



Case Study Series 4

Anticipating Problems and Proactiveness

Case Title:

Raid team formation to counter acts of sabotage

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The cases for this series are collected by interviewing civil servants working in different South Asian countries. This collection initiative is an attempt to document different problem anticipation and proactive initiatives taken by civil servants and, in the process, encourage other civil servants to become more proactive in their workplaces. If you are aware of other such instances of proactive acts, please send us an email (parvez.yousuf@northsouth.edu), and we will get back to you to collect more information.

Raid team formation to counter acts of sabotage

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Sabotage acts during raids

Civil servants and government officials need to conduct various operations along with some law enforcement forces to apprehend the perpetrators of crimes. They sometimes face various acts of sabotage while conducting such operations.

One such act is that the female members of the household try to bring false accusations of harassment if their houses are raided to catch their male family members for any crime. As a result, law enforcers face problems and cannot conduct their raids properly.

Mr. X is a forest officer working in a forest range in Bangladesh. He also conducted various operations to catch timber smugglers and wildlife poachers. From his experience, he also faced sabotage acts that hindered operations.

He anticipated this problem and proactively decided to include female members in the raiding team to tackle such false accusations and conduct smooth raids. One such raid was conducted to catch the deer poachers.

The raid team included female members

The poachers were hunting deer illegally in that forest. So, Mr. X was thinking of stopping this illegal poaching. One day, Mr. X along with his team of other forest rangers set off with a trawler to catch them. But they could not catch the deer poachers as they escaped the scene. So, they started thinking of other ways.

PROBLEM

Government officials sometimes face various acts of sabotage while conducting operations to apprehend the perpetrators.

SOLUTION

The forest rangers anticipated the problem and included female members in the raid team to counter any false complaints of harassment.

OUTCOME

This anticipatory and proactive approach helped to avoid any act of sabotage

Mr. X returned to the office and asked the local chairman about the illegal poaching of deer in the forest. The chairman then assured all kinds of assistance to catch those poachers. Meanwhile, their source informed them that the poachers had shared the deer meat and left for their respective homes. So, Mr. X immediately thought of raiding the village to catch the deer poachers red-handed. But he anticipated some other problems as there were women in the houses, they might create some act of sabotage, and falsely accuse the rangers of harassment. So, he included two women in this ranger team while planning the raid.

After a while, he raided that village and recovered raw meat from one of the houses. Then his team surrounded the house of the poachers' leader from all sides. Mr. X arrested the team leader of the deer poachers. All of a sudden, the wife of the team leader started shouting that the male rangers had attempted to molest her. Thus, Mr. X's anticipation came true. But the false accusations by her did not work as there were two women with the forest ranger team who caught her immediately. They told her to stop lying as no man touched her. The villagers gathered there within a short time. They also witnessed that the woman was trying to create a scene to let her husband flee. The accused leader of the deer poachers was taken to the guard room of the forest office that night. The following day Mr. X filed a case and sent him to court. Other poachers were also caught within a few days. As a result, deer poaching was reduced to some extent in that forest.

Thus, this anticipatory and proactive approach by Mr. X to include female members in the raid team helped him to avoid any act of sabotage and apprehend the deer poachers.

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Baniamin, H. M., & Jamil, I. (2021). [Effects of representative bureaucracy on perceived performance and fairness: Experimental evidence from South Asia..](#) Public Administration. <https://doi.org/10.1111/padm.12758>

Baniamin, H. M., Jamil, I., & Askvik, S. (2020). [Mismatch between lower performance and higher trust in the civil service: Can culture provide an explanation?](#) International Political Science Review, 41(2), 192-206.

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