[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*Forwarded\*

Visa experience (APPROVED)

Place : Mumbai

Date : 23/09/2020

Overall time -15mins

S : Good morning Officer

V: passport

S : here it is.

V: Which university you are going?

S: told

V: How Many universities you have applied

S: Told Applied 2 universities

V: Why this university you have selected?

S: Told it has good research opportunities

V: Do you have any relatives in the US?

S: No

V: Who is sponsoring your education?

S: My parents are sponsoring my education

V: What does they do?

S: Told my father is businessman we deal in manufacturing, interrupted and asked next question

V: What is the annual income

S: Told

V: How much funds you have?

S: Told about bank balance

V: Its not sufficient for your education

S: No sir, i have sufficient funds for 2 years studies.

V: Show me your I-20

S: Here it is and passed the I-20, Seen the amount on I-20

(Then for 2 minutes he was typing something on the desktop)

V: What are your future plans

S: Told

V: please scan fingerprints of your left hand

S:( I put my hand on the scanning machine)

V: Your visa is approved (and then he handed me a receipt)

S: Thank you Officer, You made my day

S: When can i collect my passport

V: After 3 working days you will receive email then you can collect it.

\*Suggestion\*: be prepared with your documents and answers

Most important "Dont be nervous" be confident and answer properly

\*Overall documents asked\*: Sevis fee receipt, passport, I-20.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience:

Status : approved

Consulate: Hyderabad

Slot - 24th September

Interviewer: hi...good morning

Me: good morning sir

Interviewer: what is your parent's occupation

Me: owns a travel agency and part time photographer

Interviewer: nice....your visa has been approved...pls submit your passport

Me: oh...thank you sir you made my day....

That's it guys...only 1 question...hardly 30secs...

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Experience

Location - Mumbai

Visa time - 12:00 pm

In time - 11 am

Out time - 11.15 am

Interview duration - 5 minutes

Interview Questions:

1. Place of study in US

2. Which University

3. Source of Funds

4. Income of Sponsor

5. (Dint hear the question, asked VO to repeat but he skipped it then.)

Application Approved. White slip handed over. Passport taken by them.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2772199823003000/

Visa Interview Experience\*

Location:New Delhi

Appointment Date: 24 September 9:15 am

In Time: 8:45 am

Out Time: 9:05 am

Counter Number:1

Visa Officer: White Male in his 30s

Status: Approved😀

Me: Good Morning Officer, how are you doing today?

VO: Good Morning, I am doing great. Please pass me your passport and I20

Me: \*Passed\* Here you go sir.

VO: What are you going to study in the US?

Me: Business Analytics at the Michigan State University starting in Spring 2021

VO: Why this course and University?

Me: Data is the next big thing in the world of technology and I am personally fond of working with big amounts of data plus I am passionate about Mathematics in general so that's why I am planning to pursue this course and Msu because it is highly ranked when it comes to MSBA plus it has a practical curriculum where I get to do 2 Capstone projects during my course which give me a sense of working on live project's for big corporates and also I am allowed to gain some industrial experience by doing an internship in the summer.

VO: Great. What all Universities did you apply to?

Me: I applied to 14 Universities and got admit from 13 and 1 rejection. Do you want me to name them?

VO: No I'm good. What do your parents do?

Me: My dad has his business based on transportation of goods across the country and my mother is a homemaker.

VO: Why did you go to Europe multiple times?

Me: My last employer Sopra Steria had stationed me on our client site in Geneva, Switzerland multiple times over the course of 6 months.

VO: Great so you already have a sense of harsh winters which you'll experience in Midwest. \*Smiles\*

Me: Yes Sir

Vo: Who's funding your education.

Me: That would be me as I have an approved loan from Prodigy finance for XX USD and I have my personal savings of about YY USD so ZZ USD in total which is way over my i20 amount.

VO: Great. \*Puts the passport in the basket\* I am approving your visa and keeping your passport. You'll get it in 5 days from now maximum. Please follow the 14 day Quarantine rule once you reach the US.

Me: Sure Sir I will and Thank you sir you made my day. I hope you have a great day ahead.

Vo: Thanks you too.

#Usabound 😀

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2771378039751845/

Date: 23rd September

Time: 8:30am

Consulate: Kolkata

Status: Approved

VO was a lady in her early 30s.

VO: Goodmorning

Me: Goodmorning mam.

VO: Please pass me your I20 and passport.

Me: Passed.

VO: Oh USC. Applied Data Science. Why this course?

Me: I have been working since the last 4 years as a Software developer & data analyst, so inorder to accelerate my career as a data scientist I decided to go for Masters. The curriculum of this course offered by USC is the perfect balance of courses focused on fundamentals as well the application oriented part of it.(This was the only long answer)

VO: Your highest qualification?

Me: I am Btech in Electronics and Communication Engineering

VO: Passout year?

Me: 2016

VO: So you have been working since then. What was your position at the company?

Me: I was a software developer in my first company. Currently I am working as a senior software developer.

VO: Good. How many universities you applied to? And how many admits?

Me: I applied to 4 universities. Got admit from 3 of them.

VO: How are you going to fund?

Me: Since I have been working for quite sometime, I have savings of around XX lakhs. Plus I have taken an education loan. And if required my parents will support me.

VO: What does your parents do?

Me: My father is a civil engineer by profession. We have a construction firm. My mother is housewife.

VO: Okay. Any idea about the annual turnover?

Me: Yes. XX lakhs amount.

VO: Can I see your loan approval letter?

Me: Passed

VO: Okay. So if you are not able to pay the loan back, how will the bank retrieve the amount(I guess she asked this since it was a \*non-collateral\* loan from Prodigy)?

Me: The loan rate is only 7.66% with a monthly payment of around 500$ that too 6months post graduation. So if incase I am not able to payback, I do have immovable assets worth around XX crores.

VO: Okay.

\*She kept typing \*

VO: How are you going to quarantine yourself?

Me: I will be following 14day self quarantine rule. And would fly to US 15-20 days prior to program start date.

\*She kept typing \*

VO: Okay your visa is approved. Please collect it within 4-5 days.

Me: Thank you so much mam.

\*Tips\*: Just be confident in what you are saying and it will be done. I was not expecting the 2nd last question, but kept my calm and answered with confidence and that did the work.

Best of luck to all. 👍

And special thanks to this group for guiding me through this journey. You guys are awesome 🙏

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2772548666301449/

US visa interview experience

Time slot: 8 am

Status: Approved

Consolate: Kolkata

Counter no : 6

VO was a beautiful lady in her early 30's

VO: Good morning

Me: Good morning

VO: Please pass me your passport and I-20

Me: Passed

VO: So, you are going for your PhD in chemistry in University of Pittsburgh.

Me: Yes, mam

VO: What research are you going to do there ?

Me: \*Explained\*

VO: Can you elaborate what is the application of this work?

Me: \*Explained\*

VO: So, I can see that you are fully funded.

Me: Yes. I have got a full scholarship and stipend too.

VO: Why is your highest degree of qualification?

Me: Masters degree

VO: Are you married?

Me: No

VO: Did you travel anywhere within last 15 days?

Me: No

VO: What will you do after your PhD?

Me: Answered

VO: How are you going to quarantine yourself?

Me: I will self quarantine myself for 14 days upon arrival.

VO: Congratulations, your visa has been approved. Collect your passport within 4-5 days.

Me: Thank you. Have a great day.

VO: Have a great day

I had no expressions of happiness while I was inside, might be because it took me time to digest the approval but after I was out of the building, the first thing I did was to hug my mother standing outside. Even though, many more milestones are there to achieve, still these small little things means a lot in life.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience:

Status:Approved

New Delhi

25 September

Questions asked:

What course are you going to study?

How many universities did you apply to?

Why this university did you decide?

(I had previously visited US so asked few questions on that)

How are you funding the education?

Father’s occupation?

Annual Income?

5-7 minutes total time spent at the counter.

Be confident and be loud and clear coz the mask may hinder.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Place: chennai

Status: approved

Date: 25/9/20.

M: good afternoon mam.

V: good afternoon

V: pass me ur passport and i20.

V : what will u be doing at usf.

M: masters in business analytics and information system.

V: I see u have worked before.

M : yes, and explained about my work.

V: why change in stream now.

M: am passionate about data science, data science is relatively new to india, there are not many experts here, so maters with specialization in data science will help me grow in my professional career.

V: what is plan after masters.

M: if given an opportunity would like to utilize my opt period and work for a year or two to gain practical knowledge and later come back to india and work here.

V: any other admits.

M : usf, utd , clark, curb, neu.

V: why not neu.

M: course and curriculum offered at usf is well structured, they also offer specialization in data science which is of my interest. apart from that as part of my coursework I get to do capstone project , which will help me gain practical knowledge in field of data science.

V : where will u stay and u neec to quarantine for 2 weeks.

M:I will be staying off campus, will follow all quarantine guidelines.

No question about finance was asked.

VO was very friendly ,kept smiling face.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience:

Date - 25/09/2020

Location - Mumbai

Visa time -11.40 AM

In time - 10.50 AM

Out time - 11.10 AM

Interview duration - 4-5 minutes

Interview questions:

1. Where are you going?

2. How many universities did you apply to?

3. Why this university?

4. Who's funding you?

5. What do your parents do?

6. Annual income?

7. Any relatives there? (My sister's a resident doctor there so asked about her)

8. How does she fund herself?

9. Do you know about the quarantine procedure? (Yes, I'll have to quarantine for 14 days once I reach there)

10. How do you plan to quarantine yourself? (I'll have to find a house and quarantine myself there)

11. Scan the fingerprints of your left hand.

He said your visa is approved and all the best.

Took my passport and gave a slip.

Overall documents asked: sevis receipt, passport, i20.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience:

Consulate: Mumbai

Date: 25/09/2020

Status: Approved

I went to counter 37 and he took my passport, SEVIS payment slip and I20 and after typing something in his PC he turned everything back and a security guard asked me to go to another counter, I thought it's all about taking and all, but suddenly the person behind the glass asked why are you going to USA and this is when I realised it's "the interview"...

VO: where are you going to USA?

Me: I'm going to Arizona State University for MS

VO: how are you going to fund it? ( I didn't get it at first so said sorry and he repeated)

Me: I have taken loan of XX dollars and have savings of around YY dollars.

VO: How come you have this much savings?

Me: I'm working since 2017

VO: it's still too much...

Me: It's including my parents savings

VO: then you should tell that.

VO went inside and didn't come back for a while

VO: what does your parents do?

Me: My father works at XYZ as ABC and my mother is ABC.

VO: what's the combined income?

Me: Including me?

VO: No

Me: XX lakhs

VO: Any relatives in US

Me: No

VO: Are you going to quarantine yourself after going to US?

Me: Yes I'll go 15-20 days prior..( he stopped me)

VO: Where are you going to quarantine yourself ( I heard why are you going to quarantine yourself LOL)

Me: (giving the explanation for why..)

VO: I said where are you going to quarantine yourself?

Me: I'll book a hotel

VO: your visa is approved, now leave! The expression with which he said so I felt like he said your visa is not approved now leave.

Note: it was little bit confusing to hear from the speaker, I felt like VO is getting irritated but I kept myself calm ( yes I was a bit nervous too) and gave answers..

Wasn't getting the feeling to share this kind of experience but as this group has helped me to get answers of many doubts so I was obliged to do so.

I'm really thankful to people who shared their experience here.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2773969492826033/

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: VO: Good morning

Me:Good morning mam..

VO: Pass me your passport and i20 please.

Please remove your mask for a minute.

1) Why Computer Science?

2) How many universities you applied to?

3) How many admits?

Name them..

4) What after master's?

5) Who is sponsoring your education?

6) What do your parents do?

7) What is their combined annual income.?

8) Apart from the annual income do you have any savings.?

Me:(told)

9) Are you aware of the quarantine rules in the US?

Me: yes, that i have to self quarantine for 14 days.

VO: Good..

I'm approving your Visa..

Me: Thank you mam..(with excitement and smile)

VO: (smiled too)

Me: A second nod at her due to excitement..LOL

VO: Smiled and nods too..

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Delhi

Status: Approved

Questions

1. Which course and why?

2. What do you do now?

3. Why masters now?

I saw 3 rejects in front of me. I could only over hear one interview. That person was underprepared and very nervous. His profile wasn't great either. He had a gap year and couldn't defend it.

Talk clearly and confidently

All the best.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Mumbai Consulate

Visa experience

Status- Approved

Duration 3 mins

1.Have you been to USA

2. Why usf

3. How many universities did you apply

4. Tell me about quarantine policy at university

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My Visa Experience:

Intake - Spring'21

Date - 28th Sept

Location - Chennai

Slot - 12 pm

Status - Approved

VO: pass me your passport and i20

Why university of Cincinnati

Me: told about university

Vo : Interrupted- how is it good for you

Me :I told about how relevant it is to my current profile and spoke about the course Structure

Vo : what other universities

Me : told

VO : why not other universities

Me : again gave an explanation about course and scholarship

VO : did you travel to any countries in the past 15 days

Me : No

VO : Do you have any specific travel plans

Me : Yet to decide ma'am

Vo : how are you going to quarantine yourself

Me : I'll be self quarantining for 14 days in a hotel or if university provides me an quarantining facility inside the campus, I will take that.

Scanned my finger prints and she passed the green slip to me saying ' I'm approving your visa '.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Mumbai consulate

Very cool guy

Vo- pls pass me your docs passport, sevis, i20

Passed

Vo- how many unis did you applied for?

Told

Vo-why is uni?

Told

Vo- who is funding you? Can I see your loan docs?

Told and forwarded the documents

Status-approved

UC Denver Ms CS

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Experience

Date: 28th Sept 2020

Consulate: Mumbai

Status : Approved

Duration 4 minutes

1. Have you been to the US before?

2. How many universities did you apply to and other admits?

3. Tell me something about the program

4.How will you fund your education and what does parents do?

5. Quarantine plans

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Consulate: Chennai

Status: Approved

Questions:

1) Where are you from?

2) Which universities you applied to in the US and how many admits? (I don't even have to ask why you picked USC.)

3) What are your plans after masters?

Congrats, your visa has been approved. The VO told me about quarantine. Just a minute interview. The only docs asked were passport and i20.

Quite a few applications were rejected too, I don't know why.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Experience

University of Cincinnati

Consulate: Chennai

Slot: 12:00

Status: Approved

VO was a lady in her early 30's

Me: Good afternoon mam! How are u doing today? ( With a big smile)

VO: Smiled back and told I am doing good. Please pass me ur I20 and passport

Me: Passed

VO: So u are doing masters in computer and information sciences....

Me: <interupted her > and said yes mam with specialization in data science

Vo: Did u do ur under graduation in computer science?

Me : Yes mam I completed my bachelor's in computer science in 2018

Vo: what have you been doing since then?

Me: told I have been working

Vo: Why masters now?

Me: Told

Vo: why this university ? And did u get any other admits

Me: told

<<<Akward silence and tying for a long time>>>

Vo: what are ur plans for quarantine?

Me: I planning to quarantine myself in a hotel.

Vo: while booking the airline tickets make sure to go through the guidelines properly. I am approving ur visa!

Me: Thank you so much Mam! U have made my day and ran from there 😂

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Place : Chennai

Date: Sept28, 9.30am

Note : Was called inside entry gate arnd 9.20am. But actual interview took place arnd 10.30. arnd 1hr delay from actual appointment time. Was made to wait till then in a line.

Questions asked :

1. Why this college and course?

2. Other colleges applied and admitted

3. Source of funding

4. Where are you planning to quarantine?

5. In what route are you planning to travel?

6. Have you travelled to any other countries so far?

Docs asked : i20 and Passport.

Visa approved!! It took less than 5 mins.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Mumbai Consulate

Visa experience

28th Sept.

VO was A Male in his 40's

Status- Approved

Duration 5 mins

1.Have you been to USA?

2.Do you currently hold a US Visa?

3. How many universities did you apply?

4. What do your parents do?

Okay, Everything looks fine.

Thank you have a nice day.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hey everyone,

I got my visa rejected. The following is my interview details. Any advice or analysis is appreciated:-

Consulate: New Delhi College:- Babson College

ME: Hey

VO: Hey, (Asked for my passport and I20) What will you be studying?

ME: I will be studying Entrepreneurship.

VO: How many colleges did you apply to?

ME: I actually applied to only one college. (However, I applied to 4 but 3 were from the UK and 1 from the US. I was not really sure what to say and I panicked and messed up).

VO: Why only one?

ME: I was really passionate about this college.

VO: But why is this passion for? There are many good universities and colleges out there.

ME: The college teaches how culture affects entrepreneurship in different countries bla bla bla!!

VO: Do you have any friends or relatives in the USA?

ME: NO

VO: Who's sponsoring your education?

ME: I have taken an education loan as well as my parents are sponsoring me.

VO: What's your plan after the masters?

ME: I would be coming back to India and will join my family business and also will start my own software firm.

VO: Do you have any friends or relatives in the USA?

ME: No sir, but I have a few seniors which I know to be living in the USA but they don't fall in my friends or relatives list.

VO: Sorry I can't approve your visa at this moment you can reapply anytime in the future. (Handed me my passport, I20 and section 214B page)The visa officer was typing all the time and had really less eye contact. I would be scheduling my second appointment and want to know what all I need to improve.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*from Telegram\*

Visa Experience

Status= Approved

Consulate= Mumbai

University= UT Arlington

Duration 10-12 minutes

Q1) Have you ever been to us before?

Asked for my GRE scorecard

Q2) Why you didn't apply in fall 2020 Online?

Q3) How many admits you got?

Q4) Who is going to sponsor your education?

Q5) What is their annual income?

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience:

Consulate: New Delhi

Date: 29/09/2020

Status: Approved

I took out my passport and I-20 before reaching to the counter. When I went to the counter she took my passport and I20 and after typing something in her PC. After few seconds she started asking questions.......

VO: where are you going to USA?

Me: I'm going to University at Albany, SUNY

VO: for which course you are going?

Me: PhD. Biology

VO: Have you given GRE?

Me: Yes

VO: What is your score?

Me: answered the score.

VO: In which all universities did you applied?

Me: I applied in total 8 universities and got acceptance from 3 universities.

VO: put you left hand fingers for biometric

Me: I did

VO: your visa is approved, youbl can collect it after one week

Me: Thank you so much

My interview appointment was at 9:45 am morning and I entered the embassy at 9:20 am. I have been waiting till 10:00 am and at 10:05 am interview got over.

I think that the nervousness is obvious at that moment but interview has to be given in very calm mood with confidence. If you are confident then there is no need to worry. There is no need to panic. Everything went so cool and smooth.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2777874339102215/

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Chennai Consulate

30th September 2020

Time- 9:30am

Which university

Why this university

Have you been to US

When did you go?

How many university did you apply to?

What are they ?

What will you do after completing your course?

How will pay for your education

What’s your father doing

His annual income

Do you anyone who went to this university

Where you’re gonna stay there

Okay your visa has been approved

Please do a lot of research about the university and the place and be confident and greet them properly

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hey guys, I need your serious help whoever can help me figure out what's wrong in my profile and how should I improve it before next Visa interview:

Also, people who are sharing their experiences are all whose visa have gotten approved, but if you ask me within all my visits to Visa Interview centre, I have seen candidates who are getting rejected frequently also, so its a myth that everybody who applied for fall 2020 visa got approvals. The percentage ratio may lie around 65-35% for approval and rejection respectively.

Visa Interview Attempt 1:

Location: Delhi Embassy

Date: 24th August 2020

I was having an afternoon slot, while my other friends were having early morning slots, so they went early and then called me up saying that their interview is already done as officers are taking interviews before time only, so they asked me to come early irrespective of slot. I went directly inside after security checks and then to the Interview Counter as soon as I entered the US Embassy, there was no waiting queue. Because of this sudden hurry I became little nervous.

VO: Good Morning

Me: Good Morning sir

VO: Pass me your I-20 n passport

Me: Yeah sure

VO: When did you went to the Vac?

Me: Pardon me, could you please repeat sir

(Again second time he told the same, I misheard the Vac as Bank, so i said I went a month ago, but I asked him again as I was confused why will he ask about bank at the start itself, then he said VAC in abbreviations, I replied I went for it yesterday)

VO: Seems like your Biometrics haven't got updated yet, can you just come up here again

Me: yeah sure

(He asked me to keep the hand on machine

I kept the right first as he didn't mentioned, he passed a wierd reaction n then finally did the whole biometrics)

(I knew the first impression wasn't good but still tried to not loose my cool and prepared my mind to be calm and confident)

VO: So which Visa you are going for?

Me: I have applied for a F1 visa.

VO: Why are you going to US?

Me: I am going to pursue Master of Science in Computer Science at XYZ University.

VO: How many universities did you applied to?

Me: I applied to 6 universities

VO: (nodded to carry on)

Me: (told all names)

VO: Okay why this university?

Me: The CS program at this university has been ranked at 50th Position by cs ranking, and it is the largest university in Virginia...

VO: (interrupted me) Tell me something different..

Me: The CS coursework is flexible enough to allow me to choose courses of my interest..

VO: (again interrupted) So other universities don't have flexible program?

Me: Actually, in this university I can choose subjects related to my specialization.. the coursework is of 30 credits n I can choose....(explained about the coursework) Also I have gone through research work of A and B professor and I liked that so much.

VO: How are you going to finance your education?

Me: (asked to repeat) then told

I have taken an education loan of $47k from Prodigy Finance for first year and my father is also sponsoring me with the $15k. ( The I-20 amount for 1 year is around $50k) and also I have got an pre approved loan of $47k for the second year.

VO: What does your father do?

Me: He has been retired from the government bank after serving 35 years there and he gets a pension of XX.

VO: (2mins of typing)

Unfortunately I can't approve your visa this time!

Note: I realised that I was sounding as if I have prepared all the answers and just telling them fluently without any stop in front of Visa. So I improved on my tone so that it sounds more natural and real.

And also I modified the 'why this university' specific answer to be more practical.

Visa Interview Attempt 2:

Location: Delhi Embassy

Date: 31st August 2020

This time I went super early to avoid last minute hustle and get relaxed before interview.

It was a early morning slot they asked us to sit and wait for some time around 45 mins, I and another person were the first to go to the counters. The same previous officer was standing just in the next counter for which the other person went.

Me: Good Morning Ma'am

VO: Good Morning

Pass me your documents

Me: yeah sure(passed)

VO: Looks like your Biometrics haven't got updated yet. Do you have a passport size photograph with you?

Me: Yeah I do have..(given)

(Took fingerprints again)

VO: Okay so why are you going US?

Me: I am going to US to pursue Master of Science in Computer Science at XYZ University

VO: Why this university?

