

MISSION TO OFFER FREE EDUCATION A SUCCESSFUL CSR MODEL

Dr Priti G Adani

MANAGING TRUSTEE,
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Dr Priti Adani, who holds a Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree, is surging on a path less travelled in the corporate social responsibility space. Under her leadership, Adani Foundation is spearheading change in core social areas



Q How did the initiative to provide free education begin?

A Many children with potential are deprived of opportunities because of their socio-economic background. To turn things around, we started the Adani Vidya Mandir (AVM) Model which aims to give quality education to bright children. We have three schools: in Ahmedabad; Sarkhuja (Chhattisgarh); and Bhadreshwar in Mundra. Currently, 1,600 students are enrolled at these schools.

Q How do you plan to take the initiative forward?

A We have found that this is a very successful CSR model. The transformation that happens in a child is incredible. We will open more schools.

Q Adani Foundation began providing free education even before the advent of Right to Education. What's your take on RTE?

A RTE is a commendable step. There is a need to provide all children with equal access to quality education. RTE will help in eliminating disparities in educational opportunity.

Q Recently, your foundation provided free toilet to the state's paralympics gold medallist and a job to a taxi driver's daughter. What was the rationale?

A These girls are a ray of hope for millions of girls from that segment of society. And sanitation is at the core of our foundation.

Q What has been the role of your husband Gautam Adani in the foundation?

A He is the pillar of support. He has given the vision for the foundation. He believes that when God has been kind to us, we should not sit on the wealth as owners, but should think of ourselves as trustees. The foundation engages not in philanthropy, but in responsibility.