to discuss. In the end we were asked to write summary on the form within five minutes.

We had a pretty decent GD with everyone contribution to it. I should say it was a very good GD.

I was the last to be interviewed.

The panel had two Professor one is a tall and fair guy with a pleasant smile and the other is a baldy with a french.

Let us call them **TF** and **KM**.

TF: You stay very nearby, so it is not unfair to have your interview in the end.

Me: Smiles !!!!

TF: What is the talk outside, about the interview ??

Me: To quote the exact words " Cool and chilled"

Laugh all around.

KM: So, you are working with XXXX ?

Me: Yes, sir

KM: What exactly do you do there?

Me: Told.

KM: What is the difference between this and that?

Me: Explained.

He asked some 5-6 questions on my work experience . I was very comfortable answering them.

He hands over the form to TF.

TF: Your other career interest is to join politics?

Me: Yes, sir

TF: Why? (Surprised)

Me: Explained.

TF: Are there any politicians in your family?

Me: no

TF: What do you want to achieve through politics?

Me: Explained.

TF: You mentioned something about Vedas and Upanishads?

Me: Yes, sir

TF: How many Vedas are there?

Me: Answered.

TF: What are Vedas?

Me: Answered.

TF: How many Upanishads are there?

Me: Answered.

TF: How many are canonical?

Me: Answered.

TF: Who made these divisions?

Me: Explained.

TF: Have you studied Taittiriya Upanishads ?

Me: No.

TF: what is the concept of God in Vedas?

Me: Explained.

TF: You are into carnatic music?

Me: Yes, sir. I am learning vocal.

TF: How did you get interested in it?

Me: Told him about family background etc

TF: Do you have any family members , who are into it?

Me: Told.

TF: Where does your father work?

Me: Told.

TF: You studied in xxx place. Are your ancestors hailing from there?

Me: Told them.

TF: You have almost 6 yrs of work experience. Is it a conscious decision to write CAT?

Me: Yes, sir (Of Course) !!

TF: Don't you think there will be any issue in sitting in classroom with people who are 3-4 yrs younger to you ?

Me: Explained in detail.

Both TF and KM wished me all the best and I came out.

I think it was a very casual interview and don't know what are my chances.

Final result:

Converted. A very good GD and then the PI was about whatever I wrote in the form. I could justified whatever I wrote in the form.

IIM Indore - Year 2008

Interview experience of abhithehobbit

My IIMI interview experience 😊

Profile:

Name : RVRK Abhishek Sharma

Organization : HCL

Work Experience : 18 Months

Graduation : B.E. Electronic Instrumentation and Control, University of Rajasthan, year 2006 - 70.47%

Schooling and Junior College : Mumbai, Jaipur

Extracurriculars and Co-curriculars : Pretty good.

10th : 80.6%

12th: 70.2%

CAT2007 : 99.31 %ile (QA - 81.11%, VA - 99.89%, DI - 97.41%)

Calls : I

Where: ISI New Delhi, 8:50AM 🇮🇳

the case study we had was a 'study' in complexity...something regarding a guy called Abhishek ,who's been picked up for misappropriation by the CFO upon a complaint from Sandeep, who's friends with Yogi, who own a software firm, whose help Abhishek needs for starting a new venture with Sunam motors....Very long, and one felt very difficult to piece together. I made 3-4 good entries (it was tough, everyone was cacophonous since no one had anything to say) and raised some points regarding Abhishek looking at other options , how he needs to convince Sandeep etc.Wrote a pretty good summary. I felt my contribution was significant, and I was pretty happy with myself - although I should have been a little more assertive, and a little less jumpy.

On to the PI:

3rd to go into the death chamber...randomly called.

My longest interview yet. Had its good parts, and its bad ones.

P1: Old Professor (possibly Prof. Dipayan Datta Chaudhuri)

P2: Young Alumni/Prof (I assume it was Prof. Scalem)

P2: Hello Abhishek.

Me: Good Morning Sir. Sorry for the delay.

P2: thats alright. So, you're from Chennai eh?

Me: No Sir. My parents currently stay there. I am originally from Andhra Pradesh (big mistake 1)

P2: So you changed your hairstyle? (different in photo)

Me: Yes Sir

P2: And you don't seem like an introvert

Me: Umm, I used to be sir (significant incident) - being candid, I was not very assured when speaking to strangers and girls (a little laughter)

P2: Oh. What does your father do?

Me: He's in the RBI sir

P1: (Looking at form) you mean IDBI?

Me/P1/P2: A little confusion here. Eventually generally understood that both my parents worked - mum for IDBI, dad for RBI

P1: Your mother is in IDBI, or IDBI Bank?

Me: IDBI earlier sir, she was in accounts then. Now she manages SMEs in IDBI Bank.

P1: Is she a CA?

Me: No Sir, she's done her CAIIB Part 1 - but she tried for CAIIB - 2, but was rather unenthusiastic 😊

P2: Well. So you've stayed in Jaipur for a long period eh?

Me: (gulp) yes sir

P2: Hmm. Why is it called the Pink City?

Me: Erm Sir, am not certain. I'll hazard a guess. Because of the buildings in the old city all being painted pink/orange? (ah, lamer)

P2: Think..some person visited the city, for which it was painted

Me: I am sorry sir, I do not know, possibly some foreign dignitary (later found out - 1876, to welcome Prince Albert and Queen Elizabeth II)

P2: Hmm. What is the education capital of Rajasthan?

Me: Kota sir?

P2: No, that is the training capital.

Me: Jodhpur?

P2: No..the state board..

Me: Ajmer.

P2 (finally) hmm. What are the 3 regions of Andhra Pradesh?

Me: Telangana, East Godavari...sir I am not certain of the third

P1/P2: Rayalaseema? you do not remember?

Me:

P2: Okay - so what do we ask about now then?

Me: Sir, work ex!

P2: Hmm. HCL then. What is the new innovative initiative taken up at HCL my management..not in technology?

Me: The Employee First policy sir. It puts the employee at the top of the organization chart, with the opinion that happy employees make happy customers and happy shareholders

P2: (Satisfied) And what is the general operating strategy of HCL that's different from other players?

Me: Sir, they tend to move into unexplored markets - such as into the remote infrastructure space - by pioneering, they get first mover advantage (needed to use the term Blue Ocean here)

P2 ,P1 Nod (finally, a score!)

P1: (ab shuru hoti hai kabaddi...academics) How is your branch..Electronic Instrumentation and Control - different from Electronics?

Me: Sir, the electronics courses taught are more cursory - as in, they relate more to control and instrumentation applications.

P1: (rather skeptical) really? what sort of courses?

Me: Semiconductor theory, edge effect transistors, digital electronics...(i muddled up here a bit)

P1: Hmm. If i wanted to design a temperature control system for a boiler plant - what would I use - tell me what you would include in the block diagram)

Me: (some technical discussion - i proposed a thermocouple based manual/ PLC f/b system...some discussion about whether a thermocouple is apt or an RTD can be used. then, discussion on applications of PLC...was pretty good here, except at the end when I got asked about a thyristor replacing a PLC - got confused and forgot that a thyristor is an SCR ...overall reasonable)

P2: So, you have been to IIM Indore for IRIS eh? (Klueless 2 winner)

Me: No Sir. Klueless was an online competition...a friend sent me the link (was about to elaborate, got cut off)

P2: You write about soccer being an interest. (why not the rest computer games, blogging, reading..he had to pick soccer) How is soccer different from football?

Me: Sir, soccer is what they call it in the US - essentially similar games.

P2: Any differences in rules? player count,time?

Me: Possibly in time of play sir. Not certain.

P1: What are there starred subjects? (2 supplis in 1st yr)

Me: Did badly in my first year sir - cleared the papers next year.

P1: How would you rate your performance the second time?

Me: Sir, it was reasonable, but not very good..because I had to take those papers with my other 6 4th semester papers.

P1/P2: Hmm. Right then Abhishek, you may go.

I may have missed a few details, but that was about it. Comments welcome. A tough shot at a call, but I hope I get it.

Interview experience of anir-iim2005

Had the second one of the season (IIMI) yesterday.

Place - IIM Cal

Time - 2 pm

Profile - B.Tech with 28 months of exp, CAT %ile and calls in my signature

Reached at around 12.45. Previous slot interviews were still going on. After 1 pm, Junta started coming in. Was a bit surprised to find out that most people in that time slot were from reserved categories. Anyways, at exact 2 pm, roll call was done. Taken to the GD room in 5 minutes. 8 people in my panel (all present).

Case Study was the Mustafa one. In addition to whatever Soumak has written, there was one sentence at the end of the case, it went like -Mustafa had convincing answers to his wife and children's concerns, but was not sure how to communicate it to them. What should Mustafa do? Now, I am not sure whether I was wrong or everyone else were, but my understanding was that Mustafa had more or less convinced himself about venturing into his own consultancy business, but was having trouble in making his family and friends understand since he had mostly negative examples in front of him.