Me: The CS coursework at this university aligns with the area of my Interest which is Machine Learning. And I am impressed by the reasearch work done by professor X and Y, thus want to study under them in future. Also the h-index of cs faculty is excellent.

VO: Have you considered any other universities?

Me: I have got admits in 2 other universities

VO: Okay then why not them?

Me: Those universities were not offering me machine learning as specialisation and in the third University I didn't got admit in my desired program, they offered me M Eng in which we need to complete 30 credits within a year and again machine learning specialisation wasn't there. And I didn't wanted to loose grades because of hurrying up things.

(I was optimistic that I will get visa this time she was looking happy with my replies and I was saying things confidently with natural tone and without mumbling)

VO: What are you doing since graduation?

(I asked her to repeat that)

Me: I have been working from 2 years at Cognizant as a programmer analyst and ..(told about job)

VO: seems like your Visa got rejected a few days ago

Me: Yeah

VO: so what have changes have you made this time?

Me:(I wasn't expecting this question, I prepared for if VO asks for the reason of rejection but didn't prepared for this at all)

I have updated my profile and researched about my university so that i can know my course well.

VO:(within seconds) Sorry I can't approve your visa this time also.

Me: Officer, can you please tell the reason for that?

VO: sorry I can't tell, just read this slip carefully before applying again (passed 214b)

Me: Okay thank you.

I seriously don't know what could have went wrong in this second attempt.

I knew I had flaws in first attempt but this second attempt was more devastating as I don't even know the reason for rejection.

Visa interview Attempt 3:

Location: Mumbai Consulate

Date: 3rd September 2020

I was really cool this time because I knew chances of getting approval are so low, but I just wanted to give a try at a different location which is Mumbai as few days ago a person got Visa approval for the same university same course. Also, I already resigned from my previous job and started taking online classes and submitting assignments but after 2 rejections, I thought if I start online this fall and got rejected in spring again then this whole semester would be waste as online classes may not be there in spring so i may need to drop also, so its better to give another try. So, just wanted to try the luck, also I talked with counsellor he told me to say my both parents are working (and to mention that my father joined this private company/business after retirement if VO asks) and show increased savings, but I can't just double or triple savings amount because VO may get doubtful about it as within same week how did I arranged this much money. Okay, so here is how it went:

The number of candidates in Mumbai were little less as compared to Delhi. And even the process was smoother than Delhi. Also the speakers are better than Delhi embassy as they are top mounted which enables better hearing unlike in Delhi where they have placed a small box near the counter window. The VO on counter, for which I was about to go, just rejected a guy however he told very good answers and even with confidence. Then came the turn of a girl, and she answered that she chose this university because it gives her practical knowledge and, the VO cross questioned her ohh other universities are giving practical knowledge, then she replied saying not more than my university. Then she asked some finance questions and approved! I was confused but at the same time I was chilled whatever happens.

VO: Nodded me to come forward and wished Good Morning

Me: Good Morning Ma'am

VO: How are you doing?

Me: I am good officer, how about you?

VO: Okay pass me your documents

Me: Yeah, here they are..

VO: So why are you going for this university?

Me: I am going to pursue Master of Science in Computer Science.

VO: Okay so why this university?

Me: The CS coursework at this university aligns with the area of my interest which is Machine Learning and Graphics....(told about there is one professor who is conducting research in same field on which I worked in my previous Job but my skills weren't enough to handle whole project, so that's why want to study under him and enhance my skill to join my previous job at higher level in India.)

VO: Okay so how many universities did you applied to?

Me: I applied to 6 and got admit in 3

VO: Okay what are they?

Me: University of..... And University of....

VO: Could you repeat the name slowly?

Me: (this time clearly n slowly)

VO: Okay so why did you applied to only these universities of all in the US?

Me: Actually these universities are offering some great courses in Machine Learning as I want to specialize in that.

VO: Okay, which year did you passed out?

Me: 2018

VO: and what are you doing since then?

Me: I have been working in Cognizant as Programmer Analyst on Machine learning project from 2 years using Java, python.

VO: How are you going to finance your education?

Me: My both parents would be sponsoring my education and I have taken an education loan also.

VO: What did you parents do?

Me: My father owns a textile business and my mother is a landlady who gives house on lease to tenants.(actually its bit true my family have a textile business mainly run by my uncle and we do lease house also)

VO: How much they earn?

Me: Their combined salary is 15lakhs per annum.

VO: Okay and how much savings do you have?

Me: We have 20 lakhs of savings.

VO: What are your plans after MS?

Me: I would like to come back to India and join my previous job at a higher level so that I can handle whole project on my own.( I should have told I will utilise 1 year of opt then come back but it just went in flow)

VO: (2 mins of typing... I crossed my fingers down the counter, the interview went so good, I answered all questions confidently and to the point, so I was literally thinking I will get it this time)

VO: So let me tell you some rules...( I thought she is going to talk about quarantine rules after going there and she is approving Visa but I kept a break on my thought..)

So actually we check the overall profile of the candidate before giving Visa and your overall profile doesn't qualifies the eligibility, so I can't approve your Visa this time.

Me: (fully disappointed even after having such a great interview) Okay, officer could you please tell any specific reasons for this?

VO: So as I told we look for overall profile of candidate, and in your case you don't seem eligible right now, moreover you can go through this slip once.

Me: Okay, Thank you officer.

Don't know what could have went wrong this time! The only thing which came in my mind was may be because of savings, although I told her about education loan but she didn't asked me the amount of loan which is already covering my whole I-20 amount of 1 year. I thought I should have mentioned that even when she didn't asked. I thought I should have told her that i have already started taking online classes so that she thinks that I am dedicated about study only. At last I couldn't have doubled or triples my savings, so next time I am thinking to do it and have all documents.

Guys, anything else which you suggest I should be improving to get my visa approved? I need your real help to get started with my education there. And please don't react with laugh as its not good to do so over somebody's helplessness.

Can anyone of you help in figuring out the reasons, what could have went wrong and what should I do before reapplying.

What they exactly want from me to update in profile, in second attempt they haven't even asked for finance else I could have added more funding. Should I mention about house property of around 60 lakhs also? If yes what all documents would be needed as a proof?

I am going with George Mason University, while the 2 other admits are from University of Maryland at Baltimore County and University of Cincinnati. When VO asked 'why GMU', I explained nicely about ML Specialisation, professor work is in line with my field of interest, ranking, then they asked 'why not others' for which I said UMBC isn't giving an option to choose specialisation as ML and in Cincinnati, I didn't got the program for which I applied. Is there anything else I should add for 'why not others' question?

The university is good, haven't heard a single rejection in many years, all say I should have got visa with this. Considering all this I left online classes and deferred my admission after 3 continuous rejections.

Anyone who faced rejection if they could help me out with all this, as I will be reapplying for spring around October end.

Also, if anybody wants to suggest some consultancy which is good at handling rejection cases, please go ahead.

Thanks in advance!!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2776692392553743/

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hey I got my VISA APPROVED

Date: 30 September 2020

Location: Hyderabad

Time : 9:45

VO was an Indian American he was looking a lil intimidating

Asked me literally 3 questions

Q1. Why Management

Q2. I see u have been to the USA before

Q3. What do u want to be after coming to India?

Q4. Who is sponsoring?

And he said ok VISA APPROVED!!

I was shocked I asked him sir give me the green slip😂

He said Mam that is for rejected candidates your’s is approved

So please leave

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Chennai Consulate

28th September 2020

Time- 10:30am

Did you travel anywhere recently?

Why this university ?

How many universities did you apply to?

What are they ?

Why not other universities?

You've graduated in xx ...why masters now?

How will you quarantine ?

How are you going to travel?(She wants to know my travel itinerary)

Ans:I didn't plan it yet.

Will you travel through Europe or direct flight?

Ans: I'm planning to book direct flights Delhi-->Newyork-->Tampa

Okay, your visa has been approved !

What I learnt:

DON'T be nervous...( I was tensed a lot , forgot few points🙈)

We have to be confident and maintain eye contact.

If elaborating - should be less than 3-4 sentences.

Finally,only answer to the point and don't give extra details unless they ask.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Got my VISA Approved today

Consulate: Delhi

Time:09:30 AM

Entered at 8:45 AM

VO - Please pass your i-20 and passport.

I will be back shortly.

Please remove your mask.

VO- Have you been to the USA before?

VO- Have I interviewed you before?

VO - What course you did in your bachelor's?

VO- Which course at UTD?

VO- What's the course duration?

VO- Do you have any friends or relatives at USA?

VO - Who is sponsoring you?

VO - What does your father do?

VO- What all admits you had?

VO- Why not UCSB and why UTD?

VO - What are the quarantine rules at your university?

Congratulations, I'm approving your visa. Make sure to carry your i-20 at the immigration counter and follow all quarantine rules.

VO was an Indo-American guy in his mid 40's. Was pretty chilled.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Date: 30 Sept 2020

Uni: ASU

Consulate: Mumbai

Status: accepted

VO - Good Morning

Me - Good morning sir

VO - have you travelled to US before?

Me - No, I haven't

VO - What are your quarantine plans after reaching US?

Me - I'm planning to quarantine myself for 14 days in a hotel nearby the campus. Also, I've heard from a senior that ASU provides free covid tests, so I'll get myself tested post quarantine.

VO - Tell me something about your course that you're going to study (I got confused if he asked "you're going to study" or "you studied"

Me - started answering confidently it but he interrupted and jumped to the next question.

VO - Who's funding you?

Me - My parents are going to sponsor me.

VO - can you name your parents (weird question but probab coz my father got a long name)

Me - \*named them\*

VO - What do they do?

Me - both my parents are doctors. My father is \_\_\_ and my mother is \_\_\_\_

VO - Okay, your visa is approved

Me - thank you sir, have a good day

VO - you too

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Experience

Date : 30th September, 9:00 AM

Consulate: Chennai

Visa Status : Approved

Course : Ph.D. Materials science and Engineering, The Ohio State University

VO: Good Morning

Me: Good Morning

VO: Pass on your Passport (saw the sticker at the back which was pasted at VAC and went through the stamps)

VO: Pass your I-20

VO : Where are you going in the U.S?

Me: Ohio state university

VO: Specialization?

Me: PhD Materials science and Engineering

VO: Where did you do your Masters?

Me: I have not done Masters. I graduated from NIT Tiruchirappalli with Bachelor's degree.

VO: Why OSU?

Me: Explained my research interests align well and Moreover, OSU has a very strong Materials science program

VO: What research you will be doing

Me: Told

VO: Plans after Doctorate?

Me: Prof at IISc or IIT

VO: Who is funding you?

Me: University is funding me

VO: Complete Scholarship?

Me: Yes.

VO : When did you go to Germany?

Me: Last Summer

VO: Have you traveled anywhere else after that?

Me: No

VO: Will you be traveling somewhere before going to US

Me: No

VO: Will you be quarantining on arrival to US?

Me: Yes

VO : How?

Me: I will arrive 15 days before the start date and home quarantine

VO: In ohio?

Me: Yes

Typed for long time. Went out and asked someone at the back for something

She asked for my fingerprints and searching for something and pulled out a Green slip and told your Visa is approved , That is all for today.

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[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Chennai

30th Sep 2020

Slot- 1230pm

VO: American

Duration: Hardly 3-4 mins

Entered the consulate and came back to the entrance in just 10 mins

Most of the VOs seem to be Americans in Chennai Consulate

Which university

Which course

Why this university

Have you been to US

Any international travel in last 14 days ?

Is any of your family member in US?

What visa is he in and where he is ?

When did you graduate ?

What have you been doing till then

What has been your annual salary ?

How many universities have you applied for?

What are they and abt admits ?

What will you do after completing your course?

About scholarships ?

Funds ?

When are you planning to travel ?

Are you aware of the local quarantine rules ?

Visa has been approved.

There is absolutely no queue in Chennai Consulate. I saw hardly 4 or 5 people giving the interview at that time otherwise it's totally empty.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My F1 Visa interview Experience

Consulate: Hyderabad

Date & Time: 29th September 2020 – 10:15 AM

Status: Approved

Intake: Fall -2020

University: The University of Texas at Dallas (Master’s in Business Analytics)

Total time: 40min

Interview duration: 10min

I reached the consulate by 9:00AM, they allowed me inside by 9:45AM. Went through initial scanning process, and then went to the interview counter (only 1 counter is operations (counter 12)), there were 2 students before me, and both of their Visas got approved. They just had 2 min interview all VO asked them was i20, why this program? What are your financials? Who is sponsoring you? And then scan you left hand for fingerprints and drop your passport in the box – Your visa got approved.

Visa Officer is around 30-35yr old guy Indo-American guy.

We must wear our masks during Visa interview.

Finally, it was my turn, I moved near to the counter -

Me: Good Morning sir, Hope you are having a good day.

VO: Good Morning, show me you DS-160 (asked me show through glass)

Me: Showed my DS-160

VO: Scanned it – then looked into the system for a min

VO: I see that you have been rejected for US visiting Visa before

Me: Yes sir.

VO: In 2018!

Me: Yes

VO: Along with your Mother!

Me: Yes, along with my mother and brother.

VO: Typed something in the system - Pass me your i20

Me: Passed

VO: He looked into the i20, then asked – why do you want to pursue Management Science

Me: I got enrolled into Business Analytics – and mentioned why the program name is mentioned as “Management Science and Quantitative Methods” in i20.

VO: OK, Why Business analytics?

Me: I wanted to specialize in Marketing analytics and Data Visualization, and these two are integral parts of Business Analytics and that is the reason I opted for Business Analytics.

VO: I just interviewed a guy with similar surname, and pursuing same program from same university, I feel that you guys are related.

Me: No sir, I don’t know him, it might be a coincidence.

VO: He also started the semester virtually, how come you guys don’t know each other when you are pursuing same course from same university?

Me: The university offers multiple courses and each course has multiple professors, and I think he might have enrolled into different courses or different professors and I never got the chance to meet him.

VO: Ok (with a smile), Do you have any siblings?

Me: Yes, I have a younger brother.

VO: What is he doing now?

Me: He will be pursuing his Master’s in computer science from Arizona State University, He recently got his F1 visa approved.

VO: Oh! Will you both settle in US after graduation?

Me: No sir, my goal is to become a successful entrepreneur, I am pursuing my master’s to gain expertise in my field of interests.

VO: How do you plan to become a successful entrepreneur?

Me: I have start up in mind.

VO: Tell me about your start up?

Me: Briefed him about the start up.

VO: How do you plan to start this start up?

Me: My financials are sound, also my family will support me financially.

VO: I am not asking about financials – I just wanted to know what is the procedure that you are going to follow while starting the start up.

Me: Took 5 seconds pause (Thinking in my mind why are you asking all these, just approve or reject), then told him that – we are group of 3 people who are in this together. One of them is already working in this field, me and the third person thought that it would be appropriate to start the start-up after gaining expertise. Also told him that – The 3rd guy is pursuing his MBA from IIM Bangalore.

VO: What is that person whom you mentioned working in this field doing?

Me: He is working on so and so application now which got implemented recently in so and so place and it is a success. (Thinking in mind – Please no more questions on this)

VO: What is your contribution in this?

Me: We are friends from Undergrade, and the start up came from the ideas that three of us put together. He is currently working one of the functions of our start-up and we plan to have around 10 function while starting the start-up.

VO: Oh! Can you mention any two other functions of your start-up?

Me: (Thinking – Just why?) – Mentioned 2 other functions which I made up totally on spot – but were related to start-up idea.

VO: Oh! those are some nice ideas you got! (Finally, VO seemed to be convinced)

Me: Thank you,

VO: What are your Financials?

Me: I have Education loan of XXX, FD of XXX, Savings of XXX.

VO: You and your brother both are pursuing masters, do you think your financials are sufficient?

Me: Me and my brother both have separate education loan of XXX, which can cover almost all the education and living expenses as per the amount mentioned in the i20. And if in case we were to incur any other expenses, we have FD and savings of XXX amount which my mother have them saved up for our education.

VO: What does your mother do?

Me: Answered.

VO: What’s her annual income?

Me: Answered.

VO: Typed something in the system. Then asked me to scan my right hand for fingerprints, ME: Scanned.

VO: Looked into the system and typed something again.

ME: (Although answered all the questions confidently, but lost hope as he asked these many questions and was looking blankly at him)

VO: Finally, looked at me and said – Well, Lokesh, drop your passport in the Box, your Visa is approved. All the best (Finally smiled)

Me: Thanking you very much sir.

My best advice would be - don’t lose hope, answer all the questions clearly and confidently about and maintain eye contact throughout the interview.

Hope this helps.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hey got my VISA Approved

Consulate: Hyderabad

Time:09:45

Date: 30 September 2020

VO asked me 4 questions:

1. Why computer Engineering?

2. I see you have been to the United States before.. Why?

3. Who is sponsoring you.?

4. What does your father do.?

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My Visa Experience:

Status - Approved

Intake - Spring'21

Date - 30th Sept

Location - Chennai

Slot - 12:30 pm

Pass me your passport and i20

1.Why have you chosen this university?

2. Have you planned in which subject your thesis would be related to?

3. When is your start date?

4. Have you worked or just graduated?

5. What are your plans after masters?

6. How will you be quarantining and for how many days?

7. Through which country you'll be flying?

Scanned my finger prints and said " I m approving your visa".

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*Copied from telegram\*

Date 22nd September

MSDS University of Alabama at Birmingham

Had interview today at Mumbai consulate

Visa rejected

Questions asked: Why this university?

How many Universities did I apply to?

Whats your dads income?

What does your father do?

How much liquid assets does your father possess?

Rejected.

The Mumbai consulate was empty, me and 2 other appointments thats it. My appointment was 12 midday, but i arrived 45 minutes early and they took me in as there was no waiting.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Interview Experience\*

Location:New Delhi

Appointment Date: 30 September 2020, 10:00 am

In Time: 9:30 am

Out Time: 10:15 am

Counter Number:3

Visa Officer: American Indian, looked like someone in hi 40s

Status: Approved

Me: Good Morning Officer, how are you doing today?

VO: Good Morning, I am doing great. Please pass me your passport and I20

Me: \*Passed\* Here you go sir.

VO: Oh USC...What are you going to study in the USC?

Me: Masters in Applied Data Science

VO: How are you going to fund your masters?

Me: My parents are sponsoring me. We have savings of around Rs XX

VO: What do your parents do?

Me: My dad is the executive director of R&D at Syngenta Biosciences Pvt Ltd and my mother is a housewife.

VO: When did you graduate?

Me: I graduated this year sir, in 2020

VO: Have you visited the US before? if yes for what

Me: Yes sir, Back in 2011 i visited the US for a space exploratory program through my school.

VO: Do you have any relatives in the US?

Me: Yes Sir, my brother is pursuing his undergraduate degree in the US currently.

VO: Great. \*Puts the passport in the basket\* I am approving your visa and keeping your passport. You'll get it in 5 days from now maximum. Please follow the 14 day Quarantine rule once you reach the US.

Me: Sure Sir I will and Thank you sir you made my day. I hope you have a great day ahead.

Vo: Thanks you too.

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[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Posting on behalf of a friend who’s not on Facebook

——

Hello everyone,

I am a 2020 Bachelors of Engineering (BTech) passout. My F1 visa got rejected on 09/29/2020 at Hyderabad Consulate. I was given the 214(b) slip.

Backstory: During my BTech 2nd year, I applied for Visiting Visa (in 2016) along with my parents to attend my sister’s grad walk ceremony. But my visiting visa was rejected based on 214(b).

F1 Visa experience, Hyderabad.

09/29/2020

VO: Hey man

Me: Good Morning sir

VO: show me your DS-160

Me: sure

VO: pass me your i20

Me: yes

( Passport not required)

VO: So, you've applied for visiting visa

Me: Yes sir nov 2016

VO: Applied alone?

Me: No sir along with my parents

VO: Tell me about your course

Me: Sir the univ has great coursework and provides me the flexibility to choose courses which aligns to my interest. Out of 30 15 credits can be choosen as electives, few of the courses like hci mobile application, cybersecurity which I'm looking to learning from the univ

VO: What are your plans after graduation

Me: I am planning on coming back to India as my parents are here. Also Few of my friends started e commerce page on social media. They are looking to take it a step ahead by forming an e commerce company, so I would like to join them and help them by designing websites and building the application

VO: How you're going to support the company

Me: ( I didn't understand the qstn, vo repeated it again) I know the prerequisites regading the mobile applications and how they can be implemented and working in the start-up company will boost my carrer

VO: When did your friends graduated

Me: One of my friend graduated in 2020 and my friend who is running the page is graduated in 2016.

VO: Have went out of country

Me: No sir

VO: any of your friends studying in us

Me: No sir.( Pause) No sir. They are planning now

VO: How you going to fund?

Me: explained, XX education loan amount & YY savings

VO: unfortunately you're not qualified this time

Me thank you

I am thinking to re apply for F1 visa. Please suggest what I can correct to get the visa.

Thank you in advance for your time.

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[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: F1 visa interview

Status: Approved

Location: Chennai consultate

Date:30-sep-2020

Duration 6-7 mins.

vo: passport

vo:which university?

Me: university of Texas at Arlington

vo: have u recently traveled to any country?

Me:no mam

vo:how many universities u applied?

3 Mam ,UTA,UTD and UNT

vo:what is your gre score?

Me:291 Mam

vo:how many admits?

2 mam, UNT and UTA

vo:why u have chosen Texas colleges?(because all my 3 colleges were from Texas)

Me:Mam, Texas has most of the top universities and also my sister resides in Texas with her family so initially i ll be staying with her for the first few weeks then I ll be moving to a place near my university

vo:what is ur sister doing and her visa type and how many years she is in US?

Me: told

vo: grauduation year and UG location?

Me:2019

vo:who is ur sponsor?

Me: told

vo: what is father doing and annual income?

Me:told

Vo:do u have any property?

Me:told

vo:Are u going to travel anywhere before going to US?

Me: no mam

vo: plans after graduation?

Me: Mam, if given a chance I would like to work on my opt period to gain practical exposure then I will be coming back to India and finding a job in the field of my interest and also will be taking care of my parents here.

No docs were asked except passport!

Sorry for the delay guys, was busy yesterday..

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My Visa Experience:

1st attempt

Status: Approved

Consulate: Kolkata

Slot: 30 September 2020 ; 8am

Single counter

In time: around 8.05 am

VO was a beautiful lady dressed in Indian attire🤩

Me : Good morning officer

VO: Good morning. Pass me your passport and I20

Passed

VO : So I see that you are going to University of North Texas and your major is Management sciences and Quantitative methods. Which course have you applied for?

Me : I'm persuing my masters in Business Analytics

VO : Why this course?

Me : Answered

VO : Have you applied for any other course?

Me : No mam, I have applied for this particular course only in different schools.

