

## Document of the Month

When J R D Tata became the Chairman of the Tata Group in 1938, he was the youngest member on the board of Tata Sons, and he took up the challenge with fire in his belly.

Breaking the traditional Indian business practice of having members of one's own family run different operations, J R D pushed to bring in professionals and promoted entrepreneurial talent and expertise. These entrepreneurs and professionals included some of the brilliant minds of the Indian industry of that time.

Naval Godrej, the man behind the manufacturing of Asia's first typewriters, refrigerators and forklifts, was undoubtedly one such prominent doyen of India's homegrown industry. Equally committed to planet, people and profits, he definitely seemed to have much in common with J R D.

This month, we bring you an interesting document from May, 1969 in which J R D Tata invites Naval Godrej to join the board of TELCO (Tata Engineering & Locomotive Co. Ltd.)

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13th May 1969

TELCO

My dear Godrej,

At the last Board meeting of Telco, the Directors unanimously decided to invite you to join the Board. I hope you will be able to respond to our invitation. Sumant Moolgaokar and I would personally greatly welcome your presence on the Board.

On receipt of your acceptance a formal resolution of appointment will be passed at the next meeting of the Board.

As I shall be out of India for the next four weeks, would you kindly send your reply to Moolgaokar ?

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Sd)

J. R. D. Tata

Mr. Naval P. Godrej  
40-D Ridge Road  
Bombay 6

JRDT/tsa