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Welcome back to another edition of our Newsletter. This is the season where students who have completed their 12 years of schooling, struggle to determine their future college education. We have reproduced our earlier article that mystifies various programs in computer science. A student who was in the predicament one year ago shares her perspective with a one year hindsight. In addition, we have an interesting puzzle this edition and key deadline highlights!

Feel free to reach out to our mentors for a free one on one session to discuss your career options!

Choosing your career (from a ONE year old college student)!

The results of 12th board have come and many of you are in the boat of what branch and college to choose. Sameeksha Bharat, a firstyear civil engineering student from IIT Roorkee, a pioneering institute in civil engineering dating back to the British era., shares her view on the topic in this piece phrased in a question-answer format. She was exactly in this state a year ago, and she is eager to pass on her wisdom with a one year hindsight.



1. What should we focus on while choosing a college and branch? How did you decide?

You are at a big crossroad-one that decides where and how you'll grow over the next 4 years. Here's the first thing: don't blindly chase what's trending. Instead, ask yourself:

Do I prefer to be in a reputed institution that offers broader exposure? Or do I want to focus on a specific branch, even if the college is relatively new?

I chose Civil Engineering at IIT Roorkee over Computer Science in a newer IIT. At first, I doubted the decision-especially when friends around me had taken up circuit branches in well-known state colleges. But over time, I realized that college reputation, peer environment, and overall learning culture matter just as much as (if not more than) the branch.

2. With so much peer pressure and noise around, how should we make an informed decision?

Peer pressure is real. Everyone around you seems to be going for Computer Science or aiming for "placements." But you must zoom out a little. Think longterm. What kind of work would you enjoy doing every day? What topics excite you when you read or hear about them?

If you're unsure, speak to seniors, professors, and people in the industry. Don't just look at salaries, but look at skills, lifestyle, growth, and satisfaction. Choosing a branch you find interesting will help you sustain the motivation to do well and explore it deeply. Take a look at the <u>article and video</u> by Prof. Kamakoti, Director of IIT Madras . As he says, every field has potential in a growing economy like India-and it's true. Whether it's Civil, BioTech, Mechanical, or Design, there's room for innovation and impact everywhere.

3. Share your experience of exploring a new place and culture

I moved from Chennai to Roorkee. Initially, the cultural change, food, and weather overwhelmed me. But that discomfort became a huge growth point. Living away from home taught me independence, flexibility, and how to deal with diverse people and perspectives. You grow immensely when you step out of your comfort zone. So, don't be afraid of moving to a new state or region-it might just make you stronger and wiser.

4. What if I end up in a 'less preferred' branch?

When I started, I thought Civil Engineering had limited scope. I was wrong.

In just one year, I've seen how Civil Engineering today is deeply interlinked with tech: data science, machine learning, and automation. Whether it is using GPS and computer vision for smart construction or integrating ML to monitor pollution and traffic patterns, modern Civil Engineering is far from traditional.

And here's the exciting part-you don't need to be in Computer Science to learn coding or data handling. I've learned C++, Python, and basic ML as part of my projects. If you gain computing skills within your core branch, you are actually more valuable-because the world needs domain experts who can also use tech. Have a look at <u>this article</u> published in the earlier issue of our newsletter for more insights on Computer Science programs.

5. So how should we make our choice?

Here are some thumb rules:

- 1. The "best" branch is the one that keeps you curious and challenged.
- 2. You can acquire skills from any field, what matters is initiative. If you put in effort, and do well, you can shine in any field.
- 3. The reputation of the college can play a meaningful role in shaping the opportunities that come your way.
- 4. Exposure to new cultures is a bonus that makes you more adaptable.

So choose wisely and not emotionally, not under pressure. Think for yourself. Talk to mentors. Explore options. Trust that no path is a dead end if you're willing to learn and grow. If you're confused today, that's okay. A year ago, I was too. But I found my footing and so will you.