VO : How many schools did you apply for?

Me : 5

VO : How many admits did you get?

Me : 4

VO : What are your plans after graduation?

Me : I want to come back to India and apply for Data Analyst roles here.

VO : Perfect! How will you take care of your finaces?

Me : My father is funding me. He is a central govt officer. I have an approved education loan of $X and we have family savings of Rs. Y millions( I converted my savings in millions and told her and she had a question mark on her face😂 and asked me to convert in Crores). Converted the amount in crores and told her.

VO : Oh great! Where does he work?

Me : He works for Coal India as a Chief Manager

VO : In which department?

Me : E&M ( I don't know the full form and even she didn't ask😜 so was safe)

VO : Is he still working?

Me : Yes

VO : Have you travelled anywhere in last 2weeks?

Me : (Though I travelled to Hyd last week, didn't mention that) No mam, this is my only travel.

VO : How are you planning to quarantine yourself once you reach America?

Me : Mam as per the latest regulations, there is no mandatory quarantine for international passengers but I'm willing to isolate myself for 2.5weeks once I reach there.

VO : Excellent! Your visa is approved. Please take all necessary precautions. You'll get your passport in 3-4 working days.

Me : (Completely overwhelmed) Thankyou so muchhh mam. Have a great day!

VO : Thanks and you too!

The interview lasted for 3 mins roughly.

No other document except Passport and I20 were asked to produce.

\*Key points -

Have open conversation. Don't take it as a professional interview. Always have a pleasant smile on your face.

Last but not the least- Your Confidence speaks!!\*

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My Visa Experience:

Status - Approved

Intake - Spring'21

Date - 1st oct

Location - new delhi

Slot - 9:45 am

Pass me your passport and i20

1.Which university?

2. Which course?

3.when did you graduate?

4. What's your undergrad major?

5. Who is sponsoring you and what's does your father do?

6.what is your gre score and tofel/IELTSl?asked me to show documents

7. What will you do after masters?

Scanned my finger prints and said " I m approving your visa".

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*Forwarded\*

Date: 1st Oct 2020

Location: New Delhi

Time: 12:15

College: neu

I reached at 11am and they let me in. There were only 4 other people for appointments. I barely waited 10 sec they asked me to stand in line. The student ahead was just rejected. That made me very nervous and was asked to come to the counter.

Questions:

1. Where are you going?

2. Why neu?

3. Who is sponsoring you?

4. What do your parents do?

5. Asked me for financial docs.

6. What are your plans after masters.

Then they asked to keep my left hand fingers on scanner and as I did I heard the golden words 'your visa has been approved.' and kept my passport.

Tip: Don't try to over think much and answer things truthfully. It won't matter if you fumble once due to nervousness but don't let them think that you are making up stories they will get to know.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hey share my visa experience

F1 Visa Interview Experience

Location: New Delhi

Status: Approved

Slot: 11:00am

Duration: 2-3 minutes

VO was an American Guy.

VO: Please pass your passport and I20.

Me: Passed.

VO: Which course are you going to pursue in United States?

Me: Masters in Management Information System.

VO: How many universities have you applied to?

Me: I have applied to 3 universities. Out of them, I have got 2 admits and 1 reject.

VO: Can you name other universities in which you have applied?

Me: It’s University of Florida and University of Buffalo.

VO: Who is sponsoring your education?

Me: My father will be sponsoring my education. However, I have got scholarship of 3000USD as Graduate Incentive Award.

VO: What does your father do ?

Me: He is a Senior Chief Supervisor at Mechanical Engineering Department in Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

VO: Scan your left hand’s finger. Congratulations, I am approving your visa. Make sure you follow the quarantine rules.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Interview Experience

Location: Kolkata

Date: 30th September, 2020

Time Slot: 9:00 am

In Time: 8:55 am

Out Time: 9:05 am

Status: Approved

Visa officer: An American lady in her mid 30s

Me: Good Morning Officer

VO: Good Morning. Please use the sanitizer and place your right hand fingers on the Biometrics Scanner

( I did as I was asked)

VO: Please pass me your passport and I-20 ( She simultaneously asked me to remove my facemask for verification )

VO: Why this stream ? ( I am going for MS in Statistics )

Me: Officer I have been working as a Data Analyst for last 5.5 years. I feel like I lack foundational Skills in Statistics which is a core aspect of my job. I am bridging that gap by pursuing this course

VO: What all places have you worked at ?

Me: Officer I started my career as a decision scientist in Mu Sigma based out of Bangalore. After spending 3 years there I switched jobs and I am currently work for a Company named Epsilon registered as Conversant Softwares and Campaign management solutions ( I added the last part so that it might be easier for her to verify that bit of detail if she was doing so in the background )

VO: Very good. How many courses did you apply to?

Me: Officer I applied to 7 courses in total. I got admitted to 3 and rejected in 4

VO: What were your admits ?

Me: Officer I got admitted to the following: University Illinois Urbana Champaign, University of Texas at Dallas, Illinois Institute of Technology Chicago

VO: Great. How are you funding your education ?

Me: Officer I am self funding my education. I have an education loan of around xx USD from Prodigy Finance. I will be supplmenting it with my own saving worth xx USD and my father has agreed to pitch in xx USD ( total amount that I told was close to 1.5 time the amount mentioned in my I-20 )

VO: What are your plans after education ?

Me : Officer I plan to work as a Data Scientist in the Pharma Sector.

VO: Why Pharma Sector ?

Me: Officer with the current situation that is going on I feel that we need a lot of good people working in the Pharma Sector and try to reduce administrative load on our healthcare workers. Also there is a lot of work to be done in optimizing the global supply chain and manufacturing of medicinal drugs

VO: Great. What does your father do ?

Me: He works with the police department of Jharkhand State government

VO: Is he an IPS ?

Me: No officer. He is an Inspector

VO: what is his yearly income ?

Me: His gross salary ranges between xx-xx lakhs INR

VO: Did you show any collateral for the loan ?

Me: No officer I did not have to show any collateral for the loan

VO : Any additional savings that you have ?

Me: officer I have xx lakhs of non liquid assets in terms of Public Provident Fund and xx lakhs worth of immovable property located in my hometown ( I was not audible here, she double checked the number with me. So I had to repeat the second number again)

VO: Great. Will you be traveling anywhere in the next 15 days ?

Me: No officer

VO: Are you aware of the quarantine rules when you arrive in the US ?

Me: Yes officer. I know that I have to quarantine for 14 days on my arrival into the US

VO: Where will you be quarantined ?

Me: Officer I have a friend working in the US. I will be quarantining at his place (this was the same guy I had mentioned in my DS-160 as my POC in the US) .

VO : What does your friend do ?

Me: He is working as a Data Analyst in Capital One

VO: Okay. I am approving your visa. Have a good day

Me: Thanks. Have a good day ahead

(Things which help in F1 Visa Interview:

1) Being very objective and to the point in your answers

2) Know your financial numbers in and out

3) Have a coherent story

4) Do not lie

5) Be confident

6) Greet the officer when you come for the interview and greet him/her before leaving no matter what the result is

)

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[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*VISA INTERVIEW EXPERIENCE\*

I reached the consulate at 9:10 am and I'd my phone with me because everyone told me there is a counter outside the embassy to submit the phones and bags. I reached the counter but it was closed because recently one phone got stolen or misplaced. So I requested the military guards to take my phone for 20-25 min but they were refusing at first but I told them that I've an appointment scheduled at 9:30am and travelled all the way from Lucknow so they did. First I've gone through a security check then they told me to move to the hall where the benches were placed and they asked us to sit in a row wise manner at that point of time I was really nervous because I was first in the queue. Then they called the first row which was mine and ask us to enter in the embassy where the counters are. I went inside and there were interviews going on. we were asked again to take a seat and come one by one for the interview.

Visa Experience

Timings: 9:30 am

Consulate: New Delhi

Date: 28th September for VAC & 29th September for Visa Interview

Status: Approved

VO was a bald guy at counter no. 8 and he gave me time to explain myself at every question.

Me: Good morning Sir!

VO: Good morning! Pass me your passport and I- 20 please

Me: I gave him my Pass and I- 20

VO (Started Typing): Why are you going to UIC?

Me: I am going to pursue my MS in Medical Biotechnology.

VO (Still Typing): Why UIC?

Me: It offers me a program which is really flexible in terms of 1 year coursework and 2nd year Research Project/Coursework with internship. It's a research oriented program with various core electives to choose so It also allows me to tailor the program according to my research interest.

VO (Stopped Typing): How many Universities you applied to?

Me: I applied to three Universities which are UTD, ASU and UIC. (~Tell the full name of the universities) and I got admits from ASU and UIC

Vo: Great! What are you going to do in medical biotechnology?

Me: I explained him about my past research experiences and further I want to focus on my research career in the field of cancer biology and gene editing.

VO: Have you ever been outside of your country?

Me: No

VO: Do you have any relatives in USA?

Me: No

VO: Who's sponsoring you?

Me: I have taken an education loan of amount xx lacs and my father is also going to sponsor me for my education.

Vo: What does your father do?

Me: He is working as xx post in xx Bank, which is a government bank.

Vo: Place your left hand fingers.

Me: Done

VO: Do you know about the quarantine rules?

Me: yes sir! 14 days quarantine on arrival.

VO: Good! I'm approving your visa. Wish you all the best.

Me: (With a very big smile) Thank you so much and Have a great day!

It went so smooth and I wasn't expecting this because I had a gap year but I was very well prepared for it. He didn't asked me for my gre or any other documents other than passport and I-20. All I want to say keep looking at VO and answer in a very confident manner.

Pro Tip~ Idk who started this to wear formals during the visa interview but anyways I believe wear what you can carry don't sweat it out there wear comfortable clothes (not the party wears and funky one's) look decent. I was wearing a jeans and a shirt with white sneakers.

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[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: F1 visa interview

Status: Approved

Location: Mumbai consultate

Date: 1 Oct 2020 @ 8.40 am

Duration 1-2 mins.

\*I'm going for Industrial Engineering at the North Carolina State University, Raleigh.\*

My OFC was on 30 sept 2020- Fingerprints taken, Photograph taken, Stamped on DS-160 and applied a sticker on Passport.

(My OFC was at 12.40, however I reached at 9 and got it done in 5 mins. There is no queue, so you guys can plan accordingly)

Docs req for OFC

1) Passport

2) I-20

3) DS-160

4) Interview appointment letter

5) Visa fee payment receipt

6) Sevis fee payment receipt

Consular interview on 1st Oct 2020

(American guy in his late 20's)

The candidate befoe me got rejected simply because she was not giving specific answers to questions and was fumbling a lot, shows your preparation and confidence level

Me: Good Morning Sir, how are you doing today?

VO: Good

VO: Pass me your Passport, I-20, and Sevis fee receipt

Me: Sure sir

VO: How many universities did you apply to?

Me: I had applied to 6 universities

VO: How many admits did you receive?

Me: I have received 3 admits namely North Carolina State University, State University of New York at Buffalo, Texas tech University with scholarship

VO: Great, is your father working?

Me: Yes Sir

VO: What does he do?

Me: He works as a professor in a state government institute

VO: What is his annual salary?

Me: Told

VO: Is your mom working?

Me: Yes Sir

VO: What does she do?

Me: She works as an assistant professor at Pune University

VO: What is her annual income?

Me: Told

VO: What is your plan after masters?

Me: If given a good opportunity, I would like to work in the US for a year, gain work skills, come back to India and apply for Industrial Engineer or Supply Chain Engineer positions. My master's degree will help me stand out

VO: (satisfactory nod) What did you undergraduate in?

Me: I graduated from Pune University in June 2019

VO: In?

Me: Mechanical Engineering

VO: (started typing for about 30 seconds, felt like 3 hours) You will receive your passport at Pune. Your visa is approved. Please take the i20 and white slip

Me: Thank you so much Sir

Here are some tips

1)Be confident, how?

-Dress smartly and decently ( I was wearing light blue formal shirt , formal pant and laced black shoes)

- Keep your Documents ready and up to date

- VO are there to grant the visa, do not get distracted by other people rejection. Believe in yourself

- Prepare the common answers beforehand to avoid fumbling and be ready for surprises and interruptions

(Be prepared if the VO says , "That's a scripted answer, tell me something else")

-if possible, reach early and go in early

Facts

-They are not approving everyone's visa.

- Your visa approval does not depend on anyone ,but you.

VO are trained to treat each candidate on a personal level

So STOP getting distracted and finding out possibilities of your visa approval when you're there, Believe in yourself and you're good to go!!

All the best for your visa

Attached is the list of docs I carried for visa interview.

Note - CA statements are not required and property papers are not encouraged. They hardly have time to check the docs. However you can carry it if it makes you more confident .

Cheers🥂

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Interview Experience

Location: New Delhi

Date: 1 October 2020

Time Slot: 11:15 am

Status: Approved

Visa officer: An American guy in his mid 30s.

Me: Good Morning Sir

VO: Good Morning. Please pass me your passport and i20.

Me: (Passed the documents)

VO: Why are you going to US?

Me: Sir, I got an admit in MS in CS from UTA, it's a 2 year, non-credit, thesis based program, I'll be majoring in ML and AI, along with cybersecurity. I wish to work under the guidance of prof. XX, who's a machine learning expert and Sir YY, who's a cybersecurity specialist. The course offered by UTA pretty much matches to my interest and the university provides wide exposure and diversity, also the tution is quite cheaper as compared to the other universities, so I've choosen UTA to pursue my master's from.

PS - I know this was a long answer, but I tried to be precise and cover all the aspects not to get questioned for the same area again.

VO: Ok, and what are your plans after graduating?

Me: I wish to come back to India and serve in the defense sector of my country as a computer scientist and cybersecurity expert.

VO: How many universities did you apply to?

Me: Sir, I applied to 9 universities out which I got admit from 5 (I named all the universities I got an admit from).

VO: Have you travelled to US before?

Me: No sir.

VO: How are you funding your education?

Me: So, the amount mentioned on my i20 is $xxxxx, my first year sponsor is my mother, she's a dean and prof. in a Govt. University, her annual package is YYY/pa. For second year I've immovable assets, which worth around $XXX thousand dollars, which is way above the amount mentioned on my i20, so that will suffice my stay in the US.

VO: Have recently travelled to any other country?

Me : No sir.

VO: Are you aware of the quarantine rules when you arrive in the US ?

Me: Yes sir, I have to quarantine myself for 14 days on my arrival into the US and then get myself tested for covid in the nearest hospital.

VO : Do you have any relatives or friends in the US?

Me: No sir.

VO: (After typing for around 15 seconds) . Ok I am approving your visa. Have a good day.

Me: Thanks a lot sir, have a great day.

VO: You too, good luck!

Important Points to remember:

1) Know your financial and course details perfectly.

2) Confidence is the key, trust me its nothing but a normal conversation between you and the visa officer.

There's nothing to get nervous about.

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[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience: 1-Oct-20

Location: New Delhi

Appointment time: 10:30 (Entered at 9:30, Out at 9:40)

University: Stony Brook University

Course: MS CS

Status: Approved

Me: Good Morning Officer.

VO: Good Morning. I would require your Passport and I20. Pass it on and put your right hand fingers on the scanner.

VO: Why this particular school?

Me: Told about the ranking and how the course work aligns my interest.

VO: How many universities did you apply to and from where all did you get the admits from?

Me: Told the number and named them.

VO: Oh, you have admits from UC Davis and Rutgers, They are great schools. Why not them?

Me: Told again about the course work and named 2 professors and the research going under them.

VO: Why particularly Computer Science?

Me: Told

VO: I see the amount mentioned in your i20 is XX per year, How are you going to fund your education?

Me: Parents are sponsoring + Loan of XX lacs

VO: Parents annual income?

Me: Told

Typing for 20 secs.

VO: I am approving your VISA, make sure you follow the quarantine rules.

Me: Sure Sir, Thanks

https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2779873522235630/

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*Couple of Points:\*

1. I've been receiving a lot of DMs regarding non-availability of slots. Unfortunately, the slots are limited and they are getting filled as soon as they are made available. My only suggestion/trick is to make a small group of upto 10 people who are looking for slots at a particular consulate. In this way you can divide time among yourself, check for slots round the clock one by one and share the availability with others in the group after booking your own slot. This will help you to prevent your account from getting freezed for 72 hours.

2. If you have recently experienced a rejection, please write down your experience and forward to me. This will help everyone preparing in a better way for the interview. Privacy will be protected as per the request.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Interview Experience

Location: New Delhi

Date: 5 October 2020

Time Slot: 10 am slot

Status: Approved

Course : Management Science

University : University of Texas at Dallas

Visa officer: An American guy in his mid 30s.

Me: Good Morning Sir

VO: Good Morning. Please pass me your passport and i20

VO: What course are you going to study

Me: I will be pursuing masters in Management Science and I'll be majoring in business analytics.

Why UTD?

UTD provides me the course flexibility and leeway to choose courses from any of the management domains. After gaining and learning these skills, I want to use my undergraduate knowledge ( computer science ) to bridge the gap between technology and management.

VO: What colleges did you apply to?

Me: I applied to 1 univ in the US, 2 in Canada and 4 in the UK

VO: Could you name the universities of UK and Canada?

Me: Named them

VO: Where do you plan to work after completing your education?

Me: I plan to work in the analytics division of a consultancy firm.

VO: How are you funding your education?

Me: I've taken a loan from HDFC Credilla for xx amount. Apart from that, my father will also support me. He has savings of around xx rupees.

VO: What does your father do?

Me : Told

VO: Have you ever been to the US?

Me: No sir.

VO: Took my passport and placed it in a basket and after about 15-20 seconds

Your visa has been approved.

Me: Thanks a lot sir and have a nice day.

VO: You too, good luck!

Always remember

1) Stay calm and don't panic.

2) Be confident.

3) The first point again

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Interview Experience

Location: Kolkata

Date: 5 October 2020

Time Slot: 9 am slot

Status: Approved

Course : Business Analytics (Management Sciences and Quantitive Methods)

University : University of Texas at Dallas

Visa officer: An American woman in her late 20s.

Me: Good Morning Maam

VO: Good Morning. Please pass me your passport and i20

Me: passed

VO: So I see you are going to purse Maters from UTD in Management Sciences , why this particular course?

Me: Yes Maam, I will be pursuing my masters in Business Analytics which comes under the major of Management Sciences. I am really interested in the field of analytics and data science and want to enhance my skills and knowledge in this field. Also while working for Deloitte, I got a chance to create interactive dashboards and reports which helped the clients in extracting meaningful insights and thus taking business critical decisions. Realising this importance of data, generated my interest in the field. (VO was constantly typing on the computer and just nodding)

VO: Who is going to sponsor you?

Me: Maam, my parents are primarily going to sponsor me and I also have some savings of my own.

VO: What does your father do?

Me: Told that he is a central government employee

VO: What is his annual salary?

Me: Told annual as well as monthly salary

VO: What is your family’s total savings?

Me: Told the amount (approx 1.5 times of I-20). Also said that these savings are in the form of FD, RD, PPF, bank balance, and immovable property

VO: What are your plan after masters?

Me: If given the opportunity I would like to utilise my opt to get hands on experience in the field of analytics and then come back to India and work here at a senior role in a reputed company

VO: When did you complete your graduation?

Me : Told

VO: How long have you been working with Deloitte?

Me: Told

VO: Are you aware about the quarantine rules of the university?

Me: Yes Maam, I am aware that I need to quarantine for 14 days

VO: I am passing you your I-20 back.

Your visa has been approved and you will get it back in 3-5 business days

Me: Thank you so much Maam. Have a nice day (with a big smile😁)

Points to keep in mind:

1) Keep smilingly

2) Be confident

3) Try to make eye contact while answering

Good luck!

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Interview Experience

Location: New Delhi

Date: 5 October 2020

Time Slot: 11 m slot

Status: Approved

Course : MS data science and business analytics

University : UNCC charlotte

Visa officer: An American guy in his mid 30s.

Me: Good Morning Sir

VO: Good Morning. Please pass me your passport and i20

VO: What course are you going to study

Me: I will be pursuing masters in Data science and business analytics

Why UNCC?

UNCC flagship program of professional science masters and ambition to get into the field of risk modelling in an investment bank based in india

VO: What colleges did you apply to?

Me: named all 5

VO: when did you complete your under grad?

Me: 2014 and 2015-2017 did mba

VO: Why MS if Mba is already done?

Me: mba was majoring in finance and ms would help me to get technical knowledhe and grab an oppurtunity to work in india and this is the right time .

VO: How are you funding your education?

Me: parenst and personal savings

VO: What does your parenst do?

Me : Told ( didn't ask income)

VO: Have you ever been to the US?

Me: No sir.

VO: any relative or friends?

Me: distant aunt and she stays at home

VO: scan your fingers

Vo: Visa has been approved.

Always remember

1) Stay calm and don't panic.

2) Be confident.

3) The first point again

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience:

Consulate: Chennai

Date: 05 October 2020

Status: Approved

I presented myself in formal wear matched with a nice pair of shoes. I was waiting at the counter and there was an on-going interview.

The VO was a middle aged American lady.

When my turn came, the officer called me to the counter.

Me: Good morning Mam! How are you doing?

VO: Good Morning!! I’m doing good! How are you?

Me: I am doing good too. Thanks for asking Mam!

VO: Please pass me your Passport and i-20.

Me: Here they are!

VO: So, you’re going to MS in Computer Engineering is it?

Me: Yes!

VO: When did you graduate Sir?

Me: I have graduated in 2015.

VO: What were you doing since then?

Me: I have been working with a company called XXXXXX.

VO: So why are you going now for Master’s?

Me: After joining the current workplace, I have developed a passion towards this subject and decided to pursue higher studies in this domain.

VO: Do you have any other admits sir?

Me: Yes Mam. I have applied to a total of 7 universities.

VO: What are your other admits sir?

Me: Do you want me to name them?

VO: Yes!

Me: I have gotten admitted to Rochester Institute of Technology, New York University Tandon, Syracuse University, Colorado State University, University at Buffalo, University of Maryland Baltimore County

VO: You have very good admits, so why this university?

Me: The research areas and coursework align with my areas of interest.

VO: Which is?

Me: Wireless Network Engineering

VO: Oh!! Wireless Network Engineering ! Great

Me: Yes Mam!

VO: How are you funding your education?

Me: I have a sanctioned loan of XX USD from leap finance

VO: I see you have a tuition waiver. Is that need based financial aid or scholarship?

Me: It is a Merit based scholarship Mam.

VO: Have you traveled out of India in the last 14 days?

Me: No Mam!

VO: So, are you going to transit in any other country?

Me: No Mam, I am planning to take a direct flight (At this moment, I understood my visa is approved!)

VO: How will you quarantine after reaching?

