**15 Movies In Which Rani Mukherjee Absolutely Rocked Without Any Hichki!**

Shares

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**Rani Mukherjee is one of those versatile actors who can easily shift between glamour & ordinariness and everything in-between.**

Rani Mukherjee is undoubtedly one of the best actresses of our times. Not only is she a fine actor, but has done all types of roles, from being a college student to being a mother. She has also acted in some great movies – movies that we all love – like *Black*, *Veer-Zaara, Mardaani, Talaash* and *No One Killed Jessica*. Also of considerable interest are her performances films like *Dil Bole Hadippa,* and *Aiyyaa*. Rani has also gone on to do several women-centric roles in *No One Killed Jessica*and *Mardaani*.

Considered one of the most versatile actresses that Bollywood has ever produced, she is also a hands-on mother, and is coming out with a new movie, *Hichki*, on 23rd March 2018.

Mukherjee has received both critical and commercial success, with several of her films doing well at the box office. However, her debut in *Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat* went unnoticed. Thankfully for us, films like Vikram Bhatt’s *Ghulam*and Karan Johar’s *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai* brought her to the limelight, after which she achieved success with the masses.

Here is a list of 15 films in which Rani Mukherjee stole the show whenever she was onscreen:

**Saathiya**

In Yash Raj Films’ Saathiya, Mukherjee played the role of a middle-class woman called Suhani Sharma, who plays a protective wife to Vivek Oberoi’s character, Aditya Sehgal. Rani’s performance was received warmly by critics, who called her performance efficient, and that she plays her part with conviction. For her performance, she was nominated for Best Actress at the Filmfare Awards, but lost to Aishwarya Rai in *Devdas*.

**No One Killed Jessica**

Mukherjee essayed the role of Meera Gaity, a journalist, in this film. The film itself was inspired by the Jessica Lal murder case. With two female leads, the film opened to immense critical and commercial success, with both Balan’s and Mukherjee’s performances receiving a lot of praise from both critics and the audience. Also of noteworthy mention is Rani’s win for Best Supporting Actress at the Filmfare Awards for the film.

**Yuva**

A Mani Ratnam film, Yuva was based on the lives of students entering politics, and powerful politicians. Rani played Seema Biswas, the wife of Lallan Singh (played by Amitabh Bachchan), a woman who was abused by her husband daily. Amongst the three female leads (the others being Kareena Kapoor and Esha Deol), Mukherjee stood her ground, with her performance winning her a second Filmfare Award for Best Supporting Actress.

**Hum Tum**

Rani proved her acting mettle in this film. She did a political thriller with Mani Ratnam in 2004, and also did a romantic comedy with Kunal Kohli in 2004. She was nominated for both films, and went on to win for Yuva. Hum Tum, the romantic comedy saw her essay the role of Rhea Prakash, based on Meg Ryan’s character in *When Harry Met Sally*. All of us have seen or heard of that film, haven’t we? Rani effortlessly played a bubbly, happy girl in this film. Critics called her performance “flawless” in the film.

**Talaash: The Answer Lies Within**

A film directed by Reema Kagti (who also wrote *Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara*), Talaash was a film in which Rani played the role of Roshni Shekhawat, a mother who lost her only child in a boating accident. In fact, Aamir Khan (who plays her husband) specifically recommended Rani’s name for the character of Roshni, as he thought that she would be a good fit for the role. No surprise, then, that Mukherjee was nominated, yet again, for her performance in the film. Critics called her “the finest actress of her generation”.

**Black**

A legend by Sanjay Leela Bhansali, Black was a film that changed Rani’s career for the better. Both critically and commercially successful, critics had to say “Rani does it (the role) with a fluid maturity that is great to watch.” Her character, that of a deaf and blind girl, was inspired from Helen Keller. She was awarded with praise not only in India, but also at the Cannes Film Festival, where the film premiered. She was awarded with her second Filmfare for Best Actress, for her role as Michelle McNally.

**Bunty Aur Babli**

A 2005 film, Bunty Aur Babli revolved around 2 mad and funny crooks who go around committing crimes, often looting innocent people and getting away with lakhs of money. Rani’s role in the film, Babli a.k.a. Vimmi Saluja, was loved by everyone. Sukanya Verma, from Rediff said praised Rani’s performance in the film, saying that her casting was indispensable, and that she brought the character to life with her vivacious performance.

