



Not amongst the toppers in MBA CET 2012?

Don't worry. You are still in race to become a good MBA!

How would you feel if you score a 99 percentile in any exam? Top of the world, right? This feeling is justified if the exam that is being referred to is any of the national-level exams, like the CAT or the XAT. Strangely, this is not true for the state-level Maharashtra CET for the MBA. Thanks to more than 50 reservation (under the outside home University seats, the all India seats, the reserved category seats and the linguistic minority seats) in different institutes, the home university candidates (read the Mumbai university students), have very few seats to compete for in the Mumbai colleges. The fallout of this is that, even with a 99 percentile one stands only an outside chance in the top 5 colleges Mumbai. Last year for instance, the lowest score at which a home university candidate was admitted under open category to JBIMS (the best B-School under MBA-CET) was 169. Whereas, the next best institute had its last candidate admitted in the same category at a score of 164. Do you think, there any difference in the calibre of the two candidates? The 5 mark difference could have been created due to lot of reasons – random guesses turning out correct, venue of the GD-PI or even the mood of the examiners at the GD-PI! So, should a candidate who misses out on JBIMS, really feel bad? Is he not good enough to become a MBA? Is missing out on the coveted JBIMS seat, really the end of the world?

To address all such questions, CPLC had organised a special session for students (including the non-CPLC students) who have secured less than 99 percentile in the written part of the CET 2012. The session titled, 'MBA CET – The way forward', was conducted by the CPLC faculty members, Prof. Parag Chitale, Prof. Manish Salian and Prof. Rushabh Sanghani. The objective of the session was to motivate these students, and provide them with different options that would put these candidates amongst any sought after MBA after 2 years. The session was conducted in three parts:

1. An in-depth analysis of CET 2011 admissions with cut-off's of different institutes. There was also a comparison made between the last year's scores and this year's scores. What came out of it was an interesting insight. Because this year's CET was tougher than last year's edition, each mark has a lot of students in it this year. This means, it is possible for you to jump more than 100 ranks up, with every additional mark you score above the average marks in your GD-PI. Now, this hypothesis is not true for the 99.7+ percentilers, but they were not being addressed anyways.
2. A detailed procedure that a candidate needs to follow from now onwards, including the verification of documents at the ARC (Application Receipt Centre), to the detailed flow of different CAP rounds.



3. The third part of the session aimed at giving the students different options through presentation's from students different institutes. The objective was not to hard-sell these institutes (hence none of the officials were called), but to give a student's perspective into different institutes and the programmes that these institutes offer. Students from, Somaiya, S.I.E.S and Dalmia college gave presentations about their institutes. Though students from Welingkar, I.E.S. and M.E.T. were also contacted, they could not make it due their on-going college exams. They still managed to send in their presentations. The emphasis of these presentations was on the USP of different colleges, the programmes that they have, the selection processes and the cut-off's for these programmes, the placement scenario (including average salaries offered on campus) and the well-known alumni from the institutes. A couple of interesting things that came out from these presentations. The students shared that while the students from top-institutes get a lot of things on the platter (because of the reputation of the institute), the students at their institutes have to work harder right from getting guest faulty to inviting companies for placements. Hence the learning is much more through adversities. Secondly, it came out that that there are several off-beat programmes offered by different institutes that many are not aware of, hence there is a good chance of getting into these programmes. Some programmes that come under this category are the Masters in Financial Services (MFS) at the Somaiya college, PGDM Business Design at the Welingkar college and the PGDM retail management at the Somaiya and the Welingkar colleges. Finally, the students also brought out the fact that the weightage of the CET scores in admission to the PG programmes is very low. On the other hand, a lot of weightage is given to GD-PI and your profile. Hence, a student, with even low CET score stands a chance of getting into these PG programs.

The session ended with a question-answer round that was addressed jointly by the faculty members of CPLC and the students from the MBA institutes. The 60 odd students and a few parents who attended the session appreciated the initiative taken by CPLC to guide the students whose chances in securing admissions in the top institutes look bleak. For CPLC, the objective was simple. CPLC students, who have scored above 99 percentile (including 18 above 99.85 percentile) in the CET 2012, have their task cut-out. They know where they will end up. However, what about the ones who are not so clear about the institutes that they stand a chance into? Call them and make them understand that their scores are not that bad after all, and they still stand a chance to be amongst good MBA's.

The session was held at Sashi Manmohan Shetty Higher Education Complex, Kurla (E). Looking at the response, CPLC is planning to conduct a similar session in the Western Suburbs. For registration, please contact: 9702015999, 9702702888.