Me: I will book a hotel and quarantine myself as per the regulations

VO: Please place your fingers on the bio-metric sensor sir!

Me: Sure Mam

VO: Thank you sir! Your visa has been approved. You will be able to collect your Passport within 5 days from now.

Me: Thanks a lot Mam! Have a good day ahead.

VO: You too sir!

My interview appointment was at 9:30 am morning and I entered the embassy at 9:20 AM.

I stayed confident and had a smile on my face throughout the interview. The VO gave a very positive vibe from the time I greeted her. Overall, it was a good experience.

I personally feel confident in formal clothing so that helped in my case to remain confident. Wear whatever you’re comfortable in.

Staying confident is the key.

All the best to every one of you here!!😊😊

https://www.facebook.com/groups/528702511153350/permalink/618021528888114/

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Interview Experience

Location: Mumbai

Date: 5 October 2020

Time Slot: 9:50 am

Only two counters were active:- 34 & 36

Visa officer: An American Man in his mid 30s.

Me: Good Morning Sir

VO: Good Morning. Please pass me your passport, Sevis Fee Receipt and i20.

Me: (Passed the documents)

VO: Why are you going to US?

Me: To pursue masters in Construction Engg from Purdue University WL.

VO: Tell me about your undergrad?

Me: I did my undergrad from NIITK with gpa of 8.43 on a scale of 10

VO: How many universities did you apply to?

Me: I applied to 7 universities in total.

VO: (Following question) And how many you got an admit from?

Me: I got admits from all 7 universities.

VO: Wow! Thats great.

Me:- Thank You Sir.

VO: How are you funding your education?

Me: I Am among the priviledged students of Minority community, wherein Govt. Of Karnataka will pay my tution fees and living expenses (Passed him Scholarship intimation letter). Along with that my dad has saved about Rs 15 Lakhs for my education. Also, for backup I have taken education loan of about 20lakhs.

VO: What are your plans for quarantine?

Me: I have spoke to two of my seniors at Purdue, who will he helping me to find a hotel where I’ll quarantine myself for 15days.

VO: You have got great profile. I am approving your VISA. All the best & Good Luck

Me:- Thank You So Much. You Made My Day.

VO : Also do carry your documents Sevis Fee receipt & I20 at port of entry.

Me: Sure sir.

Carry Urself Formally, Look Up, Smile & Be Confident.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hey. Just sharing my F1 visa experience.

Location : Mumbai

Date of Appointment: 5th October

Appointment Time : 11am

Status : Approved

I reached an hour before my appointment but they let me in as there was no crowd.

Only documents they asked for were my passport, I-20 and the SEVIS Fee receipt.

The questions they asked were:

Which university are you attending ?

How many universities did you apply to ?

How many admits did you get ?

How are you planning on funding your education ?

Have you traveled anywhere over the past month ?

What are your plans for quarantine ?

Got done in about 5 minutes.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My Visa Experience

OFC on 1st Oct 2020

Consulate: Hyderabad

Consular appointment today.

Duration: 5-7 minutes

1. Have you been to the US before?

2. Asked me to show all my Undergraduate memos.

3. Tell me something about the program (MIS)

4. Who will fund your education and what does your parents do and tell me about their annual income?

5. Quarantine plans?

6. Do you have any siblings?

7. Why do you want to do Masters?

8. Are you done with your graduation?

Had my consular slot on 8:15 AM. I was allowed in at 8 am. Thry made us sit till 9 am and we were only 5 people for the first slot. The first 2 people got 221g.

Visa officer is a Chinese woman & 30-40 yrs old.

I told her why do I want to do Masters and she said it doesn't make sense, I even tried to add up more but she cut me short. One of the worst nightmare u will have is to understand chinese english. She had a mask and a face shield and I had to ask around 3-4 qsns twice or thrice.

At the end she told me that my visa is approved and I couldn't understand that but she said that my visa is approved in my native language😂.

I would say better skip hyd consulate cause a lot of rejections are happening recently. And I'd say make her laugh with funny answers which I did and great her a little differently when compared to others.

Like "Good morning officer, how are you doing" rather than good morning officer

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My F1 Visa Interview Experience:

Consulate: Hyderabad

Term: Spring'21

Status: Visa Approved 😁😁😁

6th October : Visa Interview

Slot: 8:15 AM

I have reached the Consulate by 7:30 AM, but I was told by the security guard they will allow only after 8:00 AM. There were 5 people including me for the 8:15 AM slot. I was second in the queue.

They checked my passport, DS 160 Confirmation page, Appointment confirmation page first before the gate.

Then my passport was checked before opening the gate and letting me in.

I proceeded to complete the security checks, the lady before me in the queue was going for UNT and she was being interviewed before me, I was standing a little away from her, but behind her. She was asked about her loan (which she said was 20Lakhs).. The VO was a lady in late 20's or mid 30's ( I couldn't figure that out) , VO asked the lady to show the point on the loan document where it's written 'SECURED' (since she mentioned that it was a secured loan).. The UNT lady was searching...but couldn't find it somehow, the VO was fine with it and approved her visa after asking some more casual questions.

My Interview:

VO: Next please

Me: stepped up

VO: Good morning!!!😁

Me: Good Morning! 😊

VO: Please show me your i20

VO (murmuring): okay... Arizona State University.. okay... Information technology...

VO: So, in which year have you passed out?

Me: I have passed out in 2018.

VO: what's your UG score?

Me: it's 86.3%

VO: So, you have been working for Collins Aerospace??? That's cool and why do you want to leave a good MNC and go for masters now? What is the change you'd get if you complete masters?

Me: So, I work as an SAP ABAP technical consultant at Collins Aerospace.. ABAP is going to be dissolved in less that 5 years and I would want to update my skills and become a techno-functional consultant.. ( VO looked satisfied)

VO: Funding plans?

Me: my parents are sponsoring me and also I have an education loan

VO: what does your father do and what's his income?

Me: He is the managing director and managing partner for \*\*\*\*\*\* from 18 years and his income is around 7Lakhs (VO gave a confused expression as if that wouldn't be sufficient or something like that... Looking at her I was tensed and told that my mom is also working)

Me: my mother is also working

VO: oh really? What does she do? And what's her income?

Me: she is insurance agent and she earns about 5L per annum.. so they together earn around 12L..

VO: oh!! Thats alright then

VO: fingerprints of your right hand please..also quarantine plans?

Me: I have contacted the student council of ASU and they would provide me a list of motels where

I can quarantine myself for 14 days..

VO: great!! Your visa is approved and drop it in that wooden box..

Me: thankyouuu!! ☺️

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My visa experience

Spring ‘21

Date - 6th October

Location- Delhi

Time -8:45 Am

Status - Rejected

(Lynn university)

My visa got rejected in march 2020 and I applied again with the same university.

Show me your i20 and passport.

Questions:

Which all university have you applied to?

How did you know about the universities?

Did you did any intern, for how long, what was your position during the intern?

Who’ll be sponsoring you?

Plans after completing the degree?

And the VO told , you’ve got rejected once right? And told me that she’s going to reject again and gave me the same 214b paper.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Pls find my visa experience below.

F1 Visa interview for Spring 21

Date - 5th October 2020

Time - 11am

Status - Approved

VO - Good morning

Me - very good morning

Vo - Pass me your passport and i20

me - did

VO - Last education

Me - BE. Electronics and telecommunication from University of Mumbai

VO - What does your father do?

Me - told

VO - Mother?

Me - told

VO - Income?

Me - told

VO - any loan?

Me - yes.

VO - Tell me the loan amount

Me - I have taken loan from Prodigy Fi....(interrupted me)

VO - Just tell me the amount.

Me - told.

Typing on the system for next 10 secs, verified my biometrics.

VO - Your Visa is approved. Have a nice day.

Me - Thank you, you too.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: VISA EXPERIENCE

Mumbai Consulate

Interview date: 6th October

I was in formal attire and VO seems 25 years old.

ME: Good morning officer, how are you doing today?

VO: Good

VO: Which university are you heading to?

ME: University of Texas arlington

VO: Which Course?

ME: MS. Industrial engineering

VO: How many universities did you apply?

ME: Four 1. UTA where I am heading to 2. Western Michigan university 3. New Jersey institute of technology 4. Northeastern university boston where I got rejection.

VO: So you got 3 admits?

ME:Yes.

VO: Have you travelled to USA before?

ME: No.

VO: Do you have any relatives in USA?

ME: Yes.

VO: What she is doing?

ME: Told.

VO: who is going to fund you?

ME: My parents, as they are having xx lacs of savings, on the top of that yy lacs of annual income along with zz lacs, I believe so these will be enough, still if anything goes wrong in the future they are having XX amount of fixed assests.

VO: What they are doing for living? ( I asked him to repeat thrice as I wasn't able to get his words. He simply repeated) and also he made the constant eye contact with me as I was fumbled a bit.

ME: however manged and Told.

VO: How are you planning to quarantine yourself for 14 days?

ME: My university is provinding facilities, So I would be utilizing the same.

VO: sanitize your hand and put your right hand four fingers. I am approving your visa.

ME: Thank you so much! have a nice day ahead.

NOTE: VO already put my passport in basked before asking last 2 questions.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1110882855935338/permalink/1250892931934329/

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: VO: amount of loan you're taking?

Me: 40L

VO: secured?

Me: No, unsecured..

VO gave a scary look...

Me: They have considered my credentials and also the university I am going for so they've offered me a non-collateral loan(tip: never say that we wantedly took it)

Also they haven't asked me for any documents

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*Forwarded\*

Visa experience (approved)

Date : 06/10/20. 9:45

Consulate : Hyderabad

University : SUNY Albany

VO is a young lady in mid 30s .

She greeted first as I didn’t go forward since the previous applicant is not out of the line yet.

VO: Good morning , how are you doing ?

Me: Good morning mam (smiling face ) , I am doing great . Thank you How are you mam ?

VO : Doing good , show me your passport

Me : Have shown through a glass window

V0: show me the back bar code for scanning

Me: showed the back bar code through the glass

VO: please show your i20 through the glass .

Me: showed it , she read the university name and course

VO : well .. you are going for Applied mathematics ??

Me : yes mam . Actually it is masters in data science with major as applied mathematics.

VO : that’s great . What do you know about applied mathematics ???

Me : It is applying the mathematics in other fields like science and engineering ( interrupted )

Vo : so who is funding you ?

Me : my father is funding me mam , apart from his savings we do have education loan approved ...(interrupted)

Vo : What is he ?

Me : He runs a business and we do have agricultural lands which generate additional income .

Vo : Annual income together ??

Me : xx lakh

Vo: what is your mother ?

Me : she is a home maker mam .

Vo: can you show me your loan statement through the window ?

Me : sure mam, ( showed it through the window )

Vo : is it secured or unsecured ?

Me : it’s an unsecured loan mam ( interrupted ,)

Vo: how did you get unsecured loan ?

Me : the bank has offered us the loan based on my credentials and previous loan repayment history .

Vo : previous ? What did you take loans earlier ?

Me : car and home loan mam.

Vo: do you have any siblings ?

Me : yes mam I have elder sister .

Vo : what is she doing ?

Me : ma’am , she is working as hr recruiter .

Vo : where is she working ?

Me : Wipro ma’am .

Vo : do you know the quarantine rules ?

Me : told the 14 day quarantine rule

Vo: did you travel anywhere in past 2 weeks ?

Me: no mam .

Vo : do you have a suit ??

Me : mam ??? Could you repeat again ?

Vo : showed her suit and told your visa is approved and present your self in suit at the university .

Me : thank you so much mam .

Vo : please drop your passport in the box and stay safe .

Me : sure ma’am , thank you .

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Pls find my visa experience below-

F1 Visa interview for Spring 21 UTD MSBA

Consulate - New Delhi

Date - 6th October 2020

Time - 9 am

Status - Approved

Vo - Pass me your passport and i20

1)Tell me why this college, this course and why masters now?

2) How many admits?

3) Why UTD and not the other university?

4) Have you been to US?

5) How will you sponser your education?

6) What does you father do?

7) What is his annual income?

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Spring 21

Location- mumbai

Slot alloted- 10.50

Entered at 10.35 and my interview was over in less than 2 minutes

Status- approved

The VO was a white guy in his mid 30s

Good morning. Pass your passport and i20

1. What did you do your undergraduate degree in

Ans: Computer Science Engineering, graduated in 2015

2. What was your work experience?

And: I have a 5 year work experience. 4 years as a team lead for Fraud risk management in amazon and 1 year as an sap consultant in NTT data.

3. What does your father do?

Ans: He is a manager in a construction firm.

Congratulations your visa has been approved.

And he gave me a white slip.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Place : Chennai

Date: Oct 5th , 11:30 am

Status : Approved

Note: My visa slot was at 11:30 am but was called in early around 10:45.Two other applicants before me were rejected maybe because they were fumbling alot.

Tips: As most of them already said, stay confident and maintain eye contact.

Questions asked :

1. Why this University ?(he cut me and went to the next question while I was answering)

2. What’s your GRE score?

3. Any backlogs ?

4. How many universities did you apply?

5. Who is sponsoring you?

6. What’s your father doing?

Docs asked : i20 and Passport.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My F1 Visa Interview Experience:

Consulate: Mumbai

Term: Spring'21

Status: Approved

7th October : Visa Interview

Slot: 10:00 AM

I had reached the consulate extremely early at around 8:30AM, but the security guard told me to come 15-20 minutes before my interview slot. I went to the gate again at around 9:30AM and he allowed me in.

A lady checked my Passport outside the consulate and scanned the barcode that was stuck on the back of my passport during biometrics.

Once I entered the consulate, I went through a preliminary security check and then a guard told me to keep my passport, i20 and I-901 payment receipt on top (told me to keep everything else in the folder).

I was told to proceed to the counter, initially an officer asked me for my passport, i20 and i901, checked it and then gave it back. I was then told to go on another counter for interview.

Interview:

Me: Good Morning, how are you doing?

VO: ignored the question and went somewhere for around 5 minutes.

After he came back,

Me: Good Morning

VO: Good Morning, could you pass me your passport, i20 and Sevis receipt?

Me: Sure (and gave the documents)

VO: What did you do your bachelors in?

Me: I have a B.Tech in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering.

VO: What was your GPA?

Me: 3.5/4.0

VO: (Looked at my i20, and asked me what major am I going to pursue)

Me: I plan to pursue a Masters in Robotics & Autonomous Systems.

VO: What is your specialisation?

Me: Artificial Intelligence.

VO: What For?

Me: (I didn’t understand what he was asking, so I asked him to repeat)

VO: AI for what, in what context?

Me: AI, in particular Computer Vision and Machine Perception for Autonomous driving / aerial systems

VO: What is your plan after graduation?

Me: I want to pursue a Ph.D in this field.

VO: What does your father do?

Me: He is a scientific officer at BARC and makes XX amount per year

VO: okay, how will you quarantine yourself in Arizona?

Me: I plan to go at least 3 weeks before the start of my classes, and I plan to book a hotel for the first few days.

VO: okay, your visa is approved. Have a nice day.

Me: thank you, have a nice day.

All I observed was that there’s not a lot you can do on the interview day. They usually screen and profile you much before the interview and the decision is made even before you enter the consulate. However, show confidence, stay calm and have a smile on your face, it’ll surely make an impression on the VO.

If possible go a bit early. If there isn’t a long queue, they will allow you a bit early. My appointment scheduled for 10AM, but I was outside the building with everything done by 9:58.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Place : Mumbai

Date: Oct 7th , 10:00 AM

Status : Approved😊

Note: My visa slot was of 10:00 am but I got in early around 8:30. One applicants before me was rejected don’t know why

The Visa officer was a nice guy in his late 20s. And while I was answering he was patiently listening to me and he didn’t interrupt me once.

Questions asked :

1. Which university are you heading to?

2. How many universities did you apply?

3.What is your academic profile?

4. Do you have any siblings in US?

5. Have you ever travelled to US before?

6. Who is sponsoring you?

7.Are you aware of quarantine rule?

I was very scared after 4th question, because I was like here we go, now he is going to ask me about my brother. Actually my brother and sister-in-law both are in US and my brother recently applied for green card also. But hopefully he didn’t ask me anything more about my brother.

Interview completed in 3-4 mins.

Documents asked : i20 and Passport.

[10/23, 17:15] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My interview experience

Date:7th oct 2020

Place:Hyderabad

Status:rejected

Me: Good mrng mam

Vo:she neglected me

Vo: Asked me for i20 and passport

Me: sure

Vo: which year passedout

Me:2019

Vo: what have you been dng since then

Me:told

Vo:ok good

Vo:tell me abt your finances

Me:told

Vo:show me sanction letter

Me:showed her

Vo: good what is your parents occupation and salary

Me: told her my father works in home department

Vo:insisted me about depmnt

Me:police

(Her facial expressions changed a bit and started typing seriously)

Vo:sry please take the slip😭

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: F1 Visa Interview

Consulate: Mumbai

Term: Spring'21

Status: Approved

7th October : Visa Interview

Slot: 12:10 PM

I had reached the consulate at 11:40AM

I was told to keep my i20 and I-901 payment receipt on top.

Interview:

Me: Good Morning

VO: Good Morning, could you pass me your passport& i20?

Me: Yeah sure

VO: How many universities did you apply

Me: 5 universities

VO: Name the other 4 universities

Me: CSU, NYU, USF, UWM

VO: why particularly ASU

Me: #1 in innovation, the electives offered at ASU are very much in parallel to my field of interest.

VO: Who sponsoring you

Me: My father

VO: What does he do?

Me: We have family business

VO: Last financial year he made XXX

VO: okay, your visa is approved. Have a nice day.

Me: thank you, have a good day.

Be confident

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Time: 12 pm

Date: 7th October

Status: Approved

Question: Who is going to pay for your education?

Answer: My Parents

Question: Tell me about your program?

Answer: told about ITM.

Question: what is their income?

Answer: told

Question: What do your parents do?

Answer: told about business

Question: have you visited US before?

Answer: yes

Everything looks kept passport and gave me white slip saying thank you for application your passport and visa will be sent to location.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2784563201766662/

Visa Interview Experience

Location: Chennai

Date: 5 October 2020

Time Slot: 12:00 pm (But they let me in early at 11:25am)

Status: Approved

\*First counter\*

Me: Good Morning Sir

VO: Good Morning. Please pass me your passport and i20.

Me: (Passed the documents)

VO: I'm sorry your case has not been uploaded yet. Please head to counter 19 for this.

I waited for the queue at counter 19 to clear up, and then I handed over my passport, I-20 and DS-160. The person there checks them and types something in his computer, and then hands them back to me. I go back to waiting but the previous VO had left his counter. So I go to another counter where there was an American lady.

\*Second Counter\*

Me: Good Morning Ma'am

VO: Good Morning. Please pass me your passport and i20.

Me: (Passed the documents). Here is my SEVIS also.

(She examines the documents and types something in her computer.)

VO: When did you graduate your previous degree?

Me: You mean my Bachelor's ma'am?

VO: Yes

Me: In 2018. Ma'am.

VO: What have you been doing since then?

Me: I worked in different fields. My first job was in travel & hospitality. Then my next job was in design. After that I started to learn and prepare for Game Development, and did many courses. Presently, I am working at a small company as a game intern. I have a letter from them, if you would like to see.

VO: No that's okay. (She starts typing something)

VO: So you are going into gaming?

Me: That's right. I want to learn more game development, and also learn more about game design.

VO: I see. This is not something that is available here, in your country?

Me: Not really ma'am. Presently it is all in developmental stage over here.

VO: Okay.(she types something)

VO: So, which do you think is the best game made?

Me: You mean what I have made or-

VO: No I mean what's out there.

Me: That would be Red Dead Redemption 2 by Rockstar Games.

VO: Oh that's nice.

Me: To me that is a masterpiece.

VO: Okay. (Continues typing)

VO: I see you got into UC Santa Cruz. But over here(referring to the I-20) it says Silicon valley regional center. What is that?

Me: The Silicon Valley regional center. It's part of UCSC only, but not in the main campus. It is in Santa Clara.

VO: Oh. So it's a separate one?

Me: That's right. It's separate. This building is meant only for my department, that is Computational Media. (My MS program in Games & Playable Media belongs to this dept)

VO: Okay. Understood.(types again)

VO: How many universities you applied to? How many admits and rejects?

Me: I applied to several. Apart from UCSC, I applied to Digipen, CMU, University of Southern California and UPenn. I was also considering Drexel, Depaul and Full Sail but I didn't go through with them. I got an admit from Digipen, and rejects from USC and UPenn. I was briefly waitlisted by CMU but eventually they said no.

VO: Okay. (Continues typing)

VO: And how will you be funding for this?

Me : My father will be the main source of funding for this. I have a document to show-

VO: (she interrupts) that's okay. So, what does he do?

Me: Presently he is a marketing freelance consultant. Before this, he used to work in a lot of big shot companies. From there he developed his savings.

VO: Okay. So how much does he have in savings?

(I actually didn't remember the exact number at this point)

Me: I'm sorry. I actually do not know the exact value. Can I just show this statement made by my Chartered accountant?

VO: Sure. Okay. (She takes a look at it and types something.)

Me: Also, just to let you know, my program has already started in remote instruction. I have also paid the fees for this quarter.

VO: Okay. (continues typing)

VO: So, you have been to UAE and Thailand before right?

Me: Actually I've not been to UAE. Only Thailand. That was many years ago. (She then types something.)

VO: Alright. Are you planning to go out of the country anytime soon before going to USA?

Me: No ma'am.

VO: Are you aware of the quarantine rules when you arrive in the US ?

Me: Yes ma'am. As per university's rules, I'm supposed to quarantine for 14 days. As of now, my plan is to stay in a hotel.

VO: So hotel then? Okay. (She types again.)

VO: Please place your fingers of your left hand on the scanner.

(I place my fingers on the scanner)

VO: Ok I am approving your visa. Congratulations. (She hands over the green slip)

Me: Thank you so much ma'am. You made my day.

VO: You're welcome. Please collect your passport as per the instructions.

Me: Excuse me ma'am, about my passport I chose the option of delivery. Should I pay the 500 rupees now?

VO: I'm sorry but I do not know about this. Please ask one of those officers there in the purple uniform(referencing the other people in the building). They will know about this.

Me: Understood. Thank you so much ma'am. Have a great day.

VO: You're welcome.

Sorry for the long post. But I hope this helps.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Chennai

Date: 07th Oct 2020

Slot: 9:30 Am

In Time: 9.15 Am

OutTime: 10:30

Status: Visa Approved ✅

VO(Lady) was in the mid 30s

I reached the consulate almost 1 hour prior to the slot timings. There was

already a line formed outside the consulate for 9:30 Slot, so I stood in the queue

for 15-20 mins and then they let us in. Inside during security check, make sure you do

not have any electronic devices, pen drives and watches (some mechanical watches are

allowed, smart bands are not). After the security area, there is a another lane 😐 (standing) here I

stood for 45 mins and then entered the main building.

