



REVA UNIVERSITY

Bengaluru, India

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Approved by AICTE, COA and BCI, New Delhi

REVA Academy for Corporate Excellence (RACE)



TOP 10 WOMEN TECH LEADERS INDIA AWARDS 2021

In Association with Terralogic Inc.

www.race.reva.edu.in

PREFACE

Diversity and inclusion have been part of the leadership and strategic agenda of organizations for many years now. It has been proven that women bring diversity in perspectives, creativity and passion to the workspace adding to more balanced growth.

However, corporate India always struggles to ensure gender equality. Women leaders in C-level positions are less than 3% among the listed companies as reported by NSE. A recent study by the World Bank has reported that women participation in the Indian workforce has fallen to 20.8% in 2019 from 30.27% a decade ago. The ongoing pandemic has aggravated the situation leading to many job losses among women.

While there are many inspiring stories of women leaders, the hierarchy tapers off at the edge with most of them failing to break the illusionary glass ceiling either by giving up or not rising to the top-level positions. Women holding core-technology positions and leading the digital revolution of large enterprises are still a rare phenomenon.

Our search for top women leaders in technology led us to believe that there are terrific women leaders who have made admirable contributions in this space. The search process was led by a stellar panel of industry and academia veterans. Out of hundred-plus names nominated, the final top ten list was selected based on the following criteria:

- Technical/Techno-Functional Role
- Technology Innovations and Contributions
- Recommendations and Nominations
- Contributions to Education or any other social Cause

We present to you these ten amazing spirited women who have treaded the less travelled path of technology leadership. What you will see in these pages is a short profile, insights from their career journey and a message to carry forward.

REVA University, REVA Academy for Corporate Excellence (RACE) and our partner Terralogic team congratulate each of these incredible women and wish them more achievements. May their tribe grow!

Happy Reading!

Team RACE



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REVA UNIVERSITY

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REVA University has been established under the REVA University Act, 2012 with the vision to instill awareness, a zeal for higher learning, and inquisitiveness in the minds of students through education. We have been ranked among the top private universities in India for digital infrastructure, green campus,

superlative academic delivery, and research and innovation. The University has 15,000 plus students undergoing 50 plus programs ranging from undergraduate to doctorate programs in Engineering, Management, Science, Architecture, Law, and Humanities.

Brings **Positive Attitude** to the Tech World



Anuprita Daga Chief Information Security Officer | Yes Bank

Anuprita began her career as a faculty member in an engineering college after completing her BE in Computer Science and eventually moved on to technology consulting. She moved later to the enterprise business security domain that enriched her experience with business knowledge and building on the field applications.

Career Growth and Challenges

Due to family constraints, she faced difficulties in completing on-site engagements while working on technology consulting projects. Despite the struggle she had to go through, she focused on continuous learning and upskilling that helped her to stay positive in tough times which she attributes to her career growth.

With her strong inclination to learning and upskilling, Anuprita became a Project Leader and currently she is the President and Chief Information Security Officer at YES Bank.

Contributions and Achievements

Today, Anuprita Daga is a renowned name in the Enterprise Cybersecurity domain and has received multiple awards and accolades in her domain. She participates in national and global industry forums and spearheads a mentoring platform for sharing her experience to guide and mentor professionals.

Anuprita Daga has been selected for 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' considering her tremendous experience in enterprise business security and her contributions to bring women to the frontline.