I mentioned this point in the GD, but there was this guy sitting right beside me who took it upon himself to contradict me. Didn't want to get into a debate, and let the group continue with general discussion of Mustafa's Strengths, Weakness etc.. Was silent for some time, since all the points being discussed as strengths were already mentioned in the case and I didn't find any reason of explaining them once more. Came out with a weakness of one strength in between, again the same guy tried to play the role of moderator (or whatever). Anyways, Came in with 2-3 points which needed to be considered by Mustafa, and also one possible solution to the problem. Wrote a very good summary (Had noted down all the points during the GD, made the task easier). But I don't know how t went overall, as my first 2 points were not taken by the group. Moreover, I am not sure about the group having discussed the right thing. My gut feeling, panel's decision on my first point will be clincher here, if my understanding was totally wrong, then I am at serious disadvantage.

After writing the summary, was asked to submit the certificates (Attested copies), and wait outside. As usual, ordering for PI was random.

PI

Panelists - Sabita Mohapatra (Marketing) -> SM

&

Rajiv Kumra (Marketing) -> RK

Was 5th in the panel. SM called me in. She was always calling in a very soft voice and causing confusion each time (Previously, one guy had gone in thinking his name had been called, only to come out again as it was someone else 🤖). In my case also, I could hear only the part "Ani". To add to the confusion, the guy who was just coming out of teh interview thought he was being called again and rushed back 🤖.. So, one more round of calling names, and I went in.. Even there, the person serving tea/coffee decided to go inside the room with me to enquire abt panleists' Requirements (dekho mera aukat 🤖)..

Took a seat finally after wishing them..

SM: Ok, so why didn't you come when I called the first time? Too busy with discussing questions?

Me: 🤖 Questions were being discussed mam, but that was not the reason. I couldn't hear it properly etc..

SM: So, you have heard quite a few questions. What are you expecting?

Me: Questions will be different since the previous guys had different backgrounds from mine. I have come with an open mind, without expecting any particular type of question..

SM: (Smiling) So u r cool..

Me: 🙄

SM: Saw the logo of CTS in mhy experience certificate and asked - Is there any particular significance of these Blue, Green colors?

Me: I am not sure mam..:-)

SM: Okay, you had any other interview before?

Me: Mam, job interview or IIM? :wink:

SM: MBA interviews.

Me: IIMK.

SM: Where?

Me: Here only (IIMC), in fact in this particular room 🙄, on 7th Feb.

All Smiles...

SM: Okay, so u had any particular favourite subjects, or no favourite subject at all? (Throughout the interview, she continued to smile and gave some awkward expressions. Don't know if that is some kind of stress, I didn't feel it even if it was stress 😊)

Me: Mam, software related papers, since I am in touch with those (Was abt to mention the names, but she cut in)

SM: What is Business Intelligence?

Me: (Mac ko poochho ye, mujhe kyun?) MIS ka theory padhke gaya tha, some gyan about how BI helps in decision making process etc.. Spoke convincingly though, and I had full belief in my answer 😊

SM: Ok, storing information abt people is ethical? Also, don't u think we give wrong answers most of the time, so that info will be useless..

Me: Completely ducked the ethical part.. Answered the second portion with some globe gyan - Statistical funda. How most people will actually give correct info and the standard error will be less. It will give us a good idea abt trend, not the exact result.

SM: Fine. What is difference between Data & Information?

Me: (arre, sab common qsn, lottery lag gaya kya 😊) Bata diya..

SM: Do u think these BI systems will make the salesmen redundant?

Me: Structured decision, unstructured decision and how systems can help mostly in case of structured decision only..

SM: Have u used any BI system in ur work?

Me: No mam..

Over to RK

RK: "Problem in memorizing concepts if I can't understand it properly" - How detrimental is it in mgmt educations? (I had written that as weakness)

Me: Sir, that weakness was mainly in case of board exams. As a manager, I think I will have enough means of storing information and memorizing will not be important there.

RK: So what is ur suggestion to boards and universities while creating a syllabus?

Me: Standard bakar abt more application oriented etc..

RK: What is B2C in E-Commerce?

Me: (Bhool gaya..) Sir, it shd be Business to Consumer/Customer. The other one is B2B (Business to Business, ye yaad tha, bol diya) I am not sure abt B2C functioning, but will try to think of one..

RK: go on..

Me: Me and my big mouth. Gave an example of how retail chains like Shoppers' Stop store Customers' Preferences via Membership Cards and send promotional msgs based on that. I mentioned this as part of B2C. Some say it is correct, some say it is not. I am taking it as wrong.. But RK didn't cross-question..

RK: What is Web?

Me: Explained abt Internet. Didn't mention the Hyperlink part. Don't know whether they will go into such details..

RK: What does IBM do?

Me: Explained various sectors and work done in detail.

RK: It sold a part of business ometime back?

Me: PC division to Lenovo..

RK: Why?

Me: It was not giving any growth prospect to IBM at that point of time.

RK: Then Why did Lenovo Buy it?

Me: (Globe) Sir SWOT analysis is dependent upon the objective function. At that point of time, IBM's objective from PC division and Lenovo's objective were different.. So, while it was an weakness for IBM, it was Opportunity for Lenovo (Complete bakar 🤖)

RK: Who are IBM's main competitors?

Me: (Had gone through the list previous day) Explained acc to sectors..

RK: So, u want to be an entrepreneaur or want to join Job?

Me: Bakar abt having no idea abt Strategic Mgmt etc at this point of time. So, won't be possible to start as an entrepreneaur right after mgmt degree. I will think abt it after 5-10 yrs in the job..

RK is done, asks SM if she has anything more to ask..

SM: Do u invest?

Me: Yes, for tax-saving purpose mainly..

RK: Do you buy IBM stock?

Me: Paisa nehi hain bhai utna 🙄

RK: What abt ESOP?

Me: Only for very senior mgmt. We just get 10% discount. I don't have that much money..

SM: What are preferred shares?

Me: Explained in details..

SM: (With wide smile, don't know for what reason) Ok, Thank you. All The Best.

Me: Thank yous to both... 😊

That was it. Had a distinctly good feel (Don't know why).. There are enough things to be worried abt if I want to.. But kuchh to hoga each time.. Lets see what happens.. Don't have time to brood abt I either. Have L on Saturday.

Puys, comments plzz..

Anirban

Interview experience of veritas

Hi friends,

i had my i interview on 15/02 at IIM B.

profile:

CAT : 99.04, QA 93.79, DI 97.41 and VA 97.97

M.Sc in Maths n computing.

17months in a software MNC .

GD process same as mentioned above. 5 mins to read, 14 mins for discussion and 5 mins for summary.

Case: As described by avi_mba

The GD was good with enough air time for everyone. There was cross talk a couple of times, but mostly a cool one. I entered pretty late, but came in about 3-4 times.

Was asked to write a summary and thn they took our blue forms. They went thru the forms religiously before the interviews.

Interview calls were random and I was called 4th.

PI: The panel had 2 male professors ND and RK. To my surprise the interview was very generic and not at all acads based. And I felt the profs were cool and wanted to give me an opportunity to settle down.

When I came in RK went out.

ND: Give me your file

ND: Tell me sumthin bout urself

Me: Told everything .Not even a single interrupt.After I had finished he kept quiet.So told him bout my hobbies.Then also he was quiet. So asked if he wanted to know sumthin particular about me

ND: Tell me bout ur work

Me: Blah Blah Blah

ND: Ok What is testing

Me: Testing is done to prevent bugs from entering into production.Told him how Developers do unit testing and after all the modules are finished intigration testing is done before handin over to QA. Then Told him QA writes test cases to do black box and white box testing.He wanted sumthin more I guess. Told him as a developer I had only an over all idea of testing not intricate details.

At this time RK enters and goes thru my file

ND: So wat are CMMI Levels??

Me: :sad:(Shud have prepared this) said dont know.

ND: Your comapny isnt graded?

Me: No,Sir

ND: What is ISO ?

Me: Told about How it specifies standards for different production processes and a company obtains this certification after adhering to the specifications.

ND: Who gives this certification?

Me: (I had no idea).

ND: What is ISI?

Me: Indian statistical Institute

ND: (Laughs)Ne other ISI?

Me: Thought bout Pakistan's ISI but told about products marked with ISI deemed safe.

ND: So,U following US events?

Me: Sir U want to know baout sub-prime crisis or US Elections

ND: SO what is happeneing in US Elections?

Me: Sir currently Democrats and Republicans are electing their presidential candidates.

ND: How do the select their candidates?

Me: Sir through primaries in the states .

ND: What is a primary?

Me(Shud have known this 1) :(

ND: What kinf of government is thr in US

Me: Presidential democracy(It is actually Federal Republic)

ND: What is republic?

Me: (My biggest blunder here actaully I wasnt guessing I was pretty confident bout this one) Told him that Republic is an association of states. :(where center and state govenments share power in various fields and in some cases center has more power over the state.