Needless to say, Mukherjee got nominated for her portrayal of Vimmi, at the Filmfare Awards, for Best Actress.

**Veer-Zaara**

One amongst her several collaborations with YRF, Veer-Zaara made Rani one of the leading actresses in the 2000s. She played a Pakistani lawyer trying to free an Indian man (played by Shah Rukh Khan), who came to Pakistan to find his lover, a Pakistani woman (played by Preity Zinta). Several dialogues from the film, voiced by the star-cast, are popular even today. One of the most famous dialogues from the film is “*Yeh khuda ke roop mein insaan hai…ya insaan ke roop mein khuda?*” which Mukherjee said. Critics were impressed with her powerful and gritty performance in the film.

**Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna**

In an extremely flamboyant Karan Johar film with 4 stars, it’s not easy to stand out. But that’s exactly what Rani Mukherjee did in KANK. She gave a hard-to-miss performance as Maya Talwar, a married woman who is having an affair with Dev Saran (also played brilliantly by Shah Rukh Khan). Her poignant and heart-wrenching execution of some scenes brought tears to the audience. She provided a relatable and tender character for all of us.

Also, she won the IIFA Award for Best Actress for the third time, for her performance in KANK. She was also nominated for several awards, including the Filmfare Awards and the Star Screen Awards.

**Paheli**

An Amol Palekar film, Rani played the role of a enthusiastic young bride in Paheli. Also sent as India’s official entry to the 2004 Oscars, the film showed all sides of Rani’s character, be it the sensual one, emotional one, or the angry one. She gave a fine performance alongside Shah Rukh Khan and Juhi Chawla (not an easy thing to do!), and she played her part to the hilt, without over-acting.

**Mardaani**

One of her more recent films, Rani played the role of Shivani Shivaji Roy, a Senior Inspector. The film focused on the issue of child trafficking, and how a single woman saves a girl from prostitution. For her performance in the film, Mukherjee received a standing ovation from Poland’s Kino Murakow theatre, an acclaimed art house in Poland. It received amazing reviews in both India and abroad. Rani was also nominated for the Filmfare Award for Best Actress in 2015, and won the same year at the Stardust Awards for Mardaani.

**Chalte Chalte**

Reuniting with Shah Rukh Khan for this film, Rani Mukherjee played the role of Priya Saxena, a girl who has her entire life planned out for her. Rani’s character knew exactly what she wanted to do in life. Several critics felt that she was suited for the character, and that her look in the film completely suited her. Her chemistry with Shah Rukh Khan was the highlight of the film, as they made the film more believable.

**Hey Ram**

One of her earliest films, Rani Mukherjee teamed up with Kamal Haasan for this film, which focuses on communal violence in the early 19th century. She played Aparna, the wife of Kamal Hassan’s character, who does not survive the Partition of Bengal. Despite having limited screen time, she was able to make her presence felt, almost at par with a legend like Haasan. Critics loved the scenes between the both of them.

**Laaga Chunari Mein Daag**

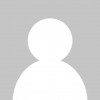
Working with Pradeep Sarkar for the first time (Mardaani was the second time she worked with him), Rani played the role of Vibhavari Sahay, the elder daughter of the Sahay family. Her character is fiercely protective of her entire family, and is affectionately called “Badki”. Her performance, along with those of her female co-stars (Konkona Sen Sharma and Jaya Bachchan) made this movie worth a watch. While the film received mixed reviews, her performance was well received by everyone. She was also nominated for the Best Actress award at Filmfare.

**Saawariya**

Reuniting with Sanjay Leela Bhansali after *Black*, Mukherjee played the role of a proud prostitute in *Saawariya*. Rajeev Masand called her performance earnest, and other critics found her to be the only relatable character in the entire film. She made the film look good, and gave an effortless performance in this film as well. She was also nominated for Best Supporting Actress at the Filmfare Awards for Saawariya.

These are just 15 movies that Rani Mukherjee proved her acting chops. Her upcoming film, *Hichki*, releasing today, on 23rd March 2018, looks amazing. Check it out in a theatre near you!

