

SPEAK UP

I have been assigned for the position of "Acting Vice President HR" first time in 2011 in the absence of Vice President HR in my last organization. The management gave me the same position and responsibility six times till the day I decided to leave the company in Sept 2014.

The company began looking for a Vice President HR for the seventh time to take over and I was absolutely sure to be considered having knowledge and experience of this position.

As per our Singaporean Ex VPHR of 2011, I should be a perfect VPHR, but management had this obsession of getting someone from abroad.

Then I spoke to my better half, and she said "Have you raised your voice?"

"No, I didn't", I realized. I assumed that my hard work, dedication and success would speak for itself, but I had never expressed my ambitions. This was an important lesson: You have to speak out and ask for what you want. You must put up your hand.

So finally, I did it by resigning to show everyone that what they have lost and to explore my hidden skills. I planned to get into the training profession and the first thing I did was to eliminate the stamp of "hospitality trainer" on me.

I started meeting face to face with potential clients and listened to their concerns. It was so successful that I came to break-even level in first year, but with a focus on different industries, I continued to do it on an annual basis, because establishing relationships and having trust with the clients was the goal.

After gaining trust from local clients, I decided to explore the international market in 2018. My first experience was Qatar and within couple of year my training services was acknowledged by almost all major local as well as international organizations including the government sector.

I knew I won't achieve my goals without taking initiative and focusing on my short and long term mission. That's what was needed by raising my hand and listening to my mind. Achievement of goals in life isn't just about working hard, it's about knowing when to step up and say, "I am prepared".

I think it's an excellent reminder that you have got to express what you want.

I would love to hear similar stories of self-confidence and realizing your worth!

