



Research Article

The Corporate Sector: An Outlook

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Abstract

In reality, most great ideas are born from failure and disappointment. A few people overcome these setbacks and discover their creative mindset and their genius for performance, while others give up silently after endless practice. In this paper, I outline a few perspectives on corporate-sector employees who work around the clock for the growth and success of others, and who, in the process, often lose their sense of self and the recognition they deserve—both in a workaholic environment and within their own families. We are all aware that business owners often repeat one particular claim: that those who work for a salary from nine to five are wasting their time. Yet these same owners rely on large companies where both hidden and established teams execute their ideas without a single weekend's break. At the same time, they know that different people bring different creative ideas and feedback that serve the company's growth well. As every coin has two sides, a closer description is needed to examine the matter more deeply.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The LPG reforms—Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation—were introduced in India in 1991. They brought the deregulation of industries, changes to the financial sector, and adjustments to foreign trade policy, along with consequences such as job losses and higher consumer costs. That year marked the beginning of a series of changes in both regulation and taxation [1]. In the years that followed, we saw the rise of several private companies employing large numbers of people; but in the race for supremacy, business ethics quietly died and the system went paperless.

Everything begins with appreciation—something as common in clothing as it is in career growth. When hiring, most owners look for a candidate with a gentle, obedient demeanor and a good résumé that seems suited to a specific field. Yet we all know that résumés can be a joke [2]: anyone can put together a decent one and send it to enough companies, because a person is searching for a job, not for a company. A résumé is meant to be a quick observation, not a quick judgment, because we never know how much someone endured to get a job, or how they came to leave the previous one. The main obstacle for a person is getting trapped in the wrong work environment—one that can turn them from honest to dishonest, optimistic to pessimistic, rich to poor, and from liberalization to manipulation. Many employees' ideas are dismissed simply because they are new to the company, only for those same ideas to be used later, in secret, without any credit. Out of fear of being let go, they keep working continuously; but after long hours without any momentum, they enter a weak zone and become trapped by scheming, lazy colleagues.

Even if you know what's coming, you're never prepared for how it feels.

— *Natalie Standiford* [3]

The behavior of scheming colleagues cannot be understood until you experience it personally, and no course can teach you how to handle such a “situationship.” The private sector hires far more employees than the government sector—when, in reality, it should perhaps be the other way around. Critics are everywhere, each seeking promotion and using others as stepping stones; if a fresher's willpower is not strong enough, they will die mentally somewhere in the making. When a group of people turns against one person, there are usually a few reasons: (1) the person has confidence but lacks experience; (2) the person has an idea nobody else had; or (3) the person can execute that idea alone, without asking others for help. Jealousy and comparison take over the moment a fresher begins to sound like a leader. We all know that comparison kills creativity, yet we still try our best to seize others' sources of ideas. But knowledge and experience cannot be transferred quickly, because they are wrapped in confidence and willpower, and years of lived experience cannot be explained in a single interview. This is why a small project is needed—to observe how a person behaves, how they work with a team, and how experienced staff treat a newcomer. It matters, because not all employees remain honest: over time, as a boss's regard becomes

casual and effortless, an employee's nature can change. Perhaps they are manipulated, led to believe they are part of a family while never being treated like one—used instead for growth, power, and to strengthen the economy. Family is not a fact here; vanished deals are the fact in business meetings. In the end, facts alone are what matter.

The major problem arises when owners grow lazier than their employees. Consider someone who has already spent fifty years in the corporate world and starts a new company at the age of fifty-five: they will rarely give the company a hundred percent, yet will expect two hundred percent from the employees they hire—people who may be somewhere between twenty-five and, at most, thirty-nine. Why? Because these employees can work day and night, since they are still in their building-up phase. They are running households: some must earn for an aging father's treatment, some must save for a sister's wedding, some want to move from a rented house to one they own, and some have to pay their children's school fees. All of these needs are treated as mere excuses, and employees are never acknowledged for what they are going through while taking care of the company.

Intelligence has no relation to age. Age is just a number; what matters is the kind of situations you have faced in life. Work should be compared only with work—not by age, appearance, or caste. Yet the young often face the most, because when there is no reply to authenticity, there is humiliation. I have seen people demand respect simply because they are older, not because of anything they achieved—people who, in truth, wasted years in a single job. A child who lived without shelter for years, by contrast, cannot be manipulated with plastic flowers. The reason is *situation*.

Situation builds a person, because it brings transparency. Some people suffer from a lack of inner trust and willpower, and because of it they are never empowered until the day they retire. So where is the problem? Few victories, but great fear—and targets that are never completed [4]. One major drawback of companies is that they hand targets to managers and command them to achieve those targets through their team members. Out of forty workers, only four may take responsibility as managers; the rest become quitters. Why? Because they are not paid what the manager is paid, so why would they put in more effort than he does? The problem is that we limit employees with targets. Suppose an employee has the capacity for thousands, but is given a target of ninety lakh a year with only three team members: he will not think about how to achieve it—he will think about when to resign. And that is not self-doubt; it is a reality check. If he must meet the target out of responsibility, he will look for every possible shortcut. Business targets of this kind create pressure and shift a person's nature from honesty to hook-or-crook, and from imaginative to manipulative—spoiling the office environment in the process. On the other hand, some people feel that targets are essential for growth. But long-term planning kills short-term execution and its small victories. Refusing thousands of deals just to wait for the biggest one is absurd; small projects fuel an employee's mindset, and excitement comes from doing something new [5]. Planning for a whole year can also be tedious. Rather than waiting many

months for the biggest project, it is sometimes better to abandon that wait quietly and focus on weekly projects that offer new experience and awareness for the future. Staying with the same customer for years gives you nothing but an autobiography.

