

Reforms 2020

LAST 20 YEARS, NEXT 20 YEARS

TOP 20 ENTREPRENEURS



K Anji Reddy put the Indian pharmaceutical industry on the world map. This was only because he could dream big, writes Prathap Reddy

Around the time I decided to come back to India and set up hospitals with the Apollo Group, Dr Anji Reddy also dreamt of making Brand India a product that would be acknowledged across the world. Who imagined two decades ago that Hyderabad would be the hub of the Indian pharma industry or of health care? But he is a man who could

dream, and that's what you need more than anything else to achieve big.

Being the son of an agriculturist, he had humble beginnings, yet he dreamt of building a world-class pharmaceutical company, which Dr Reddy's Laboratories is today. It was, in fact, the first Asian pharma company to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange (in 2001).

It was Dr Reddy's vision that drove the



K ANJI REDDY

FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN,
DR REDDY'S LABORATORIES



company he headed to get into drug discovery, which few other companies had the foresight to do so decades ago. The company changed the fortunes of the Indian bulk drug industry – from being export-dependent in the mid-1980's to becoming self-reliant by the 1990's. What's more, he has been able to give low-cost drugs to the country.

I have met Dr Reddy at several forums, formally and informally. I always found him to be affectionate and friendly without the airs of someone having achieved greatness. Whenever we met, he was always full of ideas that he would discuss with me.

What is even more amazing is his foray into social enterprise through a non-profit organisation he helped found and now guides, The Naandi Foundation. The not-for-profit provides meals to hungry

schoolchildren, water to those who have no access to clean drinking water, education to children where there are no municipal schools, and livelihood to tribals in remote corners of Araku and Arunachal Pradesh.

Having left the mantle of running the company to his son-in-law GV Prasad and son Satish Reddy, he likes to immerse himself more in scientific research and his social work.

We offer our felicitations to Dr Reddy, a pioneer in the pharma industry, a social entrepreneur and a good and upright man who has put Hyderabad and the Indian pharmaceutical industry on the world map. He and his company have certainly innovated for a better life.

The writer is chairman of the Apollo Hospitals Group

MILESTONES

1994

Dr Reddy's Labs starts targeting US generic market

2000

Sets up a lab in Atlanta, Reddy US Therapeutics Inc

2001

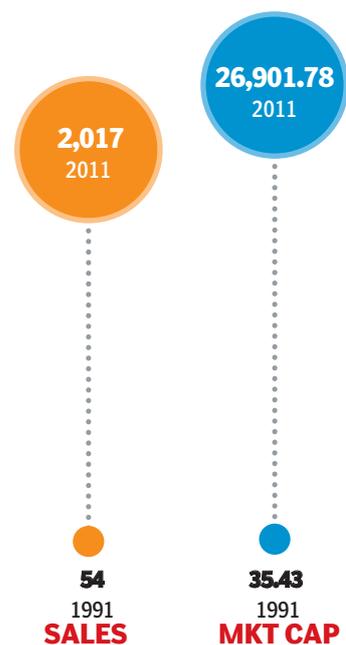
Dr Reddy's Labs completes US initial public offering of \$132.8 mn American depository receipts issue; listed on NYSE

2002

Dr Reddy's Labs starts European operations by acquiring two pharmaceutical firms in the UK

2006

Dr Reddy's Labs crosses \$500 mn in revenues



All figures in Rs crore