

**f Status of the week**  
 "Every great wizard in history has started out as nothing more than what we are now: students. If they can do it, why not us?"  
 —Harry Potter  
 Oh, how did I reach final year? So soon, too soon.  
 Venika Menon, AIS Noida, XII

**INSIDE**



GT impact, P2



It's comic-al, P5

**AMITE poll**

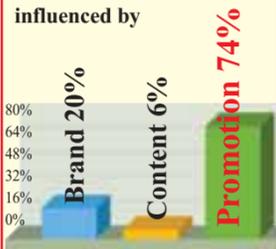
Is 'Pyaz' the new pawn in politics?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No
- (c) Can't say

To vote, log on to [www.theglobaltimes.in](http://www.theglobaltimes.in)

**POLL RESULT**  
for GT issue August 19, 2013

The sales of a product are influenced by



Results as on August 23, 2013

**Coming Next**

Enjoy lip smacking food in 'petu ka galiyara'!

## Perchance & Prejudice

Axelle Ayn Dickens

Face behind a face or name behind a name...the literary tradition of pseudonyms has been long standing. So, for those of you who have wondered what's in a name, here's food for thought.

### Plenty names, numerous reasons

Writers who crave anonymity often stumble upon a nom de plume for various inexplicably humorous or necessary reasons; some of the earliest being to hide the gender. Most of the 19th century female writers wrote under male pseudonyms. For instance, Alice Bradley Sheldon became James Tiptree, Louisa May Alcott became AM Bernard, et al. Stephen King, as 'Richard Bachman' was able to publish more frequently than a single name would allow. But when uncovered, in a moment of hilarity, King declared Bachman dead of "cancer of the pseudonym, a rare form of schizonomia." However, in some cases, pseudonyms were used as a well calculated tool in a bid to attract a wider audience; a famous example of that being Benjamin Franklin. Franklin created wholly diverse personas like Silence Dogood, a widow who looked at the world with a satirical eye, Alice Addertongue, to mock the society and Polly Baker, the former mistress of several important men, who raised their illegitimate children and was punished while the fathers were let off the hook, in order to show women discrimination by the law.

### But prejudice counts the most

Having said that, there are in fact, several authors who use an alter ego to escape media pressure and intensive criticism of their works. When the 'Great Expectations' of

everyone are not met, the works are instantly blacklisted under the radar of public scrutiny. This often undermines the caliber of stupendous writers as they lose their ability to experiment and play with novel ideas and new genres. To quote JK Rowling, "I was yearning to go back to the beginning of a writing career in this new genre, to work without hype or expectation and to receive totally unvarnished feedback. It was a fantastic experience and I only wish it could have gone on a little longer."

### The result – judging a book by the cover

So, does having an established name imply that the obvious is expected from you? Unfortunately, yes. The public needs no prompting to settle into a comfortable limited view point. It is, therefore, unsurprising when people equate success with no struggle, as an established trademark sells any product like hotcakes. A pen-name gives the writer and the readers the chance of judging the actual worth without the clout of a brand name.

### They-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named

So, your work sells because the public buys it, the media devours it, the critics praise it, you actively promote it and/or you are a famous person yourself. It's a by-play of luck, quality and reputation. However, to escape prejudice, create new personas and explore new landscapes, literary freedom is the prime requirement. And if only nome de plumes can grant artists such literary liberation, then as Stephen Spender says, "Let them make their world run azure on gold sands and let the tongues run naked". Let them remain 'They-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named', perchance to succeed than gather dust along with a litany of prosaic creations. 🇺🇦

Graphic: Pankaj Mallik

Have you read "The Cuckoo's Calling" by Robert Galbraith? This crime fiction received a warm reception and sold about more than a few thousand copies initially. By mid July, the real author of the book – JK Rowling came into the scene. Thereafter, it sold an unhindered 17,662 copies and is now going for a second run. The book received instant success under its true authorship. Then why did Rowling use a different name?

The writer unearths the legendary art of literary deception, the mystery behind noms de plumes and a lot more on page 7.

I was yearning to go back to the beginning of a writing career in this new genre, to work without hype or expectation and to receive totally unvarnished feedback. It was a fantastic experience and I only wish it could have gone on a little longer.

JK Rowling, Author

# Politics, youth and Sanskrit

Jitin Prasada, minister of state for human resource development, in a candid interview with The Global Times, opens up on all things important that will propel the nation forward toward success



Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Uniyerse felicitates Jitin Prasada

Namrata Gulati, GT Network

Jitin Prasada started his political career as the general secretary for Youth Congress in 2001. He was inducted as minister of state for steel in 2008, and became one of the youngest ministers of the cabinet. He interacted with the GT team during his visit to Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, on the occasion of All India Youth Sanskrit Conference. Here are excerpts from the exclusive tête-à-tête ...

### On joining politics

The realisation that I wanted to join politics dawned upon me in 2001 when I took the plunge as the general secretary of the Indian Youth Congress. I worked for the party organisation and finally contested the elections. There are no set rules for becoming a good politician, not even educational qualification. However, there is one benchmark for becoming a good politician and that is, winning people's trust.

### On a challenging career

Every assignment in the field of politics is challenging simply because you have to excel in it. You have to make sure that

**"For the youth to deliver results, it is important to give them the right direction. Lack of right direction and proper guidance can turn our biggest strength into our biggest weakness."**

whatever you plan, whatever you do, people will benefit from the same. Whatever assignment you undertake, it needs to show results. Whether it is a task pertaining to my constituency or even the ministry, I try and do the best so that India becomes a stronger nation and people can gain from it.

### On youth- our biggest strength

Today, India is a country with the highest youth population. This large youth population is perhaps the biggest strength of the country. It is the youth of the country that will propel us forward in the future. I realised the potential of

the youth when I was entrusted by the PM and Sonia Gandhi for the role of a state minister at a young age. It was an important responsibility indeed as I realised that half of India is studying in schools and colleges. But for the youth to deliver results, it is important to give them the right direction. Lack of right direction and proper guidance can turn our biggest strength into our biggest weakness. And to direct the youth towards the right path, we need more people like Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, who has erected such a big university to direct the youth of the country.

### On Sanskrit

The present day scenario is very dynamic. Everything around us is changing and so are the ways of teaching. As a result, so many languages have come and gone. But amidst it all, Sanskrit, a language which is many centuries old, still holds its own. Our culture, history and tradition are reflected in the language. However, Sanskrit has major challenges to counter, such as lack of job opportunities for Sanskrit scholars and the computerisation of the language. I want to take the language forward, but with the support of our youth. 🇺🇦