ND: What kind of governance is in India?

Me: Prime-ministerial democracy

ND: Is India a republic?

Me: Yes,sir.

ND: Wht bout china.

Me: Told they call it people's republic of china but it has communist govt.

ND: So cant communist states be republics?

Me: Sir, According to my defn it is a republic(Dug half my grave here)

ND: So u r from Orissa?How many regions do u divide orissa into?

Me: Sir 4 regions (coastal,western,southern n northen)

Now RK enters into the discussion

RK: So which region is most prosperous and why?

Me: Sir eastern region due to its fertile farm lands n gud governance coupled with gud infrastructure.

RK: Which caste dominates in eastern orissa?

Me: (shocked)Told tht generally upper castes like brahmins n Kshatriyas(Khandayat n karan in orissa)

RK: Which caste Naveen Pattanik belongs to?

Me: Told him khandayat.

RK: Differentiate between Biju and Naveen Pattanaik

Me: Told Biju had a national stature.He was a gud pilot and rescued indonesian prime minister single handedly during the military coup in 1948(Wasnt sure bout the year)How Raourkela steel plant an gopalpur port Mous were done during his tenure .Told tht Naveen had a clean image n provides clean governance. 67 MOUs have been signed under him which augurs well for a poor state like orissa

RK: Wht % of ppl leave BPL in orissa?

Me: Sir around 40%.

RK: Compare Bihar n Orissa?

Me: 😞 Told him I havent followed rankings for a long time n told last time I followed Bihar was below orissa.

RK: How many places below orissa

Me: Said tht Bihar was the poorest state then and Orissa was the second poorest state.

RK: Guess bout the BPL % of bihar

Me: Told around 45-50%(It is actually 38.6) :(

ND: So you must have read bout probability distributions.Tell me how many types n wht r they?

Me: Sir two types (Continuous n Discrete)

ND: Give one example each

Me: Binomial n Normal

RK: When does a binomial become poisson?

Me: Had no idea(Major blunder again)

ND: Ok draw normal distribution

Me: Drew it n was asked bout the x axis n y axis params

ND: So wht do the points mean on the graph?

Me: Told him how the area below the graph gives us prob n wrote te equation

ND: No m asking bout the points on the graph

Me: Wasnt sure bout the ans :(

ND: Ok what is 6 sigma?

Me: Told him it is a quality control method.How in a normal distribution outside (mean +/- 6 sigma) only 3 points out of a million points remain.

ND: Is it exactly 3?

Me: Cudnt remember (It is 3.6) :(

Both looked at each other and told ok u can go now .

Over all it was a cool environment and the profs never tried to stress me but I botched it up with so much lack of knowledge in basic issues.

Interview experience of macora

Hi

Had my I interview yesterday :

Date : 19.02.08

Time : 1.50 pm

Venue : IIM Bangalore

Profile :

X : 91

XII : 92

Grad : 88 M.Sc. Integrated C.S., CEG, Anna university

Work Ex : 20 months in Business analytics, Oracle.

GD : Evaluation of a business plan of a textile factory.

Came in 5 times, got new points and was well taken by the group. Amount of speaking was relatively lesser than other members.

Interview:

Panel: two male profs M1, M2.

Me: Mac

Panel was calling in random order, so was just roaming around till they called me. I was fourth to be called in.

M1: Please take your seat.

Mac: thank you.

M1: So what do you do at work?

Mac: Gave a brief description and also told about designing datawarehouses.

M1: How do u design datawarehouse?

Mac: Told about dimension, facts and little more on how its done.

M1: So, what subjects you studied in college? (So Soon :O)

Mac: Databases, data structures, datawarehousing

M1: Ok what is a database?

Mac: While explaining said about database management system..

M1: What is DBMS?

Mac: Told about how its related to database.

M1: Draw a flow of DBMS

Mac: Took a paper and started drawing and side by side explaining them.

M1: What is the purpose of file and database manager?

Mac: I was completely lost here. Didnt remember at all

M1: What is SQL?

Mac: Explained

M1: What is relational algebra?

Mac: Told

He asked me some symbols here.

M1: What is relational calculus?

Mac: told about tuple relational calculus.

M1: Some language based on tuple relational calculus?

Mac: Dont know :(

M1: Some languages other than SQL

Mac: told 4 of them

M1: What else you studied?

Mac: Repeated earlier 3 again and then said statistics.

M1: Can I ask questions in statistics?

Mac: Just gave a smile.

M1: What is statistics?

Mac: Started with definition, then got lost and then started on contents of statistics told about various things. Dropped few words in middle like hypothesis, SD, Inferential stats, etc. But they didnt pick anything from that.

M1: What is distibution?

Mac: Told about probability distribution

M1: What is sample and population?

Mac: Told

M1: What are sampling techniques?

Mac: Silence

M1: What are random and non-random sampling techniques?

Mac: Silence

M1: Probably u didnt study them.. But then tell me what are different kind of means?

Mac: Started on Mean, median, mode

M1: No, no. I mean different kind of averages?

Mac: Again, dont know..

M2: I have just one question to ask. Which states you have been in India?

Mac: Told about 10 states..

M2: What is the longest railway route in india?

Mac: Said from Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

M2: Its upto Jammu or kashmir?

Mac: Jammu..

M1: Thank you.

Hence ended the debacle. Interview went for about 13-14 minutes.

Didnt know many things, but was a learning experience in itself.

Interview experience of siddoba

Ready reckoner :

Acad -> Comp. Sci -> AJAX , Remote desktop + Who created it , What is DBMS

Acad -> Principles of Management -> Explain everything you can remember , Line and Staff

Acad -> TQM -> What is it , one person who is the father figure of TQM

Acad -> Eng. Economics -> Diff. between it and managerial economics, Demand Elasticity

Acad -> Project -> Project basics and its usefulness

General -> PagalGuy -> Do you visit it , what use is it to you

General -> Ethics -> Is it correct to collect information about people?

General -> Out of Box -> Is it possible to collect personal info without the person knowing?

Work -> You seem to be technical out and out. There seems to be no managerial learning in your work experience. Please explain this.

(Lots of times while going thorough previous experiences , i've found it hard to read through entirely to find out the topics which were asked it PI , so i just wrote those on the top for easy access later)

Part I: The Set-Up

I'm an engineering who passed out in 2007 from SSN College of Engineering.

Computer science specialization - aggregate of 80. School aggregates of 88 and 88.

I am currently working in cognizant for the past 7 months.

Hobbies: (as mentioned in form)

Reading books , monopoly , playing games , puzzles , Mafia

Part II: The Hook

Work had been killing me for the past two weeks. After a recent transfer to a different work stream in the same project, i could find that the work load had increased loads since i also had to do the various status calls and work splitting.

This meant lesser time for prep. But i did have time to read previous year experiences and prepare from that - I prepared about State knowledge, Company , home town, interests and the various political organizations like SAARC and such. No time for acads.

I took the previous day as a holiday to get things ready for the interview. Everything went according to plan , except for the fact that the doctor i had to get attestation from didn't turn up in time. It was very late when i got the sign from him and I really had to rush to my train after that. So if there's one piece of info you take from this Experience , let it be this : Go get your attestations and make sure all your documents are in order well before time - DO NOT leave it to the last minute.

I reached Banglore on the day of the interview at 5 . Checked into the hotel - Completed the rest of the form. Had a quick light breakfast and started off.

Part III: The Tale

My interview was inside IIM B campus. Had to wait for ten minutes or so since we were the first day , first slot there and it started off. There were 8 in a batch - one person was a no show so we started the GD with 7.

U shaped table with the Panel sitting opposite the smaller end of the U.

Topic : Amar (i think) shifted from a public sector steel company to a private sector eucalyptus plant. He had better designation, pay and perks here. He really enjoyed the first few months of his new company. But a problem arose soon. He was used to placing orders of 25 lakhs in his steel company before , but now after becoming AGM here he found that he could not do the same even with the higher post without getting approval from his GM. He felt like his wings were clipped and submitted his resignation.

What should he do?

We had 5 min to think . 16 min to discuss and 5 min for summary.

It was more like 5 min to think. 8 min to discuss when we were cut short abruptly and 2 min for summary.

Spoke twice - once in the end after he said 'Mr.Siddharth , what do you think?'. After my reply , he said GD was over and for us to start writing summary.

Part IV: The Sting

2 people in the panel. One lady and one gentleman (L and G).

I was called sixth - it was in the order of seating.

L (looking over the file) : I'm very curious about this Mafia psychological game . Tell me more about it (I had written it in interest)

Me: <explained it although i have a feeling i could have done a better job>

G: So do you visit PagalGuy? 😊

Me: <with smiles> Yes i do

G: Did you visit today morning? Yesterday?

Me: I visited the site day before yesterday

G: So why do you go there ? Is it useful?