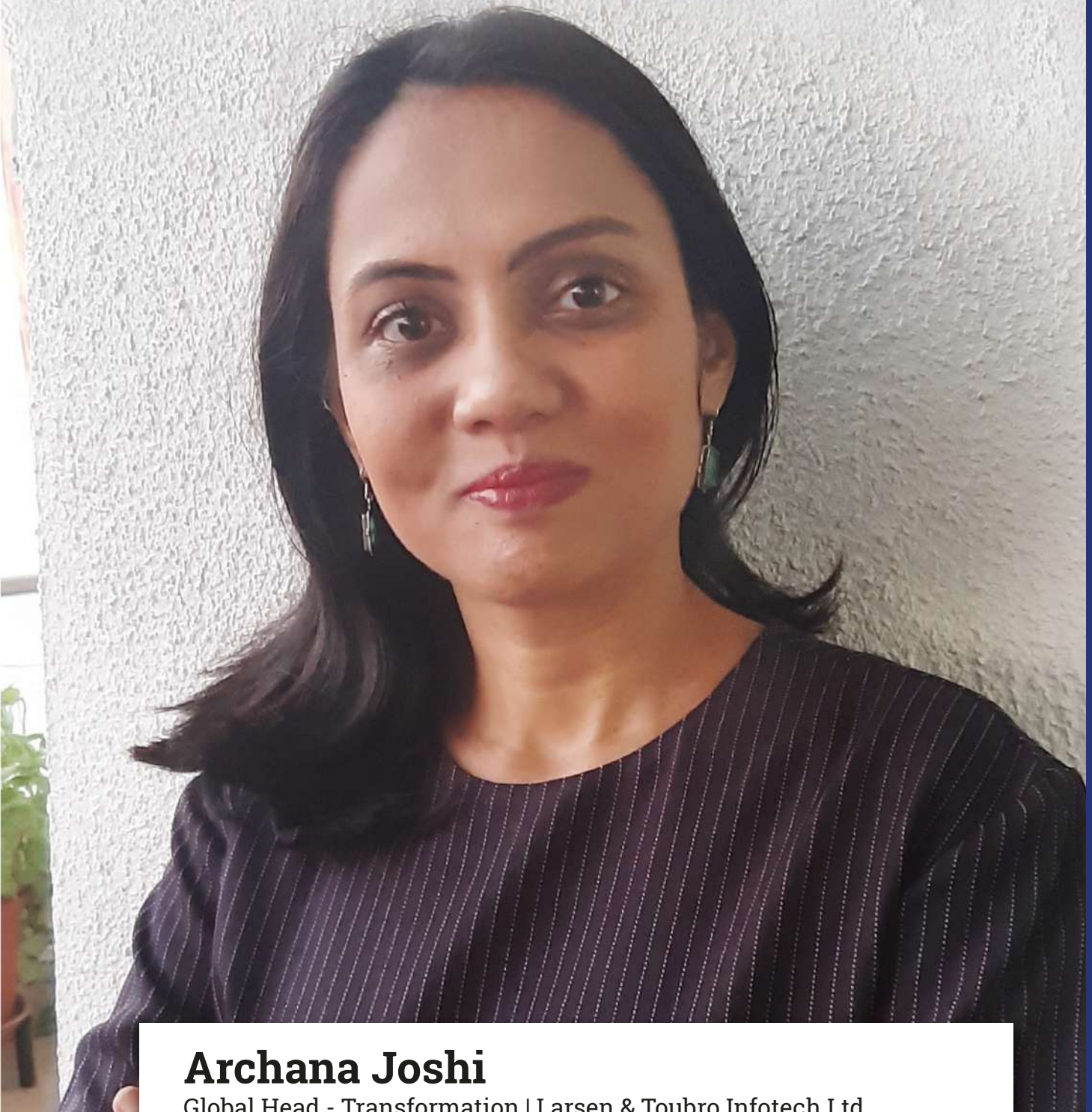
“

Be mentally strong and focus on your job or the actual delivery for which you have been hired is the most important and everything else is extra. No one is perfect, be it men or women. Give 100% of your efforts, results may be seen sooner or later but will be long lasting.

”



Power of Positive Thinking



Archana Joshi

Global Head - Transformation | Larsen & Toubro Infotech Ltd

With 20 years of experience in software engineering as a Transition and Transformation Practice Head at LTI, Archana is responsible for crafting solutions using Agile, DevOps, Design Thinking, and Automation techniques that help to deliver tangible results to both business and IT.



“

Be curious, be inquisitive and then sky is the limit. Technology is changing at a rapid pace and if you do not cultivate the habit of wanting to learn and know more, it is easy to become extinct very soon.

”

Career Growth and Challenges

Archana has worked with global enterprise clients across Manufacturing, Finance and Telecommunications domains. After completing her BE in Electronics and Telecommunications, she started her career as a Project Manager and grew in the career to become Global Head-Transformation at LTI by expanding her knowledge horizons.

Archana has confronted several career challenges, which she considers as unconscious biases citing her life as an example. During her career journey, she came across a situation in which she was not considered as suitable for onsite projects. However, she approached her manager and got selected to complete the assignment abroad.