Due to this pandemic, there are only two active counters. before me, there was an interview going on. The VO is truly a patient officer because, the guy infront of me is giving such a rubbish answers ( ex: he don't even know the exact figure of his father Savings. Instead, asked VO to see😑)

and got approved!!! I heard of .0001% luckiest people on earth.. he is among that!

Now it's my turn😅...

Duration: Merely 2.5 minutes

Me:Good morning Officer! How are you?

VO: Good morning (with smile)

VO: Please pass me your passport and i20

Me: Sure officer, here it is.

VO: So you are going to \*\*\*\*\*?

Me: yes Officer.

VO: How do you know about this University?

Me: one of my senior told me about this university. In the same manner, I have done some research in shortlisting of my Universities based on my profile.

VO: Who is that senior? How he came to know about that?(didn't expected)

Me: He is one of my colleague, who came after doing his master's in the same University and working in our company.

VO: that's really cool.

VO: Why master's now?

Me: During this 2 years of my work period, I gained a lot of knowledge.But, I realised that there is much need in upgrading of my skillset. that's the reason , I am planning to do my masters now.

VO: Which universities did you apply?

Me: 3universities....I told about them.

VO: who is your sponsor?

Me: Sir, my parents are sponsoring me. I have a savings amount of \*\* Lakhs and liquid assets of \*\* Lakhs. Above to that, I have an educational loan of \*\* lakhs from Bank of Baroda.

VO: What are your plans after doing your masters?

Me: I am the elder son in my family and had a lot of responsibilities which i need to come across and in the same manner, I have take over the charge from my father to look after my company.

VO: How do you quarantine yourself?

Me: I will quarantine myself in a Hotel for 14-15 days in a Hotel.

VO: ok, Good.

VO: Are you taking direct flight?

Me: if available, I will plan in that way or else by connecting flight either from Dubai or from any other city.

VO: Cool!You Visa is Approved!👍

Said those golden words

and handed over a Green slip with formal instructions about the delivery of passport,

returned my i20. I greeted him 'Thank you, Officer! Have a great day ahead!' and left the

counter.

Few things from my side:

1. Confidence is the only key for Visa.

2. Make sure you stay calm and listen to the visa officer properly. Answer what he has

asked and be attentive.

3. Have breakfast😂 because energy required (To stand for a long time)

before you visit the consulate.

Lastly, Be Cool and look confident. Visa is Yours!

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \_Visa experience\_

Date - 7th October 2020

Mumbai consulate

Time - 11.30 AM

In time - 10.05 AM

Out time - 10.35 AM

Course - MSBA, University of Cincinnati

Status - \*APPROVED\*

Questions -

1. Which university are you going to?

2. Why did you choose this university?

3. How many universities did you apply to?

4. Admits?

5. How are you funding your education?

6. Is your loan approved? (The VO was quite satisfied here and I knew my visa is approved)

7. Have you ever been to the US?

8. Do you have any relatives in the US?

9. Have you ever been out of India?

10. Have you visited anywhere in the past month?

11. What are your plans for quarantine?

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*\_Forwarded\_\*

07 Oct

10.00 am, Mumbai

Status - Approved

University of South Florida, BAIS

Questions asked

1 what was your sepciality in your batchlors

2. When did you graduate

3. What have you been doing till now

4. What does your father do

5 . What are your quarantine plans .

Lastest for 1-2 minutes.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: F1 visa Experience :

Session: Spring 2021

Location: Hyderabad.

08-October-2020

Time slot: 09:15 AM.

In-Time: 8:30 AM.

Out-Time:9:30 AM.

Status: Visa Approved✅

Passed through security check. They will ask you to remove your belt, and empty your pockets.

Then they will guide us to waiting hall.

We have to wait for our turn to come.

Interviewed by a late 20's year old lady.

Questions asked :

1. Which University ?

Ans: Told (UMBC)

2. What's your father?

Ans: Told the occupation and company name.

3. Describe his role?

Ans: Told about my father occupation like what he do and all.

5. What's your father's income?

Ans: Told (I told like my parents annual income is \*\* lakh and in which my father income is \*\* lakh. VO interrupted me and asked me to tell only father income)

6. What's your mother's income?

Ans: Told

7. What's your mother do?

Ans: Told

8. What's your savings from your job?

Ans: I told like My savings are included in personal savings. I saved in my father's account.

9. Apart from personal savings do you have anything to fulfill your tuition fee?

Ans: I couldn't listen question properly. I asked her to repeat the question (I showed the loan document)

No questions from loan document.

10. Why master's now?

Ans: Told (I have already decided my carrer path, first to gain industrial exp and wanted to do master's)

11. Did you travelled any where in last 14 days?

Ans: Told (No, Mam)

12. Have you ever visited pakistan?

Ans: A big laugh from side. Because it a wierd and unexpected question.

I said, I never been out of my country.

Then, Place your right hand on the scanner. Drop your passport in dropbox.

And golden words: YOUR VISA IS ISSUED.

I asked her twice whether my visa is approved or not.

She said loudly that my visa is approved.

P.S: Due to covid19, you should cover your face mask completely till our nose.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My experience

Consulate : Mumbai

Time slot - 9:50

Entered at - 8:30

Out by 9:30

Syracuse University - MSIM

Only one counter was working. Counter 34.

Questions asked

1. What was your bachelor's in?

2. What does your father do?

Your visa is approved.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hello guys,My visa got approved today 😄

Biometric 1st Oct

Interview 8th Oct

Scheduled at 11am in new delhi

(Reached consulate early at 9am. They allowed me entry at that time. So got free by 10:30 am)

Interview time 2 mins approx

Program PhD Cell and Molecular biology

Visa officer was very polite Indian-American lady in her 40s.

Interaction with VO

VO: Good morning, please pass me your i-20 and passport.

VO: Which university?

University of Texas at Dallas

VO: Which are the other universities you applied to?

Told her.

VO: Why this university?

Talked about the professor I want to work with. Told about curriculum and certificate courses provided.

VO: What was your last degree that you pursued

Masters in Biotechnology

VO: From which university?

Told her

VO: Did you publish any papers in you masters?

Yes I did.

VO: Did you give your GRE?

Yes I did

VO: what was your score.

Told her

VO: okay great, your visa is approved. You'll receive it in 2-3 business days.

(She was very kind and gave a beautiful smile in the end)

Thank you so much ma'am☺️

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Interview Date - 8th October

Slot 9:45 am

Location– New Delhi

University– UTD

Program– MSBA

Status - Approved✅

Me- Good Morning officer, How are you?

VO- Good Morning, I am good.

VO- Pass me your i20 and Passport.

Me- Did

VO- Let’s do your biometric first, place you left hand on the machine.

Me- Did

VO- Where are you going in US?

Me- University of Texas at Dallas.

VO- Which program??

Me- Master of Science in Business Analytics.

VO- Why UTD?

Me- Talked about the curriculum and the various tracks that is offers. Also, mentioned some subjects that I am interested in.

VO- What other universities did you get admit from?

Me- Told that I got admit in 5 universities out of 6 and named them as well.

VO- Why are you going to UTD why not RIT, it a very good university. (As I got an admit in RIT as well)

Me- Again talked about the various tracks and how we can pursue courses from tracks other than our specialization and structure the degree as per our area of interest.

VO- When did you complete your high school?

Me- told and also told about my undergrad.

VO- What were you doing since then?

Me- told

VO- How are you funding your education?

Me- I have an education loan plus my parents will be sponsoring me.

VO- What does your father do?

Me- He is a government employee in Education Department.

VO- How much savings do you have?

Me- Told

VO- I am approving your visa. Congratulations.

And then he gave some instructions about passport and entry in US.

He was typing constantly and was listening to me very patiently. Kept nodding in an approving manner throughout the interview.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: I got a 214 b slip in my visa interview today. Any help would be appreciated. Following is my experience:

Consulate: Kolkata

Time: 11:00 AM

Officer: you are going for MS in computer science at UTdallas?

Me: Yes. UTdallas.

Officer: Why this course?

Me: UTD is a top-ranked university and it also offers a very well structured specialization in data science. Also, I am working for some time and I am always trying to get in touch with people in my field. There is Prof xx who I was in touch with a couple of years ago works in the same field as mine and she is a prof at UTD as well and that's what makes UTD a top choice for me.

Officer: How are you funding your education?

Me: I have a loan of 40 L from Credilla and 11 lakhs of my personal savings from my employment and my father has 8 Lakhs of liquid savings.

Officer: Is it a secured loan?

Me: It's an unsecured loan

Officer: What does your father do?

Me: He works in the Rural Development office back in my hometown.

Officer: What is his savings again?

Me: 8 lakhs

Officer: What plans after masters?

Me: I have been working as a Data Scientist in a startup. After my masters I would like to lead a team of Data scientists in small-sized company in India.

Officer: Sorry. you don't qualify for a non-immigration visa and gave me the 214b doc

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[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My F1 Visa Interview Experience:

Consulate: Mumbai

Term: Spring'21

Status: Approved

8th October : Visa Interview

Slot: 11:40AM

I had reached the consulate early at around 9:45AM, I went to the gate and they allowed me in.

Officer checked my Passport outside the consulate and scanned the barcode that was stuck on the back of my passport during biometrics.

Once I entered the consulate, I went through a preliminary security check and then a guard told me to keep my passport, i20 and I-901 payment receipt on top (told me to keep everything else in the folder).

I was told to proceed to the counter, initially an officer asked me for my passport, i20 and i901, checked it and then gave it back. I was then told to go on another counter for interview.

Interview:

Me: Good Morning, how are you doing?

VO: Good Morning, could you pass me your passport, i20 and Sevis receipt?

Me: Sure (and gave the documents)

VO: What program you choose for your master?

Me: I will be persue my master program in computer science.

VO: Which university?

Me: I’m going to Stevens institute of technology.

VO: Who is sponsoring your finance?

Me: told.

VO: What does your parents do and what’s their annual income?

Me: told.

VO: okay, your visa is approved. Have a nice day.

Me: thank you, have a nice day.

My interview time was only 2 min and total time from entering to exit was only 35 min.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Kolkata

Status: Approved

I had 3-4 people waiting behind me outside the gate. The consulate was only allowing one student at a time (imagine being the only person navigating inside it, with just the staff present). Because of this I got done in no time and didn't have to see or hear other people's interviews, which I'm sure helped.

The visa officer looked fairly young, probably in her early 30s.

VO: I see you're going to study Energy Systems engineering at Northeastern Uni.

A: Yes Ma'am.

VO: Why Energy Systems?

A: I developed an interest in Renewable energy, which I took as an elective in my final semester of Bachelor's in Mechanical engineering, and have decided to pursue a formal education in it.

VO: How are you going to fund your education?

A: My father will be sponsoring me. He is a central government officer, (told about his designation and annual income). We have savings of more than XX lakhs, shall I break it down for you?

VO: No.

VO: Are you taking a loan?

A: No ma'am, we have enough savings to cover my education expenses of 2 years in the US.

VO: When did you complete your Bachelor's?

A: 2016.

VO: What did you do after that?

I have 3 years of work experience, explained my 3 job roles.

VO: What are your plans after Master's?

After completing my graduation, I would like to work in Tata Power, which is my dream company, as it is currently working on electrochemical storage, which is my interest area.

VO: Do you know the quarantine rules of your university?

A: Yes Ma'am, Northeastern uni requires its students to practice self quarantine for 14 days before the start of the program.

VO: Congratulations, your visa has been approved!

A: Thank you ma'am, have a great day!

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: VISA EXPERIENCE

Date:4th September at Kolkata

Status: 221g green Slip and then approved.

Ph.D. in Computer Science at the University of California, Davis for spring 21.

My appointment was scheduled at 08:30 am, I arrived by 8 and was escorted inside. After a wait of about 20 minutes, it was my turn. The interviewer was a middle-aged American guy.

Me: Good Morning Officer. How are you doing?

VO: Good Morning. Pass me your Passport, I20, and SEVIS fee receipt.

Me: (Passed)

VO: So, you are going for Ph.D. What kind of research will you perform there?

Me: I will be researching on Optical Networks.

VO: What is Optical Network?

Me: Optical network is basically a communication network used for the exchange of information through an optical fiber cable between one end to another.

VO: What will be your innovation on this?

Me: Basically, I will work on how to protect the Optical Networks from man-made or natural disasters. So, the services of the telecom network can survive.

VO: What is your highest degree?

Me: I have completed master's in Information and Communication Engineering.

VO: Which University and when did you graduate?

Me: Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunications, and I have been graduated recently in June 2020.

VO: This university is in India or in another country?

Me: It is in China.

VO: (typing the name) Is is Chongqing University?

Me: No, Officer. It is Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunications.

VO: What were you doing before Master's degree?

Me: I have completed B.Tech in Electronics and Communication Engineering in 2015 from West Bengal University of Technology, India. Then I worked in TCS for 2 years from 2015 to 2017.

VO: When did you come back from China?

Me: 5th February 2020.

VO: So, how did you appear in the final exam?

Me: It was the thesis defense. So, I have defended my thesis online.

VO: You have a full scholarship. Congrats. Since February, are you staying in India?

Me: No, sir. I have traveled to Paris, France in February and came back to India in May end.

VO: For which purpose?

Me: I was an intern at Nokia Bell Labs there.

VO: So, you have the idea about quarantine.

Me: Yes, officer.

VO: Do me a favor.

(he passed me 221g Green slip, i20, passport, and SEVIS fee receipt).

VO: Please go to counter 2. Thanks.

Me: Thanks, Officer.

At counter 2, there was an Indian guy. I passed him the 221g slip and passport.

Guy: Did you travel to the USA before?

Me: No.

The guy went inside and checked something on his computer and came back after 3 mins.

Guy: (Marked the documents mentioned in the 221g slip and the email address.) Please email all the documents to this email address.

Me: Ok sir. When should I submit my passport?

Guy: Submit these documents asap. Then there will be administrative processing. When it will be finished, you will get a call and email from our side about passport submission.

Me: Thanks.

I have submitted all the documents (my intended research proposal, previous research, publication lists, My CV, my supervisor's CV, offer letter, scholarship letter, and a recommendation letter from the University.) on 6th September.

On 8th September I got a call and the lady asked me to submit the research proposal, previous research in .doc format instead of .pdf. I have emailed the same after the call.

On 25th September, I have received the Passport Submission email.

On 28th September, submitted Passport at VAC, Kolkata.

On 5th October, VISA is issued.

On 8th October, I have received my Passport (with VISA stamped) by Blue Dart. (As I have chosen home delivery option.)

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[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My visa interview experience.

Interview Date - 9th October

Slot 10 am

Location– New Delhi

University– ASU

Program– Computer Engineering

Status - Approved✅

I entered the consulate at 9 30 amd came out at 11. A lot of rush as compared to other consulates and had to wait for 1 hr 15 mins for my interview as many people were there before me.

VO was an american guy in his early 30s.

Me- Good Morning officer, How are you?

VO- Good Morning, I am good.

VO- Pass me your i20 and Passport.

Me- Did

VO- Where are you going in US?

Me- Arizona state university

VO- Which program??

Me- Masters in computer engg

VO- Why ASU?

Me- Talked about the curriculum and the various tracks that it offers. Also, mentioned some subjects that I am interested in.

VO- What other universities did you appy to?

Me- Told that I applied to 7 unis and named them.

VO- How are you funding your education?

Me- I have an education loan plus I have my personal savings as I have been working and also my mother will be sponsoring me as she is working.

VO- What does your mother do for living?

Me- She is a telecom officer at BSNL.

VO- Have you travelled to any other country before

Me- Told about my thailand trip

VO- Do you have any relatives/friend in US

Me- No sir.

VO- Place ur right hand fingers on the scanner

10 secs pause and then,

VO- I am approving your visa. Congratulations.

And then he gave some instructions about quarantine, entry in US and told me that I will receive my passport within a week as I have opted for premium delivery.

Me- Thankyou sir , have a nice day and smiled nd he smiled back as well.

Tip: Have solid and crisp answers for your chosing uni and funding.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My visa DISCUSSION experience:

Consulate: Hyderabad

Decision : approved

Date: 8th Oct, 8:45 AM slot

As many ppl have already explained the procedure, I'll just give the questions faced by me and also by the candidate before me :

questions faced by girl before me:

I entered the room in the middle of her interview and she was showing her bank statements by the time I entered ...so these are the ones I heard after that...

1) do you have any backlogs?

Yes..I have 8 :(

VO : really!!! Why so many 😕

Ma'am... I've neglected my studies in the first year by concentrating on extra curricular activities... 😕

VO: ohh... Did you clear them?

Yes ma'am...

\*\*\*\*Some silence and typing for sometime\*\*\*\*

Can I have a look at your individual semester transcripts ?

She showed...

\*\*\*VO... Nodded her head left and right....

Hmm :/ you have backlogs in core subjects like data structures and intro to programming languages... What'll you'll do to improve them if you go to US..?

Girl:

ma'am I'm interested in cloud computing and I want to pursue a career in it....

Vo: :/

My inner expression: pls tell her about what you'll do to \*improve\* in those areas..

vo: see.. you're not getting my point... I asked about what you'll efforts be to improve in these areas?

She: ma'am I'll do hard work... I may have backlogs in the beginning but I cleared them naaaa

VO: yes you did..but it's the second attempt right?

She: yes ma'am :(

\*\*\*After that there were some repetitive questions regarding her finances and then a long saga of typing..

VO: mmmmm .... Okay.... mmmm.... (rubbed her hands ... Looked at the system... Typed something.... )...

And then...

See I'm APPROVING your visa... Please don't make me regret my decision...

That girl : thank you sir ...thank you sir ...thank you sir... sorry sorry ... Thank you ma'am ...

And then VO called me

Me: hello ma'am...

She: \*\*\* turning her head in all the degrees of freedom and swinging on her chair like a happy child ..\*\*\* Good morning. Your passport and I20 please...

\*\*\*Looking at my I20:

VO: Mmmm Arizona State ...mmm.... Self sponsored ...okayyy....MS in computer software engineering ...mmm mm.okay okay...what's the plan then ?

Me:

(inner me... what plan😅)

about the finances mam?

Vo: yes absolutely..

Me: \*\*\*well, a question which I've prepared thoroughly and also with all the happiness I got from seeing that girl's visa getting approved\*\*\*

my parents have enough savings to sponsor me ma'am

She: ohhkayyyyy ? Howmuch is your annual expense ?

Just When my reflexes are about to talk about annual income , my brain shouted :"she's asking about annual expenses "...

Me: as mentioned in the i20 , it's 50139 USD ma'am...

VO:

Is it ? Isn't it 56k??

No ma'am it's 50139$

Vo: okay tell me about your father's profession ?

Me: he's a doctor at BHEL ma'am..(I told the full form of BHEL)...

Vo:\*\*\*\* very doubtful expression... \*\*\* Doctor in an electrical company ? 🤔 How does it work ?

I explained her ....

She: cgpa?

8.91/10 ma'am

Backlogs?

No ma'am

What does your mother do ?

Told

Annual income?

Told

Where do they stay?

Told

Why did you resign your job?

Ma'am I planned to go for the fall but then covid happened :(

VO: yes yes..but it's wierd that you resigned... they didn't fire you right ?

No ma'am... I even have my resignation letter and my reason for resignation mentioned on it with me now...(my inner self: don't be a pedantic.. that's enough ... )...

VO: its fine .. I understand

Me: :)

VO: scan your fingers

\*\*\* My hands were soaked in sweat.\*\*\*\*.... kept my fingers on the machine but it didn't sense my fingers 🤦‍♂️

Vo: scan them.

Me: ma'am I did ...

Vo: but nothing's here🤷‍♀️: (This was her exact expression) ...\*\*\*\*let me restart it ....

I rubbed my fingers against my shirt and then tried and scanned again

VO : perfect ..

\*\*\* I smiled inside my mask

Have you travelled anywhere in the last week?

No ma'am ...

VO:

Okay... I'm APPROVING your visa.... Please drop the passport in the box...

Me: thank you so much ma'am 😋😋😋

VO: blinked eyes in approval ...

Takeaways :

1) as the title says, it's more of a discussion than it is an interview. The officers are pure professionals . Just have a fruitful discussion with them..

2) don't do the mistake I did ... \*\*\*\* Don't get carried away by the previous candidate's questions and their decisions...please stay calm ...

3. Many ppl say that you don't need any docs... But the girl before me was asked to show her transcripts and her bank statements ... So better carry them ...

4. No matter how many questions you prepare , expect the unexpected... And when you're faced with a highly uncertain question, stay sincere in your answer and just explain your thoughts.. your vocab may go downstream when answering an out of blue question... That's fine... Even the VO's English is simple and straightforward ...the point is to have a discussion...

5.many ppl say this and I'm repeating it : Confidence is really the key...stay confident... your answer, if confident enough, may satisfy the VO and she may never ask you to show any doc .... Thanks to the mask, we need not maintain a forced smile though...

6. Give as many mocks as you can.... they can even be with your family members... Just rehearse the main points of your profile....

7.Understand the question thoroughly...

You can mute your inner self if it is pessimistic... If it's a chill dude , you can it let it think though...

Finally... The entire process is highly professional... Everyone were respectful and security check was intense just like the airport security check...

\*don't carry any sealed envelopes\*

And that is it ... You'll go through it in a breeze .... Stay positive and, lastly, it's better to say a plain thank you than saying thank you "sir" to a female officer.... If your'e someone whose choice of words goes out of place when you're tensed, just make the sentences as simple as you can... All the best :)

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa interview experience

Consulate: Chennai

In time: 10:45

Out time: 11:15

Actual slot: 11:30am

VO was a friendly middle aged American man

VO: good morning. Please pass me your passport and i20.

Me: good morning. (Passed them)

VO scanned the barcode stuck to my passport during biometrics and started looking at the laptop screen. He seemed interested with the name of my high school (Atomic Energy Central School) and asked me about it which was not something I had expected.

VO: so are you into nuclear engineering and stuff?

Me: not really. My interest is towards chip design

Vo: how is AI and ML being used in the field of chip design in the current days?

Me: told him

Vo: are you currently working?

Me: yes I am still working

VO: why ms

Me: told

VO: isn’t is possible to get required skills through work experience?

Me: told

VO: why ncsu

Me: told

Vo: my sister lives in Charlotte and it’s a very nice place. What other universities did you apply to? Can you name a few?

Me: did so

Vo: what plans after graduation?

Me: told about returning to India and finding a job here.

Vo: how are you funding yourself?