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# What’s Cooking, Foodies? Check Out These 10 Women Owned Restaurants In Bangalore!**1** **There are some excellent women owned restaurants in Bangalore that serve a variety of cuisines. Here is a ready list for you foodies to explore!**

The Bangalore food scene may mean going to swanky restaurants for a night out with the girls, or for a small gathering of our close relatives. It could be a weekend buffet, or just chilling out with friends from work. It could be a group of young moms wanting a place to hang out with their kids, or a bloggers’ dinner. Women owned restaurants in Bangalore would be ideal for these foodies.

Right from the traditional MTR’s, Haldiram’s, or a Koshy’s, to one of the many pubs Bangalore is famous for, the culinary scene in Namma Bengaluru is a vibrant one. The sheer range makes the foodies of Bangalore an evolved bunch, and it takes some seriously interesting food to get them hooked. There are several women owned restaurants in Bangalore, and many of them serve stellar fare, since they have to cater to these foodies.

Here is a list of 10 women owned restaurants in Bangalore that you must visit.

## Spoonful of Sugar

### Sangeeta and Yuvna Damani

Spoonful of Sugar was started 12 years back, by a mother-daughter duo. A bakery located in Indiranagar, it was a dream come true for both of them, the first patisserie that Bangalore had ever seen.

Yuvna Damani completed her graduation from the prestigious Le Cordon Bleu, and making all her pastry dishes entirely from scratch. The restaurant has also been a part of several food festivals, with some delicious dishes like rolls, momos, and some delectable beverages

**Must-haves:** Chicken Lasagne, Bannoffee Pie, Nutella Cheesecake  
**Address:** 421/G, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, 1st Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560038  
**Contact number:** 080 25255534, 080 25255535

## YoMama!!

### Vibha Ghorpade

Vibha’s father, a successful businessman himself, ensured that Vibha had a great time growing up. She quit her job at Google, and with her savings, started YoMama!!

A mother of two herself, Vibha personally ensures that her customers get good food – salads like Hawaiian salad and Jalapeno Cheese Bombs that pack a powerful punch! Balancing both home and work, her mascot, YoMama!!, gives her drive to keep pushing forward every day.

**Must-haves:** Burgers, Pasta  
**Address (Indiranagar branch):** G 2, 28/A, Smart Avenue, 80 Feet road, Indiranagar, Bangalore  
**Contact number:** 9066024189

## PurnaBramha

### Jayanti Kathale

Like Vibha, Jayanti dropped out of Infosys and started a Maharashtrian restaurant in Bangalore called PurnaBramha. Being from Maharashtra, she felt the need to serve delicious Maharashtrian food to Bangaloreans. Jayanti and her husband started the restaurant in HSR Layout, way back in 2013. Within 5 years, they had outlets all over Bangalore, Pune, and even Australia. They are all set to open 4 outlets in USA as well.

For all those Maharashtrians missing a taste of a traditional vada pav and puran poli, here is where you will get a taste of maa ka khana!

**Must-haves:** Puran Poli, Misal Pav, Buttermilk  
**Address (Main branch)**: VCR Stone Corner, Bulilding No. 780, 17th Cross Road, Opp. Pappu Chaywala, 1st Sector, HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560102  
**Contact number:** 9741399190

## Carrots

**Krsna**

Carrots, Bangalore’s first vegan restaurant, was started by Krishna Shastry, along with a German partner, Krsna. Both of them felt the need to introduce a vegan lifestyle amongst the city’s residents, some of which follow a vegetarian diet, and some of whom have a staple non-veg diet.

Located in Koramangala, the restaurant has become a runaway success. They have also introduced millets and other healthy options into their menu. With some trendy Italian soups, like Creamy Corn and Cilantro Soups, Carrots will definitely add to a foodie’s choices!

**Must-haves:** Masala Chai, Pizza, Soya Buttermilk  
**Address:** 607, First Floor, 80 Feet Road, 6th Block, Koramangala 6th Block, Bangalore  
**Contact number:** 080 41172812

## Samosa Singh

### Nidhi Singh

One of the founders of the ever-popular Samosa Singh (the other being her husband), Nidhi, an alumnus of Kurukshetra University, was working for a corporate firm when the idea for Samosa Singh. After opening their first outlet in Electronic City, the demand increased. Today, they are planning to open outlets all over Bangalore.

