

I hope you're doing well. I wanted to share an experience I had with Astha IT that left me quite disappointed. This might take a long time to read, so you may want to check the TL;DR at the end.

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## Meeting 1 – The Illusion of Choice

On January 1, I had a meeting with Shahriar Bhaia and Mehedi Bhaia. I mentioned that I wanted to continue in SQA for now but also explore other technologies—particularly AI-related roles like Prompt Engineering. The idea was simple: if I turned out to be a good fit for another role, it would benefit both me and the company.

Shahriar Bhaia seemed open to the idea and even suggested I look into the Kingstone project. Everything seemed positive. Or so I thought.

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## Meeting 2 – The First Red Flag

In the second meeting on January 3, Shahriar Bhaia mentioned that Astha IT would eventually be working with AI, and I'd get to choose whether I wanted to be involved as a developer or a tester.

Sounds great, right? Except there was a catch.

In the previous meeting, he had directly asked me which AI-related role I wanted to pursue, and I clearly stated my interest in the **Prompt Engineering** role listed on Astha IT's career page. Yet now, instead of acknowledging that, he casually slipped in the tester role as if subtly pushing me back into QA.

What didn't make sense was **why** working on AI as a QA was suddenly a thing. If the company was developing AI products, wouldn't it need someone to **test their quality**? The logic just didn't add up.

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## Meeting 3 – The Sudden U-Turn

By January 13, things took a sudden turn. This time, I was told to **make a firm decision—SQA or AI**. I chose AI. However, when I specified that I wanted to be a **developer**, I was immediately shut down.

Apparently, transitioning from QA to AI development was “**unrealistic because in real life, we can't learn while doing.**” Wait—what? Just a few meetings ago, I was encouraged to explore, and now I was being told that my switch was **impossible unless I somehow proved myself**.

If that was the case all along, why wasn't I told this upfront? The shift in messaging was frustrating, to say the least.

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## The Realization – A Pattern Emerges

Looking at these meetings in sequence, the inconsistency was obvious.

1. **First, I was encouraged to explore any role.**
2. **Then, I was subtly nudged back toward QA.**
3. **Finally, I was told that moving to another role wasn't actually possible.**

If the outcome was predetermined, why go through the theatrics? The whole process felt **misleading and unprofessional.**

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## Meeting 4 – My Decision

By January 14, it was clear where this was going. I informed Shahriar Bhaia that I wanted to pursue AI development and would be resigning from Astha IT.

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## Meeting 5 – The Exit Drama

After submitting my resignation letter on January 27, stating that February 7 would be my last working day, I was called into yet another meeting with Shahriar Bhaia and Mehedi Bhaia. This time, **the tone completely changed.**

Suddenly, leaving on short notice—even during probation—was **unprofessional**. When I assured them that I would ensure a smooth handover, I was met with:

*"How can you hand over something you haven't even worked on?"*

To which I logically replied, *"Then I don't need to hand anything over."* Apparently, that was the **wrong answer** because I was **immediately labeled as selfish.**

Throughout the meeting, Shahriar Bhaia was visibly frustrated and showed no willingness to be understanding. At one point, he even stated that my departure **wouldn't affect Astha IT** but would **leave a scar on my career** because *"the software industry in Bangladesh is small."*

That didn't sound like advice. It sounded like a **thinly veiled threat.**

Even when I tried to explain that I wasn't trying to harm the company, he **dismissed my words outright**, saying that I should prove it through actions instead. What actions? I had already committed to ensuring a smooth transition.

Adding to the arrogance, he barely made eye contact during the conversation, occasionally **interacting with his phone instead of listening**—a clear sign of how much my words mattered.

Also, he vaguely mentioned that he would request HR to “do something” for me **if** I ensured the successful delivery of Chess2. But he never clarified what “something” actually meant. When I replied, *“I am looking forward to that day,”* I was “advised” not to look for shortcuts.

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## Meeting 6 – The Final Letdown

On February 27, my last meeting with him took place.

Remember when he vaguely promised that he would **“request HR to do something for me”** if successful delivery of Chess2 took place? Well, the strong performance of Chess2 during Audit Week suggested a successful delivery, yet—**shockingly**—nothing happened.

Also, I was informed that there were no beginner-level developer roles for me at Astha IT. That's fine, but what wasn't fine was the fact that this information **could have been given to me weeks ago instead of leading me in circles**.

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## Final Thoughts – The Reality Check

I had hoped for **professionalism and transparency**, but what I got was **contradictory messaging, unnecessary pressure, and what felt like a subtle warning about my career**.

At first, I was told there were opportunities for me. Then, I was **led in circles**. And in the end, when I decided to leave, I was made to feel guilty about it.

Frankly, it left a bitter aftertaste.

Initially, Shahriar Bhaia made **big promises**. But when it came time to follow through, **none of them materialized**—and instead, I was **called selfish**.

It may not seem like much from the outside, but at the time, it was deeply frustrating and felt incredibly unprofessional. I had been honest and prioritized the company's interests, yet my sincerity was disregarded. Instead of being valued for my honesty, I was met with indifference and manipulation, making the entire experience even more disheartening.

## **TL;DR**

I had multiple meetings with Shahriar Bhaia and Mehedi Bhaia at Astha IT, hoping for transparency and growth. Initially, I was encouraged to explore AI-related roles, but over time, I was subtly pushed back into QA. When I made it clear I wanted to transition to AI development, I was suddenly told it wasn't possible.

When I resigned, the response was frustrating—my short notice was labeled “unprofessional,” and I was warned that leaving could harm my career. Despite my efforts to ensure a smooth transition, I was met with dismissal and vague promises that never materialized.

The entire experience felt misleading and unprofessional, leaving me with a bitter aftertaste.

I just wanted to share my experience with you.