Me: told

vo: where did you say your dad works?

Me: he is a retired officer at BARC

VO went somewhere for a while after this

Vo: do you plan to quarantine upon reaching there?

Me: told yes I plan to book at hotel for myself

Vo: congratulations I’m approving your visa! Please carry your i20 and also try to book direct flights to the US. If that’s not possible, please contact us and we will find a way to get you to US.

Me: thank you very much!!!

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate : Mumbai

Time slot - 12:00

Entered at - 11:45

Out by 12:10

Status-Approved

USF- BAIS

VO, was a beautiful lady may be in her early 30's

Only one counter was working. Counter 28.

Questions asked

1. What is the name of your program?

2. How are you going to sponsor your education?

3. What does you father do?

4. How do you plan to quarantine yourself?

That's it!

It was pretty chill.

She didn't even ask me to remove my mask.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hi Guys😇 My F1 Visa got Approved at US Embassy, New Delhi today at 9:45 am.

Just sharing my experience. My interview lasted for 20 secs. I was asked \*nothing!\*

VO: Good morning!

Me: Good morning sir, hope you have been safe in these unprecedented times.

VO:Pass me your passport and I-20.

(I gave it to him and he scanned the barcode on my passport).

VO: So, you graduated this year from IIT?

Me: Yes Sir!

(I don't know what he thought.....just after 4-5 secs......

VO: Alright, I am approving your visa! Follow all the quarantine procedures in US as per the local authorities!

Me: Thank you sir, stay safe!

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My F1 Visa is approved today, 13 october’2020

Hyd Consulate

VO is American and in mid 30s. Greeted me with Hello and a warm smile, i said Good morning with a smile and his mood looked pretty normal

What’s your Name?

Which University are you headed to?

Why Computer Science?

Tell me more about “excellence award” on I20!

Do you have any work experience?

Can you tell me what you did at your company?

Who’s sponsoring you and how?

What’s your father?

Have you been outside country?

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Location: Mumbai

Slot: 11:20

In time: 10:15

Out time: 11:15

VO: Pass me your Passport and I20

Me: Did

VO: So you already have a tourist visa

Me: Yes, but it was for Business purpose though

VO: Have you also travelled to UK, Ireland or any of the Schengen states?

Me: Yes, Spain

VO: Is the visa still valid?

Me: No

VO: Was this also a business trip?

Me: No, it was for tourism purpose

VO: Why Ucinn

Me: <gave the generic reply>

VO: Which universities did you apply to and how many admits?

Me: Told

VO: How are you funding your education?

Me: Loan worth xx, scholarship worth xx and personal saving worth xx

VO: What do your parents do?

Me: Told

VO: In case required, will your father be willing to help you pay thr loan back?

Me: Yes, we also have fixed assets worth xx, which we can utilize in a worst case scenario

After few minutes of typing,

VO: Your visa is approved, you can collect your passport in 3-4 days

Documents checked: Passport, Sevis Fee receipt and I20

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*Appointment Booking Experience\*

I kind of got lucky🙈

I got my receipt number on 27th Oct morning, and was trying to book my slot since then.

I could see the dates available for VAC but as I clicked on "continue", I got an error message saying that there are no slots available in Mumbai, try changing the time or location.

I tried different combinations (date, time) but after trying for 15 mins I started getting an error message saying that I'm about to reach my max attempts.

I had heard cases of people's account getting locked after reaching the limit, so I figured that I'd rather leave it be and try again the next day.

So I logged out, had a good night sleep and logged into the visa booking website at around 12:20 pm on 28th October. I couldn't see that some of the VAC dates had been disabled (which were visible on 27th), so I proceeded further with the available dates and surprisingly was able to book my dates in the first attempt.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa interview

Date : 14th October

Time : 8.30 am

Location : Kolkata

Status : Approved

A lady officer(early 30s) took the interview

VO : Good morning.

Me : Good morning ma'am

VO : pass your passport, I-20 and ds-160

Me : yes ma'am, here it is.

VO : So you are going to Texas Tech for your master's in Biotechnology.

Me : yes ma'am

VO : You have a scholarship. So is this scholarship going to renew in your second year of study?

Me : yes ma'am. In the second year renewal of the scholarship would be depending on my first year performance.

VO : Why this course?

Me : In my bachelor the course curriculum provided a basic overview of subjects. Since I want to pursue a research based career, I have decided to accelerate myself and go through a comprehensive thorough study in a specialised field and want to gain hands on experience in that field of my interest which would also help me to step ahead in my goals.

VO : So you want to pursue PhD after your master's?

Me : yes ma'am

VO : tell me about your research interest.

Me : told.

VO : how you are going to fund your education?

Me : told

VO : what your father does?./

Me : told

VO : what is your family annual income

Me : told

VO : So is your education loan collateral?

Me : Yes ma'am

VO : how you are going to quarantine yourself on reaching US?

Me : Ma'am, I will land up in US 14 days before my program start date and i will self quarantine myself.

VO : okay Sourav your visa is being approved. Congratulations. Collect your passport from VAC kolkata in 3 to 4days.

Me : thank you so much ma'am. You made my day.

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[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Delhi

Slot :- 9:15 am

University:- UNCC (Ms In CS)

VO was an American guy in his mid 40's.

I reached consulate early at 7:40 am. Waited for almost an hour outside the consulate till they opened at 8:30 am. I went inside clearing security checks and waited for 15-20 minutes until the they started calling. Only one counter was operating. I was 3rd and before me 2 girls approved their F1 visa.

Counter No. 5

Me:- Hi, good morning sir, How you are doing?

VO:- Good Morning. Pass me your I20 and passport.

VO:- Pull your mask down and put your right hand 4 fingers on scanner.

VO:- What is your purpose of going to the US, and where are you going?

Me:- (Fumbled because it was the first question, but bounced back with 200% confidence) I am going to pursue my masters in Computer. I will be going to University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

VO:- Why this University?

Me:- Told about the course and specialization I am getting at this university.

VO:- What all admits?

Me:- Told

VO:- Who is funding you?

Me:- My parents primarily my mother.

VO:- What does she do?

Me:- She has government job as a teacher in government school.

VO:- How much does she earns?

Me:- Told

VO:- How much funds do you have?

Me:- Told about xx lakhs liquid assets.

VO:- I am approving your visa.

Me:- Thanks sir, have a nice day.(Interrupted by VO)

VO:- He told about the rules to enter in US and when will I receive my passport back. Meanwhile he put my passport in box.

Me:- Thanks sir, have a nice day.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Experience

Date-13/10/2020

Location- Mumbai

Visa time-12.10 PM

In time-11.45 AM

Out time- 12.05 PM

Interview Duration- 3-4 mins

Interview Questions:

1) Are you going for your MS?

2) What are the other universities you have applied to?

3) Why UTD over other universities?

4) Which program and what is the start date of the program?

5)Is someone sponsoring you?

6) What do they do and how much do they earn?

7) How do you plan to quarantine yourself?( I mentioned that I'll rent an apartment off campus and I'll quarantine myself there)

8) Have you rented the apartment yet?

9) Have you travelled to Europe or any other country?

10) Do you hold visa of any such countries?

She said your visa is approved

Passed me my i20 with a slip

Documents asked: passport and i20.

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[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa interview

Date : 14th October

Time : 8.30 am

Location : Kolkata

Status : Approved

A lady officer(early 30s) took the interview

VO : Good morning.

Me : Good morning ma'am

VO : pass your passport, I-20 and ds-160

Me : yes ma'am, here it is.

VO : So you are going to Texas Tech for your master's in Biotechnology.

Me : yes ma'am

VO : You have a scholarship. So is this scholarship going to renew in your second year of study?

Me : yes ma'am. In the second year renewal of the scholarship would be depending on my first year performance.

VO : Why this course?

Me : In my bachelor the course curriculum provided a basic overview of subjects. Since I want to pursue a research based career, I have decided to accelerate myself and go through a comprehensive thorough study in a specialised field and want to gain hands on experience in that field of my interest which would also help me to step ahead in my goals.

VO : So you want to pursue PhD after your master's?

Me : yes ma'am

VO : tell me about your research interest.

Me : told.

VO : how you are going to fund your education?

Me : told

VO : what your father does?./

Me : told

VO : what is your family annual income

Me : told

VO : So is your education loan collateral?

Me : Yes ma'am

VO : how you are going to quarantine yourself on reaching US?

Me : Ma'am, I will land up in US 14 days before my program start date and i will self quarantine myself.

VO : okay Sourav your visa is being approved. Congratulations. Collect your passport from VAC kolkata in 3 to 4days.

Me : thank you so much ma'am. You made my day.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2791221831100799/

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Hyderabad

Status: Approved

Time: 08:45 AM

Out Time: 09:30 AM

Duration: 3-5 mins

VO was an African American.

Me: Hello Sir, Good Morning!!( with a lot of enthusiasm)

VO: Hi, Good Morning, show me your

DS-160 and I-20.

Me: (Gave)

VO: So, Computer Systems Analyst

Me: Sir, it's actually the cipd code that is given on I-20, it is also known as BAIS.

VO: So, why this course?

Me: Sir, I've been working as an Analyst programmer for 3 years now, I want to pursue a course which is an integration of Management and IT. BAIS meets the requirements of the course, like having concentrations like Analytics and Business Intelligence, So I chose BAIS.

VO: What will you work as after Masters?

Me: Sir, I want to work as a Business Intelligence Developer.

VO: What is the role of a BI developer?

Me: Sir...(fumbled)...(he understood that I got nervous at this point...Took a long breath)...sir, BI developer deals with databases, they plans solutions to the existing problems in a company..they transform business info into actionable reports and visualisation.

VO: Describe your Job role:

Me: (Told)

VO: Where will you be after masters?

Me: Sir, if given an opportunity to I would like to work for a couple of years and come back to India.

VO: Who is sponsoring you?

Me: Sir, I have secured a Collateral loan for 47 lakhs from the SBI. Upon that, my father has a savings of 30 lakhs.

VO: What does your father do?

Me: He is a Govt. Public Prosecutor

VO: Any siblings?

Me: I have an elder brother who is preparing for the Indian Civil Services.

VO: Civil Services?

Me: Sir, it's the Indian Bureaucracy.

VO: Congratulations sir, your VISA IS APPROVED!! Drop your passport in the drop box.

Me: Thanks you sir, Have a nice day!

Tips: The VO had been looking at me through out the interview..be prepared for that...he hasn't spent any time typing on the Computer.

\*\*Even though you prepared well and knows the answers to his questions, instead of talking continuously, behave like you are answering to the question then and there or else he might feel that you are giving text book answers or you must have by-heart the answers.

\*\*\*Dont stop even if you fumble, take a deep breath and go on\*\*\*

All the best!!

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience:

Consulate - Delhi

Appointment Time - 8.45 AM

Course and University - MS in CS, Stony Brook University (Spring 21)

Status - Approved

Reached the embassy around 7.45 am and waited outside till the entry which started at around 8.40. Again waited inside for 10-15 minutes.

VO: Good Morning sir, please pass me your i20 and passport

Me: Good Morning sir, sure

VO: Where are you going?

Me: To stony brook university

VO: What for?

Me: For Masters in computer science

VO: Why this university?

Me: told about the specialisation and professor

VO: How many other universities did you apply?

Me: Told

VO: What was your second choice?

Me: Told

VO: Did you get admit in all of the others

Me: No sir, 3 of them (out of 7 I told)

VO: Who’s funding you?

Me: (Told about parents savings and loan)

VO: What do your parents do?

Me: Told

VO: Have you ever been to the US?

Me: No sir.

VO: Any relatives/siblings in the States?

Me: No sir.

VO: Please verify your fingerprints, put your left hand on the scanner.

Finally, “Your Visa is Approved”

Then he asked to take care of the quarantine measures and not to enter the US 30 days before the course start date.

My interview lasted for a bit longer, around 10 minutes as he switched off his mic and started discussing with some other person. He did that multiple times in between. I was kind of scared but didn’t lose any confidence. Later on he felt sorry for the same because I was the first one to interview for the day and he was just setting up things. I was not asked to show any other documents except from i20 and passport, confidence and clarity is the key. I hope it helps. All the best!!

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Experience

Status: Approved

Date-15/10/2020

Location- Mumbai

Visa time-12.20 PM

In time-11.30 AM

Out time- 11.40 AM

University: CSULB

Interview Duration- 3-4 mins

Interview Questions:

1) Tell me about your admits

2) Why CSULB over other universities?

3) How will you pay the fees?

4) What do your parents do?

5) Annual income of parents

6) What is your UG gpa?

7) How do you plan to quarantine yourself?

Documents asked: i20, passport

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Hyderabad

Status: Approved

Time: 09:45 AM

Out Time: 11 AM

Duration of interview: 45 sec

VO was an African American.

The waititng time was almost one hour for me because only one counter was open.

Two people were reject before me , didn’t really understand why and I got scared but still managed to talk with confidence. He was asking very detailed questions like what was your project then the guy mentioned some algorithm and he started questioning about that. In the end he said to the guy before me I'm sorry you're not eligible, even though I think his answered well.

My questions:

Why computer science?

How long were you working in XX company?

How are you funding?

What does your father do?

What does your mother do?

Mine was pretty fast and he didn’t grill me. Don’t get under confident if you see rejections and prepare your story well. All the best.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*\_Forwarded\_\*

My F1 Visa Interview Experience:

Consulate: Hyderabad

Term: Spring'21

Status: Visa Approved 🇺🇸

6th October : Visa Interview

Slot: 8:15 AM

In time : 8:00 AM

Out time : 9:10 AM

Date : Oct 15

University at Buffalo

I have reached the Consulate by 7:30 AM, but I was told by the security guard they will allow only after 8:00 AM. There were 4 people including me for the 8:15 AM slot. I was third in the queue.

They checked my passport, DS 160 Confirmation page, Appointment confirmation page first before the gate.

Then my passport was checked before opening the gate and letting me in.

I proceeded to complete the security checks, Later I was being told to wait . After 15 min they asked me to go to the counter

My Interview:

VO: Next please

Me: stepped up

VO: Good morning!!!

Me: Good Morning sir ! How are you doing?

VO : I am doing great , Please show me your DS-160 for scanning and pass me your i20.

VO - So why Engineering in btech?

Me: I had a fantasy of computers since my childhood which led me to opt for Btech in Master science .

VO: why Data science?

Me: In my Btech during my third and fourth year projects I has a breadth of Data science while I was under the machine learning project for multiple face detection for attendence .where I was so intrested to work for the project and made clear that data science would be the path for me. Data science is a developing domain in the world where machine learning is used from automobile automation to health care domain .

VO: So , what after graduation ?

Me: My long term goal is to be a data scientist at the end of the day in a good MNC, but it needs a lot of experience and knowledge which I ll be getting from the masters degree as In my Btech degree there was no specialisation on Data science .

VO: What is Data scientist role ?

Me : Blend of machine learning engineer , Data analyst , data engineer ......( I don’t remember exactly what I replied to this )

VO: How are you going to fund ?

Me: my parents are sponsoring me and also I have an education loan of XX Lakhs from IDBI bank.

VO: what does your father do and what's his income?

Me: He is the managing director for a firm callled XY and managing partner for \*\* since 20 years and his income is around xx Lakhs .

VO : Name of your dad’s firm ?

Me: xx

VO: fingerprints of your left hand .

Me: okay !

VO: I am approving your visa

drop your passport in that wooden box..

Me: thankyouuu!! ☺️ ! You made my day

Confidence is the key.

Eye contact is must .

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: This is my visa experience.

My visa appointment was at Mumbai in last week.

Slot timing - 10

I entered - 9.30

Came out - 10.30

Visa officer was a lady and in very chill mood.

Questions -

1. How many applications n admits

2. When u passed undergrad

3. What are u doing after passing undergrad

4. How u going to fund University.

After this she typed something for like one and half minute.

Asked me to scan my finguretips.

And the golden words. - Your visa is approved.

Note -

Don't be nervous.

Don't panic and remain chill.

Be confident.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Status: Approved

Date : 16th October

Appointment Time: 12:10 PM

In time : 9.30 AM

Out Time: 10.30 AM

Duration of interview: 2-3 mins

VO was an African American (female).

Here are my questions:

1) What are your Admits?

2) Why UTD?

3) What do your parents do?

4) As my parents own a business, she asked What is their annual turnover?

5) Do they have any savings?

6) How do you plan to quarantine yourself?

And then after 1 min of typing on the computer, she said Congratulations your visa is approved!

Mine was pretty fast and she didn’t ask for any documents. Be confident and keep answers short and to the point.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Chennai

Status: Approved

Appointment Time + In Time: 11:00 AM

Out Time: 11:40 AM

Duration of interview: 1 minute

VO was an American man.

I reached the Consulate at 10:20 AM. No point reaching this early.

I've already started my PhD in Cognition and Neuroscience program at UTD (Fall 20).

Questions -

1. Is the program fully online right now?

2. Do you have a Masters or Bachelor's degree in Neuroscience?

3. You've worked before this - what was that about?

4. Why switch from journalism to psychology?

5. Do you know what research you'll be doing?

6. What plans after PhD?

7. Have you traveled internationally in the last 14 days? What's the quarantine period once you land?

That's it! VO was friendly, affirmative and encouraging. Stay hydrated (especially if you're coming to Chennai), eat well, stay confident, look in the eye and answer clearly.

Best of luck!

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa interview experience

Consulate - Delhi

duration : 1 minute

Status : Approved

VO : good morning, please pass your passport and i20

- given.

VO : which course have you applied to?

- Master’s in information sciences at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

VO : How many schools did you get an admit from?

- I Applied to 5 schools in total. Got 3 admits.

VO : Why did you prefer this school over the others?

- told. (Mentioned that every university had something unique to offer but UIUC outweighed the others. Really stretched my answer here, demonstrating that I was clear about my coursework, how it will aid my career growth, and other benefits like research park and innovative covid testing)

VO : how are you funding?

- I’ll be utilising my own savings of xx lakhs, my father has savings of xx lakhs of which he’ll sponsor me with xx lakhs. I’m also securing a loan from Prodigy finance for xx lakhs.

VO : what does your father do?

- My father was a Senior VP at a German IT firm and worked for 30 years. He retired 4 years ago.

VO : have you travelled internationally?

- told.

VO : please place your left hand fingers on the scanner. I’m approving your visa. Congratulations.

Since the interview was quick, I also asked his brief thoughts on the Midwestern winters, and he obliged.

Ps.

No documents asked other than passport and i20. Some standard questions were not asked, like post MS plans, annual income of sponsor, quarantine plans, etc.

The nervousness only lasts till you’re waiting and can see others giving their interview. Once you stand at the counter, it’s just you and the officer. Just make sure you know how the degree will help, why you’re doing it, and how you will fund.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Interview experience

Consulate : Chennai

Time: 11 am

Status: Approved

Though my slot is at 11, I wasn’t allowed inside till 11:30 and I came out at 12:15

Vo was a male person in 35-40 years age

Me: Good morning sir!

VO: Good morning, how are you doing?

Me: I am doing fine sir(In a loud voice) How are you doing in these uncertain times?

VO: I am doing great! ( He was so positive that I felt like I’m talking to an old friend)

VO: So I see you travelled to Uk. May I know why?

Me: yes sir, I went on a tourist visa to visit my uncle.

VO: Great! It’s a nice country. So I see you graduated recently. Why do you want to do masters now? Don’t you want to gain some work experience before going?

Me: yes sir I graduated in September 2020. I want to pursue my masters first because... ( he cut my answer there)

VO: Can I know your gpa please

Me: Yes sir its \*\*

VO: So under what class do you come

Me: (I stared blank at him for a moment . But took a deep breadth and answered)

I passed out with first class with distinction sir!

VO: oh that’s great! Congratulations.

VO: do you know the quarantine procedures?

Me: yes sir! I will book a hotel and quarantine for 14 days.

VO: Scan your fingers. Congratulations young lady! Your visa is approved. Have a nice stay in the us and carry your documents.

It hardly lasted 1 minute. As everyone are saying confidence is the key. I saw a rejection in front of me and panicked. But then I realised it’s different for each person and regained my confidence. And also maintain eye contact with the officer. That gives a good impression on you.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*Visa Experience\*

Slot- 9:15 (New Delhi)

Entry time- 8:45

Exit time- 10:05

Interview time: 2-3mins max.

Status- Approved

Counter - 1

VO was a young man in his early 30’s was standing and talking to some other guy when I reached the counter.

Me- Good morning officer. How are you doing?

VO- Good morning, I am great how are you?

Me- I am great.

VO- So where are you going?

Me- Told.

VO- Can you pass me your i20 and passport please?

Me- Given

VO- So how many colleges did you apply to? (Continuously typing)

Me- Told the count first. Shall I name them?

VO- Yes please.

Me-- Told

VO- So why did you choose this university?

Me- Told about the structure of the course and how it will help me in my career goal.

VO- So what are your career goals after the masters?

Me- Told

VO- Do you have any relatives/friends in US?

Me- I said no. ( Here I fumbled little since I have friends in US but in ds160 I mentioned it No, So please whatever you filled in your form stick to it)

VO- Oh that's great. So I see you went to Australia? What was the purpose?

Me- Told him that it was a family vacation.

VO- Can you scan your left hand fingers on the scanner. (He was not able to verify my biometric due to sweat so he asked me to wipe my hand with the tissue there)

VO- Congratulations! I am approving your student visa. Do carry your I20 with you and please follow all the quarantine procedures. (at first I did not believe it because he didn't ask me to take out my mask like he was doing for others)

Me- Thank you so much officer. You made my day!

VO- My pleasure. Have a safe flight.

P.S- He didn't ask me any other documents nor talked about funding. He was very friendly. Always smiling and typing in the system. Before me I saw 3-4 approvals from him. But at counter 2, VO was grilling the person more and rejecting mostly. I just wanted to go to the counter 1 :D You have to be very confident and speak clearly and concisely. Regarding documents they don't ask much.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/msinusfall2017/permalink/2793612820861700/

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Hyderabad

Status: Approved

Date : 16th October

Appointment Time: 08:15 AM

In time : 8:00 AM

Out Time: 08: 50 AM

Duration of interview: 2-3 mins

VO was an American (male).

Questions:

VO : good morning, please pass your passport.

Me: Very Good morning officer, How are you doing. (gave passport)

VO : I'm doing great. lets finish the biometrics first

-Placed my fingers and done.

VO : Pass me your i-20.

-Given.

VO : So Texas Tech University, Tell me why this uni.

- told. (Mentioned about available research opportunities and about the one I'm interested to be a part. Next is about subjects offered by the Univ and at last about the scholarship I've received.)

VO : In which year you've completed your Under-graduation

- Told (2019)

VO : Percentage and any backlogs?

