

20 People Who Made a Difference

1996-2016

In the past two decades, the power sector has had periods of prolonged uncertainty even as it has marked many milestones. There are people who have seen opportunities in tough times, led the sector with elan and vigour, driven change and brought about transformational growth. *Power Line* has identified 20 people whose visionary leadership has made a difference to the sector over the past two decades. The list is largely based on an expert poll of power professionals conducted by *Power Line* across all industry segments. However, despite our best attempts, there could be some errors of omission...

MINISTERS



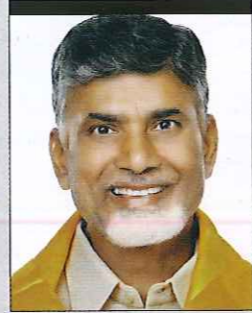
P.R. Kumaramangalam
For kick-starting the reforms, though he passed away before he could see them through.



Suresh Prabhu
For pushing major reforms through, including the Electricity Act. For getting the MoP and CEA out of the way of most private projects.



Piyush Goyal
For the increase in coal production, UDAY and the 100 GW solar initiative. For changing the sector dynamics.



Chandrababu Naidu
For leading reforms at the state level, though this lost him the election.



Sheila Dikshit
For having the political courage to stick with the Delhi privatisation of distribution.

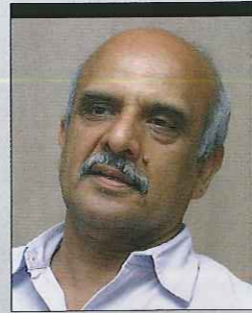
POLICYMAKERS AND REGULATORS



R.V. Shahi
Perhaps the most effective power secretary the ministry has ever had. For the Electricity Act, UMPP, R-APDRP, etc.



Dr S.L. Rao
For fiercely establishing the principle of independent regulation.



Dr Pramod Deo
For building the CERC into the most effective infrastructure regulator.

INSTITUTION BUILDERS



D.V. Kapur
The grand old man of the Indian power sector. For showing that excellence can thrive in the public sector.



Dr Uddesh Kohli
For building the pre-eminent power sector financing institution.



T.N. Thakur
For leading and building an organisation that helped lead and build the sector. For innovation and creativity.



R.K. Narayan
For laying the ground work and building the foundation of transmission infrastructure.

PRIVATE PLAYERS



J.P. Gaur
For showing that hydro projects can be done on schedule. For Karcham Wangtoo, Baspa and Vishnuprayag.



Dr G.V.K. Reddy
For promoting and successfully implementing the first IPP project.



Gautam Adani
For building a truly integrated energy business. For taking the risk and going against the tide.



Anil Sardana
For making NDPL a truly world-class utility.



J.P. Chalasani
For making Sasan happen and getting the stock market excited.

MEN OF IDEAS



S.K. Soonee
For thinking and planning for the future, when the others are coping with the present.



Bhanu Bhushan
For forcing grid discipline. For ABT, the Grid Code, etc.



Dr Ajay Mathur
For putting the spotlight on energy efficiency when it was not fashionable. For making PAT work.