



Studies reveal that by the end of the century, 1,50,000 people will have died due to heat related issues, thanks to global warming.

## Role and Responsibility



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

With great power comes great responsibility. And therefore the power that one commands because he or she has been elected for a particular position or achieved a particular designation, also comes along with a lot of responsibility. For now they are the God's 'chosen' child to deliver the responsibilities entrusted upon them for a bigger purpose. How they deliver their responsibility is what makes them an important person, worthy of commanding the respect of others.

It is also important to understand that the designation and position they acquire or reach in their life are also earned with hardwork and therefore worthy of the person. But then if the person does not live up to the expectations of that position, he or she loses the respect. For respect is also earned and not commanded.

When our prime Minister Narendra Modi, espoused to all bureaucratic officials, politicians and government officials to give up the VIP culture, especially the habit of using the red beacon and replace it with 'EPI (every person is important)', he actually shifted the focus of people from the 'power' attached to the position, to the 'responsibilities' associated with it.

Infact at all point of time in life we are playing some role or the other. And we all have been entrusted with a power to perform that role. Every role that we play has been entrusted with some responsibilities. The need is to discover that power and the responsibilities associated with it. Use them wisely for your own growth, the development of the nation and the world. [GT](#)

## Beacon of Hope



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

Thirty years ago, when my friend Reema graduated from IIM and bagged a mind-blowing salary with a reputed multi-national, our celebrations were grand. Barely a year later, we heard that she quit her job and was preparing for her civil services exams.

"Why?" we asked. "You have everything: a dream job, bungalow, big car, foreign travel, and the purchasing power to get what you want."

"Yes," she said, "but there is one thing I cannot buy."

"What?"

"A car with a red beacon, the ultimate symbol of power."

The flash of the red beacon has always been a big lure for many who joined public service. The perk of the 'lal-batti' was such a strong narcotic for the ego that many, like addicts everywhere, ultimately failed their responsibilities.

From May 1 this year, the red beacon atop vehicles of public officials has been packed up and mothballed. Today, the only reason to quit a lucrative private job and join the ranks of government servants would be purely 'service'. Only time will tell if the Services and the coveted 'Chair' retain their charm. What we know for sure is that with 'lights out' for the red beacon, the show is over.

RIP, lal-batti. Bye-bye, VIP culture. The new India, where everybody is a VIP, is surging full speed ahead.

Can you see the flash of hope beckoning? [GT](#)

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# Ironies of India

Illustration: Anju Rawat, GT Network

**I**ndia is a land of ironies - a country where a third of the world's poor coexist with a hundred billionaires. Half of the country is starving due to poverty, while the other half deliberately starves to lose weight. **Shivang Seth, AIS Saket, XII, brings you a glimpse of our paradoxical world.**

**So ja beta, varna police aa jayegi:** With cops around, Indians are more anxious than secure. On seeing a man in uniform, we instinctively reach for our seatbelts, helmets are worn and mobiles are kept away. The Indian standard for a traffic signal seems to be green for go, yellow for go faster and red to check for police. In the absence of any, hit the accelerator as hard as you can.

*We always need someone to keep an eye on us. Parents at home, police on roads- why is it so difficult to do the right thing solely for self-accountability?*

**Baba tera bhala karega (aur apna bhi):** On one hand, we have students studying 18 hours a day to get into one of the 'elite colleges'. On the other hand, there are some, laden in saffron and irrationality, sitting in a 'darbar' and giving out quirky advices making the world a better place and money,



hand over fist. Sample this:

**Devotee:** Baba meri naukri chhut gayi, kya karun? Baba: Beta, kal se samose ke saath hari chutney khaana. Sab theek hoga

*We demand proof for a surgical strike while we seek advices from an underqualified person, without a question. Are our beliefs more about convenience?*

**Apna sapna money money:** We Indians spend a lifetime saving money in the most bizarre manners. A T-shirt is first worn to outings, then becomes our nightwear, and finally ends up becoming a mop. However, most of this money that takes decades to

save is spent at once, on a single ceremony: 'The big fat Indian wedding'. Relatable?

