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The Corporate Ballet

By-Reena Ahuja

Teamwork, spirit of being and working together to make more bucks for the company is the management mantra of trainers, management gurus and most leaders of organizations. What is this teamwork, what is this working together? The corporate equivalence one immediately draws on the mention of 'team' is with a sport, where a team gets to the ground with a spirit to win the match.

Let's say it is like a soccer match where a team puts its blood, sweat and tears together to get the ball through the posts. The effort, the energy, the power, the action, the instructions on the field, dodging the opponent, the passes, the falls and the sprints and then hope to win.

Or let's say it is like cricket again where players have to keep in good form to bat, bowl, field and where the captain and his team have to know their opponent and strategize to capitalize on their opponents' weaknesses, pray for the best toss, yet again hope to win.

On the mention of the word 'team' how many of us conjure a 'non-sporting' vision. Is sport the only equivalence?

STOP! This is where we limit ourselves by our thinking.

Teamwork in corporate does not draw the best parallel with soccer, rugby, cricket, baseball or hockey. Are we in it to 'win matches'? Grunting, sweating, swearing, grappling, banking on few stars, getting thrown out by arbitrators, screaming instructions at the last minute, rearranging positions minutes before the end yet not knowing each time what the outcome will be...

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Corporate Teamwork has to be like Russian ballet. In the ballet each participant knows his role, understands and internalizes not only his part but the part that every other participant plays, his act is practiced to perfection, his timing is accurate, his coordination with members immaculate, his steps in line, his movements most fluid, twirls to flawlessness, precision in vision, fineness in form to accomplish a performance each time, every time of excellence and a finish which takes the breath away and every performance is a winning performance.

For any company it's not just performance but impeccable performance which will be the differentiator in this over crowded marketplace. Performance, which takes the breath away and gives a winning finish always! Like the Russian Ballet lets remember each one of us is in this act of perfection, contributing not more or less than the other but equally in spirit and form.