Contributions and Achievements

Archana has been a part of several company initiatives for women, in all the organizations she worked so far. Apart from organizational initiatives, she is actively involved in the area of education for underprivileged girls.

Archana has been selected for 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' because of her contributions to the tech world and her initiatives to educate underprivileged girls.

A Journey to Excellence



Deepa Seshadri

Partner | Deloitte Risk Advisory Practice

With twenty-three years of experience in providing Cybersecurity and Technology Controls advisory, Deepa's domain expertise revolves around Enterprise Governance, Risk and Compliance and Cyber Strategy related work for Manufacturing and Technology Global in-house centers in India.

Career Growth and Challenges

Deepa took up a job in the field of Information Security Audit after her Master's degree in Systems and Finance. Working long hours and outstation travels during her stint in Information Security Audit was challenging, but she had managed the responsibilities by convincing herself and with the staunch support of the family.

Gradually, she moved from IS audits to cybersecurity, and focused on cyber strategy related areas and Governance Risk and Controls after the completion of CISA and CISM certifications. She progressed in her career and currently is a Partner of Deloitte Risk Advisory Practice.



Contributions and Achievements

Deepa supports the global teams on innovation and Digital Assurance practice. Deepa is well-versed in using quantitative approaches, creative data analysis, algorithm development, and modeling to create assumptions based on historical data and testing thresholds to predict future performance. She actively participates in women leadership forums and contributes

significantly to the women in technology/ leadership initiatives within the organization and outside the organization.

Deepa Seshadri has been selected for the 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' because of her leadership initiatives within the organization and her contributions to women in technology.

“

Upskill technically, give more importance to soft skills and grab opportunities that come your way. Taking decisions with calculated risks are fine, but always demand a seat at the table. Do the right things without feeling guilty by being ambitious and focused.

”

Building Thought Leadership in Technology



Dr. Neeta Verma

Director General | National Informatics Centre - Govt. of India

Dr. Neeta brings extensive experience in the field of open data and has led the launch of Open Data Platforms like the Arogya Setu app to release government data for public good.

“

Be passionate about your work. If you love your work, whatever hurdles you face, you can find solutions. Believe in yourself, which helps you keep going in your endeavors.

”

”

Career Growth and Challenges

Neeta Verma holds a Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and has an Executive Certificate on Digital Transformation in Government from the Harvard Kennedy School. At the initial stages of her career, Neeta used to offer consulting services to various government departments in India and abroad to establish their web presence.

She has successfully implemented her vision to transform government initiatives, services and schemes by applying technology. In the process, she supported the National Informatics Centre to emerge as a trusted partner for State Governments and the Central Government of India. Currently, Neeta Verma is spearheading the Digital Transformation agenda as the Director General of NIC by creating digital platforms for various government initiatives in different sectors of development.

Contributions and Achievements

Neeta initiated the launch of the first National Cloud for Government in 2014 for the delivery of citizen services. She is now focusing on bringing government services on mobile phone platforms to offer a Mobile-First Strategy for all the NIC initiatives.

She has established one-of-its-kind Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence, Application Security, Micro Services, and Blockchain in line with the government mandate. Apart from that, she supported NIC to establish its software products such as eOffice, eAuction, eTransport, eHospital, eProcurement, and many more.

In 2019, she got featured among the 'Top 55 Inspiring Women around the World' for contributions in the Information and Communication Technology domain. She is a regular invitee of various national and international forums and conferences to provide awareness around technology in e-Governance.

Neeta Verma has been selected for 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' considering her relentless efforts and initiatives for a Digital India that benefitted millions of people during the pandemic times.



A Strong Business Mindset to Excel



Pooja Chatrath

Chief Information Officer | Cryoviva Biotech Pvt. Ltd.

Pooja is an information technology professional with an industry experience of 19+ years and possesses a strong business mindset and a track record of managing digital transformation and IT projects.



Career Growth and Challenges

Being a postgraduate in computer applications, she rose to the level of Chief Information Officer (CIO) from the level of a Project Manager by enhancing her ability to make strategic decisions.

Pooja was responsible for all strategic decisions on IT and process improvements at the enterprise level and extensively involved in the IT setup of RJCorp Healthcare Companies viz. Cryoviva India, Diagnolabs India, Lineage Healthcare, and Cryoviva International operations.

