

## **In the long run I wish to work in the field of personalized medicine and gene therapy**

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I come from a background where medicine is the major profession in the family. The fact that I have seen medicine cure so many each day and observed its impact on humanity, has deeply influenced me. In the beginning, I wanted to become a doctor too, but I realized that doctors only cure patients individually whereas with thorough research one can make a profound impact on whole of humanity! My passion to study biotechnology or life sciences arose from some of these experiences as a teenager when I realized my urge to serve society through my work.

The B.Tech. in Biotechnology program was best suited to me as it would provide me a holistic platform to achieve my goal. I have had this golden opportunity to study in Jaypee University of Information Technology which is the best in the private sector for pursuing biotechnology in North India. It has state-of-the-art facilities, well-equipped laboratories and the course curriculum is adequately designed that has helped me acquire knowledge, experience and good understanding of the discipline. The teaching here has laid emphasis on fundamentals and motivation for research which has helped me develop the right orientation for research and study. This was quite evident during my summer training at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur, where the methodologies and implementations used there could be easily grasped by me as my educational background through college gave me an edge in my knowledge and skills over my counterparts from other places.

I have been highly motivated and encouraged to follow my intuition in doing research work, and in the long run I wish to work in the field of personalized medicine and gene therapy and dedicate my study for the betterment of society. I am currently in the final semester of B.Tech. in Biotechnology and my pursuit for personalized medicine has strengthened through my current project on identifying protein biomarkers for breast cancer. While gleaning through various research papers particularly on cancer, I have realized the need for targeted therapy drugs and personalized medicine. This is because, not all the common anti-cancer drugs are effective against all types of cancers. They do not affect the specific aberrant molecular causes of that cancer and their effectiveness relies on the genetic disposition of the individual too.

Undoubtedly, India's biotechnology industry is in its nascent stage and is fast growing bringing in a decent revenue with much promise for future. Also, there is no dearth of opportunities in the biotechnology sector. I believe the growth in the biotechnology industry has much scope for research and shall require more graduates in times to come to contribute to the advances in this sector. I am interested in a career in research so I am looking forward to the biotechnology industry for job prospects. Although, I do not have much exposure to the industry, I still feel that interested students after their study should spend several years working in the biotechnology industry learning the skills and then becoming an entrepreneur in this field.