



When Azim Premji took the reins four decades ago, his brief was to stabilize technical software solutions in one of Asia's fastest-growing markets. A graduate in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University, USA Premji is the man behind the pioneer in IT, BPO and R&D services organization, Wipro Limited.

Being born in Karachi to a Shia Nizari Ismaili Muslim entrepreneur MH Hasham Premji, Premji is well versed with Gujarati, Hindi and English. His father owned the Western India Products (which later became Wipro) which at that time invested only in hydrogenated vegetable oils and fats. The company got listed at the Bombay Stock Exchange in the year 1945.

Premji has built a business empire which is deeply committed to values, and firm belief in the serving the society. He is a creator of opportunities for any common man as he strongly believes in that ordinary individuals are capable of doing extraordinary things when they are a part of a charged team. He is amongst those aurators who take personal interest in grooming every individual into a world-class leader.

Premji thinks that any wealth creates a sense of trusteeship... it is characteristic of the new generation which has created wealth to have some amount of responsibility for it.

PHILANTHROPIST

In 2001, Premji set up the "Azim Premji Foundation" to fund the education of bright,

young children from India's most far-flung corners at central locations like Karnataka, Puducherry, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. The foundation has more than 30,000 schools pan India. He is a man who has helped shape many futures through his association with a number of organizations namely "Wipro Applying Thought in Schools" (in India), "Wipro STEM Fellowships" (in the US) and "Wipro Cares".

Through its work in this sensitive area of education in India, the Azim Premji Foundation is attempting to come up with proofs of concept that can change the very system in which the government-owned schools operate in India. The emphasis is on improving the quality of education on offer and bringing the schools at par with the best schools across the country. Most of these schools

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are in the rural area and this is where the foundation has been focusing to a significant extent.

The year 2001 saw the establishment of the Azim Premji Foundation; an organization set up by Azim Premji and has worked endlessly with a vision of enhancing quality and equity in the public school education system in India to build a well-educated society to live in.

HONOURS & ACCOLADES

For his efforts, he has received a number of Awards and Accolades like Faraday Medal and has earned honorary doctorates from a couple of

renowned universities like the Michigan State University and Wesleyan University (in the US), Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Roorkee and Kharagpur. Premji is also an esteemed member of the Indo-UK, Indo-French CEO forums and a member of the Indo-Japan Business Leaders' Forum. He has also been honoured with the second highest civilian award in India, "Padma Vibhusha".

He is India's own Information Technology man and is far from being done. As chairman of Wipro Limited- one of the India's leading IT companies- he has led its transition from being turning what was once \$2 million hydrogenated cooking fat companies to \$7.5 billion revenue-generating IT conglomerate

AZIM PREMJI
IT LEGEND