

RATAN NAVAL TATA

Tata Group Chairman (1991-2012)



Ratan Naval Tata, born on 28 December 1937, is an Indian businessman who became chairman of the Tata Group 1991 and retired from all executive responsibility in the Tata group in December 28th 2012 which is also his 75th birthday and is succeeded by Cyrus Mistry, the 44-year-old son of Pallonji Mistry and managing director of Shapoorji Pallonji Group.



Mr Tata received a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Cornell in 1962. He worked briefly with Jones and Emmons in Los Angeles before returning to India in late 1962. He completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School in 1975. Tata began his career in the Tata group in 1962; he initially worked on the shop floor of Tata Steel, shovelling limestone and handling the blast furnace.



In 1991, JRD Tata stepped down as Tata Industries chairman, naming Ratan Tata as his successor. He was heavily criticized for lacking experience in running a company of the scale of Tata Industries.

In 1991 he was appointed as the chairman of the Tata group. Under his stewardship, Tata Tea acquired Tetley, Tata motors acquired Jaguar Land Rover and Tata Steel acquired Corus, which have turned Tata from a largely India-centric company into a global business, with 65% revenues coming from abroad. He also pushed the development of Indica and the Nano. During his tenure, the group's revenues have grown manifold, totalling over \$100.09 billion in 2011-12.



Mr Tata also serves on the board of directors of Alcoa. He is also on the international advisory boards of Mitsubishi Corporation, the American International Group, JP Morgan Chase, Rolls Royce, Temasek Holdings and the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

Among many other honours accorded him during his career, Tata received the Padma Bhushan, one of India's most distinguished civilian awards, in 2000 and Padma Vibhushan in 2008 and Lifetime Achievement Award awarded by prestigious Rockefeller Foundation in 2012. He has been confirmed to receive the Bharat Ratna on the Republic Day of 2013.