

Shakti Prasad Badajena: Futures First

Q: Are you satisfied with the company you are placed in or you expected a better company?

A: I had no interest for going into any of the Core companies. So, I had made up my mind to go into anything but Core or IT. And after going through Futures First job profile and the reviews of some of our alumni placed in the company, it was one company that I was hoping for. So, yes, I am satisfied.

Q: Were there any challenges that you faced in the beginning of the placement season?

A: Being the first batch of Dual Degree, is quite a challenge enough. ;) On a serious note, knowing how to prepare and what to do towards that end is quite some task.

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

A: Yes, I was rejected by Mu Sigma in the Case Study cum GD round. I believe, the moderator and our group were not in the proper sync. So, interestingly, none of our group members were selected.

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

A: There were 3 rounds:

1 Written Round: 75 questions in 29 minutes

2 rounds of Interviews.

In the 1st round of interview, the interviewer asked question primarily based on my CV and the form they had asked us to fill up right before the interview.

The 2nd round was basically, a stress interview. They test you by asking to multiply numbers in your head, in let's say, 10 seconds. Or by giving you fictional scenarios.

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

A: I have a fetish for numbers. So, rather than a month long preparation, requisite effort was there for quite some time and a brief stint with Vedic Maths formulae sufficed. One can always start with the Vedic Math channels in YouTube.

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

A: No GD Rounds.

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

A: I was in touch with our seniors in the company, who had suggested that, a brief idea about trading and markets would help. I have been following *Investopedia* for quite some months. Also, I have been following YouTube channels of Lex Van Dam et al, to know about high pressured trading environments. Ultimately, they were quite helpful and if you really have interest in knowing these things, you will enjoy the entire prep process.

Q: Any tips or suggestions for the juniors?

A: Getting placed is more luck than anything else. But, a bit of preparation can always come in handy. I would suggest a constant study of the current happenings in the business world. Reading newspapers and books or following blogs can be of great help. For this company in particular, practicing speed maths is a must as some of us faced questions of 3-digit and 2-digit multiplication to be answered without pen and paper within, 10 seconds. Stay calm for interview, because the key, ultimately, is confidence. Just remember, no one gets anything more than one deserves and before the scheduled time. So, deserve, desire and chill.

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

A: Well, it was shorter than I expected. Before the season commenced, there was some sense of tension among the Dual Degree batch in general and it had started to seep in steadily. But these few days have shown me a whole new dimension of friendship. There

is this friend of mine, who stayed up all night drenched in rain at the interview site (some hotel in Rourkela) just to be my moral support. Nothing is sweeter than success and if that comes in a company, you targeted, it's even better. And when it comes in company of your best pals, well, you better know it for yourself.