

Date: 30th March.

Name: Ankit [here on as me]

Board: Alka Sirohi Ma'am [here on AS or Chairman]

Members referred to as M1, M2 and so on.

Some relevant details:

Hobby: Playing cards, Badminton.

B.E. In Electronics and Communication.

Many questions were fact-based. Not giving exact answers here.

Tried to maintain smile even during tough situations. I don't know how i came across to the panel.

Overall the panel was very cordial, especially the Chairman.

I was 4th to be called in. While I was sitting outside the room, panel had light snacks for around 10 minutes. The interview lasted around 35-40 minutes.

Entered the room, wished everyone. Was promptly asked to sit by Chairman.

AS: So, you like playing cards ?

Me: Yes Ma'am.

AS: What all games you like to play?

Me: 29 and Bridge.

AS: Compare those two games.

Me: Both are bidding based games. In 29 the trump is hidden, where it's open trump in Bridge. Both played with usually 4 players. The number of cards in game of bridge is 52, whereas its lesser in 29. Etc.

AS: There is a famous statement "When rome was burning, the emperor fiddled away", which emperor was it referred to ?

Me: Sorry, Ma'am. I am not aware of it.

AS: It's emperor Nero. Have u heard of him?

Me: Yes Ma'am, was not able to recollect his name.

AS: What else have we learnt from roman civilisation?

Me: There were many great thinkers like Aristotle, Plato etc, whose idea where used during modernisation. Their teachings are still relevant today.

AS: Was there any famous playwright in roman era?

Me: I am not able to recollect any.

AS: What is the meaning of public conscience?

Me: It refers how the people feel about the world around themselves. [Some other murmur, not a precise answer.]

Passes onto M1.[Had a notebook, with various topics written on it, and he asked me almost all the questions from there]

M1: So, you are from NSIT. Is it under DU?

Me: Sir, it's an autonomous institution, but the degree is awarded under DU.

M1: Did u study satellite communication as part of your communication engineering?

Me: Yes, Sir.

M1: What is the full-form of PDA?

Me: Sorry sir, not able to recollect. It is sort of palm-top.

M1: Not that PDA, it's a kind of antennae?

Me: I'm not aware of it.

M1: It's Parabolic disk antennae.

Me: Thank you sir.

M1: What's the band used for satellite communication?

Me: S-band.

M1: Frequency?

Me: 2-4 Ghz.

M1: What other frequency range?

Me: Sorry Sir, not able to recollect.

M1: Many more questions related to various frequency bands. [C-band, VHF, UHF, Mobile communication, ionosphere, Ka-Ku band, DTH, cable tv, IPTv, attenuation of signals, AM v/s FM etc]

Me: answered few questions gave the definitions. Not able to provide the range of frequencies. [I said sorry sir and i am not aware of it multiple times, but he kept on asking similar questions] [I should have read my uploaded information on the frequencies and their use]

Passes on to M2 [Not able to exactly remember his questions.]

M2: What are the functions of the President?

Me: Talked of Executive, Legislative, military and judicial functions [missed the pardoning power , he kept on asking for more]

M2: how does president exercise his powers?

Me: Mostly on recommendation of PM and Cabinet. For appointment of judges, collegium.

M2: Which system of government is there in India?

Me: Parliamentary republic form of government.

M2: what's the other major form?

Me: Presidential type.

M2: Where is it?

Me: US

M2: Compare powers of president in two system.

Me: De-facto v/s de-jure head.

M2: Veto powers related something.

Me: Explained. Money bill , non-money bill.

M2: Asked some articles of constitution related to those powers.

Me: Not able to recollect.

Passed to third member.

M3: When did Berlin wall fell?

Me: Sir, i think 1991.

M3: No.

Me: Sorry sir, it's 1989.

M3: When was it built?

Me: I don't know exact year, but after world war-2.

M3: Difference between Plasma Tv and LCD Tv.

Me: Basic technology explained. Works on plasma principle and other on Liquid crystal.

M3: Which is better ?

Me: I would prefer LCD Tv, The color resolution is better in it.

M3: But, the Plasma TV has better brightness. Is it not better for larger sizes.

Me: Yes, Sir. Plasma Tv tend to develop fault easily, the LED ones are long-lasting.

M3: Some thing else about it.

Me: But, now i think LED TV is better option. It's better than both. [Looked at Chairman, she was

nodding].

Passed to 4th Member. [Not able to recollect the entire questions, but was cordial]

M4: Which is the highest level tournament in Badminton?

Me: World championship, olympic medal.