- Told.(68.9 and 4 backlogs)

VO : what are you doing from then

- told. ( working at TCS)

VO: What is your role

-told

VO: About funding

-told ( savings and loan)

VO: About parents profession and annual income.

-told

VO: have you ever been to US and out of India before

-told (no)

VO : Congratulations. I’m approving your visa. Please drop your passport in the box

\_Thanks a lot officer, you made my day.

Ps.

No documents asked other than passport and i20

I'd like to Thank this group. It helped a lot.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Chennai consulate -10:30 am slot but it became really late there was a huge line. I reached there by 9am thinking it would get over immediately, but I entered only at 11:30am

neu - Ms in Cs

vo was a young American lady, both the people in front of me and the people in the other counter got reject.

Visa experience-

I didn’t get a chance to tell good Morning as soon as I entered as she asked me for my passport and i20 as soon as I entered.

Pass me your passport and i20.

Passed

VO: So neu?

-Yes ma’am

VO: Which course?

-Cs

VO: Oh so do you have any thing particular you would like to take up at your Univ ?

-Yes ma’am I would like to take a specialisation in the field of software engineering and programming languages and neu is one of the best Univ in this field. They have a dedicated research lab headed by prof Mathias fellision and it would be a great opportunity for me to work under him.

Vo: Oh great, did you apply to any other Univ?

-Yes

Vo: How many?

- 4 Univ, should I name them? Vo:Yah sure go ahead

- ASU, Clemson and Univ of North Carolina Charlotte apart from neu.

Vo: Sorry what was the last Univ ? Can you please repeat ?

- Univ of North Carolina Charlotte (UNCC)

Vo:So what made you choose neu over the other?

- Like I mentioned already, there is a lot of research conducted in the area I’m planning to specialise and also the course curriculum is something I really liked a lot! All the courses have 3-4 mini projects, and also a large scale project implementation apart from the normal assignments and this would give me a lot of practical exposure!

Vo:That’s great! Who is sponsoring you?

- My parents, myself and I have a education loan

Vo: What do they do?

- My father is a quality manager at xxxx, and my mother is a homemaker.

Vo: What about you?

- I work at xxxx

Vo: That’s great! Do you know the quarantine rules?

- Yes, I’ll quarantine myself for 15 days upon reaching Boston

Vo:So will you be leaving a little early?

Yes

Vo: Did you travel anywhere outside the country in the past 15 days ?

- no

Vo:Did you plan out your travel? How will you be going, flights and all?

-I plan to take a direct flight from India to the us

Vo:Yes that’s a good option! Take the direct flight it would be safer and better:)

-Yes :)

Vo:Please place your left hand on the scanner .

Awesome it worked !

I’m approving your visa, all the best do well!

Thank you ma’am 😄

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Hyderabad

Status: Approved

Date : 19th October

Appointment Time: 09:15 AM

In time : 8:30AM

Out Time: 9:30 AM

Duration of interview: 5 mins

VO was an American (male).

Questions:

Which university and course?

Y environmental engineering ?

Which year passout?

Any work experience?

Show ur experience certificate?

What about finances? - seen loan sanction

What do ur father do and salary?- asked for IT returns and salary slips of my dad

Quarentine procedure?

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Why this university

How many universities appiled

Names

How many admits

What's u r father

Loan amount

Any traveling before going to usa

Quarantine plans

Finally approved

Location - Chennai

University - UMKC

Course - MS CS

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: My experience

Location : Mumbai

Slot time : 11:20

In time : 8:45

Out time : 9:45

Date : 19/10/2020

VO was a lady in her mid-twenties

I had already visited in US so I had a B1/B2 visa stamped on my passport

Q : So you had visited US for your brother's graduation.

A : Yes. Told her the duration of staying as well at that time.

Q : When did u graduate?

A : Told

Q : Where does your brother work now?

A : Told. ( She also asked me about the state in which he's working now...told that as well)

Q : How do u plan to quarantine yourself?,

A : Told. Will quarantine myself for 14 days in a hotel room as per the university guidelines

Done that's it I'm approving your visa.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hey guys!

My Visa got approved 😊

Consulate - Chennai

Slot - 9.30 am

VO is a foreign lady, probably in her late 20s

VO - Hi, Good morning

Me - Good morning

VO - can I have ur passport n I20

Me - Yes ( handed over)

VO - Okay so it's University of South Florida

Me - Yes mam

VO- and what's the course ?

Me - BAIS

VO - what did u do in ur undergrad?

Me - I've done my undergrad in Electrical and electronics engineering

VO - Why Master's now?

Me - As I started to work I've realised the importance of data and since I'm a database developer I wanted to deep dive into data management, data mining n data science....and this course aligns with all my interests

VO - Awesome! When were u graduated?

Me - It was in 2018

VO - what r u doing since then?

Me - I'm working in an IT n consulting firm called TCS as a software engineer

VO - that's great! Who is sponsoring u?

Me - my family...I have a sanctioned loan for xx lkhs n xx savings n xx of assets

VO - what do they do... Who ever is sponsoring u..

Me - my father is working in private organization n my grandfather is a govt pensioner n we have total annual income of xxx lkhs

VO - Okay, so are u going to follow quarantine rules?

Me - yes, I would self quarantine for 14 days after reaching US in a hotel or in the university housing

VO - okay please place ur fingers for fingerprints and congratulations I'm approving ur visa... Please be safe n travel safely...

Me - yeah sure n btw ur Saree is too gud 😛

VO - Ohhh thank you!!

P. S - The VO was very enthusiastic, she kept typing throughout n was observing my body language while I was talking as I move my hands swiftly

And, I heard from my father that there were a few rejects(4-5) before me

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Hyderabad

Status: Approved

Date : 19th October

Appointment Time: 09:15 AM

In time : 8:30AM

Out Time: 9:30 AM

Duration of interview: 5 mins

VO was an American (male).

Questions:

Which university and course?

Y environmental engineering ?

Which year passout?

Any work experience?

Show ur experience certificate?

What about finances? - seen loan sanction

What do ur father do and salary?- asked for IT returns and salary slips of my dad

Quarentine procedure?

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Experience

Slot: 11.30 AM

Consulate: Chennai

Status: Approved

Interview duration: About 1 min

I was allowed to enter at 11 AM as crowd was less

VO was an American woman in her 30s

Questions asked

1) When did you complete your bachelor's

2) What did you do after bachelors and why masters?

3) Do you have any siblings in US?

4) How many universities did you apply and where all did you get admits from?

5) How are you funding your education?

6) You have started your masters online, which courses did you take?

She started typing something and said congrats, I'm approving your visa, have a great stay in the US

I was only asked my passport and i20. It was a smooth experience

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Status: Approved

Date : 19th October

Appointment Time: 10 : 50 AM

In time : 10.00 AM

Out Time: 10.25 AM

Duration of interview: 2-3 mins

VO was an American (female).

Here are my questions:

1) What are your Admits?

2) How are you going to fund your education?

3) What does your father do?

4) What did you do in you Under- Grad?

5) How are you planning to quarantine?

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa Experience

Slot: 11.30 AM

Consulate: Chennai

Status: Approved

Interview duration: 3 mins

VO was an American woman

Questions asked

1) Pass me your i20

2) Which program?

3) Why Business Analytics?

4) When did you complete your undergraduate?

5) Have you been working after that?

6) Why UTD?

7) Did you apply at any other universities?

8)How are you funding your education?

9) What does your father do?

11) How will you quarantine?

12) Which flight will you take?

I was only asked for my passport and i20.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Chennai consulate

Visa - approved

11am slot

There was a long queue for Chennai slots..reached there by 10:15. Came out by 12

Documents asked - i20 and passport

Questions they asked me:

1. When did you graduate after doing btech?

2. What did you do in this 1 year gap after btech?

3. Why ASU?

4. What will you do with a degree from ASU?

5. Do you have any siblings in the US? (My ans was yes)

6. What is she doing?

7. Where does she live?

8. Did you travel internationally in the past 14 days?

9. Are you planning to travel internationally before going to US?

10. What did you do in Europe? ( I've once went on a tour)

11. How are you going to quarantine yourself once you reach US?

12. Are you planning to come back to India and join the same company you are working now?

13. Who is your sponsor?

14. Where are they working?

15. Have you ever applied for US visa before?

My interviewer was a lady. She asked the same questions to guy before me. For him she asked if he had any backlogs as well.

In another counter the interviewer was more sweet and she didn't ask these many questions 😅

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Chennai consulate -10:30 am slot but it became really late there was a huge line. I reached there by 9am thinking it would get over immediately, but I entered only at 11:30am

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VO: So neu?

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VO: Which course?

-Cs

VO: Oh so do you have any thing particular you would like to take up at your Univ ?

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Vo: Oh great, did you apply to any other Univ?

-Yes

Vo: How many?

- 4 Univ, should I name them? Vo:Yah sure go ahead

- ASU, Clemson and Univ of North Carolina Charlotte apart from neu.

Vo: Sorry what was the last Univ ? Can you please repeat ?

- Univ of North Carolina Charlotte (UNCC)

Vo:So what made you choose neu over the other?

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- My parents, myself and I have a education loan

Vo: What do they do?

- My father is a quality manager at xxxx, and my mother is a homemaker.

Vo: What about you?

- I work at xxxx

Vo: That’s great! Do you know the quarantine rules?

- Yes, I’ll quarantine myself for 15 days upon reaching Boston

Vo:So will you be leaving a little early?

Yes

Vo: Did you travel anywhere outside the country in the past 15 days ?

- no

Vo:Did you plan out your travel? How will you be going, flights and all?

-I plan to take a direct flight from India to the us

Vo:Yes that’s a good option! Take the direct flight it would be safer and better:)

-Yes :)

Vo:Please place your left hand on the scanner .

Awesome it worked !

I’m approving your visa, all the best do well!

Thank you ma’am 😄

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hi Sumit Shreya Here..

Glad to share my visa experience today,

Guys, here’s my visa experience

Date : 20 October 2020

\*Consulate: Mumbai\*

IN at 8.30

OUT at 9.30

Appointment time : 11 am

Program : Information Systems

Interview duration: just 2 mins

VO was an Indian American lady

Just four questions:

VO :How many universities you applied to?

ME : Told

Why Northeastern?

ME : NEU has a very strong research base and provides outstanding resources for academic exploration, follows an interdisciplinary approach and flexible curriculum and courses that are perfectly aligned with my area of interest.

Who is going to fund your education?

ME : Told

VO : Typed for almost 1 min

What was your undergraduate degree in?

ME : Told

Congrats Visa approved!

Hope this helps!!🙌🏻😀

Best of luck to you all!!😊

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Interview Location : Chennai

University : SBU

Visa Status : Approved

Q : Why MS?

Q : When you completed your bachelors and what were you doing after that?

Q : Which other universities you got an admit from?

Q : Why SBU?

A : told about professor and labs and course structure

Q: Followup question from previous answer : What you liked about the work of professor?

Q : What your plans ater MS?

Q : Who is funding you?

A : Ed loan + Parents

Q : What your parents do?

A : Both retired

Q : Do you have any brother/sister in US?

Q : Quarantine plans on arrival?

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Status: Approved

Date : 20th October

Appointment Time: 11 : 40 AM

In time : 10.40 AM

Out Time: 11.00 AM

Duration of interview: 2-3 mins

VO was an American (female).

Here are my questions:

Me - Good morning

VO - Hi, Good morning

VO - can I have ur passport n I20

Me - Yes, here we go ( handed over)

VO - Okay so it's Arizona state university

Me - Yes ma'am

VO- how many other admits you had

Me - 6 admits including ASU

VO - what was your second choice?

Me - Suny Buffalo

VO - So you are working at samsung?

Me - yes, ma'am.

VO - Who is going to sponsor you?

Me - ma'am My parents are going to sponser me.

VO - what do they do?

Me - Started answering ( she interrupted after 10 secs)

VO - What is their turnover?

Me - (bit stumped!!) What ma'am?

VO - I asked do you know what your parents annual turnover is?

Me - yes ma'am I know, XX lacks.

VO - ( started typing for 1 min ) alright, your visa is aporoved. Please collect your I20.

Maintain eye contact while answering

Chill

Smile

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Interview location: \*Hyd\*

Status: \*Approved\*

Date: 19 oct, Time: 8:45 a.m

There were around 5 people before i was interviewed.

The person infront of me was interviewed for around 5 mins. Her VISA was approved.

VO asked me to come forward to proceed. He was white and seemed to be cool enough than what I was prepared for .

Me: Good Morning sir

VO: Asked me to place the passport on the window to scan the barcode.

Me: placed

VO: where are you going to?

Me: i am going to Univ of cincinnati

VO: what are going to do there?

Me: i am going to pursue masters.

VO: seems you have working experience in software field?

Me: yes sir, i have been working as Sr. soft. Engr from the past 3 years in a company called Temenos

VO: what will you be doing as part of ur work?

Me: explained him by just saying about my core product which is retail banking

VO: How are you planning your funds?

Me: i have taken an education loan of xx lakhs, we have a family savings of xx lakhs, i have (got scholarship of xx thousand dollars from univ. ) . He stopped me here asking next question.

VO: asked to place my i20 on the window?

Me: placed ( had a feelin that he checked my scholarship in I-20

VO: who is sponsoring your education?

Me: Told

VO: what do they do?

Me: Told

VO: some follow up questions about individual sponsor

Me: explained.

VO: Asked to pass the loan document

Me: passed

VO: do you know abou the quarantine rules there?

Me: yes sir, i have to take 14 days self quarantine after my arrival

VO: Asked me to place my right hand on the finger print scanner

Me: placed

VO: he came close to the window and said your visa is approved, please drop your passport in the box on your left.

Me: Thank you sir and left the place.

Good Luck

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Date : 21 October 2020

Consulate : CHENNAI

IN Time: 9:00 am

OUT Time : 09:50 am

Appointment time : 09:30 AM

University : Northeastern University

Program : MS in Computer Science

Interview duration: 1-2 mins

VO was a young lady.

Me: Hi Mam , Good morning

VO: Good morning

VO: Can you provide me yur passport.

Me: provided my passport.

VO: Can i have yur i20?

Me: provided my i20

VO: when did yu graduate?

Me: i completed my bachelors in 2014 mam.

VO:what are yu doing since then?

Me: i have 6 years of work wxp. Initially i worked for hcl technologies and moved oracle.

VO: when yu are going to resign yur job?

Me: Starting week of November mam.

VO: Why Northeastern university?

Me: i chose NEU bcoz of its course structure and also ongoing reasearch related to Artificial intelligence fascinated me to opt for neu.

VO: Are you aware of quarantine rules.

Me: yes mam i need to isolate for 14 days ipon arrival and need to maintain social distance and wear a mask in public places and sanitise myself regularly.

VO: place your left hand fingers.

VO: congratulations your visa has been approved . Have a nice stay in usa.

Me : Thanks mam . Have a nice day ahead.

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hi Sumit Shreya Here..

Glad to share my visa experience today,

Guys, here’s my visa experience

Date : 20 October 2020

\*Consulate: Mumbai\*

IN at 8.30

OUT at 9.30

Appointment time : 11 am

Program : Information Systems

Interview duration: just 2 mins

VO was an Indian American lady

Just four questions:

VO :How many universities you applied to?

ME : Told

Why Northeastern?

ME : NEU has a very strong research base and provides outstanding resources for academic exploration, follows an interdisciplinary approach and flexible curriculum and courses that are perfectly aligned with my area of interest.

Who is going to fund your education?

ME : Told

VO : Typed for almost 1 min

What was your undergraduate degree in?

ME : Told

Congrats Visa approved!

Hope this helps!!🙌🏻😀

Best of luck to you all!!😊

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Timing: 11:30am

In: 9:30

Out:10 am

Course : Information systems

University: Northeastern(NEU)

American bald man mid 30's

Questions Asked

1) what was your Undergraduate Major?

2)Any backlogs?

3) Fathers occupation?

Cogratulations your visa is approved good day

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Date : 20 October 2020

\*Consulate: Mumba\*

University -NEU

IN at 9.15

OUT at 10 am

Appointment time : 10 am

Program : \*Computer Science\*

Interview duration: 1-2 Min

VO was an Indian American lady

(1) Uhmmm you already have a B1/B2 Visa ( I said yes)

(2) how many admits do you have? And your second choice of College

(3) How are you going to fund your education

Your visa has been \*Approved\*

No documents Asked didn't even care about what course i am going

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Status: Approved

Date : 20th October

Appointment Time: 9:50 AM

In time : 8.30 AM

Out Time: 9.15 AM

Duration of interview: Less than a Minute

VO was an American (Male).

Here are my questions:

1) Which university and course?

- University of Texas at Dallas for supply chain management!

2) What’s your undergrad?

- Mechanical Engineering

3) What’s your Father?

- He is Vice President in Manufacturing company working from last 30 years.

Visa Approved!

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Status: Approved

Date : 20th October

Appointment Time: 11 : 40 AM

In time : 10.40 AM

Out Time: 11.00 AM

Duration of interview: 2-3 mins

VO was an American (female).

Here are my questions:

Me - Good morning

VO - Hi, Good morning

VO - can I have ur passport n I20

Me - Yes, here we go ( handed over)

VO - Okay so it's Arizona state university

Me - Yes ma'am

VO- how many other admits you had

Me - 6 admits including ASU

VO - what was your second choice?

Me - Suny Buffalo

VO - So you are working at samsung?

Me - yes, ma'am.

VO - Who is going to sponsor you?

Me - ma'am My parents are going to sponser me.

VO - what do they do?

Me - Started answering ( she interrupted after 10 secs)

VO - What is their turnover?

Me - (bit stumped!!) What ma'am?

VO - I asked do you know what your parents annual turnover is?

Me - yes ma'am I know, XX lacks.

VO - ( started typing for 1 min ) alright, your visa is aporoved. Please collect your I20.

Maintain eye contact while answering

Chill

Smile

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Interview location: \*Hyd\*

Status: \*Approved\*

Date: 19 oct, Time: 8:45 a.m

There were around 5 people before i was interviewed.

The person infront of me was interviewed for around 5 mins. Her VISA was approved.

VO asked me to come forward to proceed. He was white and seemed to be cool enough than what I was prepared for .

Me: Good Morning sir

VO: Asked me to place the passport on the window to scan the barcode.

Me: placed

VO: where are you going to?

Me: i am going to Univ of cincinnati

VO: what are going to do there?

Me: i am going to pursue masters.

VO: seems you have working experience in software field?

Me: yes sir, i have been working as Sr. soft. Engr from the past 3 years in a company called Temenos

VO: what will you be doing as part of ur work?

Me: explained him by just saying about my core product which is retail banking

VO: How are you planning your funds?

Me: i have taken an education loan of xx lakhs, we have a family savings of xx lakhs, i have (got scholarship of xx thousand dollars from univ. ) . He stopped me here asking next question.

VO: asked to place my i20 on the window?

Me: placed ( had a feelin that he checked my scholarship in I-20

VO: who is sponsoring your education?

Me: Told

VO: what do they do?

Me: Told

VO: some follow up questions about individual sponsor

Me: explained.

VO: Asked to pass the loan document

Me: passed

VO: do you know abou the quarantine rules there?

Me: yes sir, i have to take 14 days self quarantine after my arrival

VO: Asked me to place my right hand on the finger print scanner

Me: placed

VO: he came close to the window and said your visa is approved, please drop your passport in the box on your left.

Me: Thank you sir and left the place.

Good Luck

[10/23, 17:16] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Location - Mumbai

Interview Date - 20-10-2020

University - ASU

Course - MS CS

Slot : 11:30 AM

But entered consulate by 8:40 AM. Only 2 counters were functional.

Vo : come forward ( hand gesture)

Me : Good morning mam, how are you doing ?

VO : Good morning, I'm fine.

VO : Pass me your i20 and passport and asked along with asu what other universities you got admits ?

Me : ASU,UTD,USF and NEU

VO : Why ASU ?

Me : The reason why I chose ASU is because the curriculum is offering computer science core subjects like Theory of computation, design and analysis of algorithms along with big data systems concentration subjects like Semantic web mining and Statistical machine learning.

Apart from the curriculum the other reason why I chose ASU is because, a professor by name Dr. \*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* Is impressed with my profile... (At this VO asked to stop by hand gesture)

VO : Any backlogs ?

Me : No

VO : Who is going to fund you.

Me : My parents are my Sponsors. My dad is into Red chilli pepper business. Got loan from SBI of worth xx lakhs along with savings of XX lakhs.

VO : What does he do with Red chilli pepper

Me : he will do exports and imports.

VO : Are you the only child to your parents ?

Me : Yeah. (Here I'm fortunate enough that she asked question according to my lie 😂)

VO : what's your father's annual income ?

Me : XX lakhs and mom xx lakhs

At this point she kept my passport in basket and asked me to put my fingers for biometrics verification

While giving fingerprints, she asked my quarantine plans (I was like Abba Sairam) and told

ME : I spoke to international students association they told me that I can quarantine myself in the university dormitories and I cross checked same information with my academic counsellor.

VO : your visa is approved and all the best

Me : Thank you mam and have a nice day.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience Chennai consulate -12:00 Pm Date : 19 Oct ,2020. Went around 11.20 , glad didn't come early because there is a line that opens exactly at 11.30. Stood in the hot sun for quite a while

vo was a young American lady, around 27 years

Visa experience

Good afternoon

Pass me your passport and i20.

Passed

VO: 1.when did you graduate?

-2016

VO: 2.what have you been doing till then?

- I have been working in GE appliances.

VO: 3.Why masters now?

- I have been working in the supply chain domain for past 4.5 years. My area of work is planning and forecasting, I want to know how other modules are related to this.

Vo: Oh great, did you apply to any other Univ?

- yes Drexel university and utd and I got admit from both

Vo:why not Drexel ? I chose utd because its ranked top most by Gartner for supply chain .Besides Drexel in philadelphia is a cold place, since I am from a tropical country I chose Dallas since its warmer

- Vo 5. It says sponsors in i20, who are those ? My parents are sponsoring me. I am also taking a loan, Apart from this I have my own savings since I've worked for some time Vo:okay what do your parents do?

- told them

Vo: 8 what plans after you graduate?

- I plan to come back to India and apply for a leadership role in a product based company whose supply chains are not very optimized.

Vo:9 how will you fly to Dallas?

- I read India has made air bubble pact with 13 countries, Out of that Uk and germany is present. I will select a flight transiting through these countries

Vo:What quarantine plans?

