

Statement of Purpose (SOP)

“The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.”

This quote by Nelson Mandela is what had essentially kept me going emotionally and professionally in my life. My Grandfather mentioned this to me after he had his open-heart surgery in 2015. He was a man of resilience who has undergone numerous heart surgeries in life, endured a lot of professional failures, and emerged as a champion. My Humble upbringing heavily influenced me to concentrate on my academics, as I believed good education will improve and strengthen my opportunities in the real world and I had a vision of doing something that would give me a sense of satisfaction by giving back to the society. My love for research has begun at a very young age as I used to reason every life form existed around me. The evenings in my college involved me around my seniors telling me of the challenges they faced in the day and what they did that day. I could see their eyes spark each time they talked about the business processes. Through them, I understood that communication, networking, and public speaking skills are very important for entrepreneurship, and to sharpen them, I have actively participated in a lot of elocution competitions, Research conferences throughout my college days.

Few areas of my education have stimulated me to think as much as my courses in Biotechnology have. When I watch people suffering from deadly diseases or when I see the development of new vaccine or drug that alleviates people's sufferings, what I feel is a sense of marvel. Here are innovations that keep evolving not only technically but also hold infinite scope for creativity and logic. I feel a similar sense of exhilaration when I see my envision come alive. It is this feeling, which till date, drives me to not give up on even the toughest of problems. And it is this love for serving the society, combined with my desire to dig deeper into the working of various applications and technologies, which propels me to apply for **Joint Doctoral Program between University of Manchester and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur**.

My love for technology has made me pursue an undergraduate degree in Engineering. I graduated with a CGPA of 9.30. This propelled me to pursue my masters from IIT-Kharagpur in the same domain. I learned here technical subjects along with personality development as part of core electives under the best faculties and had hands-on experience on the same from the lab sessions. This made me to develop keen analytical and reasoning skills. I acquired an overall perspective of the scientific discipline and how it can be linked socially for societal benefit. Due to my passion for learning, I took up my final year projects in DRDO, New Delhi; ICGEB-JNU, New Delhi and NCBS, Bangalore – which are prestigious research laboratories working on cutting edge scientific discoveries. Here I learned the importance of being disciplined and having attention to detail.

I too have volunteered in various NGOs like CRY & GYWS-IIT KGP where I was responsible for teaching school going kids during lockdown period and making them accustomed to e-classes. Working at NGOs and communicating with various entities brought back the

entrepreneurial spirit I had. I firmly believe that with the internet in hand, there is a lot of untapped potential in the marketplace which if seized properly, can help a lot of people financially. As I slowly transitioned myself from a tech role to a functional role, I was able to reach one step closer to my goal. This made me improve my leadership, multitasking, and creative skills and I want to delve deeper into the area of Public Policy to end up as a successful management consultant with a goal of entrepreneurship, few years down the line.

The exposure from elite institutions undoubtedly provided me with the right knowledge, skills, and experience to pursue my dream and exploit the opportunities to the fullest extent. The right skill development to uplift remote areas/districts of the nation is the need of today and the this dual doctoral program is actively involved in bridging this gap for which I am aspiring to be a part of with utmost enthusiasm and motivation. I am confident my exposure to such an environment would quite augment my knowledge base and add tremendous value in enabling me to realize my professional goals.

With my capacity for diligence, commitment to achieve my goals and logic I will be able to do well in this program. I am sure that you will share my confidence and give me an opportunity to further my studies in this certification program.

Sanchit Sood