Don't forget to walk first on the road you built for others. You may be working hard, but remember: you are not the owner of the company. You merely belong to the company, and the company has many others like you. Depending on the situation, employees receive remarks, face quiet emotional manipulation, and can be dismissed with disregard. As humans, we are usually afraid of others' opinions and feedback [6]; we cannot always be right, and sometimes it is better to listen to others—whatever their age. But there are also many times when it is better to quit and give up on the wrong things. We cannot be the hero all the time; that too is reality. When we cut ourselves off from feedback, it leads to a self-centered personality that can take us down the wrong path—so we must accept that even heroes need a fresh start and a reality check. Sometimes an obvious solution is right beside you, yet you cannot see it until someone else takes a look [7]. That is what meetings are meant for; but even meetings have changed with time. Instead of discussing ideas or solutions, we now discuss problems—and sometimes the problem is not so major that it warrants a panel of twenty people. It would be far better to settle it quickly with a simple “good to go” or “abort.” Do not race to impress everyone, because it is impossible; only a few people truly matter in life. To realize this, people endure many insecurities, because they live only to earn money. One should do only as much as a project requires. Sometimes it is better to remain unseen and grounded; and if you are not being valued after long attempts, change the place. The corporate sector has one positive point: *it can make a person into someone they never wanted to be*. Not everyone ends up in the dark—some become the writers of their own story, because they arrive with a plan. There is no doubt that only clever people survive in the corporate world; they need not be geniuses, but they must first be clever, because hidden politics can ruin the mental state of an ordinary employee who has never faced conflict or office politics. Employees face conspiracies and neglect over unmet responsibilities, a lack of opportunities, and months without secure settlement. But a difficult situation can arrive at any time, unannounced—so always be aware of what you are capable of. Do not lose your intelligence, and try to ensure that your professional conflicts do not affect your personal life, especially your family. If they do, then you are in the wrong field. If you cannot hold the stress and it bursts out of you after five o'clock, leave it and find work that makes you feel you have lived for yourself. This is why planning for your own start-up is so important.

Do your planning before choosing a profession, because once you have started, you cannot say, “I don't know how to deal with this.” Consider a doctor who completes both the theory and the practical training and earns the degree: once the work begins, he cannot pause during an operation to ask, “*Which nerve am I supposed to cut?*”

Make sure the driver of your mind is you—and be certain which field you are stepping into. In the race to earn money, self-control, knowledge, experience, confidence, intelligence,

and calmness are all required together to handle the unknown situations that can arrive without notice. It will not be about the degree alone; it will be about the practice of judgment and the circumstances of achievement. So do not waste years of your life in aggression and frustration over a wrong decision. And no, self-control games on your phone will not prepare you for real life. If you have the knowledge and enough experience, do not waste years realizing that you have the qualities of an owner—build your own small setup. A lack of budget can be overcome; but a lack of confidence cannot be treated easily, because confidence comes only from steady, repeated work experience [8]. So be careful that your stress and your decisions do not affect your loved ones. Always leave that stress outside the house, and one day you may not even find it outside your door—because no one stays with us without attention. Stop giving excessive attention to temporary people, and focus instead on those who stood by you in the darkest phase of life, because they deserve to share in your success. Do not lose yourself in the process of making money. Everyone begins for the sake of family, yet many end up leaving their family in a toxic environment.

Step out of lazy routines. Don't wait for Sunday to celebrate your presence on earth, and don't depend on others to motivate you, because expectation kills peace of mind. Above all, recognize your own self-worth, so that no one can make you feel worthless. Doing too much is not perfectionism [9]; sometimes it is worse—it usually means finding the perfect solution to a tiny problem, which is a waste of time. Even the boss is not always right; they have faced plenty of failure too. So test your boss in front of the panel: “Explain briefly which qualities you see in me, and which drawbacks I should change.” I can assure you that you will be rewarded with the label *egoistic*, and there is a good chance you will be removed soon—so ask at your own risk. Truthfully, the response will come as an urge to answer disrespect with disrespect, because when the instinct (the id) is hurt, it fires quickly, which is even worse than the ego (reality) [10].

Even so, remember: if your present achievements are better than your past, then you are on the right track, and you need no one's validation. Cultivate a self-analytical nature—recognize your mistakes and keep going, becoming your own support system. In the meantime, measure your own progress, because you were not born to place limits on your mind. Think outside the box and execute patiently—if you succeed, it is a victory; if not, it is a lesson.

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Dr. Jasvir Kaur holds an M.A. and Ph.D. from Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India. She is an academic and researcher with expertise in her field, actively engaged in teaching, research, and scholarly activities. Her work reflects a commitment to advancing knowledge through quality research and academic excellence.