

WOMEN EXECUTIVES

Though they have been underrepresented in most segments of professional and corporate life, women worldwide are indeed picking up fast to catch up with men. Here is a list of top 10 businesswomen in India who have steered the prospects of some high profile companies towards profitability under their leadership.

1. Zia Mody

One of the leading corporate lawyers in India, Mody was the mastermind behind two of the most noteworthy corporate deals of the recent past including that of Airtel and Telenor Group and Schenider Electric and the electric and automation business of Larsen & Toubro. Her firm is an advisor to the most successful businesses in India.

2. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw

Though Kiren Mazumdar Shaw is one of the richest and popular self-made business women, she says she became an entrepreneur by accident as she never aspired to start a business. Creating a biopharmaceutical company called Bicon in 1978, she has managed to make it one of the leaders in manufacturing a wide range of drugs.

3. Suneeta Reddy

Suneeta Reddy has been instrumental in making Apollo chain of hospitals one of the biggest in the country growing its revenue by 14% in FY2018. Apollo pharmacy business also grew in this FY by 18%. The company also acquired Fortis Healthcare in a significant deal sometime back.

4. Alice G. Vaidyan

As the chairman and Managing Director of GIC (General Insurance Corporation of India), Alice G.Vaidyanathan's achievements are noteworthy. GIC entered the league of the 10 leading global reinsurers under her able leadership. She was instrumental in raising the market share of GIC from 55% to 65%.

5. Mallika Srinivasan

Chairman and CEO of TAFE, Tractors and Farm Equipment, Mallika Srinivasan made her firm become the third largest tractor manufacturing company in the world in terms of volumes. She diversified the product offerings of the company besides achieving some great mergers.

6. Zarin Daruwala

During the past year, Zarin Daruwala became the best ranking banker. Becoming the CEO of Standard Chartered Bank in 2016 after a successful working with ICICI bank for two decades, she turned the bank profitable in just two years by getting it out of its falling incomes.

7. Kaku Nakhate

Under Nakhate's leadership, Bank of America Merrill Lynch gained a strong foothold in India becoming a prominent player in the Asia-Pacific region. She facilitated several profitable mergers like Infratel and Indus and Idea Cellular's \$ 1 billion stake in Indus Towers.

8. Shobhana Bhartia

Overseeing a major overhaul in the editorial segment of HT Management Media, Bhartia made the company perform well in the Hindi Media outlets. She helped the company double its net profit by 213 crores in FY 2017-18.

9. Renuka Ramnath

Renuka Ramnath is the only woman in the country who could create an independent equity platform in the private sector that manages more than \$1 billion in assets. As the only board of directors of EMPEA, a non-profit organization managing over \$5 trillion in assets spread over 130 countries, she facilitated the company bag five times returns on its investments.

10. Shikha Sharma

Shikha Sharma is one of the most respected bankers in India who made the stock prices of Axis bank grow four times between June 2009 and August 2018 under her able leadership as the CEO.