With a quirky nametag and even more creative innovation with their dishes (they have a Khatta Meetha Mangossa on their menu), this place is light on your pocket and serves some delicious food!

**Must-haves:** Ginger Paneer, Masala Tea, Aloo Samosa  
**Address:** 16th A Cross, Neeladri Nagar, Phase 1, Electronic City, Bangalore  
**Contact number:** 9741850433

## Grapevine

### Madhu and Jahnavi

A Mediterranean restaurant located in HSR Layout, Bangalore, Grapevine was started by a mother-daughter duo: Madhu and Jahnavi. It gives customers a good, comfy feel, not only with its ambience and décor, but also with its dishes, like Crepes and Egyptian Fava Beans. Check out Grapevine for its great hospitality and service as well!

**Must-haves:** Veggie Pizza, Pasta Alfredo, Juices  
**Address:** 1216, Ground Floor, 14th Main, 3rd Sector, HSR, Bangalore  
**Contact number:** 9940693011, 8971470114

## Zoey’s

### Farheen

Farheen named the restaurant Zoey’s because it was a name she would have given a girl if she had one. It offers both families and young couples a chance to have a little bit of fun with some heart-warming food.

Delivering on both quality and quantity, head to Zoey’s immediately after a workout, as there is a gym located right next to the place.

**Must-haves**: Fries and Pasta  
**Address:** Ground Floor, Sri Renuka Complex, Opposite Fire Station, Kaikondrahalli, Sarjapur Road, Bangalore  
**Contact number:** 080 29781122

## Grasshopper

### Sonali Sattar

A graduate from the well-known NIFT, Sonali Sattar opened this European restaurant together with her husband, in a farmhouse. Grasshopper has a lovely ambience, lovely food and a lovely atmosphere. A reservation is necessary.

With some creative dishes on the menu, the restaurant has garnered a great response from the public, with their orange panna cotta and cinnamon ice cream being devoured with an immense appetite. Head over there for a fantastic dinner!

**Must-haves**: Salad, Chocolate Truffle, Ice Cream  
**Address**: 45, Near Meenakshi Temple, Kalena Agrahara, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore  
**Contact number:** 080 49653247

## Hungry Lee

### Aditi Shetty

Despite being tucked away in a small corner of Bangalore, Hungry Lee, a small Pan-Asian eatery, never fails to disappoint when it comes to delivering delicious food. Going with a minimalistic design, Aditi Shetty, a former business development manager, started this amazing restaurant known for its authentic food and varied food options, such as a Make Your Own Bowl, and is very reasonable on a regular pocket. Oh, and you can go there for a quick bite as well!

**Must-haves:** Noodles, Brownie  
**Address:** Hermain Complex, 16th Main, Stage 3, BTM Layout, Bangalore  
**Contact number:** 080 49653580

## The Hole in the Wall Cafe

### Lynn Harris

The Hole in the Wall Cafe originally started off as a garage joint, but has now turned into an larger eatery that is frequented by many discerning foodies. Started by Lynn Harris, along with her husband Nathan Lee Harris, this restaurant has become very popular and has run for over 5 years!

**Must-haves:** Toast, banana smoothie, cheesecakes  
**Address:** 61st, 1st A Main, ST Bed, Koramangala 4th Block, Bangalore  
**Contact number:** 080 – 40949490

With so many amazing women owned restaurants in Bangalore, the food scene in the city has also being ticking the diversity box. If you know of any such women owned restaurants in Bangalore that might be your favourites, please do comment and let us know.

# Discover The Amazing Work Of 11 Indian Women Photo Bloggers You’ll Be Inspired By

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**TAGS:**[WOMEN AT WORK](https://www.womensweb.in/tag/women-at-work/)[WRITING](https://www.womensweb.in/tag/writing/)

**Photo blogging can introduce you to all that is beautiful with our world. Check out these Indian women photo bloggers who have made their mark.**

One of the most expressive platforms to talk about your passions is blogging. While several Indians have been able to make a career out of blogging, like Malini Agarwal (a.k.a Miss Malini), photo bloggers have only very recently, been gaining recognition and appreciation for the work that they do.

