



Top Ten Women

Calling the shots in a male domain

Traditionally a "male bastion", the power sector has had its fair share of women achievers. Women who have contributed meaningfully to the sector and left an indelible mark on it. They include chief ministers, heads of public sector organisations and private companies, activists and analysts. On the special occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of *Power Line*, we have selected 10 such women leaders to acknowledge their contribution to the sector...



Anu Aga

As chairperson of Pune-based equipment major Thermax, Anu Aga steered the company to become a prominent name in the equipment and solutions business. She tested the limits to do "the right thing", be it bringing drastic changes in the company's management or voicing opinion on socio-political issues. She is currently a director in Thermax.

Rachel Chatterjee

An IAS officer, Rachel Chatterjee, CMD of AP Transco (which also oversees all the discoms in the state), is ensuring that reforms in the state do not lose momentum. Andhra Pradesh has been adjudged the best state for the past three years in a row in a power sector rating exercise.



Jyoti Arora

Jyoti Arora, managing director of Haryana Power Generation Corporation, is an IAS officer of the 1987 batch. She has been associated with the state's power sector for the past three years. Earlier she was managing director of Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam. She is recognised for initiating several power reform initiatives in the state.

Sheila Dikshit

Sheila Dikshit, chief minister of Delhi, played a key role in reforming the state's electricity sector and bringing in private companies to run the distribution system.





Hema Hattangadi

This energetic managing director of Conzerv (formerly Enercon) has successfully turned a small family establishment into one of the major metering and energy management solution companies in the country.

Jayawantiben Mehta

Despite being an absolute stranger to the sector, this former minister of state for power took up her responsibility with great gusto. Having lasted the full term in the ministry at a time when three union ministers came and went, this senior BJP leader made her presence felt by frequent appearances at inaugurations and conferences, and through her enthusiasm to understand the intricacies of the sector.



Vijai Lakshmi Joshi

The Gujarat power sector has improved significantly in the past two years. It is currently at number two position after Andhra Pradesh in the power sector ratings. As CMD of Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam, Vijai Lakshmi Joshi led the state's power sector to a turnaround and ensured that the unbundling was a smooth process.

Medha Patkar

A social activist and leader of the Narmada Bachao Andolan, Medha Patkar has been spearheading the movement against the Narmada Dam Sardar Sarovar project as well as the Shree Maheshwar Hydro project. She has been fighting for proper rehabilitation of the displaced population and has won several honours and awards for her struggle.



Rebecca Mark

This charismatic lady made numerous trips to India in the early 1990s as the business development head of Enron. She was able to convince the political leadership about the need for setting up the Dabhol plant in Maharashtra.

Sujatha Srikumar

Sujatha Srikumar is chief operating officer at IL&FS Infrastructure Development Corporation. She made her mark as branch head of CRISIL, where she undertook rating surveys for all major corporations and undertakings in the power sector, including NTPC, NHPC and the SEBs.

