

FLIP SIDE

VISHAKHA RM

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Play days dream

To join the Indian Foreign Service

Role model at college

Parents - a principled dad and a super mother who learnt Russian in late 30s to become a science translator and interpreter

Odds at workplace

It was not common to see women at workplaces. I was the only woman in office and there was no separate washroom!

Moment that lifted hope

I faced a difficult trade union issue in 1998. My regional manager left it to me and winning them over gave me enormous confidence

The superstition

About being jinxed. I believe in not counting chickens before they hatch

Are you spiritual? Why?

I believe in superpower and principles of dharma and karma. My belief is what goes around comes around

Was there a moment when you gave up on life?

Yes, when my son was very unwell. I thought I would lose him

When was the moment that made you feel... let me quit enough is enough?

I should know when to quit on anything. Haven't yet figured out when and how

Favourite book

Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand

What's the one thing that made you cry?

When people misuse their power

Favourite music

All sorts of music from MS Subbu lakshmi to Justin Bieber. Shubha Mudgal is my all-time favourite

Gender discrimination at workplace?

No. But I have seen people take advantage. Bullies prey on cowards

Life after retirement

I want to become a social activist after retirement. I want to work in the area of women empowerment and equality

