

Half-asleep, watching Shark Tank, it struck me like eureka. Investor Mark Cuban offering \$25,000 for a seemingly strange business proposal called 'I Want to Draw a Cat for You' triggered an epiphany that offered me a new perspective. Once an innovation is brought into existence- no matter how unusual- the necessary robust business planning from impeccable marketing to intricate financing is what plays the greatest role in making it grand at a global scale.

This realisation drove me to undertake an internship in 2018 at JBGVS- the CSR section of Bajaj Auto Ltd, India's \$6 billion automobile major. Engaging in field visits to VisionSpring (an NGO supported by JBGVS) and meetings with its senior management introduced me to the corporate world. Aiding to develop a presentation about the affairs of JBGVS earned me recognition for my potential to think strategically and influence decisions. Subsequently, I understood the workings behind innovation at such a large scale.

This internship also taught me the large scale contributions I can make when using business knowledge strategically, and I hope for this programme to be my first step towards the same. Living in a developing country such as India allowed me to form a deep connection with volunteer work. Participating in the 5-year national Clean India Mission initiative to build the first set of toilets in Bamnoli- a remote village in Western India- highlighted the significant role that giving back to society plays in my life. It also revealed how little acts when organised well can lead to big changes, engraining in me a sense of leadership.

An undergraduate business and management education would push me to challenge myself in an ever-evolving field. I realised my inclination towards exploring beyond my comfort zone while organizing multiple blood donation camps in partnership with Noble Hospital- a renowned medical centre in my city, Pune. This challenging venture took months of planning, from strategically marketing it to eliminating stigmas around blood donation. This successful camp amassed enough donations to save over 200 lives. For the first time, I managed such a large project- recognising the significance of sound organisation, cultural awareness and optimising efficiency. UK- being an inherently diverse country- would present opportunities to empathetically manage cultural differences; a necessary virtue in today's world.

In addition, this programme excites me for the multiple play-fields and wide array of topics it offers. This equips me with the intensive knowledge and skills to pursue meaningful blends of a variety of pathways; rather than restricting myself to a narrow corridor of specialisation. The silver Duke of Edinburgh award broadened my horizons and perspectives- allowing me to challenge myself in varied disciplines such as teaching children with learning disabilities, leading groups of 10 over a rigorous 3000meter Himalayan trek and qualifying the grade 4 Trinity exam in drumming. As a certified open water PADI diver, lead photographer and drummer of my school, I think my varied experiences have honed my ability to blend expressiveness with leadership and build the potential to create.

Everyone has a purpose- whether it is to make a change in the space of technology or service to the society. I believe that I, too, was born to make a change. Knowing that a contribution is most meaningful when asserted at a large scale, I find my drive in using a business background to create commercially viable platforms that impact millions of lives.