

TOP 10 INDIAN CEO'S INFORMATION

1) Ratan Tata, Tata Group

Also known as: India's most eligible bachelor

Theatre of Operations: Increasingly, everywhere around the world!

Did you know that: Upon graduating he turned down an offer from IBM on the advise of JRD Tata

Started his career with: [Tata Steel](#) on the shop floor

Leadership style: Aloof and understated but always on the ball

Favourite Allies: His German Shepherds

Newly-famous Quote: "I came close to getting married four times"

Thorn in his side: His connection with the 2G spectrum scam

If he weren't leading a \$71 billion conglomerate he'd be: Flying planes

Family: Brother Jimmy, half brother Noel and three half sisters

Latest project: Designing and building a new home in Mumbai's Colaba neighbourhood

Likely successor: If we told you we'd have to kill you



Also check: [We could have been bigger if we used other means, says Ratan Tata](#)

2) Mukesh D Ambani, Reliance Industries

Theatre of Operations: Petroleum, petrochemicals, textile and retail

Bragging rights: The richest man in Asia, he heads the largest Indian private sector conglomerate

It's in his genes: Thinks big, like his father, the late Dhirubhai Ambani

Started his career with: Reliance Industries (RIL)

Leadership style: Relationship-based, entrepreneurial

Family: Husband to Nita, father to Akash, Anant and Isha

Famous Quote: "We call it infectious impatience. That's his (Dhirubhai's) hallmark and we are trying to inculcate it in the entire organisation. So that things not only get done but get done in double quick time"

Thorn In His Side: Runaway inflation in crude prices and delay in finding a market for gas

Cool Friend: Anand Jain

Big indulgence: Antila, the \$2billion home he's built on Altamount Road, Mumbai



3) Sunil Bharti Mittal, Bharti Group

Theatre of Operations: Telecom, financial services, retail, manufacturing, realty and agri business

Bragging rights: India's first global telecom company

Started his career with: Going around on a scooter to market telephone instruments at age 18

Personal motto: Always turn conventional wisdom on its head

Leadership style: Empowering the workforce

Natural Foe: In his own words, "In business there are no foes, only friends"

Famous Quote: "Us entrepreneurs are like junkies, looking for the next big fix"

Little know fact: Turns vegetarian whenever he's on a mission

Family relations: Husband to Nyna, father to daughter Eiesha and twin sons Kavin and Shravin

Next in line: Shravin Bharti Mittal, 23, one of his twin sons has recently joined Bharti's international operations

Owner of: Lutyen Delhi's biggest mansion

Fitness mantra: Yoga and golf

Home away from home: London and continental Europe



Also check: Inseparability of family & firm continues in Indian business

4) Azim Premji, Wipro

Started his career with: Dropping out of Stanford at age 21 to take over the reins of Wipro following the sudden demise of his father. At that time, the company made hydrogenated cooking fat. (He did complete his degree over 30 years later).

Icon: JRD Tata

Act of do-goodery: Transferred 8.6% of his stake in the company worth about Rs 8,646 crore to the Azim Premji Foundation. This is the biggest act of individual philanthropy in India.

Leadership style: Knows every small detail of his businesses, but does not interfere with everyday operations of the various independent business heads

Family ties: Husband to Yasmeen, father to Rishad and Tariq

Bugbear: The blatant rise in corruption in India. Premji was a signatory to an open letter to Indian leaders questioning the current state of affairs

Little know fact: Wipro is the second-largest hydraulic cylinder company in the world

When not working: Enjoys trekking and loves watching movies; he often turns to his senior executives for recommendations

Recent Accolade: Was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2011



5) Anil D Ambani, Reliance ADAG

Theatre of Operations: Spans telecom, finance, entertainment, infrastructure, power and healthcare services.

Started his career with: Reliance Industries, as Co-chief Executive Officer in 1983

Famous Quote: "Unfortunately, with his (Dhirubhai Ambani) passing away in 2002, things have never been the same again."

Thorn in his side: Reliance Telecom's apparent involvement in the ongoing 2G spectrum scam which is the biggest corruption scandal to have rocked India

Cool friends: Amitabh Bachchan, Subrata Roy

Big Boys' Toys: Yellow Lamborghini Gallardo, a Maserati Quattroporte, Bell 412 helicopter

Little Known Fact: Loves to eat Pav Bhaji

Preferred Gulp: Water

When not working: A regular at the Mumbai marathon, Ambani can be seen pounding the pavement at Marine Drive



6) NR Narayana Murthy, Infosys Technologies

Theatre of Operations: Information Technology

Bragging Rights: His lectures over the years were compiled in a book A Better India: A Better World

Started his career with: Patni Computers

Family: Husband to Sudha Murthy, now a famous author, father to Akshata and Rohan

Leadership style: Statesman-like. The company is currently managed by its third founder-CEO while Murthy stays on as Chief Mentor.

Famous Quote: "The real power of money is the power to give it away"

On success: A successful person is one who, when he walks into a room, people's eyes light up.

Future Woes: Getting the next generation of leadership ready to take charge at Infosys with the rest of the founders retiring over the next few years



Also check: My deadline is in hours not days, says Narayana Murthy

7) Kumar Mangalam Birla, Aditya Birla Group

Theatre of Operations: Retail, financial services cement, mobile services

Thorn in his side: Delhi High Court stay on the merger between Idea Cellular (Aditya Birla Group) and Spice Telecom on a complaint filed by the Department of Telecom that the deal between the two operators was in violation of the licensing conditions

Big Achievement: At 28, he became the youngest Indian to chair a multi-billion dollar conglomerate and has successfully steered the highly diversified AV Birla ship through thick and thin.

Famous Quote: Tough times don't last, tough people do

Preferred Gulp: Diet Coke

Little Known Fact: He learnt how to shoot with a rifle four years ago but is now shooting with the camera

When not working: Family and movies

Ambition: To turn the group into a \$65 billion conglomerate by 2015

Golden Rule: Follow your passion

Role Models: Jack Welch and Laxmi Mittal



8) Chanda D Kochhar, ICICI

Theatre of Operations: India's largest private lender

Bragging rights: The first woman boss of ICICI Bank

First job: With ICICI, straight out of B-school 27 years ago

Biggest achievement in 2010: Putting the largest private sector bank back on the growth path

Little known fact: Designs many of the saris she wears herself

Green thumb: Husband Deepak is a wind energy entrepreneur

Famous quote: "Women should not expect any special advantages or favors. If they want to grow, they have to put in the hard work and the hours and the travel that's required"

Favourite indulgence: Watching Hindi movies. Preferably on the release date

If she weren't a blue blooded banker: She'd have become an IAS officer

Leadership style: Detail oriented, demands excellence

Global schmooze: Was one of the six global CEOs as Co-chair of the prestigious World Economic Forum (WEF) meeting at Davos, Switzerland

Favourite foreign food: Thai, especially red curry



Also check: My mother empowered me in setting goals, says Chanda Kochhar