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The global Indian

Today, Indian executives are not only in demand for local positions, but also global ones, discovers **Yasmin Taj**



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them a natural choice for leadership roles."

Sunder Madokshia, vice president, marketing and communications, SAP Labs India expresses, "Indians are increasingly taking on the top positions in global companies and there are many examples. Strong education and the innate ability to adapt to diverse situations help Indians to do well in global roles. That said, in today's competitive world, it is the skills and competence of the executive that matter and not their race or origin."

President Obama had recently commented: "Americans need to raise their standards of education

as they have to compete with the students of India." According to Sisir Kumar, executive chairman, Serco Global Services, the pie of Indians leading global conglomerates has certainly grown in the past few years. "With India becoming a vital market for global companies, Indians are getting a high exposure to manage cross-cultural geographies, thus leading to increasing representation in the boardrooms," he explains.

In the changed global scenario, where there is so much of uncertainty, the ability of Indians to work in ambiguity comes in very handy, **points out Ramesh**

Puri, managing director, Executive Access (India) Pvt Ltd. "India continues to be one of the fastest growing economies with a large middle-class segment, added to which is the fact that we are a young nation, therefore, understanding of the mindset can also be an advantage. Also, Indian talent is second to none and most of the Indians who have reached the upper echelons of power have done phenomenally well. In the coming years, the numbers will only multiply," he shares.

Indian learners are undoubtedly making a mark in the global world, in spite of the fact that there are still

many lessons to be learnt as they go forward. Puri asserts that the trend will certainly grow. He adds, "India is a huge and complex country and to succeed in India is no mean feat for any business person. Most Indian managers, having learnt to deal with uncertainties and challenges in the Indian business context, are frontrunners in the race for global heads."

And as the trend grows, India may soon turn out to be the hunting ground for top global roles.

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making a distinctive statement in the global companies. Headhunters say with India emerging as a talent pool to fill the shortage the world over, a lot of MNCs are looking for Indian executives to beef up their top management teams. So, what has triggered the rise of the Indian CEO in global corporations? What are the qualities and skills that set

them apart? **Atul Bak**, partner, Techno India Ltd says that Indian officials successfully making their way to the top at MNCs is not an unknown phenomenon to the Indian business community anymore. "Various examples have been witnessed in the past, wherein leaders from India have been given larger global roles," he states,

adding, "India is a highly complex and competitive market. It also is a demanding market for innovation at multiple levels and a low cost one. It is multi-cultural and demands empathetic handling of workplace-related issues. These experiences along with their familiarity with the culture have made

Indians are making inroads into inconceivable territories that most people don't even dream of. Indian executives too have proven their mettle in more ways than one. So much so that today, Indians have become the most popular choice for global positions, according to reports. Indian CEOs are scaling corporate heights by