UPCOMING EXAMS AND DEADLINES

Competitive exams

SSC Selection Post Phase 13 Recruitment 2025

Organization: Staff Selection Commission (SSC) Description: Group B & C posts in various central government departments and ministries. Application Opening: June 2, 2025 Last Date for Application: June 23, 2025 Exam Date: July 24 – August 4, 2025 Eligibility: Varies by post; typically requires 10th/12th/Graduate level qualification Age Limit: Generally 18–30 years depending on the post (some posts 18– 25 years) Website: ssc.gov.in

SSC Stenographer Exam 2025

Organization: Staff Selection Commission (SSC) Description: Recruitment for Stenographer Grade C and D posts in various ministries and government departments. Application Opening: June 5, 2025 Last Date for Application: June 26, 2025 Exam Date: August 6 – August 11, 2025 Eligibility: 12th pass Age Limit: Grade C: 18–30 years, Grade D: 18–27 years Website: <u>ssc.gov.in</u>

SSC JHT Exam 2025 (Junior Hindi Translator)

Organization: Staff Selection Commission (SSC) Description: Recruitment for Junior and Senior Hindi Translators, and Hindi Pradhyapak posts. Application Opening: June 5, 2025 Last Date for Application: June 26, 2025 Exam Date: August 12, 2025 Eligibility: Master's degree in Hindi or English with English or Hindi as a compulsory subject Age Limit: Up to 30 years Website: ssc.gov.in

SSC JE Exam 2025 (Junior Engineer)

Organization: Staff Selection Commission (SSC) Description: Recruitment for Junior Engineers in Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical disciplines in various government departments. Application Opening: June 30, 2025 Last Date for Application: July 21, 2025 Exam Date: October 27 – October 31, 2025 Eligibility: Degree or diploma in engineering Age Limit: Up to 30 or 32 years depending on the department Website: <u>ssc.gov.in</u>

AIAPGET 2025

Organization: National Testing Agency (NTA) Description: All India AYUSH Post Graduate Entrance Test for MD/MS/PG Diploma in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Siddha, and Unani. Application Opening: May 9, 2025 Last Date for Application: June 8, 2025 Exam Date: July 4, 2025 Eligibility: BAMS/BHMS/BSMS/BUMS or equivalent Age Limit: Not specified Website: <u>nta.ac.in</u>

Jharkhand Home Guard Recruitment

Organization: Jharkhand Police / State Government Description: Recruitment for Home Guard positions in Jharkhand Application Opening: June 15, 2025 Last Date for Application: June 30, 2025 Exam Date: To be announced Eligibility: Usually 7th to 10th pass, varies by district Age Limit: 19–40 years (as of January 1, 2025) Website: jhpolice.gov.in

Bihar ASHA Worker Recruitment

Organization: District Health Committee, Bihar (Supaul District) Description: Recruitment of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) in Supaul district Application Opening: May 7, 2025 Last Date for Application: June 30, 2025 Exam Date: Not specified Eligibility: Female candidates; 10th pass Age Limit: 18–40 years (Rural ASHA), 25–45 years (Urban ASHA) Website: supaul.nic.in

UPCOMING EXAM DATES (June–July 2025)

UGC NET June 2025

Organization: National Testing Agency (NTA) **Description:** National-level eligibility test for Assistant Professor and Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) **Exam Date:** June 21–30, 2025

JKSET (Jammu & Kashmir SET)

Organization: University of Jammu **Description:** State-level eligibility test for Assistant Professor in J&K Exam Date: Postponed until further notice

SSC Selection Post Phase 12

Organization: Staff Selection Commission (SSC) **Description:** Written exam for earlier Selection Post Phase cycle **Exam Date:** June 24–26, 2025

AIIMS Ph.D. (Stage I)

Organization: All India Institute of Medical Sciences **Description:** Entrance test for Ph.D. programs **Exam Date:** July 5, 2025

NATA 2025 (Session III)

Organization: Council of Architecture **Description:** National Aptitude Test in Architecture for B.Arch admissions **Exam Date:** Every Friday and Saturday until June 28, 2025

RESULTS EXPECTED IN JUNE 2025

ATMA – June 2025 Session

Organization: Association of Indian Management Schools (AIMS) Description: MBA/PGDM entrance test Result Date: June 7, 2025 Website: <u>atmaaims.com</u>

ACCA – June 2025 Session

Organization: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants **Description:** Professional certification exams for CA aspirants **Result Date:** July 14, 2025 **Website:** <u>accaglobal.com</u>

TSICET 2025

Organization: Telangana State Council of Higher Education **Description:** Entrance test for MBA/MCA admissions in Telangana **Result Date:** July 7, 2025 **Website:** <u>tsicet.nic.in</u>

RESULTS EXPECTED IN JULY 2025

CUET UG 2025

Organization: National Testing Agency (NTA) **Description:** Undergraduate entrance test for central universities **Result Date:** July 28, 2025

