D Yogendra Rao - SAP

Q: Are you satisfied with the company you are placed in or did you harbor expectations for a better company?

A: Yes. SAP is considered as a good company to start a successful career. I am pretty much satisfied with this on campus offer. I will be applying off campus in other dream companies of mine.

Q: What are some of the challenges that a student faces during the beginning of the placement season? Can any changes be brought in the scenario?

A: Some that I faced were the lack of preparation as I was doing my internship and hardly got any time to prepare.

Other challenges can be the lack of awareness and the lack of experience of facing interviews.

I would suggest the placement season to start from August 1st week instead of hustling and starting with the season right from the 1st day of the institute re-opening.

Q: Were you rejected by any other company? If yes, what could be the possible reasons for your rejection?

A: Yes got rejected in some about 4-5 companies. Reason for some was I was unable to clear the online test. For one I was just unable to figure out as in what went wrong with the process.

Q: How many levels were there in the selections procedure of this company?

A: SAP Labs Procedure consists of 6 rounds.

1) Online Test

2) Application Design

3) Technical Round 1

4) Technical Round 2

5) Managerial Round

6) HR

Q: What preparations did you make to get through the written rounds?

A: Mostly concentrated on the programming questions. There were 2 coding questions. First one of 40 marks and 2nd one of 20 marks. Other sections consisted of quantitative, aptitude, verbal ability and technical questions that were 1 marks each. I guess solving at least one of the programming questions was essential for getting shortlisted. I would say difficulty level was above average. Important aspect was speed.

I did most of the practice from geeksquiz but like I said I was concentrating of the programming questions as they carried more marks.

Q: What preparations did you make to get through the GD rounds?

A: There was no GD round exactly. It was an application design round. I had no idea about this round. However stuff that we learnt in the System Analysis and Design coursework helped me. We were asked to design an application for an E-Commerce organization. It was pretty easy for me to explain this with all the data flow and the database design and the logic used to implement those.

Q: What preparations did you make to get through the Interview rounds?

A: I went through some of the interview papers for SAP. Got an idea as in what are the questions they normally ask. Turns out they did stress a lot on OOPs concepts and C++. I had already done my homework from **tutorialspoint** a day before the interviews. So wasn't that hard to answer the questions. The 2nd technical round was a challenge as I was asked questions from OS and DBMS too. I would say a little bit more preparation from **geeksquiz** and **geeksforgeeks** and tutorialspoint(as I forgot syntax for one of the queries) would have been good. Not much from Data Structures were being asked.

The managerial round was kind of tricky. Not only the interviewer was checking my technical aspect, he was also looking at the logical part as in how I approached a problem. I was asked a couple of questions from the current affairs too. Also some questions regarding Inflation and the economy. Staying updated can be a plus point here.

Q: What are the topics that a candidate needs to concentrate on to get through the procedure?

A: A clear concept on C++, OOPs, DBMS and OS is sufficient. Also one should definitely be thorough with his/her resume. Not much Data Structure was asked but I would definitely suggest to go through the DS concepts too.

Q: Any tips or suggestions for the juniors?

A: Clear your concepts from the beginning. Keep practicing a lot. I won't suggest you to spend most of the time in summer in preparing for the interviews. I think internships are more important than preparing for the company as you gain a lot from the internships.

Some books I would suggest:

1) Data Structures – Karumanchi

2) Cracking the coding Interview - Gayle Laakmann

Some online sites which I found useful:

1) www.geeksforgeeks.com

2) www.geeksquiz.com

3) www.tutorialspoint.com

4) http://indiabix.com/ (for apti and quant practice)

Also do not ignore Aptitude and Quantitative questions as they do contribute to the total score and often they are the key factor in deciding candidates for the next round.

For CS people: Do not underestimate the ECE people. Most of them prepare for CAT so they are pretty good with the quant and apti.

Q: Can you briefly explain your overall experience of the placement season?

A: It was frustrating especially with all the rejections. Some rejections with the pretty lame excuses were hard to buy. However **all well that ends well.** I am pretty relieved with having a backup now. I should have given some effort initially with the interview preparations.