- I plan to quarantine in a hotel for 14 days

Vo: Okay I am approving your visa but this is a bit early. Your class start date is Jan 19 , which means you'll have to attend an interview two months earlier from your earliest admission date! This might be in administrative processing, you might have to come again!..... at this point my heart sunk...because I got the digital i20 with updated class date just 4 days before... utd has changed class date from 11 to 19 jan Vo : Let me check with my manager if I can still stamp your passport.. And then she disappeared for 10 mins ! Those 10 mins were so scary, I was thinking what if she changes her mind 😢 luckily she comes back and says, my manager said I can stamp now itself with the earliest admission date based on your i20, you will get your passport in 3 to 5 working days. also you good news is that don't need a transit visa, you can fly without any issues

Thank you ma’am 😄

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Location: Mumbai

Date : 20 Oct 2020

Approved

Visa Slot:12:20 PM

Entered: 10.55 AM

Out: 11:25 AM

2 Counters were open

Vo Rejected two visa in front of me.

Saw First guy who gave interview on another counter also got rejected.

Mine was first visa that got approved on 20th

VO was pissed off because of guy in front of me.

Me: "good mor" didn't let me complete

Vo: pass me your passport i20.

(I still talked in calm and positive way, so as to make him calm down)

Vo: Which University?

Kelley School of Business.. (didn't let me complete University name)

Vo: Undergrad in

Me: I Completed Chartered Accountancy course along with Bachelor of Commerce with A grade and Master of Commerce A grade

Vo: Cgpa

Me: 8.75

Vo why masters again?

Me: As working, now I have noticed my career is not growing, doing repeated work in local firms in my city, I want to expose myself to bigger companies, and MNC require this Master of Accounting Course. As they...(didn't let me complete)

Vo: Wht about Funding?

Me: My parents will be sponsoring me. They have xxx amt of savings that is enough to cover 2 yrs of my living and tuition fee. I also have... (didn't let me complete)

(Was about to say "I have taken loan of 7,50,000 which I will encash if I need.)

Vo: Your visa has been approved.

(Gave me a slip)

Me: Thank You so much sir.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hey I got my visa approved.

Time : 9.15

Location: Hyderabad

Status: Approved

Vo: Can you please show ur passport and i20

Me : showed

Vo : scanned And said So which univeristy ?

Me : sir I am heading towards univeristy of south Florida

Vo: so you are going for computer science

Me : No sir I am going to purse masters in Business Analytics Information Systems

Vo : ok what is Business Analystics ?

Me : The survival and performance of any business depends on the decisions we make, Business Analytics provides many such tools which helps to make right decisions and strategies needed to survive in the Competitive world.

Vo: So are you working in the same role

Me: No sir I am working currently as a python developer and ( told my project details and work)

Vo : Asked more questions regarding my client and what exactly it does

Me : I told why my role is important and the details and technologies we use in our work

Vo : So how are you planning to fund your education

Me : sir I have education loan of xxxx lakhs and my parents have xxx lakhs of savings (vo interrupted with another question )

Vo : So what does your parents do ?

Me : My father is a Govt employee working as Training officer in ITI (Vo interrupted with next question)

Vo : what is his role

Me : Told his roles and responsibilities

Vo : what is his annual income

Me : Told

Vo : Can you show the loan sanction letter

Me : showed and VO asked if I have any terms and conditions letter I told No sir I only have sanction letter and it’s a secured loan from state bank of India

Vo : ok so do you have any source of income other than your father

Me : Yes sir we get rental income of xxx amount every month

Vo : So how many properties do you have

Me : three properties sir which round up to xxx Cr

Vo : So are they residential properties or what are they exactly

Me : sir one is residential and other two are agricultural land and plots

Vo : So do you know about quarantine rules

Me : yes sir , As per the norms we need to quarantine ourself for 14 days, I have contacted international student advisor and they are providing Dormitories and they are suggesting few hotels to stay. I am planning to stay in a hotel and quarantine myself .

Vo : Can you scan your fingers

Me : yes sir and did

Vo : Congratulations your visa is approved

Me: Thankyou sir

Vo: please put your passport in the box beside

Me : sure sir thank you sir

Note : Vo is a Male foreigner aged between 30 to 40 years.

I could see that almost 4 to 5 members before me got their visa approved,

But in the starting there we 2 rejects ( Got to know from my dad)

Vo :

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Got my visa approved!!

Counsulate: Hyderabad

Time: 8.45 am

Date: 21st Oct

Entered Counsulate at 8.00..was done by 8.30 am

I was the second person. The guy in front of me got rejected.

VO: Pass me your passport

VO: Which University?

Me: University of Texas at Dallas

VO: Which course are u going for?

Me: Master's in EE

VO: Can I see your I20?

VO: Do u have relevant work experience?

Me: Yes. I have worked with Intel as XX

VO: Tell me about your job role.

Me: -explained-

VO: How are u funding ure masters?

Me: I have personal funds and my parents is sponsoring me.

VO: Tell me about your sponsors

Me: My father is working as a Director in ----. My mother is a teacher in ----.

VO: What is their combined annual income?

Me: XX L

VO: Do u have any siblings?

Me: Yes I have a younger brother. He is studying XX here in India.

VO: Are u aware of Quarantine rules ?

Me: Yes. There's mandatory 14 day Quarantine. I plan to Quarantine at a hotel.

VO: Place your left hand on the scanner.

Keep the passport in the wooden bin. Your visa is approved!

Me: Thank u officer!

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hey I got my visa approved.

Time : 9.15

Location: Hyderabad

Status: Approved

Vo: Can you please show ur passport and i20

Me : showed

Vo : scanned And said So which univeristy ?

Me : sir I am heading towards univeristy of south Florida

Vo: so you are going for computer science

Me : No sir I am going to purse masters in Business Analytics Information Systems

Vo : ok what is Business Analystics ?

Me : The survival and performance of any business depends on the decisions we make, Business Analytics provides many such tools which helps to make right decisions and strategies needed to survive in the Competitive world.

Vo: So are you working in the same role

Me: No sir I am working currently as a python developer and ( told my project details and work)

Vo : Asked more questions regarding my client and what exactly it does

Me : I told why my role is important and the details and technologies we use in our work

Vo : So how are you planning to fund your education

Me : sir I have education loan of xxxx lakhs and my parents have xxx lakhs of savings (vo interrupted with another question )

Vo : So what does your parents do ?

Me : My father is a Govt employee working as Training officer in ITI (Vo interrupted with next question)

Vo : what is his role

Me : Told his roles and responsibilities

Vo : what is his annual income

Me : Told

Vo : Can you show the loan sanction letter

Me : showed and VO asked if I have any terms and conditions letter I told No sir I only have sanction letter and it’s a secured loan from state bank of India

Vo : ok so do you have any source of income other than your father

Me : Yes sir we get rental income of xxx amount every month

Vo : So how many properties do you have

Me : three properties sir which round up to xxx Cr

Vo : So are they residential properties or what are they exactly

Me : sir one is residential and other two are agricultural land and plots

Vo : So do you know about quarantine rules

Me : yes sir , As per the norms we need to quarantine ourself for 14 days, I have contacted international student advisor and they are providing Dormitories and they are suggesting few hotels to stay. I am planning to stay in a hotel and quarantine myself .

Vo : Can you scan your fingers

Me : yes sir and did

Vo : Congratulations your visa is approved

Me: Thankyou sir

Vo: please put your passport in the box beside

Me : sure sir thank you sir

Note : Vo is a Male foreigner aged between 30 to 40 years.

I could see that almost 4 to 5 members before me got their visa approved,

But in the starting there we 2 rejects ( Got to know from my dad)

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Date : 21 October 2020

Consulate : CHENNAI

IN Time: 9:00 am

OUT Time : 09:50 am

Appointment time : 09:30 AM

University : Northeastern University

Program : MS in Computer Science

Interview duration: 1-2 mins

VO was a young lady.

Me: Hi Mam , Good morning

VO: Good morning

VO: Can you provide me yur passport.

Me: provided my passport.

VO: Can i have yur i20?

Me: provided my i20

VO: when did yu graduate?

Me: i completed my bachelors in 2014 mam.

VO:what are yu doing since then?

Me: i have 6 years of work wxp. Initially i worked for hcl technologies and moved oracle.

VO: when yu are going to resign yur job?

Me: Starting week of November mam.

VO: Why Northeastern university?

Me: i chose NEU bcoz of its course structure and also ongoing reasearch related to Artificial intelligence fascinated me to opt for neu.

VO: Are you aware of quarantine rules.

Me: yes mam i need to isolate for 14 days ipon arrival and need to maintain social distance and wear a mask in public places and sanitise myself regularly.

VO: place your left hand fingers.

VO: congratulations your visa has been approved . Have a nice stay in usa.

Me : Thanks mam . Have a nice day ahead.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Mumbai consulate

Date-22/10/2020

Slot time- 9:30

Entered at 8:40

Out : 9:50

Status Approved

UNI- university of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Me: Good morning Sir

VO: Good morning, pass me your i20, sevis and passport

Me: Sure Sir

VO: do you have any other Us visa

Me: Told

VO: When did you travel to Us

Me: Told

VO: tell me about your masters program

Me: Told

VO: how are you going to fund your education

Me:Told

VO: how many years of work experience

Me :Told

VO: what are the quarantine requirements

Me :Told

VO: Congratulations I am approving your visa

Me: Thank you Sir have a good day

Duration: 2-3 mins

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Location : Mumbai

Arizona State University

Visa Approved

In time: 11:01

Out time: 12:01

Interview duration: less than 2 minutes

After security check they told me to go inside. Then they told me to go to counter 38 for document verification. I was in my zone mostly not paying attention to any other interview.

Me: Good morning ma’am

Vo: Good morning

Vo: pass me your i20 and passport

Me: here you go

Vo: how many admits did you get?

Me: Ma’am I got 4 admits. Shall I name them?

Vo: (Interrupted) What was your second choice?

Me: University of California Riverside. (I was confused whether I should elaborate or not but she moved on)

Vo: so how are you going to fund your education?

Me: My father has savings of XX lacs for my education.

Vo: What does he do?

Me: (explained briefly. Meanwhile she started typing)

She told me to put left hand on the scanner.

VO: Approved

Me: Thank you Ma’am

Tips: Don’t pay attention to any other interviews. Stay in your zone and take some deep breaths.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate : Mumbai

University: UIUC

Slot time : 10:30

Entered at : 10

Out time : 10:30

There were 3 counters open today- Bald guy, super enthusiastic American guy and an American Lady.

My VO was the lady and she was kinda very quiet compared to the other 2.

The interview barely lasted for 45sec -1min and only had 2 questions.

Me: Heyyyy Helloo, Good Morning Officer.

VO: ignored :( and asked me to pass my I-20 and passport.

Q1) How are you going to fund your education?

Ans: My parents are going to sponsor my education and have liquid funds amounting to XX USD.

VO: Oh good, so no loans then?

Me: These liquid funds actually include an education loan of XX USD.

VO Raised her eyebrows as if she didn't appreciate me not mentioning that in the firstplace.

Q2) What does your father do?

Me: Works at XX

Typed for a bit and then told me to place my left hand 4 fingers to scan.

Passed me back my i20 and another receipt.

I leaned in to the counter cus I was like ????

VO: Your visa is approved.

Me: Thank you very much have a nice day!

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Location: Mumbai

Date : 23 Oct 2020

Approved

Visa Slot:12:10 PM

Interview Duration: around 1 minute

Entered: 9:30 AM

Out: 10:30 AM

VO waved his hand asking to come forward

VO: Good Morning.

Me: Good Morning sir.

Vo: Pass me your passport and i20.

VO: What's your undergrad stream?

Me: Bachelor's in Computer Science, sir.

VO: Your score?

Me: Is it the GRE score?

VO: No. Your undergrad score.

Me: It's 7.84

VO: 7.84 out of?

Me: Out of 10

VO: What does your father do?

Me: He is an advocate by Profession.

VO: How much does he earn per year?

Me: xx Lakhs per annum, sir.

VO: Do you have a loan?

Me: Yes sir, a secured one for xx lakhs.

VO: I am not giving your passport because your visa is approved.

Me: Thank you sir, good day.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Interview date : 22nd October

Interview location : Mumbai

OFC date : 11th October

Status : Approved

Appointment time : 12:40

In Time : 11:20

Only one counter was operational.

VO was an American lady dressed in Indian attire.

Me: Good Morning

VO : Good Morning

VO : Do you have any other admissions and What is your second choice?

Me : told

VO: I see that you work at IBM( I had mentioned this in my DS160)

Me: Yes.

VO: How are you funding ?

Me: told

VO typed for about 30-40 seconds.

VO: Okay then, approved!!

Keep your answers to the point. VO did not counter-question me.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: \*Consulate: Mumbai\*

Status: Approved

Date : 22nd October

Appointment Time: 10.20 AM

In time : 09.30 AM

Out Time: 10.00 AM

Duration of Interview: 1-2 mins

VO was an American (Male in his 20s).

Here are my questions:

VO - Good Morning

Me - Good Morning Officer

VO - Please sanitize your hands and pass me your Passport and I-20

Me - Yeah Sure

VO - Okay, What plans in the US?

Me - Told

VO- How many Universities did you apply to?

Me - Told

VO - How are you gonna fund your education?

Me - Told about the savings and loan

VO - Are you aware of the quarantine rules?

Me - Told about the 14 day stuff!

VO - Did you travel outside of India in the last one month?

Me - No

VO - I'm approving your visa. Please carry your I-20 at the port of entry.

Me - Thanks a lot Officer.

VO - You're Welcome.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Status: Approved

Date : 21st October

Appointment Time: 9:30 AM

In time : 8.15 AM

Out Time: 9.30 AM

Duration of interview: Less than a Minute

VO was an American bald guy

Questions:

1) What’s your undergrad degree in?

2) GPA?

3) What does your Father do?

Visa Approved!

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Status: Approved

Date : 19th October

Appointment Time: 10 : 50 AM

In time : 10.00 AM

Out Time: 10.25 AM

Duration of interview: 2-3 mins

Documents asked:- I20, passport and SEVIS Receipt.

VO was an American (female).

Here are my questions:

1) What are your Admits?

2) How are you going to fund your education?

3) What does your father do?

4) What did you do in you Under- Grad?

5) How are you planning to quarantine?

Then she said \*"Sir, your VISA is approved. You will receive your passport in 5 days."\* I didn't get any slip or anything and when asked they said its not a mandatory slip.

When I came back home and checked my VISA status in the portal it showed \*refused\* . I called customer service and got it clarified. They said its \*refused for administrative processing\*. It means they need to verify your application further. After 3 days the status was \*issued.\*

So do not panic or stress in this situation. If they have kept your passport and said your \*visa is approved\* then it means your visa is approved irrespective of what VISA status is in the portal. \*Do not be under impression that it was a technical error. Its not a technical error.\*

\*Advise\* :- Do not check your VISA status for atleast 3 days from interview date.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa interview-22nd oct 2020

Slot-8:15 am

Consulate-Hyderabad

Status-Approved

University-University of Texas at Arlington

Q1)Which University?

A)- Told

Q2)Show me your i20

A) Shown and he asked Ms in cs right?

Q3)Are you working?

A)Yes

Q4)What do you do there?

A) Explained about my work and my project and what I do there

Q5)Who is funding ?

A)My father and we are having 30 lakhs in saving and I was stopped.

Q6) What does he do?

A)Told about him and our assets and I can see him being convinced.

Q7)Will you Quarantine?

A)Yes for 14 days I will book a hotel

Then golden words "Your Visa is approved"

And place passport in wooden box.

Basically from my understanding they are checking your confidence and your honesty and funding.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Hi Guys, here’s my visa experience

Date : 22 October 2020

\*Consulate: Mumbai\*

IN at 8.15 am

OUT at 10.00 am

Appointment time : 12.10 pm

Program : Information Systems

Interview duration: 1 min

VO was an Indian American lady

Just four questions:

ME: Good Morning Mam

VO: Good Morning. Please pass me your i20 and sevis receipt.

ME: Here it is

VO :How many admits you received?

ME : Told

VO: What was your second priority amongst them?

ME : Told

VO: How are you going to finance your education?

ME : My father will be sponsoring my education. He has liquid assets of amount $xx and i also have an approved education loan of amount $yy. So this will suffice my stay in US.

VO: What was your undergraduate degree in?

ME : Told

VO typed something and asked me to scan my left hand.

VO: Congratulations your Visa is approved.

ME: Thank you Mam. Have a great day

Hope this helps!!

All the best everyone👍🏻

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Status: Approved

Date : 21st October

Appointment Time: 9:50 AM

In time : 8.15 AM

Out Time: 9.10 AM

Duration of interview: 1-2 mins

How many admits did you get?

What was your second choice?

What were you doing untill now? ( I had graduated in 2017)

Described my work ex in 2 sentences before the officer moved to the next question.

Salary?

How will you fund your education ?

What does your father do?

What is the turnover of his business:(follow up question to my previous answer)

Visa officer typed continuously for around a min!

Asked me to scan my left hand and kept my passport.

Documents asked : I-20 and Passport

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Location : Mumbai

Arizona State University

Visa Approved

In time: 11:01

Out time: 12:01

Interview duration: less than 2 minutes

After security check they told me to go inside. Then they told me to go to counter 38 for document verification. I was in my zone mostly not paying attention to any other interview.

Me: Good morning ma’am

Vo: Good morning

Vo: pass me your i20 and passport

Me: here you go

Vo: how many admits did you get?

Me: Ma’am I got 4 admits. Shall I name them?

Vo: (Interrupted) What was your second choice?

Me: University of California Riverside. (I was confused whether I should elaborate or not but she moved on)

Vo: so how are you going to fund your education?

Me: My father has savings of XX lacs for my education.

Vo: What does he do?

Me: (explained briefly. Meanwhile she started typing)

She told me to put left hand on the scanner.

VO: Approved

Me: Thank you Ma’am

Tips: Don’t pay attention to any other interviews. Stay in your zone and take some deep breaths.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa experience

Mumbai consulate

Date-22/10/2020

Slot time- 9:30

Entered at 8:40

Out : 9:50

Status Approved

UNI- university of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Me: Good morning Sir

VO: Good morning, pass me your i20, sevis and passport

Me: Sure Sir

VO: do you have any other Us visa

Me: Told

VO: When did you travel to Us

Me: Told

VO: tell me about your masters program

Me: Told

VO: how are you going to fund your education

Me:Told

VO: how many years of work experience

Me :Told

VO: what are the quarantine requirements

Me :Told

VO: Congratulations I am approving your visa

Me: Thank you Sir have a good day

Duration: 2-3 mins

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Interview Date : 21st October

Interview Location : Mumbai Consulate

Interview appointment : 9.30 AM

In time: 9 AM

Out time : 9.50AM

Status: Approved

Me : Morning!

VO : Good morning, What's your Undergrad degree?

Me : Told

VO : What's your CGPA?

Me : Told

VO : What does your father do?

Me : Told

VO: How much loan have you secured ?

Me: Told

VO: Your VISA is approved, have a nice day.

Me: Thank you, you too!

The interview lasted for less than a minute

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Interview Date : 23rd October

Interview Location : Mumbai Consulate.

Interview appointment : 10.40

In time: 9.50 am

Out time : 10.25 am

Status: Approved

VO : American Bald guy

Me : Good Morning, Officer

VO : What's your Undergrad in?

Me : Told

VO : What's your CGPA?

Me : Told

VO : What does your father do?

Me : Told

VO : \*\*Handed me the white slip\*\*, Your VISA is approved

Me: Thank you Officer. Have a great day!

The interview lasted for 15 seconds.

Note: Dressing style and Confidence matters a lot in my opinion. The person infront of me was acting vulnerable by bending at every answer. Please avoid doing that. Stand straight, have a good posture and speak with confidence. That's all you need.

Good luck!

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate : Mumbai

University: UIUC

Slot time : 10:30

Entered at : 10

Out time : 10:30

There were 3 counters open today- Bald guy, super enthusiastic American guy and an American Lady.

My VO was the lady and she was kinda very quiet compared to the other 2.

The interview barely lasted for 45sec -1min and only had 2 questions.

Me: Heyyyy Helloo, Good Morning Officer.

VO: ignored :( and asked me to pass my I-20 and passport.

Q1) How are you going to fund your education?

Ans: My parents are going to sponsor my education and have liquid funds amounting to XX USD.

VO: Oh good, so no loans then?

Me: These liquid funds actually include an education loan of XX USD.

VO Raised her eyebrows as if she didn't appreciate me not mentioning that in the firstplace.

Q2) What does your father do?

Me: Works at XX

Typed for a bit and then told me to place my left hand 4 fingers to scan.

Passed me back my i20 and another receipt.

I leaned in to the counter cus I was like ????

VO: Your visa is approved.

Me: Thank you very much have a nice day!

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Visa interview-23rd oct 2020

Slot-11am

Consulate-chennai

Status-Approved

University- Northeastern university

Q1 .when did u finish ur undergraduate?

Q2 .Have u ever been to USA before ?

Q3 What plans after MS?

Q4 How r u planning to quarantine urself?

Then golden words "Your Visa is approved"

And place passport in wooden box.

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Consulate: Mumbai

Status: Approved

Date: 23rd October

Entered at 9 am, FCFS

3 counters were open.

VO:

Which course?

You have B1/B2, have you been to US?

Any relatives in US?

Yes, sister

What does she do?

Told

What does her husband do?

Told

Who is sponsoring your education?

(By this time he approved the visa)

What do they do?

How many admits?

Quarantine rule?

My sister is LPR and Student in front of me got rejection but either didn’t affect my interview.

My VO was reasonable and he was listening to the answer. The one on other counter (bald guy) was not hesitating in rejecting the visa

But he was approving too very quickly if the students were prepared.

So be confident.

It comes when you know about your college, course, fundings and after MS plans very well.

Try to keep your answer unique.

(They didn’t ask me or anyone in front of me about who booked the appointment.

Be careful if you are taking help from any agent, it didn’t happen with me in Mumbai but I’m not sure if the rumour is real or not.)

[10/23, 17:17] Omkar Madure NCSU IE: Location: Mumbai

Date : 23 Oct 2020

Approved

Visa Slot:12:10 PM

Interview Duration: around 1 minute

Entered: 9:30 AM

Out: 10:30 AM

VO waved his hand asking to come forward

VO: Good Morning.

Me: Good Morning sir.

Vo: Pass me your passport and i20.

VO: What's your undergrad stream?

Me: Bachelor's in Computer Science, sir.

VO: Your score?

Me: Is it the GRE score?

VO: No. Your undergrad score.

Me: It's 7.84

VO: 7.84 out of?

Me: Out of 10

VO: What does your father do?

Me: He is an advocate by Profession.

VO: How much does he earn per year?

Me: xx Lakhs per annum, sir.

VO: Do you have a loan?

Me: Yes sir, a secured one for xx lakhs.

VO: I am not giving your passport because your visa is approved.

Me: Thank you sir, good day.