CUET PG 2025

Organization: National Testing Agency (NTA) **Description:** PG entrance test for central universities **Result Date:** Already declared (May 6, 2025)

AIIMS B.Sc. Para-Medical

Organization: AIIMS **Description:** Result for B.Sc. (Hons.) Paramedical entrance exam **Result Date:** July 4, 2025

AIIMS Ph.D. (Stage I)

Organization: AIIMS **Description:** Result for Stage I of Ph.D. entrance **Result Date:** July 10, 2025

Old Puzzle Solution

Suppose we have a set of 100 coins, where each coin is either a LIGHT type or a HEAVY type. All coins in the LIGHT category are of the same weight, all coins in the HEAVY type are also of the same weight, and the weight of a HEAVY coin is strictly more than the weight of a LIGHT coin. All coins look identical, and both types of coins are present. We are given a traditional weighing balance (where we can put weights on either side and decide which side is lighter/heavier or both sides are equal). How many weighings do you need to identify all the heavy and (hence) the light ones? Note that one can find them out with 99 weighings by weighing the first coin (as a reference point) with others. Can you do better?

Solution:

Method1: We can use one coin (say the first) as a reference coin and weigh it with all other (99) coins, one by one. At the end, we will know all the coins that are of the same weight as the reference coin. We also know which ones are light or heavy based on the weighing where the reference coin was NOT of the same weight as some other. This is the method that uses 99 weighings.

Method2: We will improve to 75 weighings as follows. We will divide the 100 coins into groups of 4 each, and we will argue that we can classify the coins (as heavy or light) in each group using 3 weighings each, for a total of 75 weighings.

Let's fix one group of 4 coins, say c1, c2, c3 and c4. We will explain how we can classify them using 3 weighings or identify that all of them have the same weight (but we may not know whether they are light or heavy) in 2 weighings.

In the first weighing, we will weigh c1 and c2 with c3 and c4.

Case 1: c1+c2 weigh < c3+c4. (1)

Then we can conclude that there is a light coin between c1 and c2, and a heavy coin between c3 and c4.

Then we weigh c1 with c2 (2)

If both have equal weight, we can conclude that both are light, otherwise, we know which is light and which is heavy.

Then we weigh c3 with c4 (3), and conclude similar to the outcome of the second weighing; if both have the same weight, both are heavy, otherwise can

classify them.

Thus in this case, we can classify the coins in 3 weighings ((1), (2) and (3)).

Case 2: c1+c2 weigh the same as c3+c4

Then we weigh c1 with c2 (2). If they weigh the same, then we can conclude that all four of them weigh the same. Otherwise, we figure out the light and heavy coins among c1 and c2 and weigh c3 and c4 to figure out the heavier and lighter one between the two.

Thus we have classified them all as light and heavy in 3 weighings or concluded that they all weigh the same in two weighings.

There is another case symmetric to Case 1 when c1+c2 weigh > c3+c4and this can be handled similarly to Case 1.

Thus, we have classified coins in each group as light or heavy using 3 weighings or deduced that they all weigh the same (but not necessarily light or heavy) using two weighings. In the latter case, if we already have classified some coin (in some other group), say x, as light or weight, we can pick one from the group and weigh with x and deduce whether the coins in the group are light or heavy.

In the final case, when we have deduced that coins in all groups weigh the same (but not clearly light or heavy), we would have spent only two weighings per group for a total of 50 weighings. Now we pick one from each group (25 of them), and apply Method 1 for a total of 24 additional weighings to figure out whether each coin is light or heavy.

Puzzle Corner

Find the possible solutions for "The Science Fair Mystery" puzzle below:

Four friends—Adya, Banu, Cynthia, and Meiappan—each entered a different project (robotics, chemistry, astronomy, and environmental science) into the school science fair. Each project won a different prize: first, second, third, or fourth place. Use the clues below to determine who did which project and what place each received. List all the solutions and argue that they are the only ones.

Clues:

- 1. Adya's project placed higher than Banu's, but lower than the astronomy project.
- 2. Cynthia did not do the chemistry or environmental science project.
- 3. The robotics project did not win first or fourth place.
- 4. Meiappan's project placed immediately above Cynthia's.

Rush your answers to newsletter@allcareerguru.org - The best answer sent by July 1st will be eligible for a prize worth Rs.1000.

Send your comments and suggestions to: <u>newsletter@allcareerguru.org</u>

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