



MOTHERS in MEDICINE

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Leading pharmaceuticals through responsibility

In the demanding world of pharmaceuticals, Razia Sharif Jhony, Deputy Managing Director of Sharif Pharmaceuticals Limited, proves that leadership is less about titles and more about care. Stepping into her role during a family crisis in 2021, she transformed a personal challenge into a period of unprecedented market growth. For Razia, the boardroom and the home share a common language: nurturing. By viewing her organisation as a child that requires constant devotion, she seamlessly harmonises her dual identities as a dedicated mother and a resilient corporate leader.

The Daily Star (TDS): Looking back, what specific moment made you feel you were building something truly meaningful?

Razia Sharif Jhony (RSJ): My journey began in 2021 when my father's illness required me to take charge of the company. Since then, we have achieved significant sales growth. I even received an award for my contributions to women's healthcare. However, the most meaningful moments occur when my parents and team trust my decisions. Working alongside them for our collective success makes me feel I have made a real impact on our society and industry.

TDS: How would you define leadership in your own words?

RSJ: I don't believe leadership is solely about giving directions. I believe in working actively across all areas of the organisation. I maintain close correspondence with my employees so that our work feels organic and collaborative. We succeed together because we operate



as a cohesive unit.

TDS: What has motherhood taught you that made you a stronger leader?

RSJ: Motherhood teaches responsibility. When you become a mother, the duty of care for your child naturally rests on your shoulders. That sense of duty transitioned into my leadership style. I view the company as one of my children. I

must nurture it with patience; only then will I see positive results. This mindset guides every professional step I take for the firm.

TDS: What is a challenge in balancing family and professional life?

RSJ: The greatest challenge is the act of balancing itself. Life throws challenges from multiple directions simultaneously. During those times, remaining calm while fulfilling all your roles is extremely difficult. It requires immense mental fortitude to stay steady and focused on what matters most.

TDS: In moments of pressure, what helps you stay steady?

RSJ: My family and the senior workers at my company are my pillars of strength. Their suggestions and support help me move forward boldly with confidence. They provide the clarity I need to lead effectively through any crisis.

TDS: Was there a time when you had to make a bold decision that others doubted at first, but you trusted your instinct and followed through?

RSJ: In business, risky decisions are common. I have taken many bold steps for growth. Sometimes outcomes are good, sometimes difficult, but I have learned to stand tall by my decisions and navigate every situation wisely to ensure success.

TDS: For young women who dream of leading organisations while also building a family life, what would you say about patience, resilience, and self-belief?

RSJ: My father says: "The bigger the tree, the stronger the wind it faces. If you can withstand that wind, you are a true businessperson." I encourage young women to learn the weight of responsibility and stay determined to achieve their goals.

TDS: What does success mean to you today?

RSJ: Success means providing guidance to my children and being there for my parents. As a leader, it means solving problems and cooperating with my team. Ultimately, success lies in functioning across all spheres of life while maintaining a healthy balance.

Interview conducted by Samia Chowdhury



**RAZIA SHARIF
JHONY**

Deputy Managing Director
Sharif Pharmaceuticals
Limited

My father says, "The bigger the tree, the stronger the wind it faces." If you can withstand and control that wind, you are a true businessperson. For young women I would like to say that, learn to take responsibility and be determined for your dreams.



Happy
Mother's
Day

"A sincere tribute to all mothers."



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