Me: Yes it is. It helps a lot - like for example i was reading the previous year I experiences there to get a feel for the questions

L <smiling> : So you're trying to guess the possible questions?

Me: No no - i'm trying to spend my time in a more constructive manner- rather than read random things - I'm better off reading topics which have more chances of being on the actual interview.

<The interview was pretty feel good right here>

G: So you've done training in java. Can you tell me about ajax?

Me: I know its asynchronous java but i did my training in core java and we do not use this technology in our project.

G: Could you make me understand ajax?

Me: No sir. I really do not understand it myself

L: What is Database Management System?

Me: Explain about DBMS and data warehouse too.

L: So you've had a subject called Principles of Management?

Me: Yuppers

L: I know you won't remember everything but try to tell us what and all you've learnt from it

Me: Well first the subject talks about Organizational structure -line and staff ..

G: Oh ho. What's line and staff?

Me: <me and my stupid mouth :S> Wave my hands in mid air saying hierarchy is line while advisory sort of posts is staff.

G: Is sales line or staff?

Me: Sales division in line. Sales advisor to the president is staff.

L: Hmm , you've also had TQM. What is TQM all about?

Me: TQM is about all encompassing quality in all phases of product development - from the first to the last

L: So what about processes?

Me: Oh ya. Processes and services too

L: Hmm . You've had a subject called EEFA - engineering economics and financial accounting

What is engineering economics - how different is it from managerial economics?

Me: Well i've read books on managerial economics too and my text book on EEFA covered the same topics so i guess they are the same.

L <nodding> : Ok , so what is elasticity of demand?

Me: Gives formula . $\text{Change in price} / \text{Change in demand}$. Gives the example of Business class in airlines being price inelastic since business people have to travel and do not react to changes in price that much.

G: Hmm tell me about software you would use to connect from one system to work on another system

Me: Remote Desktop

G: Ok who created it?

Me: I think it is built into the OS itself

G: No no - you have to install it

Me: is it? I always thought it was inbuilt

G: Have you used it?

Me: Yes . I used it to connect to my system while giving presentations in seminar hall during work

G: Ok - it is not built into the OS

Me: Okies <sheepish smile>

L: Ok back to TQM. Who comes to your mind when we talk about quality?

Me: <Why couldn't we have spent more time in eco> The one guy who's know for quality?

L: Yes , the one guy who pioneered TQM

Me: Demming ?

L <with negative nodding> : Are you sure?

Me: No but that the main name i remember from the TQM learning.

L <semi sarcastic> : Is this the topic on which you did your project on? (I had mentioned my project in a big way in the form)

Me: No no - that was a technical project - about face detection

<insert one or two questions about face detection and its uses which i successfully answered with the help of an example>

L: Is collecting information ethical?

Me: Like?

L: Like me giving my info to hotel

Me: It is unethical if they share with some other third party without your authorization like a tourist agency

L: No no - i meant why do they need such info in the first place? is it ethical to collect info like that about me and use it?

Me: I think its unethical if they use your particular info but what they do is to club you into one demographic where you just become a statistic , so thats fair enough

L: Ok - what if I lie?

Me: Well , the number of people who will lie will be statistically lower so its still useful to collect the info.

L: Is it possible to collect info without me knowing? Like assume you are sitting in the hotel reception desk - how can you collect my details without me knowing?

Me: I'd snap a picture of you in the security camera and give it to a detective agency to find out your details . <Thinking back - this was pretty weak>

G: You seem to be technical out and out. There seems to be no managerial learning in your work experience. Please explain this.

Me: explain that even though i do technical work , i try to get managerial learning out of everything i do. I try to help my team leads out so that i can do estimation stuff and be informed of the high level work instance of just the technical aspect of it. I also tell them how i've learnt about leading people since i'm the one who actually distributes work and makes sure its done once my leads assign work to the group

L: Thank you and all the best

G: Thank you

Me: Thank ye's

My thoughts : The GD was a debacle since i did not talk at all except two points (which were well accepted though). I made up for it by talking a lot during the interviews - Usually i give a lot of tacit replies. But my own feeling is that i needed to have done a lot better in this to make up for the GD. I do not think i'll be converting this call.

Verdict: Converted

IIM Indore - Year 2009

Interview experience of Anurag Joshi

I had my IIMI interview on 17th March in Mumbai. After my Calcutta experience, I thought it will be better to reach the center a little early. This time, the panel decided to come in half an hour late.

Profile:

Acads:

X: 79.8% CBSE

XII: 78.6% CBSE

Undergrad Major - GPA/%age: B.E. Information Technology - 65.5%, University of Pune

Work-Ex: 41 months till 31 Jan 2009

Sector - IT/ITES

CAT %ile:

DI: 99.90

Quant: 96.02

Verbal: 99.08

Aggregate: 99.89

Any other special thing about you: I Had cleared the SSB and was recognized as an exceptional performer at work.

GD:

Topic: A case involving employees of TL Ltd. which is working on a project for WIL Ltd. WIL is getting its Bike manufacturing plant set up. TL Ltd. Chief operations officer Pramod has raised concerns about the availability of power for the project, which is already behind schedule, to Hirendra VP Finance. Hirendra told him about the bad financial status of the company and has asked Pramod to get it done with 4 generators instead of the 10 he had asked for. Pramod was also asked to rent the generators whenever he felt the need. Consequently, Pramod rents 4 generators. It was later observed that the generators were not being used completely so 2 of the rented generators were transferred despite Pramod's strong opposition. Unfortunately there was soon a massive power disruption and a surge in demand for generators has raised the cost beyond the budget allotted to Pramod.

Pramod approached Hirendra but he was on leave. So he approached Gopalan, GM Finance at TL Ltd. Gopalan was also the brother in law of the MD at WIL Ltd. Gopalan approved Pramod's request for funds. Consequently Pramod was able to get the work done on time and the project was a success.

Later MD TL Ltd. questioned Hirendra about the approved funds. As a result Hirendra started accusing Gopalan of not considering the option of transferring generators from a nearby site before approving the additional budget.

Number of People present: 7 (only 21 out of 30 turned up)

Time: 30 mins to think and write the analysis and solution of the case. 20 mins to discuss.

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: I wrote it well. Then did a SWOT analysis of the case. While speaking, people did not have too many points, mainly because there weren't many interpretations of the problem. We managed to talk about a few reasons about why the situation had arisen and then moved on to give a logical solution. All in all a very calm GD with everyone pitching in.

Other Salient Details: No summary asked.

PI:

Panel Members Intro: Two members on the panel

SV: S. Venkataramanaiah (Most probably it was him)

M: Couldn't find her in the list of faculty

Me: AJ

Questions:

M: Tell me about yourself.

AJ: (Again a dream start)

M: (before I could even start) Arrey you are from Madhya Pradesh.

AJ: Yes ma'am but my father is in the Army, so I have been to a lot of places.

M: Oh... so you must have done your education from many places. Tell me the advantages of doing it from so many places.

AJ: There are advantages like adaptability, openness to new cultures and people and their lifestyles.

M: So you must be having a lot of friends.

AJ: Yes ma'am. I have quite a few friends but because of my father's transferable job, it also becomes very difficult to keep track of all of them.

SV: But there are so many social networking sites. Don't you use them?

AJ: I do use social networking sites, but despite that one does lose contact of people.

M: Which social networking sites do you use?

AJ: Orkut, Facebook and interest forums.

M: Which interest forums? Are you there on Google groups and Yahoo groups ?

AJ: I am on Google groups and apart from that I use Pagal Guy.

M: Tell us - is Pagal Guy helpful?

AJ: blah blah... made one point (which they liked) that whatever is given on PG are personal experiences and to expect the exact same thing to happen again is wrong. Basically, one gets a general idea about what the panel is like, what are the type of questions being asked etc., but in the end it is up to the individual to prove himself.

M: hmmm.. so what opinion do you have about the IIMI interviews? I am sure, you must have read about this on Pagal Guy.

AJ: (I told her that), it seems that IIMI is stressing more on acads and in occasional cases, candidates are also being stressed with difficult mathematics.

SV: What is a candidate's perception of stress? When do you guys say that I had a stress interview?

AJ: When we think that we are being asked questions that do not relate to us, and when it is combined with a rapid fire spree of questions where we don't get an opportunity to clarify.

(Smiles all around) They both explain how they conduct interviews and decide on the questions they want to ask... I listened.

M: So do you have any idea about both of us? This panel in particular?

AJ: No idea.

M: Please be frank, and open if there is anything negative please say that. It gives us feedback on what we do.

AJ: I would have loved to give feedback but I actually don't know.

M: A few questions about the significant incident I had mentioned in the form.

M: A few questions about my extra-curriculars. Specifically asked about Mad-Ads and a self initiated project that I had done while in college.

AJ: I told her about both the things. Also enacted a small piece to instantiate what we used to do in Mad-Ads.

M looks at SV

SV: Pick any 3 subjects from your engineering that you think you are still good at.

