

## **Webinar on “Target IIM – Aspiring to be the Best”**

Insights shared by illustrious alumni of VIT, who pursued their MBA from IIMs  
Interactive session held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

*During the webinar on “Target IIM – Aspiring to be the Best” the invited speakers, Ms. Gajal Jain, MBA - IIM Indore, Product Engineer at Financepeer, Mr. Shubham Motiwale, MBA - IIM Bodh Gaya and Mr. Sahil Brahmane, MBA – IIM Shillong explained about challenges in the path to IIMs. They also talked about the academic culture and placement opportunities at IIMs and shared useful insights for MBA aspirants.*

### **Brief Profiles of Alumni and major highlights of the tips shared by them:**

Ms. Gajal Jain achieved her MBA from IIM Indore in 2020. She graduated as a Computer Engineer from Vidyalankar Institute of Technology in 2015. She has pre-MBA work experience of two years at TCS in the Business Intelligence Domain. She did her summer internship at Fidelity Investments. Currently she is working as a Product Manager at Financepeer, a FinTech and EdTech start-up. She spoke of the significance of getting relevant work experience before pursuing MBA, and gave an insightful comparison between freshers vs experienced candidates among those who aspire to pursue MBA at the IIMs.

Mr. Shubham Motiwale attained his MBA from IIM Bodh Gaya in 2020. He graduated in Computer Engineering from VIT in 2018. A noteworthy achievement was when he was selected for the "Indian Youth Delegation to China" by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. He pursued his summer internship at AGS TTS. He is interested in Sales and Marketing projects. He shared useful tips on preparation for MBA, and especially on building one's profile while pursuing Engineering such as active participation in co-curricular activities (paper publications and internships) and extra-curricular activities (sports, music, dance). He also shared his experiences on life at B-schools.

Mr. Sahil Brahmane completed his MBA from IIM Shillong in 2020. He graduated in Information Technology from VIT in 2019. The project he worked on was: Strategy evaluation – Patanjali. He did his internship at Quipper Research as a Market Research Intern. He is certified in Advanced Google Analytics that helps to learn Google's data measurement tools for data analysis and collection. He shared useful tips on the admission process at IIM, how to choose the field of specialization in MBA, and the difference in getting the call vs cracking the interview. Additionally, he also provided information about top MBA Institutes in India other than the IIMs.

### **Takeaways for the viewers:**

**Preparation for various competitive exams for MBA:** The alumni shared that a variety of exams can be taken up by students to pursue MBA such as CAT, XAT, SNAP, MAT etc. The common sections in the entrance exams are quantitative aptitude, logical reasoning and data interpretation, verbal ability and reading comprehension. The strategy for preparation was also shared.

**Variety of MBA specializations and domains:** Students can opt for a wide range of specializations comprising Finance, Marketing, Sales, Operation, Strategy, and General Management.

**Importance of Profile building:** A student's profile can be built by the kind of work experience required, internships, extra-curricular as well as co-curriculars activities.

**Choosing the right IIM:** One can choose the right IIM depending upon students exchange programs and various other factors like infrastructure and the campus culture. The market value of IIM in terms of brand and tag also matters.

**The culture at IIM:** People across the country come together to study at premier B-schools, so one can expect a lot of diversity.

**Having a good class participation:** For holistic development, the curriculum in IIM ensures good class participation.

**Engaging yourself in student-driven committees:** At IIM, all the committees are student driven like – alumni committees, placement committees, club coordinators etc. Working for these committees increases a candidate's chances of getting the right placement.

**Career opportunities after MBA at IIM:** Managerial positions are reached at an early stage through IIM placements, which would otherwise take a longer period.

**Grade A colleges other than the IIMs to pursue MBA:** FMS- Delhi, JBIMS-Mumbai, MDI-Gurgaon are great options, to name a few.

**Compromise on your comforts:** One needs to be need to be prepared to compromise on working hours, food, and culture.

It was an informative session and the webinar participants got an opportunity to gain a lot of useful tips from the three VIT alumni. The session helped young viewers to plan their strategies for Mission MBA at the globally recognized and some of the most premier institutes of the nation.