*A coffee for Rs 200. Hagglng with the autowallah for Rs 20. Time to revise our saving skills?*

**Time is omnipotent:** Indians understand the importance of time. Be it a queue at the movie theatre or a road packed with cars, we love barging our way to the front because none of us have any time to spare. Everyone is in a hurry and yet no one is on time. We are habitually late. But then so are VIPs. *It takes two to tango but it takes just one to break the queue for everyone to get into a fight, and get late.* [GT](#)

## Motherhood or career?

There is no force more powerful than a woman determined to rise. Yes, you can balance your work and family, that is, only if you are determined to do so

Abhilasha Singh, Sem II, MBA Gen, AUUP

**"T**he biological clock and the career clock are in total conflict with each other. Total, complete conflict," said Indra Nooyi, CEO of PepsiCo and mother of two daughters. A similar sentiment is echoed by many working women, across the world.

The 21st century working woman seems to be met by the constant dilemma: take a break from work to raise kids or grab the opportunity to go up the professional ladder? Attend the parent teacher meeting or join the meeting that could possibly give you a raise? As the 'either or' hovers over working women, the end result, more often than not, is what has been described as the guilt syndrome. With so much to do and a difficult work-life balance to achieve, something or the other is missed out, some priority tends



Perspective

to take a backseat. The end result: guilt.

It is a well known fact that if women start to participate in the workforce, the GDP of India would double. But often due to obligation of traditional duties, women either cannot continue taking higher posi-

tions or are unable to get back in the working sphere. Statistics show that the participation of women in labour force has declined from 40% in 90s to 24%. And sadly, only 5% of the 24% women in labour force are able to make it to the top.

So the question is how does a woman manage? In the words of Indra Nooyi, "it is a difficult situation." The answers lies in the fact that no one can have it all. Accepting the situation is the only way forward. One simply cannot always be there for their child while managing her profession.

Working women should try to find an optimum work-life balance, the key to which lies in planning and organising. With a little bit of help from family and friends, they should strive towards creating an environment that works seamlessly. But most of all, women need to be persistent and brave in whatever they undertake. [GT](#)

### Little pearls of wisdom

## Never give up

Achint, AIS MV, VIII

**"T**ry, try and you will succeed." We have often heard this quote, but we fail to acknowledge the same when stuck in a difficult situation. Behind every success story, there is a long-fought journey, challenges that are overcome and trying constantly. Napolean Bonaparte crossed the great Alps after several failed attempts. He never gave up and reached the other side to conquer the kingdom. The king thought no one could ever cross the Alps, but Napoleon's will power did. That was Napoleon, what about you?



Imaging: Ravinder Gussain, GT Network

How do you deal with the obstacles and failures? Do you give up when the odds are not in your favour? Or

do you keep trying? Success never comes to those who give up easily. It is only the ones who keep chasing their dreams and keep trying, who are ultimately able to find a way. Never give up just like Napoleon. When the going gets tough and you are thinking of giving up, remind yourself that no journey is worth telling if there were no hardships to overcome. At some point of time in the various journeys that we embark on in our lives, we reach that point where we feel like giving up. In such situations, tell yourself that there is light at the end of the tunnel. So instead of giving up, get up and try walking again.

### GT M@il

Dear Editor,

The Global Times edition dated May 1, 2017 was indeed an interesting read. Each colourful page of the edition unfolded with extremely well thought out and creative articles, be it the article on patriotism in the present age or the cover story highlighting and discussing the reality pertaining to the amount of freedom writers and journalists enjoy around the world.

I also found the article 'Growing up Pangs' very relatable. That article sheds light on the fact that no matter how much learned or experienced you may feel, each phase in life will bring forth new things to learn, more challenges to face. Definitely, I would say, with its myriad and interesting articles, GT never fails to brighten up one's day! [GT](#)

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