AJ: Databases, Data Structures and maybe Networking.

SV: OK, out of these pick one which you think is your strongest.

AJ: Databases.

SV: What is the difference between a Database and a Relational Database? Firstly, is there any difference?

AJ: told...

SV: You had one subject on Software Quality and Assurance in your last year. Remember?

AJ: Yes sir... (not feeling very comfortable about that).

SV: Differentiate Quality Control and Quality Assurance

AJ: told...

SV: Have you heard about alpha testing and beta testing or alpha release and beta release of a product?

AJ: Yes sir.

SV: What is the difference in one line?

AJ: told

SV: One last question - How are passwords for a bank account generated?

AJ: Sir, I am not very sure about this because I haven't worked in the banking domain.

SV: Still, make a guess or at least suggest an approach.

AJ: I said something about Random sequence generator using combination of alphabets and numbers.

SV: But how will the system ensure that the passwords assigned to each person are unique?

AJ: I don't think the passwords have to be unique, because we have the facility to change our passwords and it is possible that 2 people have the same password.

SV: Is it? But if I want it to be what can be done?

AJ: I told that a check could be put in place or the most simple would be to generate it in a particular defined sequence.

There was a little more discussion on this...

SV: OK, your interview is over.

M: Which other calls do you have??

AJ: told...

M: So, how did the interviews for them go??

AJ: told for each of the IIMs

SV: So, what do you think about Indore interview?? Was it according to what you had expected?

AJ: I told that I think it went off well and although I had entered the room prepared to be grilled, I think that you both have been very friendly. You have also tried to know me as a person and have focused on my individual capabilities. .

SV: What do you think about this form? Do you think the questions we have asked are relevant? The interview is already over so you can be candid.

AJ: I think it is important, at the time of assessing a candidate, to know his strengths and weaknesses, his maturity of thought and capabilities as a leader. The questions you have asked have precisely done that and hence are relevant.

SV: Any particular question you thought was difficult to answer?

AJ: No sir. Many people tell me that answering "Why MBA?" is difficult but i don't think so. If a person has thought a goal for himself, he would also have thought a path to reach there and he should be here only if an MBA is required to follow his chosen path.

SV: Good...

M: Did anyone from IIM-I contact you?

AJ: Yes ma'am.Sanket had called me yesterday. We had a long chat of about an hour.

M: He called or you called??

AJ: I had missed his call and then when I called him, he cut the call and called me back.

M: That is so sweet of him. Was he of any help?

AJ: Yes, he did clarify a few doubts that I had and talked about the answers that I was planning to write in the form. He gave me some tips about ,what all things I should definitely cover to make my application stronger.

M and SV: It was really good talking to you Anurag. Thank you.

AJ: Thank You ma'am, Thank you sir.

SV: Please take a toffee if you want.

AJ: I won't mind that sir...

Thank you session again. Over and Out.

MISC:

I thought the interview went really smooth. I was absolutely at ease and very satisfied with my performance. I mentioned Ratan Tata in the discussion that was happening about the Why MBA question and SV said "We hope you become someone like him someday". Though no take away from that... it just makes me feel good.

Interview experience of kapur.arun

Here goes my experience...

Profile:

Acads:

X : 90.4%

XII : 89.6%

Undergrad Major - DCE, E&C-74.4%

Work-Ex: Semiconductor- 31 months

CAT %ile:

DI : 98.xx

Quant : 97.xx

Verbal : 99.xx

Aggregate : 99.86

Any other special thing about you: None to the best of my knowledge 🇮🇳

GD:

Topic: As mentioned by one of my friends above, a company wants to introduce an effective appraisal system; certain section of employees known for the laxity in their work against the proposal ; what should the manager of those employees do?

Number of people present :

Time: 10

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: As you all must be aware of the process, 30 mins were given to write out the case analysis on the back of the yellow form. Then 20 mins were given to discuss the case.

The GD was pretty cool with everyone chipping in with relevant points; of how the appraisal system needs to be collaborative and should address the concerns of the workers in terms of loyalty, flexibility and transparency; how the workers should be partnered with to address the concerns and their apprehensions.

Other Salient Details: No summary from anyone as everybody had got sufficient airtime

PI:

Panel Members Intro:

P1: Prof. GR Chandrasekhar (Strategic Management)

P2: Prof Ashok Kumar (OB & HRM)

Questions:

Pleasantries 😊

P1: Lets take a quick look at your file

P1: Introduce yourself?

Me: I did.

P1: How do you think you performed in Grad?

Me: Could have done better; co-curriculars took a lot of time.

P1: There seems to be a problem with engineering drawing in DCE? (looking at my mark-sheet and taking a cue from my friend who had gone before me and had not been able to clear his ED paper for 4 years)

Me: I performed to the best of my ability and still feel that I should have got better marks.

P2: Did you seek feedback from your prof. about this?

Me: No sir, I told them that Mech profs were the most feared ones on campus.

P2: Is it that you shun feedback?

Me: Not at all sir. In my professional life, I have been very open to feedback and improved a lot but in this specific case, me being in first year, I could not muster the courage to face a prof on this.

P2: Was there any other avenue of feedback? Did you seek one?

Me : No sir

P1: Circuits and systems also seems to be a problem area?(I had a back in C&S)

Me: Told them the truth that, I was wrongly implicated and stood my ground of not getting myself accused of a crime I didn't commit, when I was asked to plead guilty of cheating so that my paper isn't scrapped.

P1: What about Microwave engineering? (another 40ish score)

Me: The subject didn't evoke the same kind of interest from me as Digital Electronics.

P1: What is the difference between Microwave landing and Instrument Landing systems?

Me: No idea sir

P1: What did you study in Consumer Electronics?

Me: Told

P1: How does a color TV work? What is Grassman's law? (He gave a hint about how colors are projected on the screen)

Me: Picking up on the hint, I guessed what would be the law and voila it turned out to be correct.

P1: Thank you Arun, that would be all!!

Me: Thank you Sirs, you have a nice stay in Delhi

I had been advised to make up a story to cover the "back in C&S" part but I dint find myself comfortable with the idea...I don't know how much doubt I created in the profs' mind but yes I can breathe easy that I did the right thing.

The profs are encouraging and hear you out comfortably.

I was the last one to be interviewed and the profs were hard-pressed for time, so my interview lasted all of 7-8 mins.

I felt a bit let down....wouldn't bet that I would convert this one!!

Interview experience of Sughandha3

Feb 17 2009. IIMI GDPI Venue: ISI Delhi

Profile:

Acads:

X : 82%

XII: 92%

Undergrad Major – BA Economics 63% (DU)

Work-Ex: 19 months as on Dec 31, 2008

Sector – Consulting/ Best Practices Research

CAT %ile: 99.81

Any other special thing about you: Nothing as such, wrote this & that - here & there. And a good show at my company, so an all praises type letter from my company. 🇮🇳

GD:

Topic: Case study on a company that lost out on quality of its core product due to diversification into new products and CSR & branding activities by its new CEO. What should he do?

Number of people present: 10

Time: 2 PM

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: 30 mins to write, 15-20 mins to discuss. Fish market initially and a chilled discussion towards the end.

Other Salient Details: 2 guys who spoke little were asked the summary. And I think I had a fairly good GD; pitched in 6-7 times with new points. Directed the GD to a new point twice. In all, GD was good, as expected.

PI:

Panel Members Intro:

2 profs – both quite senior and “reservoirs of knowledge” (cant think of a better phrase). I’ll call them P1 & P2.

P1: Hi Sugandha! Introduce yourself

Me: Sir, I am xyz from Noida. I completed my graduation in Economics from SRCC, DU in 2007. Since Sept 2007 I am working with CEB – a best practices research & exec education firm in the domain of strategy, in particular, procurement strategy. My hobbies include writing short stories, writing on my blog. I have been the student editor of my school magazine and wrote for my college journals. I am also helping ABC in his new book on xyz topic. I am also good at Debating and mimicry 🇮🇳

P2: Asked about my school and family which I didn’t mention in my intro.

Me: told

P1: Tell us about the book

Me: I told that am only a helping hand, told some stuff without revealing names (this took 5 mins I think)

P2: So you are from SRCC – how do you rate your performance in SRCC?

Me: (actually it’s a very ordinary performance) Sir, I would say, I was not consistent in SRCC. I scored very well in core subjects like Macro, Micro & Development Economics; but in subsidiary papers like Political Science, Systems etc., I did not score well. I also had to travel for 70 kms daily on DTC buses from Noida to North Campus - with no direct bus between the 2 places, which probably took a toll on my energy and hence performance (poor excuse)

P2: So you like Macro & Micro – tell us about PPF

Me: told

P2: How does it help a firm?

Me: told

P2: So what are multipliers – what are their implications?

Me: Gave a verbose answer but told

P2: The economist Dornbusch said sometime back that “Watch out for Japanese consumption” to Fed. What did he mean?

