IAS Interview 2011-2012 (Interview Transcript): 19th March to 27 April 2012

Interview: Some Students of Vision IAS

Candidate: Sachin Rana

Board : Vijay Singh + 4 members (including one lady member)

I was the first one to enter in the room on the fine cold breezy morning of 21-03-2012. So...Adrenalin was running high in spite of facing the board last year as well.

Peon took me to the room...and made me sit before the room...I had to wait for more than 10 minutes before the bell rang for me...Actual time can't be monitored as watch and pen were not allowed for security reasons.....

I entered the room post seeking permission and then wished the board Chairman warmly and then to all other members slowly including the Lady Member.... They all made me sit....! sat expressing thanks....

I was feeling comfortable and calm....I think so....and here it is ...

Chairman: What are your choices for services?

Me: IAS, IPS, IFS and then IRS.....

Chairman: Why you have given IPS such high priority?

Me: Thought for a while is I hearing correct....Then I spoke...Sir, my father serves in Delhi Police, so I have

inclination for the same.

Chairman: So you understand what it takes to be a police man?

Me: Yes Sir, I do.

Chairman: What is the most important quality u think a police man must have?

Met Sir, I think Discipline...is most desired...

Chairman: Explain...

Me: Sir discipline can be seen in various facets of life....Like in TIME MANAGEMENT...the punctuality need to be there in his life....Also in general day to life it can be seen...You need to arrange things in orderly fashion...One must have idea about what clothing he will be wearing next day...where are his shoes...socks...At this Chairman smiled...

Chairman: You think keeping shoes and socks is disciplined...with smile....

ME: Yes Sir, with smile and all then enjoyed a laugh....Chairman later added he did not ever think that as a discipline but now he thinks so.... I nodded with smile....and added it is similar to O&M, sir.

Chairman: It seems you had worked for a while...

Me: Yes Sir, I am working presently also...I am working with Saipem India Projects...

Chairman: What is the profile? Me: Sir, I am a process engineer.

Chairman: What do you do?

Me: Sir I design Refineries and Petrochemical Plants...I design pipe, vessels, Pumps, Heat exchangers and

Distillation Column...

Chairman: Extends me to first member...

Member 1: what are the component from distillation column?

Me: Sir form top we get Fuel Gas which is used in the refinery .. Then we have LPG.. Liquified Petroleum Gas...and then....he interrupted..

Member 1: What are the component of LPG.

Me: Sir, C3 and C4 ie Propane and Butane .(I fumbled up here with C3 as Butane..but later corrected myself and extended my apologies)

Member 1: What is CNG, then?

Me: Sir, CNG.. compressed Natural Gas... It is basically 90% Methane and rest C2 Ethane....

Member 1: So u were representative at IIT. You know how you calculate the Mess Bill?

Me: Sir, to be exact these activities are out of my purview and caretaker of the Hostel used to see all this...

Member 1: Caretaker or Supervisor.

Me: All the four years the supervisor post was vacant..so only caretaker was there....

Member 1: what was the name of him?

Me: Mr Siroha...

Member 1: Siroha or Saroha...

Me: Sir, Mr. Saroha....sorry I fumbled up.... Here chairman was looking at me with innocent emotion which I think were helpful for me to regain my confidence....

Member 1: then extended me to Member 2

Member 2: Don't you think self conscience is best policing? (In the mean while last member who was late came in and created disturbance in the room)

Me: I could not understand. So asked him to elaborate...

Member 2: Repeated the question

Me: Yes Sir, I conscience is best policing technique...but still some people get on the wrong path...So I believe if one values his self conscience then he better controls the behavior. I also think self control is the best thing.

Member 2: What are the qualities your father as a police man gives you?

Me: Sir, discipline, punctualityhe interrupted in between...and extended me to lady member 3 with smiling note....

Member 3: Its reported that in last 19th 20th centurie man has made numerous discoveries...what are your views on this....

Me: Think for a while...Madam I think this observation is only perceived one....Mankind has made innovation from the vary beginning...we invented fire, wheel and then iron..bronze...etc...but it is only in 19th and 20th centuries that wehave documented many of the innovations such as car, plane, ship and mobile phone etc...At this I was looking at Chairman and he was nodding in concurrence...

Member 3: What would you innovate today and now if given the opportunity?