Be it in fashion, food, or even home décor, photo bloggers use the platform in a way that pleases the eye, and gives us a bit of information. Several Indian women photo bloggers, such as the ones listed below, have left their own mark on the blogging world, and have been pursuing their passions in a wonderful way.

Here are 11 popular Indian women photo bloggers who create content that is simply amazing:

## Naina Redhu

A **luxury and lifestyle** photographer, Naina has been interested in the field of writing and photography since she was in school. Fascinated by her dad’s camera, she started pursuing professional photography in 2009.

Today, her blog has over 50,000 followers. She has even photographed Ranveer Singh for an ad campaign. Based in Delhi, she even attended the recently held Cosmopolitan India Blogger Awards 2018. That’s not all. She has organized a photoshoot of Soha Ali Khan and Sharmila Tagore, and has taken snaps of some fabulous designs, including those of Tarun Tahiliani.

Naina Redhu blogs at [**Naina.co**](http://www.naina.co/). You can also find her on Twitter at [**@Naina**](https://twitter.com/Naina)

## Anita Bora

She blogs about life. She blogs about **food, travel, adventure, lifestyle**, and has lived in 8 cities since childhood. Her blog has a plethora of photos, which inspires all travellers to pack their bags and go! She recently announced a travel contest, by which you can travel to either Japan, India, Mexico or Peru and Bolivia, along with Tour Radar and Bamba Experience. For more drool-worthy photographs, check out her blog at the link below.

Anita Bora blogs at [**Just A Little Something**](http://www.anitabora.com/blog/). You can also find her on Twitter at [**@anitabora**](https://twitter.com/anitabora)

## Manvi Gandotra

A name that has become synonymous with candid **wedding photography**, Manvi Gandotra is not only a photographer, but an entrepreneur as well. Along with her friend Ravi, she started 1plus1 studio, which specializes in taking snaps of weddings. She has photographed weddings in Colombo, Bangalore, Germany, and even Bangkok! One of the most recent blogs to be featured on this post, she started blogging only 4 years back. There’s been no stopping her. Her pictures are a testimony to that.

Manvi Gandotra blogs at [**1Plus1 Studio.**](http://www.1plus1studio.com/)You can also find her on Twitter at [**@ManviGandotra**](https://twitter.com/ManviGandotra)

## Deepti Asthana

Born and brought up in Uttar Pradesh, Deepti Asthana’s blog is not your regular **travel blog**. The difference: She photographs all classes of people, no matter what their age, religion or caste is. You can find a woman sitting on a luxury train as well as a senior citizen from Rajasthan on her blog. No surprise, then, that she has over 15,000 followers on her Instagram page. She has written for the BBC, Al Jazeera and The Hindu, as well.

Deepti Asthana blogs at [**DA Travelography**](http://datravelography.com/). You can also find her on Twitter at [**@deeptiasthana**](https://twitter.com/deeptiasthana)

## Kankana Saxena

A mother of a small boy, Kankana has been running a **food blog**, with recipes like Mughlai Paratha, Cilantro Bread, Ciabatta on her blog. She shares her passion for food and photography on the blog, and boy, does it make you hungry! Often trying new flavours and new recipes, Kankana started blogging in 2011, and has been at it for 7 long years! For those times when you are just too lazy to cook, check out her blog at the link below. It won’t be long before you start cooking.

Kankana Saxena blogs at [**Playful Cooking**](http://www.playfulcooking.com/). You can also find her on Twitter at [**@playfulcooking**](https://twitter.com/playfulcooking)

## Arshia Moorjani

The name of Arshia’s blog is LoveBeingChic. Like the name of the blog, Arshia loves anything related to **fashion, beauty and fitness**. Also a full-time YouTuber, her blog is filled with make-up tutorials, trendy tops, and fabulous shoes. Regularly updating her blog with updates from fashion weeks, Arshia’s blog has a fan following of 5,000.