Contributions and Achievements

Pooja Chatrath mentors others wherever and whenever possible, not only women on the technology front, but also to non-tech women as well. She participates in forums to share her thoughts and experience that might help other women.

She is an active member of the CIO Forum's across India and has been recognized with several awards such as Smart CIO Award, InfoSec Maestro

Award, Innovative CIO Award, Big CIO Award, CIO Power List 2019, Women Leadership & Influencer Award, Top 10 Women Tech Leaders Award, CXO Health Excellence Award, etc.

Pooja Chatrath has been selected for the 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' because of her dedicated and commendable efforts to bring changes in organizations as the IT leader.

“

Create a strong support system around you so that you can focus on your goals. Understand what is important and what is not and just work on the important lines. Reach out and you will get it. Be a self-competitor and look towards self-improvement by focusing on your job and giving your 100%. Encourage work life balance among the team and set an example for the same.

”

Changemaker in Information Security



Dr. Puneet Kaur Kohli

Chief Technology Officer | Universal Sompo General Insurance Co. Ltd

Dr. Puneet brings 25+ years of global experience on board. In her illustrious career, she had worked with leading companies of the world. Being a leading Security Evangelist with rich, versatile experience in Data Privacy, Information Security, and Risk Management, she possesses extensive knowledge in developing and employing strategic plans and end-user services.

Career Growth and Challenges

After completing her B. Tech Computer Science, she held various leadership roles across various organizations around the globe such as Motoricity, Motorola, Reliance, Duncans, Carrier Aircon, Bharti Airtel Limited, UK Land Investments, and Soma Networks. She is also an MBA in Information Systems and has a research doctorate in Excellence Management.

She admits that she had never experienced any career hardships as her family is always supportive of her career dreams.

“

Young women professionals in India should lead the change. In the corporate world, most of the time, women are not considered for prestigious positions. Hence, it is critical to be at the forefront and stay competitive to get noticed by others.

”

Contributions and Achievements

Puneet is actively involved in various CSR activities that extend support to one lakh women and children to become literate, and recognized by the prestigious Forbes Magazine under the 'Fortune 50' category in the Asia-Pacific region. Honored with several awards and recognitions such as Jewel of Punjab Award, Business Transformation Leaders

Award, NBFC Tech 100 Award for Disruptive Technologies in 2019 and 2020, TOP 100 CISO AWARD of 2011, 2012, 2013 2014, 2015, Infosec Maestros Award, and so on.

Dr. Puneet has been selected for 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' in recognition of her CSR initiatives and for being a security evangelist.



Driving Innovations in the Tech World



Dr. Rohini Srivathsa

National Technology Officer | Microsoft India

With 25 years of experience in the industry, Dr. Rohini held various job roles in the areas of cloud, analytics and mobility, and artificial intelligence across diverse sectors including financial services, technology, consumer, and telecom.

Career Growth and Challenges

Rohini earned her PhD in Computer Engineering from UT Austin and holds an MBA from Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. Rohini began her career in R&D -AT&T Bell Laboratories in the US as a Member of the Technical Staff. Having the urge to learn and succeed, she made it to the position of National Technology Officer (CTO), Microsoft India.

Contributions and Achievements

Being a member of the Sensitive Uses Working Group of Microsoft's AETHER (AI and Ethics in Engineering and Research) Committee, she advises the top leadership of Microsoft about the opportunities and challenges involved in AI innovations. As a National Technology Officer and Head of Strategy in Microsoft India, she is leading strategic initiatives to fast-track digital transformation across government organizations and

industries. Rohini is a thought leader and a business and technology advisor to multiple entities.

Rohini has been recognized as the 'Top 10 Most Influential Analytics Leaders in India -2019 by Analytics India Magazine. She has been selected for 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' gauging her contributions to AI innovations and strategic initiatives for digital transformation.

“

STEM is not just important; it is also full of opportunities. Today, every industry needs people with technology skills. The demand is increasing, but the supply of people with the right skills is a concern. Hence, women can play a key role to meet the current demand.