Me: (stumped) He probably meant that US cannot consume more than its income for a very long time, and referred to Japanese economy of 1990's which was in recession too. Their MPC is high. Blah blah.

P2: (not convinced with my previous reply) Ok tell us about your work at CEB?

Me: told

P1: You've written about a project on supplier performance management (SPM). How is SPM measured? Tell us about SPM best practices.

Me: (relieved, easy one) told

P2: Tell us about companies with innovative SPM practices

Me: Explained about Wal Mart. (wanted to mention a few more names but they were bored by now).

P1: Ok, Sugandha you may leave

Me: Thank you Sirs (said it thrice! 😊)

That's it - a medium length PI, different from others in the waiting room who were being asked a lot of technical & Gk questions (as per them).

Interview experience of Karanmaroo

Profile:

Acads:

X (CBSE) - 91.6%

XII (CBSE) - 91.2%

Undergrad- B.Tech CSE (IIIT Hyd)

GPA - 8.43

Work-Ex: Nil

CAT %ile:

DI : 84.92

Quant : 99.88

Verbal : 99.18

Aggregate : 99.86

Others: Lot of extra curriculars- quizzes, debates, cricket, blog, writing for newspaper and college magazine, blog, organising events etc.

Date and Place: 13/2/2009 (8:30 AM), Hyderabad.

GD:

Case study: "Ramcharan was looking into the problems that he was facing. He was reading the resignation letter of Sarah. She was the fourth experienced worker who was leaving the job.

His father and his uncle Radheshyam were the 'Karta' of the joint family. Ramcharan, Ramdev (not too sure about this name), Leeladhar were siblings and Radheshyam had just one daughter Radha. They had a big ancestral home and 20 acres of cultivable land on the banks of a small river. Radheshyam was a teacher and traded in agro based products like wheat.

Ramcharan was a fresh graduate from college when Radheshyam had suggested him to go for a career in IT but Ramcharan wanted to start his own cashew processing unit. So without any prior experience in the corporate world he started his own business. He required experienced people and so he hired them at high pay and also arranged for their families to be moved. He started with two varieties of cashew (medium and high end). For the first two years he was able to make good profit and so he was able to procure bank loans to buy new machines. He was thinking of expanding the unit to a cold storage and mango-jelly processing unit. Recently, due to high produce of cashew, all types of processed cashews' value reduced by 20%. The price fell to a level where he was having difficulty in meeting his expenses as well. So he had to cut down on the routine maintenance of the machines. Moreover, not-so-reliable supply of electricity from the electricity board was also resulting in loss of productivity. For this, the consultants advised to use generators for electricity. There were some high-end technicians in the company and they were also asking for a raise in pay.

His brother Ramdev had completed his MCA and was getting an admission in one of the top 20 Universities in US. He expected the joint family to take care of his educational expenses. Radheshyam was thinking of marrying Radha to an IT consultant who belonged to the same place and was doing well. Also from last two years Radheshyam was not making any profits in his business. At this time he thought that the prices of wheat have reached an all time low and it is the time to invest in wheat and store stocks of wheat.

In her exit interview, Sarah told Ramcharan that her son was doing well as an IT engineer and he did not want Sarah to work here anymore. This echoed the same thing even other workers who left the job had said. What should Ramcharan do?"

The GD was a fish market for the first 10 mins and quite peaceful after that. I think I did quite well. I started the GD and gave it a direction, pitched in a lot of times and gave quite a few original points. I was satisfied with my performance.

No summary. Like yesterday, we were asked to write our learnings from the case for 30 mins before the case.

PI:

I was the first one to be interviewed. Lets call the professors P1 and P2.
 Asked for permission to enter the room and sit. Wished them.

P1: So Karan, How are you doing?

Me: Fine sir, Thank you.

P1: So you are doing your B.Tech?

Me: Yes sir.

P1: You want to shift to management?

Me: Yes sir.

P1: Why?

Me: Sir, I think the possibility of leading and guiding businesses excites me. It'll give me high levels of accountability and responsibility which I cherish. I believe that I am a natural leader and have in me to give vision and lead the fortunes of a company. In the future, I would also like to set up my own venture.

P1: What are the qualities which make a good leader? Why do you call yourself a good leader?

Me: Sir, a leader should have qualities like 1) visionary (elaborated) 2) good himself (elaborated) 3) inspirational (elaborated).

Then spoke about how I fulfill these qualities. How I was elected coordinator for my college fest, a 1.5 million INR event. Then spoke about the challenges I faced during the fest and how I handled them. 🇮🇳

P1: What is network security?

Me: Talked about the definition of network security and what are the different types of security issues: 1) impersonation (elaborated) 2) interception (elaborated) 3) viruses.

P1: How do you make sure that a network is secure?

Me: Talked about asymmetric and symmetric cryptographic algorithms. Elaborated on the differences between the two, which is used in which situation and why.

P1: But are they effective? Whatever is available in the market today?

Me: To a fair extent sir. Then I spoke about RSA, RC4, DES, SDES, AES and how they are being used today.

P1: Then what is a virus?

Me: Sir, a code written to make sure that the computer program performs in an ineffective way.

P1: Can you name a famous virus?

Me: Sir, the Y2K..

P1: (Cuts me) No no..

Me: Sir, the "I love you" virus. It was started in Thailand in 2000. (elaborated)

P1: Ok. Now tell me something about database management systems.

Me: Spoke about what is db and dbms. Then spoke about issues faced by a database, distributed databases, database admin's role etc.

P1: What is a relational database?

Me: Defined. (But was not very confident here)

P1: Ok.

Now P2 takes over

P2: What is globalization?

Me: Spoke about the definition, the types of globalization- economic, cultural, social etc. Elaborated on each.. Gave examples like western culture affecting countries in Asia etc.

P2: What are the types of economic globalization?

Me: Sir 1) Trade , imports and exports (elaborated) 2) FDI, when a company invests (elaborated) 3) Joint ventures between companies.. Gave the example of Vodafone Essar. 4) Acquisitions.. (elaborated) Tata-Corus acquisition.

P2: How many people in India are below the poverty line?

Me: Sir, according to one dollar a day definition around 30%.

P2: What is the FDI cap in telecom in India?

Me: 74% sir.

P2: Banking?

Me: (Hmmm.. 49 or 74?): Sir 49%.

P2: Insurance?

Me: Sir its been raised to 49% by the cabinet.

P2: Asked about some economic term.

Me: No idea, sir.

Back to P1

P1: Karan, what do you know about IIM Indore?

Me: Spoke about the vision of IIM Indore- thought leadership, world class entrepreneurs, managerial excellence, social awareness etc. Then spoke about the logo of IIM Indore, what it means etc. Also told that it started in 1998. Spoke about integrity, excellence etc.

(All smiles)

P1: (smiling) So you've gone through the site?

Me: Yes sir.

P1: What did you find special about IIM Indore?

Me: Sir, the fact that it stresses and fosters thought leadership. It is in sync with the vision in life I have for myself. Spoke about how I wanted to be an entrepreneur. I also spoke about Iris, and the other fests of IIM Indore. 😊

(All smiles again)

P1: Do you know someone in IIM Indore?

Me: Yes sir and named him. Spoke about Indore 360, the mentor system and how it has helped me.

P1: Why have you been moving from one state to another?

Me: Spoke about how family moved from Ranchi to Vizag for personal reasons, then about why I moved to Puttaparthi (spoke about Satya Sai Baba) for my 10th and 12th, then about why I dropped a year for JEE, then about my engineering in Hyderabad.

P1: Asked about something like <Garibu or kitanu states>

Me: No idea sir.

P1: Ok. What does your dad do?

Me: Sir, business.

P1: What business?

Me: Answered.

Both look at each other.

"Ok thank you, Karan. Please take your certificates".

Me: Thank you sir. Good day sir.

Overall, the profs were pretty cool. Enjoyed my first GDPI experience. 🎓

Acads being asked to virtually everyone, including people with 3+ years of work-ex. So be careful about that.

Verdict: Converted.

Interview experience of Pink_flo_yd

Hi everyone, I had my IIM I GDPI today

Profile:

Name : Sushovan Rudra

Category: General

Acads:

4th year Electrical Engg. Jadavpur University

X: 85.75

XII: 87.5

Undergrad Major - GPA/%age : 7.41

Work-Ex:NIL

CAT %ile:

DI: 99.86

Quant:98.08

Verbal:96.43

Aggregate:99.73

GD:

A case study, one page long, about a guy who's a programming wizard but at the same time not a team-man and frequently scuffles with co-workers. One day he goes overboard, fights with a colleague and bunks an important client meeting. The manager is a *seedha-sadha* guy, doesn't like to get into a fight, finds this guy a pain in the neck. What should the manager do ?

Number of people present:10

Time:30 mins to write your analysis, then discuss for 20 mins

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: fish-market

Other Salient Details: One guy who didn't speak was asked to summarize

PI:

Panel Members Intro:

Both IIM I profs - one technical prof (p1) and the other current affairs prof (p2)

They called us randomly. I was the 2nd guy to go in.