Arshia Moorjani blogs at [**Love Being Chic**](http://lovebeingchic.com/). You can also find her on Twitter at [**@arshiamoorjani**](https://twitter.com/arshiamoorjani)

## Sanjukta Basu

A blog that inspires you to think about life, which is ever-changing, Sanjukta writes about hard-hitting issues, like **feminism, secularism, and poverty**. A photographer, writer and a storyteller, Sanjukta also started her own company, Sanjukta Media, and has been a 2009 fellow at TED India. She also occasionally writes poems on her blog, all of which are absolute must-reads.

Sanjukta Basu writes about feminism & travel, and her photoblog is at **[sanjuktaphotography](https://www.instagram.com/sanjuktaphotography/" \t "_blank)**. You can also find her on Twitter at [**@sanjukta**](https://twitter.com/sanjukta)

## Sneha Koudki

A **home décor blog**, Very Rustic (Sneha’s blog) speaks of houses with an old-school charm. Featuring houses in Udaipur to houses in Karnataka, Sneha’s blog will definitely inspire you to renovate your own house, personally. With some amazing photographs and captions, Very Rustic speaks to the child inside of you in a way that is special to it. The visuals and homes are simply out of this world. For those special people looking to see a variety of homes, just look at her blog and your house will come alive.

Sneha Koudki blogs at [**Very Rustic**](http://veryrustic.com/). You can also find her on Twitter at [**@VeryRusticDecor**](https://twitter.com/VeryRusticDecor)

## Deepa Gopal Sunil

Deepa started blogging in 2009, and there has been no looking back for her, ever since. Her blog, Hues N Shades, is an **art project** that focuses on DIYs, and some utterly beautiful paintings. For her amazing work, Deepa has been featured in several magazines, and has received several awards honouring her for her contribution to the field of art. For those of you who want to start painting, look no further than Hues N Shades.

Deepa Gopal Sunil blogs at [**Hues n Shades**](http://deepazworld.blogspot.in/). You can also find her on Twitter at [**@HuesnShades**](https://twitter.com/HuesnShades)

## Neelam Vyas

A blog that will make you wish you had a baby of your own, Neelam Vyas’ blog majorly includes **maternity and baby photos.** Though she has been blogging for only some time now, her photos are aesthetically shot and look amazing. Be it 15 days old Mysa, or an expectant mother, her blog is worth a read.

Neelam Vyas blogs at [**Neelam Vyas Photography**](http://neelamvyasphotography.com/).

## Archana Srinivas

A blog exclusively for **Indian décor**, Archana’s Rang Décor has designs that are inspired from India’s own heritage. Some beautiful flowers in a girl’s hair, a trendy red bag and a green dress is all that it takes to make a bad day into a good one, and that’s what her blog aims to do. Archana has been to Istanbul, Goa, and the far-flung Andamans in search of Indian designs, and she came back with some extravagant and pretty designs.

Archana Srinivas blogs at [**Rang Décor**](http://rangdecor.blogspot.in/). You can also find her on Twitter at [**@Rang\_Decor**](https://twitter.com/Rang_Decor)

With such beautiful, good, amazing work being put forth by women, it’s no wonder that women are slowly, but surely, changing the landscape of the online world as well. Take a look at these blogs for some hope to finally make that worldwide trip, or to start cooking some tasty pasta. After all, we are worth it.

# Vandana Suri Runs Cabs With Women Drivers, But Her Biggest Product? Peace Of Mind!

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**An attack on a woman in a cab led Vandana Suri to start TaxShe, a cab service that uses women drivers to meet the travel needs of women and children. Vandana Suri tells us all about her work!**

When I meet Vandana Suri, the Founder of **[TaxShe](https://www.taxshe.com/" \t "_blank)**, she introduces her work saying, “We are a women driver and women-cab organization in Bangalore, specializing in children pickup to and fro school, as well as office-going women.”

A venture that is 3.5 years old now, she describes it as being in “pretty stable” shape now, and we settle down for an interesting chat on her journey so far in this unusual space, and her vision for the future.