M4: No, which one is most prestigious something like Wimbledon [Hint given by Chairman]

Me: All-England Open.

M4: yes. Who is the 2nd Indian to win that tournament?

Me: Pulela Gopichand.

M4: Something about Corporate Lobbying.

Me: Yes sir, Many private companies want to influence the policies of government in a particular way. Etc.

M4: Famous lobbyist who was in news.

Me: Niira Radia.

M4: But aren't the civil servants also pliable?

Me: Yes Sir, it depends on the person holding the post. An honest civil servant will be able to resist such pressure and frame policy on a transparent basis.

M4: Any committee formed on this ?

Me: Chawla committee.

M4: Please of president doctrine is in which article of constitution?

Me: 310.

M4: What is ASEAN?

Me: Association of south-east asian nations.

M4: How many countries are there?

Me: 10.

M4: Name 5-6 countries?

Me: Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar, Phillipines, Vietnam

M4: Phillipines was the colony of which country ?

Me: Sorry sir, i am not aware of it.

M4: It was the only colony of a country.

Me: I am not aware of it.

M4: Do you know about World War-2 ?

Me: Yes Sir. I have the basic idea about it.

M4: What was the primary reason for it?

Me: It was over the colonies. And, the immediate cause was the invasion of Hitler in many countries of Europe.

M4: Who were the major powers involved?

Me: Axis and Allied forces. On side Axis powers were Japan, Germany, Italy etc. And on Allied side, UK, France, Russia, US joined later.

M4: You must have watched about 9/11 on TV. What kind of leadership was displayed by Rudi Guiliani?

Me: Sir, He was very pro-active, co-ordinated the response in well- organised way. [Chairman and M4 were not very impressed.] Sir, He was present on the spot just after the tragedy.

M4: Right right. What else?

Me: Sir, he clamed the nerves of the peoples. Talked to family members of victims, was easily accessible. Allowed civil servant enough autonomy. Followed Zero tolerance approach.

M4: But that was before 9/11, What else after that ?

Me: Yes, sir it was in late 1990s. Talked of more of same thing in other language.

Back of Chairman.

AS: So, you have worked for Yahoo. What does Yahoo stands for?

Me: Yet another hierarchical officious oracle.

AS: Right.

Me: This full-form was made after the company was founded.

AS: yes yes. Looking at other members.

AS: What was the purpose of Ashok Chawla committee?

Me: Regarding natural resources.

AS: yes, for allocation of natural resources. What were its recommendations?

Me: It gave many sector specific recommendations.

AS: Yes. Whom did it submit its report to?

Me: Sorry, not aware of it.

AS: To the EGOM on corruption headed by Pranab Mukherjee.

Me: Thank you Ma'am.

AS: What were the other recommendations of the EGOM?

Me: sorry ma'am not aware of the specific recommendations.

AS: Explain the recent coal-scam or coal-gate in 3-4 lines.

Me: It's basically regarding allocation of coal blocks to PSU and private sector units at subsidised rate.[She said: Non-market determined price]. Yes ma'am. The major issue was that even for private sector power companies who were allowed to sell power at commercial prices, the coal blocks were not allocated at market based prices.

AS: IS spectrum a natural resource or man-made one?

Me: It's a natural resource.

AS: Should be always use the auction method for natural resources.

Me: No Ma'am. It shouldn't be used for developing sector where government wants private sector to invest more. For example, in telecom sector during 1990's.

AS: Is auction the best way to go for sectors which are stable.

Me: Yes, Ma'am. Like telecom sector now.

AS: Ok. How would you use your knowledge to bring about change after becoming an IAS officer or other government servant.

Me: Ma'am, I have the knowledge of IT, and govt is increasing implementing many IT-related projects and i can help in those projects.

AS: That's very general. Let me give a specific situation. Suppose you are incharge of a sub-division or a district, and there is a problem of migration there. What will you do?

Me: I will first try to find out the extent of migration. Try to find out the reasons for such migration, look at implementation details of M-NREGA. If there is any issue with this and other related govt schemes, will implement monitoring mechanism using IT and help in co-ordination of such schemes.

AS: Ok. As a DM, what would you do if you find your sub-ordinates are not working properly.

Me: I would organise a trip to some nearby place on sunday or other holiday and invite all the members there. I would explain to them the purpose of various work we are doing and invite feedback from them. I will find out from them about the various problems faced and try to resolve them promptly.

AS: Ok. Your interview is over. You can go now.

Me: Thank you ma'am.

[Finally, i was completely exhausted]