”



Cybersecurity Expertise through Personal Excellence



Sailaja Vadlamudi

**Application Security Lead, & Director of Security & Data Privacy
SAP Labs India**

Established Security & Data Privacy professional with 18+ years of experience in the industry, who founded Women in Cybersecurity and Privacy (WiCSP), an initiative to educate and sensitize women and girls about cyberspace, and also encourage them to take up cybersecurity and data privacy careers.

“

Be confident and believe in yourself, speak for yourself and promote yourself. Be poised and brave to choose the path, less traveled. Keep abreast of the latest advancements in technology in your chosen area of specialization. Invest in yourself by continuously upskilling yourself, but at the same time, be ready to grab the opportunities that challenge you. Be fearless because when you are fearless, opportunities are limitless

”



Career Growth and Challenges

After completing her Master's in Computer Applications, she started her career as an Assistant Professor in an engineering college. Sailaja is a certified Data Privacy Solution Engineer (CDPSE), Threat Modelling Expert, Seasoned GDPR, Information Security Manager (CISM), and China Cybersecurity law specialist. From an Asst. Professor, she built her career as an Application Security Lead at SAP Labs India with sheer dedication and hard work.

During her career journey, she moved into bigger roles in Security and Privacy, yet majority of the time, she was the only woman in the room. She felt indirect resistance from peers during the early phase of her career. Being a confident woman, she participated in discussions and added value to bring thought-leadership to the table. Gradually, people started recognizing her talent and she created her own space by working beyond the gender disparity.

Contributions and Achievements

She mentors several women by giving them opportunities to speak in various cybersecurity and privacy forums. Sailaja is a speaker to several nationwide and global forums for Security and Privacy. She educates the audience on the importance of security and privacy in this technological epoch. These forums comprise academia, corporates, start-ups, enterprises, and law enforcement organizations.

Sailaja has been listed as the 'Top 20 India Women Security Influencers' and received the Women of Excellence Award-2020, Cybersecurity Ambassador-2021, and Tech Beacon Award-2021. Sailaja has been selected for the 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' as she became the flagbearer of Cybersecurity to bring in a security culture across her organization and outside world.

Weaving the Next-Gen Tech Leaders



Satyavathi Divadari

Chief Security Architect | Micro Focus

Satya excels in developing enterprise-wide security architectures, and formulates and leads many strategic enterprise architectural transformations. As an information security leader with 21+ years of experience in the Banking, Telecom and IT/ITES industries, she has enhanced the security posture of the enterprises with a higher return of investment.

Career Growth and Challenges

With a BE in Electronics and Communications Engineering, she pursued a career in information security because she believes that an information security professional should continuously update the knowledge and skills with the latest technologies. She also holds an M. Tech in Computing Systems and Infrastructure from BITS, Pilani. From a Data Centre Engineer, she reached the level of Chief Cybersecurity Architect & Principal Partner Advisor-Security, Risk & Governance because of hunger for learning and hard work.

She had come across several challenges in her career and decision making was always the tough one. Based on her experience and observations, deciding or taking a stand is tough especially being fair to all people, both women and men alike. One should be aware that doing the right thing and making the right choice is the greatest strength anyone can have.



“

People believe advancement in a career comes with advanced technical skills, certifications, and further studies. While these are some of the essential factors, the skills required for a leader are soft skills. Women are born with soft skills such as compassion, interpersonal skills, and people management. Women need to appreciate their own inherent strengths and use them to their advantage and grow in their career.

”

Contributions and Achievements

Satyavathi is a part of several women leadership communities and supports women empowerment initiatives. She likes to mentor others to guide them in their career as she had the support of a few mentors in her career as well. She is a noted speaker and panelist in national and international cybersecurity forums.

As a distinguished information security professional with expertise in Cloud Security, Cyber Security,

Application Security, Enterprise Security Architecture, Third-Party Security, Network Security, Risk Management and Data Privacy, she has been recognized as one of the Top 20 Indian Women Security Influencers. Satyavathi Divadari has been selected for 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' not only for being a successful information security leader but also for mentoring the next-gen tech leaders.

Unravels the Journey of a Data Scientist



Dr. Sheela Siddappa

Chief Advisor- Data Science | Bosch Engineering and Business Solutions

With 15+ years of experience in machine learning, Dr. Sheela has offered solutions to business problems in domains such as Manufacturing, Health Care, Energy, Smart City, Industry 4.0, and many more. She is an Advisory Board Member of several Data Science programs.