**How did this idea to begin TaxShe emerge? Where did you get the inspiration from?**

Vandana Suri: I think this idea came from myself, from being a woman. I have been an investment banker, and there was a lesser-known rape incident in Delhi (not the Nirbhaya rape incident), which took place in a Delhi cab. The headlines, in the newspapers of that day, said: “If there was a woman driving me, this would not have happened”. And that line triggered the woman inside me. That’s when I decided that someone had to do something about it, and that person should be me. That’s really where the idea for TaxShe came from.

**Among the previous companies that you have worked for, you have worked in the automobile sector. Did that play into you starting your own car company?**

Vandana Suri: No, not really. In Whitefield Honda (a well known car dealership in Bangalore), I was the Accounts Head in my section, and I had absolutely no idea about sales, or cars. Everything was only inventory as far as I was concerned. No, this was not about cars. This was a lot about women and children being safe. It’s about us people, being safe.

**How have the reactions been, to TaxShe, after you started it? (Particularly two years after the company’s inception)**

Vandana Suri: I have been a chartered accountant; I have done banking and sales all my life. I don’t think I can get any more attention than I get now, for being a taxi driver! At the end of the day, I am contributing to business, to the safety of kids and women. Imagine sitting in office, and constantly being worried about your child. We do make your life a little easier. We bring peace into people’s lives, into parents’ lives!

**Do you think that support from women today, matters more than support from a man?**

Vandana Suri: You’re absolutely right. I have personally seen a lot of women bring down other women. I personally feel that the remarks that you make are a reflection of your own feelings and emotions. On the other hand, I think that if there are 50 percent women trying to pull me down, the other 50 percent are really giving me their whole-hearted support. I can see that shift in society, where women are helping each other. Somebody believing in you makes for a lot of change.

**On the TaxShe website, you have this blog that talks about underprivileged women and how TaxShe has provided them with an opportunity to do what they want to do. So how did that come about?**

Vandana Suri: Whether you are underprivileged, poor, rich, or not, it doesn’t make a difference. When these underprivileged women are given training, they are getting out of their comfort zone. She is sitting in a car that she has probably never sat in, before. I am improving her self-worth, and giving her a good time to do what she wants. To be very honest, she is having a ball at her work. She is having a great time, she is among kids filled with joy and laughter. At home, she is driven around for work, and she is treated as a slave by her family.

On the other hand, the parents of these children know that they are sending their children into the right hands, no matter how much income they earn. They are giving respect to this woman, and acknowledging that she has taken a step in a new direction, which keeps children safe.

**As a young woman, I would like to ask you about what we as women can do, when we receive comments that are very derogatory in nature, like ‘Oh, you’re so fat. Why don’t you lose some weight?’ How can we ensure that people see us in a different light?**

Vandana Suri: I do agree with you on the fact that body shaming happens. We have these weight-loss sessions, and pamphlets recommending this and that for us. Yes, I did face this all my life. With TaxShe, the place that I have created for myself, everyone’s looking at my achievements. I think this is exactly what is going to work for other women as well! There has to be some value about you that is beyond the physical looks of things. When you have created your own identity, looks don’t matter anymore! I feel that that is the best way to resolve things, especially in society.

Even in our own families, we often get a remark saying: “Why are you doing this job? Do something else, no? Everyone’s doing this, you also do this.” When you’re just running behind just money, it’s very different from what you like doing, your passion, and also making money out of pursuing your passion.

**So, now we’ll play a fun Rapid Fire, which has some cool, fun questions. Here we go!**

If you had a particular role model to look up to, who would it be?

Vandana Suri: Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, definitely. I would definitely want to meet her one day.

If you had to pick a couple of movies that you would want to watch again and again, which movies would you pick?

Vandana Suri: Hindi – Taal, Phas Gaya Re Obama, Raazi and in English – Turner and Hooch, Fault in Our Stars

Your favourite actor and actress of all time is?

Vandana Suri: Amitabh Bachchan and Julia Roberts

Your favourite genres are?

Vandana Suri: Horror and comedy

Idli or dosa?

Vandana Suri: Idli

Chicken biryani or Veg Pulao?

Vandana Suri: Chicken biryani

After my enjoyable hour with Vandana Suri, I left thanking her for her time, and hoping to be back in a few years to see TaxShe operation in an even bigger and better style!

Top of Form

Bottom of Form