

Event Report: 180DC SSCBS X Alumni Speaker (Ayush Madhogarhiya)

Date: 13th June 2025

Time: 9:00 pm

Event Overview:

180 Degrees Consulting, Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies (SSCBS) chapter, organized an insightful alumni interaction session with Ayush Madhogarhia, currently a Master of Business Administration (MBA) student at Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Lucknow (Class of 2026). The main aim of the session was to help first and second-year students navigate their career choices, focusing on entrance exams, placements, and making the most of their college years.

Keynote Speaker:

Ayush Madhogarhia is an SSCBS alumni (BBA, Financial Investment Analysis) of the Class of 2024 and is currently pursuing his MBA from IIM Lucknow. His profile includes roles such as Live Project Associate at Oberoi Hotels & Resorts, Acko, Vedantu, and Vice President of SSCBS Student Council. His achievements also highlight securing a 9.3 CGPA in BBA, a 9.36 CGPA in MBA (until Term 2), and serving as a National Winner at EY CAFTA. Ayush's experience makes him a role model for juniors who aim to pursue their MBA from a premier institution.

Session Highlights:

The interactive session included guidance, timelines, and strategies tailored to the needs of first and second-year students. Some of our key takeaways were:

1. Placement vs Higher Studies:

- Ayush strongly advocated choosing higher education (MBA) over immediately entering a job, given the long-term benefits, better salaries, and greater opportunities.

2. Importance of Entrance Preparation:

- He stressed the importance of starting self-preparation 4-5 months in advance, with 2-3 hours of daily practice. His own timeline (2nd year onwards) involved self-prep for CAT and GMAT first, followed by placement applications afterwards.

3. Backup Plan:

- Ayush recommended attempting both CAT and GMAT exams, which provides backup options and more flexibility in choosing from IIMs, ISB, or M7 universities.

4. Job vs MBA – Final Take:

- His view was to pursue higher education immediately after graduation (if your profile and scores are strong) instead of job first, except in cases where you have a very desirable placement opportunity.

5. Placement Experience:

- He explained how placement prep typically starts about 1 month in advance, and companies recruit in clusters afterwards. His path was self-prep => GMAT => CAT => placement, yielding him desirable options for both education and employment.

6. Internships:

- Ayush assured first-year students that having an internship is not a necessity for MBA admissions, although it can be a nice addition to their profile.

7. Target Score:

- He suggested a GMAT score above 700 is desirable to apply to a range of strong programs.

Conclusion:

The event concluded with a vote of thanks to Ayush for his time and insights. He addressed doubts, provided clarity on timelines, and encouraged everyone to aim for excellence, whether in exams, internships, or future placements.

Acknowledgments:

180 Degrees Consulting SSCBS extends its heartfelt thanks to Ayush Madhogarhia for taking the time to connect with our members and impart valuable knowledge.