“

Do not say- “I cannot”,
“This is not me”, “Not
now- Maybe later”. Try
to take up the
opportunities when the
opportunity flows in
because when you are
ready the opportunity
might not be.

”

Career Growth and Challenges

Dr. Sheela completed her Bachelor's in Industrial Engineering, MS in Industrial Engineering (Major in Data Science), and Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from University of Texas. She started her career as a Research Assistant and her experience and learning drive throughout the years enabled her to become the Chief Advisor – Data Science at Bosch. Dr. Sheela relied on in-depth learning in her domain to meet the challenges faced in her career.

Contributions and Achievements

Dr. Sheela Siddappa is a great supporter of women-centered initiatives that help them to explore their capabilities. Dr. Sheela is a member of various societies such as the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Alpha Pi Mu, Institute of Industrial Engineers, NASSCOM, INFORMS, and so on. Dr. Sheela is the Associate Editor for Inderscience - International Journal of Big Data Management Journal.

Dr. Sheela has been ranked as the 'Top 10 Data Scientists in India 2020' by Analytics India Magazine. She is also the recipient of the Tool Method Invention Award, Best Poster Award, International Best Speaker Award and many more for her innovative and novel work. Dr. Sheela Siddappa has been selected for 'Top 10 Women Tech Leaders India Awards 2021' because of her unstinting support to women and for her contributions towards data science.



Design Driven Technology Innovations



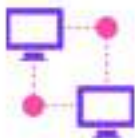
**Cyber
Security**



**Cloud
Services**



**Consulting
Services**



**Managed IT
Services**



**Design
Services**



**Software
Development**



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sales@terralogic.com



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REVA Academy for Corporate Excellence (RACE)

RACE, under the flagship of REVA University, offers a wide range of techno-functional and custom-made programs in emerging technologies for fast-rising executives and organizations. The AICTE/UGC approved programs are custom-designed to suit the needs of working professionals with industry experience who are keen to make a career transition. RACE also offers short-term and customized programs to organizations.



REVA Academy for Corporate Excellence has set higher benchmarks in technical education / corporate training to bring the best learning experience to the participants. RACE stands out from the crowd with its distinctive training methodologies and learning culture. The hands-on practical sessions offer simulation-based learning delivered by trainers with decades of industry experience.

We have trained 500 plus mid and senior executives representing 100 plus marquee organizations with an average of 10 plus years of experience to make a transition in their careers in emerging technologies.

RACE Programs

Postgraduate Programs

India's Top-Ranked Program in
MBA in Business Analytics
Offered in association with IBM

India's first research-driven
M.Tech/MS in Artificial Intelligence
Offered in association with IBM

India's First Simulation Integrated
M.Tech/M.Sc. in Cybersecurity
Powered by Terralogic Inc

Diploma Programs

Postgraduate Diploma in Business Analytics
Postgraduate Diploma in Cybersecurity
Postgraduate Diploma in Artificial Intelligence
Diploma in Strategic Leadership
Diploma in HR Analytics

Certification Programs

Analytics/Data Science

- Analytics for Business Decision Makers
- Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning
- Marketing Analytics
- IoT Analytics

Cybersecurity

- Cybersecurity Analytics with AI/ML
- Cybersecurity Architect
- Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing
- Threat Intelligence
- General Data Protection Regulation
- Microsoft OS Security
- Linux OS Security

Customized Programs in

Data Science
Artificial Intelligence
Cybersecurity
Leadership

The contents, duration, pedagogy and location can be customized, based on organizational needs.

For Details, Contact

Dr. Shinu Abhi

Director
Corporate Training
P: +91 9972917030
E: shinuabhi@reva.edu.in

For admissions, contact

Abhijit Sinha

P: +91 95388 74441
E: abhijitsinha@reva.edu.in

John Wilson

P: +91 99808 69800
E: johnwilson@reva.edu.in

Basavaraj SM

P: +91 76250 69676
E: basavarajshetty.m@reva.edu.in

REVA University

Rukmini Knowledge Park
Kattigenahalli, Yelahanka, Bangalore 560 064. Karnataka, India.

www.race.reva.edu.in
race@reva.edu.in