Enter; asked to take a seat.

Me: Thank u sir.

P1: So Sushovan, you are an electrical engineer right ?

Me: Yes sir (*uffffffff fir se* they start with acads 🤔)

P1: When will your final semesters be held ?

Me: April-May

P1: Dates ?

Me: Sir they have given us a tentative schedule

P1: What is your favourite subject ?

me : (actually none 🤔) Sir, electrical Machines and Digital Electronics

P1: Ok, do these two subjects meet anywhere ?

Me: (*Arey mereko kya pata*) No sir, I mean we haven't studied any such system.

P1: What happens in an aeroplane ? Does the pilot operate conveyor belts and pulleys ?

Me: No sir, Digital Electronics is used, interfacing with motor, etc.

P1: Sushovan, tell me the difference between motor and transformer

Me: blah blah

P1: Ok, but tell me from the point of view of energy...

Me: told, motor converts electrical energy to mechanical and blah blah

P1: What is there inside a transformer ?

Me: Magnetic circuit ...iron core, windings, etc.

P1: Why iron core ?

Me: blah blah (permeability funda)

P1: How does a transformer work ?

me : blah blahAlternating flux, Lenz law etc.

P1: Is there anything inside the transformer shell other than the things you mentioned ?

Me: told them about transformer oil.

P1: Why is it used ?

me : told

P1: What is the usual efficiency of a transformer ? Why is it not 100% ?

me : Sir around 98% efficiency, losses, etc

P1: Tell me something about the various types of losses

me : Iron loss, Cu loss

P1: Please elaborate on the iron loss u spoke about

Me: Told them, hysteresis and Eddy current loss

P1: Can u draw the hysteresis curve ?

Me: drew

Some more questions on hysteresis follows.....

P1: What is Eddy current loss ?

Me: Fumbled, made a mess of it

P1: Ok, Why do we need to separately address these two types of losses ?

Me: Told them about reducing eddy current loss through laminations etc. Same can't be done with hysteresis

P1: Asks some questions about Indian standards, International standards

Me: no idea

P1: What are the diff types of power stations ?

Me: Thermal, Hydel, nuclear

P1: Any other ?

me : Sir these are the most important ones

P1: What are the problems in distribution ?

Me: Tells them about load shedding prob in Kol and the blame game that ensues. Give examples of recent events where wet coal was supplied, Conveyor belt torn in Titagarh plant etc.

P1: trying hard to suppress a laughter, smiles at the end (don't know why)

P1: Where are transformers used generally ?

Me: Transmission lines, need to maintain high voltage in transmission lines etc ?

P1: Why high voltage ?

Me: blah blah

Some more cross questioning follows. Answer them, p1 seems satisfied. Turns to p2Do u have any questions for him ?

P2: What does LTTE stand for ?

Me: (*arey baapre*) Sir, there are a few Tamil terms involved, I don't remember

P2: (frowns) Ok, tell me something about the group.

Me: (ah!) told them, they use armed militancy, not too much into diplomacy, spoke about the current situation, *SL army ne band baja diya unka*, etc etc

P2: But what do they want ? (the LTTE)

Me: told them, want a separate state for Tamils etc etc

P2: So why are there protests in Tamil Nadu regarding this ?

me : blah blah

P2: What are the major political parties in Tamil Nadu ?

me : DMK, AIADMK

P2: what does DMK stand for ?

Me: Tamil terms sir

smiles all round

P2: leaders ?

Me: told

P2: Are the TN parties for or against LTTE ?

Me: no sir, against SL govt

P2: Which ruling coalition is in power in Andhra ?

Me: (Sir, I'm not a south Indian) Congress

P2: CM ?

Me: told

P2: Principal opposition party ?

me : Don't know

P2: leader ?

Me: told

P2: Ok, Sushovan. Take your certificates. Nice meeting you, take your certificates.

Me: Thank you sir

IIM Indore - Year 2010

Interview experience of Vaibhav Verdhan

So here is my experience

Verbal 93.02; QA 94.94 ; DI 99.79 ; OA 99.28

X 78% ; XII 71%

B.Tech 70.5% ; Work Experience 3.5yrs(IT)

Center : Noida

Essay : Democracy comes in the way of India's economic growth as compared to China

(Was able to write 1 page. My take: Use rough sheet to structure your thoughts)

Then a form was given.

Sort of questionnaire.

On a rating of 1-5 rate yourself. Are you talkative, reserved, lazy and etc.

I was first to be called. They were calling in random order. I am putting whatever I can remember and order may be different.

Any way , after *dua-salam* I took the seat and here the show begins.

P1 and **P2**: Both in late 30s or early 40s.

P1: You have written a point about RTI .Relate it to economic growth.

Me: *Fatte* [Guess] and more discussion. I made a point "had Google exited from India to it would have alarmed every sector , democracy plays a part here".

(My take" write if u can defend")

P2(who was looking into the form)Academics are low.

Me: Yes sir [but cut short]

Now I was asked questions I got a D grade. Was able to answer some. Then said IC engines is my favorite. 1 question on that anyway.

(Revise your academics)

P2: Do you think you will show this grade sheet to somebody.

Me: Yes sir, this is my correct performance. I should (cut short)

P2: I am asking not should I am asking will you ?

Me: Yes sir(I have got D in many) and some ethics *ke fatte* [Guess]

P2: So after B.Tech what you did , tell us your profile.

Me: *fatte*

Discussion on that . Why you changed job etc ?

P1:Why you think you are lazy ?

Me: Again something. How I am working on that.

P1: Explain the thoughts you have written in form.

Me: Explained it and it meant that we should be hard worker (I was trapped since I am lazy)defended I am not lazy in work etc.

P2: Where do u see yourself in 5 years ?

Me: In middle management (cut short)

P2: Means having a office on 3rd floor in 6 storey building.

Me: *fatte*, Value-addition

P1: You are a avid reader Dostoyevsky, Premchand, sarat chandra, don't you think films can reach more people?

Me: *fatte*

P1: Can they be made into films ?

Me: Said something.

Overall 20-25 minutes.

Take a candy and leave.

Overall *theek-thaak* [Content]. Not very good could have done much better. The panel was chill not pressuring at all or creating unnecessary stress.

Interview experience of alka.jha

Hi all,

Here goes my experience

Verbal 99.80 ; QA 91.88 ; DI 82.49 ; OA 98.14

X - 80.6%

XII - 87.4%

B.Tech - 78.33%

Work Ex - 44 months (IT)

Center Bangalore-IISC. 9:00AM

Essay : Democracy comes in the way of India's economic growth as compared to China

Time: 20 Minutes, Word limit : 200 words.

A sheet was given for rough work and another for the essay.

My take, take 1 minute to think and start writing.

After the essay we were given kind of psychometric test. Had to rate from 1-5 (Time :10 min)

1: Strongly Disagree

2:disagree a little

3: Neither agree nor disagree.

4: Agree a little

5: Strongly Agree.

We were divided into 4 groups of 10 students each and for interviews we were called in order. My observation was the Personal Interview lasted for 12-15 min each and they were mostly general questions not academics intensive.

In all the panels there were 2 members.

I don't remember all the questions put to me but there was no question from either my profile sheet or from the psychometric test they took at least not direct question.

One professor was looking at my profile sheet and essay and the test and asked me questions like:

P1: Why do you think we should take you ?

You have very low percentile in CAT and your DI, Quants score are very low.

P1: What extra curriculum activities , do you have in school and college ?

P1: Where did u do your schooling?

Me: Kendriya Vidyalaya - Vizag steel plant.

P1: Why not in Malkapuram ?

Me: As I was staying in the steel plant township so going to VSP was more beneficial.

P1: Why did you leave KV after 10, was it for the coaching they provide in intermediate? *ratta maar ke engg karne ke liye* [Cram up and complete the engineering]

Me: Smiles

(They were talking mostly in hindi)

P1: Why didn't you do you engineering from a government college?

Me: Was not getting my preferred stream in Government College.

P1: How long have u been staying in Bangalore?

P1: Do you go to Vizag even now?

It was more of these kind of question. They had either made up their mind on not taking me or they were really chilled out professor.

P2: Which was your favorite subject in college.

Me: Software Engineering.

P2: You did your B.Tech in Mechanical?

Me: No sir it was IT.

P2: Why IT? Didn't u get mechanical or electrical? or was it that your parents wanted u to take IT?

Me: Sir I was inclined towards IT, as during the time of my admission Internet had become the buzz word.

blah blah

P2: So what will you do after MBA? Will you go back to work in IT ?

Me: I am open to the option. As I have a vast experience in IT , I would want to leverage it in future.

P2: Tell me about a product development.

Me: Told.

P2: Which company do u work in?

Me: Infosys

P2: What is your role in Infosys?

Me: Told.

P1: What other calls do you have?

