

Inside-out: When HR goes viral

Reinventing Employee Communication in India

Overview

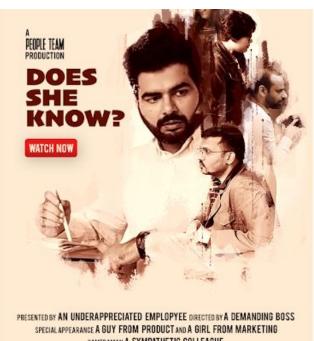
Times Internet's HR Team launched two cloud based people systems in FY19 - a skill documentation system for the large tech population and a Performance Management system for all colleagues. This would impact the entire employee population and entailed a large scale change management exercise. However, they were aware that colleagues often do not read or respond to HR communication.

The team was keen to drive this without deploying a carrot and stick approach and without leadership's push i.e., people should do it because it's beneficial for them, not because a leader is telling them to, or because there will be consequences if they don't. This called for a communication campaign that would draw attention and compel colleagues to act. The Times Internet HR Team reimagined the way they communicated with employees.

Strategy

A communication framework was developed that constituted of the following:

- 1. Guide Videos: Helping people navigate through the new system (simple screen recordings with background voiceover)
- 2. **FAQ Docs:** Helpful communication around how to set goals, list of goals for each job function, answers to some important questions etc.
- 3. Advertising Blitz: An advertising blitz design and execution of a communication campaign that encouraged employees to document their skills and set their goals. Benefits of adopting the system were communicated in a humorous, relatable manner. Two mediums were used:



CAMERAMAN & SYMPATHETIC COLLEAGUE

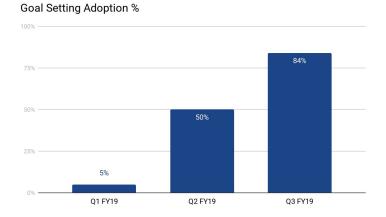
new system. Video link: Video Link - https://bit.ly/2BEpQDe Videos: we scripted and acted (TIL HR team employees) in videos that talked about different aspects of the new system. The stories were relatable and funny and narrated a situation that could be addressed through the system e.g., a boss isn't aware of the good work being done by an employee and how a "Feedback" feature of the new system can help that under appreciated employee, another one on the real time goal setting feature that enables employees to modify their objectives on-the-go anytime through the year, etc. The following collateral was prepared and shared widely across different social media (internal channels). The videos had a huge impact in increasing adoption to the



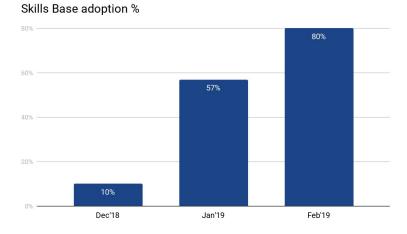
Quirky Mailers: Mailers that communicated the compelling proposition through relatable memes, comic strips, trivia etc. These mailers were sent on our internal chat groups, as desktop pop-ups, on company lounge and company wide emails. We clearly saw an uptick in adoption with every mailer sent.

Impact

I. Motivated more than 3,200 colleagues across 38 businesses to set work goals



* Goal Setting launched in Q1 FY9



II. Helped 850 techies realise their full potential

*Feb numbers is as on 15th Feb 2019

Conclusion

By mobilising a large cross-section of employees to engage and participate in long term change, the TIL Communication campaign turned on its head the logic that only top down directives work.