

Name and Company: Kumar Parijat (Bajaj Auto Ltd.)

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

A: No, I am not satisfied with the company I am placed in. I really believe that with the talent pool we have in our Mechanical Engg. Dept. of NIT Rourkela, the students, at least some percentage of it, should be getting better job offers from world renowned companies.

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

A: There wasn't much guidance from the T&P in terms of how to go about preparing for the GD and PI rounds. We had to resort to online forums, help from seniors and discussions within our own branch to learn the tricks of the trade. The guidance I received from my elder sister was one of the main reasons why I bagged a job offer in the first company I appeared for.

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

A: No, Bajaj was the first company whose examination I had appeared for.

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

A: 2 levels- Written and PI

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

A: I concentrated more on Quantitative Aptitude and Verbal ability sections of the Question Paper. As for the technical section, I took the feedback from my seniors and prepared only 2-3 chapters from where Bajaj written rounds are known to take questions from.

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

A: I attended some GD sessions of T.I.M.E. coaching institute for some practice. The students of our branch also formed a GD group of our own (headed by Malay Milan Choudhury) and used to have regular practice on topics pertaining to current affairs

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

A: First of all, I took feedback from my seniors, previously placed at Bajaj, as to what questions the HR's usually ask and to which areas they concentrate more. With the guidance of my elder sister, I prepared answers for generic questions like- "Tell us something about yourself", "Why should we hire you" etc. But the most important practice is public speaking- one must talk with people in English on a regular basis- this helps you talk to the HR's fluently and reduces anxiety levels on the day, and I got ample opportunity for that due to my involvement in various clubs

Q: Any tips or suggestions for the juniors?

- Start by taking feedback from your seniors and online forums about the written and PI rounds of the concerned company.
- Spend more time practicing Quantitative Aptitude and Verbal ability sections for the written round as the Technical section comprises of questions from final year syllabus too, so, the amount of effort required to attempt all questions in Technical section will be much more than that required for the QA and VA sections.
- Practice communication in English- so that you don't stammer on the day of the PI
- Form GD groups with your friends and have regular discussions on current affairs topics. This will go a long way in improving your English fluency.
- Prepare answers for generic questions like- "Tell us something about yourself", "Why should we hire you", "what are your strengths and weaknesses" etc.
- Do whatever it is that calms your nerves before any round. Nervousness must be avoided. This reduces the chances of making silly mistakes and black-outs.

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

A: The placement coordinators have done an exemplary job this time around and many more companies, some of which had stopped recruiting from NIT Rourkela, have turned up as recruiters this time around. The T&P cell has conducted sessions on GD and PI rounds, but I believe that they should be conducted on a more frequent basis (can be introduced as a course, or made compulsory for all final years or any other way to ensure more participation from students) to ensure realistic improvement.