Me: Told.

P1: So how was ur SP Jain's interview?

Me: *Theek tha* (Hindi) [Okey]

P1: *Tumhe bulayenge woh?* [Will they call you ?]

Me: *Haan sir, Bulana chahiye.* [Yes sir , they should call me]

P1: *Toh kahan jaogi tum?* [Where will you go ?]

Me: Definitely IIM-I

A few more similar questions.

Over all a very chill axed interview.

Interview experience of monk4lif

Hi all finally I am in .

Here is my interview experience.

Essay topic: Is foreign university bill going to be a boon for Indian education system take a stand & write in 200 words.

Write about positive like it'll encourage a healthy competition, will set reference interim of curriculum, infrastructure & quality of student, increased option for student & will reduce brain drain from India.

Along with all above raise some question like how it'll ensure proper representation of oppressed section of society , how government keep tab on their profit making habits & how will govt. ensure same standard of education as their parent education institute.

Psychometric test: simple 40-45 question mostly same question in different way like r u shy person.

Two professors

G: Ganesh Kumar Nidugala

U: UK Bhattacharya

M: Me

I was second to be interviewed.

G: Your this, you have done this (start reading my profile sheet)

G: Tell me what you do at you company?

M: Told about my work profile.

G: What is an electrical engineer ?

M: *bol diya ju man me aaya* [Told what I had in mind]

G: Your essay is really good but you didn't write about how deprived section of society would be given participation in this.

M: Sir, I wrote about it just turn the page third line from starting (impressed).

G: So what's the solution?

M: Sir, they can provide an affirmative action to student of these section by providing lower cutoff for entry, scholarships & along with it these can ask to be part of this initiative through PPP model.

G: But it's more like reservation. These are foreign institution they are here for business & reservation is not to acceptable in these universities.

M: This is not true sir, even all big universities in US have so seats reserve for blacks. Now even going to next step they have reserved seats for Asians & African countries students. So just scenario is different but business model is almost same.

G: (To you)Ok , I am done do u want to ask something.

U: Ok, you are in power distribution company. Tell me how you people do business?

M: Told him about ABT, open market bidding for power units, long term PPA between Generation Company & Distribution Company.

U: So where do you bid for power units?

M: Told him about power exchanges in India .

U: Ok, how inductor work?

M: Told.

U: Can you represent inductor mathematically.

M: Wrote a first order different equation for inductor .

U: What are the other calls you have?

M: L & I

U: What'll be preference of joining?

M: First L then I (why should I lie)

U: Ok, we are done , you may leave.

Overall a goody goody process, answered every question almost.

Verdict : Converted

Interview experience of vikaskum

I am late in posting this and I am sorry for that.

PROFILE:

Academics

X: 87.6 % (CBSE)

XII: 91.8 % (CBSE)

Undergrad Major - GPA/%age : ECE, 8.95

Work-Ex: 43 months, IT Major

NIL/Sector - Number of Years

CAT Score: 97.87

2006: 69.xx ; **2007:** 94.00 ; **2008:** 89.xx ; **2009:** 97.87 **CALLS :** BLKIS

CONVERTS: BLKI (Did not attend S)

JOINING: IIM-B

Case Study/Essay: Government cannot nullify the income imbalances by concentrating only on IT/ ITES sector.

Number of People present: 10

Time: 1400 hrs

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: No discussion only essay.

Other Salient Details: As whether summary was asked to be written or not, Time given, and Other stuff: A psychometric test with 44 questions, 10 minutes. We were told to be honest in answering.

PI:

Panel Members Intro: Prof. A and Prof. B and V (me)

Questions:

I was the second last in my batch. It was 5:50 by the time my turn came, however **IISc** had arranged some snacks and tea so I was not sleeping. The guy who went before me came up after finishing his interview and asked me to wait outside the room.

Door opened by B and he warned me to handle the door carefully. I tried to heed to his advice but the door slammed when I was closing it. A & B both pounced on me saying I was a careless fellow.

A: Why have you come here? You have already qualified for Bangalore?

V: I have not qualified sir, just attended the interview.

A: You are very active at Pagal Guy?

V: No sir. Joined after I got calls. Only few posts.

A: I read your IIMB experience at PG. You are so sure. You are asking everybody to relax. Over confident?

V: No sir. just to make them comfortable.

A: So how much in CAT?

V: 97.87

A: *matlab* Next yr 99.99

V: Not sure told my *ramkahani* [Journey] of cat how every time (this was my fourth attempt) I get a first division.

B: *Matlab* [That means] You are a dumb?

V: No sir. I was 2nd rank in college CGPA and other *fatte*.

B: You are a big fraud. I have never heard about your college. How much donation did you pay?

V: No donation. AIEEE rank.

A: So you must have bugged your teachers to give you marks?

V: Only when it was legitimate.

A: How much fees in your college?

V: 60,000 per year. (they added all components of my college fees)

A: See they have made you a fool. You don't know anything for that 2 lac .

V: I think I got what I was worthy of. And for that matter even IIM is taking 10 lacs.

B: You are a big fraud, lying only to get a seat.

A: You are desperate rent you?

V: Yes sir I am desperate to get into IIM-I.

B: Why MBA? Is it for money? (/he started going through my personal form now) and what is this fraud about getting into government sector. I know you will be the first one to sit in the Investment banks that come in campus.

V: Money is important but I don't want to sit on pile of cash.

A: *Aur kahan kahan apply kia hai?*

V: Only IIMs.

A: *Matlab moochhein ho to natthulal jaisi warna na ho?*

V: *Yahan to kisi ki nahi hain.* (They dint laugh at this)

B: So tell me about Bihar after Lalu? (I am from Bihar)

V: Told changes at top level (regular cabinet meetings, general increase in accountability, Pioneer in RTI), infrastructure (roads, bridges now it takes only 6 hrs from the remotest district HQ to reach patna), grassroots (PDS, flood relief, education, girl child, healthcare initiatives). And this is 100% authentic. No fraud.

B: But why Lalu could not do in Bihar, what he did in railways?

V: Identity politics. Importance of development undervalued and bureaucrats laughed at and not heeded to in his administration. *many fatte.*

B: Ok we are done.

V: I want to tell u something:

B: Go ahead.

V: I know Tamil and Kannada script.

B: Why? Girlfriend ne kaha sikhne ko?

V: *Nahi sir nahi hai girlfriend?* [I don't have a girl friend]

B: You are such a simpleton yaar.

Chal next person kya naam hai uska haan xyz ko bhej and yes be careful with the door.

Verdict: Converted

However I am joining IIMB.

Interview experience of indianaks

Venue: Administration Staff college, Hyderabad
Date: 19th April
Time: 2PM slot

PROFILE:

Academics:

X - 88.xx%

XII - 76.xx%

Undergrad Major - ECE - 74.xx%

Work-Ex: 40 months Telecom software

CAT Score: OA - 98.5%ile

QA - 90.xx%ile

DI - 98.xx%ile

VA - 96.xx%ile

Case Study/Essay:

Topic: Vigilance by citizens can help curb terrorism.

Number of People present : Approximate 24 people were there for the 2Pm slot.

Everyone was made to sit in one common room and write the essay.

For the interview, there were two panels comprising of two profs each.

Time: 20 minutes.

Brief Snapshot of Discussion: Tried my best to write something meaningful. but ran out of time and was not able to conclude.

It was followed by a 5 min psychometric test.

After the test, people were called in randomly for the interview. I was called in very late. The interview for everyone else was lasting 15 minutes on an average and 10 min to 25 minutes in specific cases.

(My personal opinion completely ->) I think the order in which people were called in for the interview was based on the psychometric tests answers which we filled.

PI:

Panel Members Intro: Two middle aged professors.

Questions:

As I entered, they started bombarding them with Electronics question.

Q: What is a diode?

Q: What is a triode?

Q: Given a diode and a triode can u make a transistor?

Q: What are semiconductors?

Q: What is doping?

Q: What are junctions?

Q: What are minority carriers?

Q: What is VLSI?

Q: What is VVLSI?

Q: What is flux? Tell the equation?

Q: How is semiconductors used in railways?

Q: How are they used in Japanese railways?

Q: What is Kochi famous for?

Q: Tell me more about your college?

Q: What are your hobbies?

Q: Do you have an achievement in your hobbies?

Q: What does your company do?

Q: How much is the market share of ne of your company's product?

Q: Which is the latest product released by google?

They said - Nothing more. We are done.

I was devastated to the core.

wasn't able to answer most of the academics question as I am not much in touch.

They whole interview started and ended in a whiff and left me crushed. Felt so pathetic about not able to answers the questions.

Many others in my time slot had very chill interview and totally HR types. God knows why I was dragged into academics from the very beginning. I guess it has to do with my answers written in the interview form where they had asked about *strengths and weakness as a student*.

All the best for rest of you guys who are still to give the interviews.

As of me, I think all my hopes are extinguished now.

Verdict: Converted

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