# Express Pharma 1-15 Nov 2006
# Behind a successful woman...

*Some are from Mars and some are from Venus. Some are made to cook and serve and some are meant to rule and govern. These are the theories of the past, which are as valid as 'earth is flat'.***Katya Naidu** *talks to some former residents of Venus who made it big in planet pharma.*

Groundbreaking research, good returns and a prosperous future is not all what the Indian pharma industry is made of. The industry is also about great leaders. And some of them are women. It is not just Swati Piramal or Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, who have driven change in the country; there are many more successful women who made it big in the industry, paving the way for many more. Career has a different meaning altogether for women as they have been traditionally handling responsibilities at home. They have a dual role to play. Behind every successful man, there is a woman, or so the saying goes. But what is behind a successful woman? Is it the natural ability? Is it the will to fight against the odds? Is it the spirit of achievement? And most of all—how do they make it in the man's world? Here are some women talking about their secrets of success …

**Mary Francis**

*She is at the peak of achievement as the CEO of Ace-Biomed but yet down to earth*

Life gives it all to some people—fortune, power and reputation. But no one gets it easy. Success never happens overnight and requires years of perseverance to reach there. "It was and is quite an exhilarating experience. It was challenging and sometimes taxing when I look behind," Francis reminisces.

Individual success is not the complete definition of success either. The prosperity of the company you are working for takes you to the top. But for a woman, every accomplishment is twice as delightful. "You grow as the organisation grows, not in terms of finance, but also with the feeling that a woman is behind all this. In today's scenario, not many women are leading the pharmaceutical sector as it is a very tough domain to be in."