ITC

Recruitment process

- **Profile**: Techno-managerial
- Eligible branches: electrical, chemical and mech in 2020; chem and mech in 2019
- **Processes involved**: application form, psychometric test, GD, 2 rounds of PIs
- **Expected CGPA cutoff**: 8 (not a hard filter)
- Psychometric test:
 - o **situational questions**: for eg how good you rate yourself for XYZ.
 - General observation: same questions are tweaked in different ways and consistency is expected in the answers.
 - **Preparation material**: any mock psychometric test can be found easily.

• **GD**:

- o case-based discussion, the group must arrive at a consensus within a given time.
- o selection depends on how valid your points are.
- o initiating the discussion is a plus but not if your points aren't valid.
- tests the applicants' thought process and how well the group can work together.
- GD question your plane crashes into a jungle, you're given a list of items for survival rank them on the basis of decreasing priority.
- Highly eliminative

• Interviews:

- 2 PIs (eliminative), with 2 different panels junior and senior (on the basis of their tenure in the company). Both panels consist of one core and one HR rep
- o resume driven PIs, how well you can explain your resume plays a major role
- o Panel members will dig deep into your resume and projects that you put on there
- Core rep will test if your fundamentals are strong, you won't get brownie points for remembering fancy equations, your basics must be very strong
- If you're lucky, the core panel member will ask you to pick and explain some of your favourite topics
- HR rep will ask behavioral questions in both rounds and these play a major role they look for positive body language and good personality traits
- Behavioral question example describe a situation where you faced difficulty and how you had overcome it - have 20 of these situations ready to go so that you can pick one and tailor the narration according to the question

• Word to the applicants:

- o CGPA isn't everything
- they prepare a whole scorecard for resume evaluation and everything on there gets a certain weightage - CGPA has a good weightage but POR, sports, cultural, projects all of these have a lot of weightage as well
- they're looking for ppl who have a good overall growth once you get through the resume shortlist, you're on level ground with everyone

Time at the company

• Gist:

- o year-long induction and immersion program (10 months), introduced to business verticals, projects in each vertical, April 2020 positioned into the final role
- o KITES orientation offline they'll tell you what you're expected to deliver
- 2 months intern mid and end review there will be a guide that you report to regularly

• Expectations vs reality:

- o in the intern you get to learn a lot about corporate culture, but other than that nothing surprising or unexpected
- ITC expects a lot from recruits, work stretches out for long hours, even senior managers work for longer periods, not a typical 9-5 job

• Growth:

• 1st year - AUT (Assistant Under training) - you'll come in at a pretty high level in the management hierarchy - positioned after 8 to 10 months - promotion after 2 years for everyone who came through the AUT program - after 1-2 years in a role, you can shift to another role - they'll never say no if you've learnt everything in your current role - they're very open to you switching - have a slight bias towards IITs and NITs for promotion

• Projects:

- productivity improvement, efficiency improvement in production processes
- induction program takes you through the entire value chain procurement, supply chain, production aspect, a stint on sales and marketing, retail channels, process improvement.

• Work culture:

- They won't stop you from diving deep into some subjects, they'll give you mentors, resources, you'll understand the business vertical very well
- For a papermaking process project in intern, they arranged for travel, and all other resources were paid for
- work culture is so so (for an Indian company it's good) they pay you a lot but it's a lot of work too - no rigid work timings - come and go as you please as long as you get the job done - they push you in a good way and a bad way - some projects you have to be ready to stay in late

Employees interviewed:

- Atharva Godse
- Srihari Mohan