Me: Think for a while...Madam I would be willing to build something that could measure the stress level of all the aspirants sitting out side... They all are in bad shape...Something that could measure their pressure level...Chairman Interrupted in high tone...Why they are in bad shape?

Me: Sir, the pressure to perform....may be is the reason...

Member 3: So u want to calculate and measure the pressure level of mind...

Me: With smile, Yes Madam, Actually by that we can give counseling to those who r not able to manage their stress level... their colleagues and friends in group can do that....

Member 3: Will Mediation will help?

Me: Think for a while...yes madam it will help definitely....

Member 3: Then she extended me to Member 4 the late comer and most irritating of all...

Member 4: You were talking about innovation..

ME: Yes Sir

Member 4: What is the difference between Innovation and Discovery?

Me: After recollecting for a while....Sir innovation is from the grass root, from zero level and scratch....whereas Discovery is about getting know what is already in existence...

Member 4: So fire was discovered or innovated.....

Me: Think for a while...sir, discovered...and extended my apologies for in correct usages earlier...

Member 4: What are the problems presently faced by the India as a nation....

Me: Sir, there are many problems in India....

Member 4:He interrupted and asked me ...okay tell me Social problem

Me: Sir, I believe lack of Education is a problem that need to be addressed. I explained. Sir, there is difference between Litercay and Education....Education gives the knowledge about your rights....your duties....Sir, I am talking about quality of education..

Member 4: then what is the solution?

Me: Sir I think Teacher Student Ratio should be corrected....It is 1:42 in Delhi....

Member 4: I am not asking about Delhi...India we are discussing...

Me: Right Sir, but what I meant to say was that If the Ratio is so much less in Capital of the country then we can think of other areas...

Member 4: What is ratio you recommend...?

Me: 1:30 is being recommended....

Member 4: At all Levels.....

Me: No Sir, only at School Level...For Technical Education it is 1:15.

Member 4: Then Economic Problem?

Me: Sir I think Fiscal Consolidation is the issue...

Member 4: What?

Me: Explained and added the present Budget is on the same lines Sir, where expenditure has been curtailed and revenue has been increased....so the targets of FRBMA can be met...At this Chairman nodded in affirmation as well...

Member 4: And then Political problem...

Me: The present Coalition phase of the government is the political problem, Sir.

Member 4: Coalition has been in India since 1950's...so how can it be a problem....

Me: Sir, Prime Minister has himself said...that due to coalition decision making is getting difficult...But I think we are in a transition phase and along with Civil Society Participation.... We will be overcoming all the hurdles.....

Member 4: Civil Society.... Name a civil society which have changed the policy making...

Me: Recently, Anna Team has modified the policy making....

Member 4: Lokpal and Lokayukta has been there since 1960swhat change they have brought....? Me: Right Sir, But the suggestion given by them are dynamic...like Police Power, Suo Moto power and life imprisonment to corrupt officials....these are never think of....

Chaiman interrupted and told about the Kiran Bedi's flight's fare issue...all smiled...

Me; Definitely Sir, Civil Societies will make our democracy inclusive and developed countries had provided us the examples....

Chairman Starts again....

Chairman: What are you views on extra judicial killings....?

Me: Sir, on humanitarian grounds these should not be allowed...

Chairman: So you want to prosecute Police officials who commit encounters?

Me: Sir, if such incidence has been made in self defense then not, but otherwise. ...

Then should be prosecuted....

Chairman: What do you think Police should have humanity or not?

Me: Yes Sir, Definitely Police is a part of the society...and if a common man hoes to the police and finds him humble and helpful....he thinks policeman is a good man.

Chairman: So all the third degrees should not be used?

Me: No sir, rather other departments should be fostered such as Forensics... Chairman: So you don't want to beat the people but want to use technology...

Me: Yes Sir....

Chairman: So there should not be "pitaai ka dar" in people... Me: Sir I think there should be Fear of Law....not Fear of Pitaayi....

Chairman: Okay....fear of policeman that he can beat me but he will not beat...

Yes: Yes Sir....

Chairman: Thanks Sachin.....Yours Interview is over.....

Me: Thank you Sir....

I nodded to all of them and got out slowly....

I think I was lucky enough to get in this board. In totality Board was humble and kind....except one member....They shared few lights moments with me....My fingers are crossed now for the positive result to come.....

Sachin Rana