

P Venkatesalu, Chief Financial Officer, Trent Ltd



Venkatesalu is the Chief Financial Officer of TRENT LIMITED (A Tata Enterprise) and oversees the accounting, secretarial and legal functions. Trent Limited operates several retail formats including Westside, Landmark and Star Bazaar – over 110 operating stores as of date and total income of over Rs 1592 crores in FY11. He is also associated in managing key relationships of the Company, participates in select strategic actions, and as part of his role serves on the Board of several subsidiaries including Landmark Limited (the books and music business) and Trent Hypermarket Limited (the Star Bazaar hypermarket business).

Prior to joining Trent in May 2008, he served as a key member of the Group Finance team in Tata Sons Limited from 2002, with the responsibility to manage select projects and transactions. In this role he was involved in a range of projects/ matters including substantial fund raising across markets, overseas investments, joint venture negotiations, sourcing equity investments and ongoing management of financial risk exposures in Tata Sons and few other Tata entities. The latter part of this assignment also involved managing banking relationships, rating agencies like S&P and Moodys and select regulator interactions.

He joined the Tata Group in 2001 through the Tata Administrative Service (TAS). For a period short of two years (June 1997 onwards) served in a commodities trading firm, and was involved in trading derivatives in commodities. Responsibilities included analytics, fund management and managing a team of financial analysts.

Education

- Masters in management from Symbiosis, Pune
- Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) from ICFAI
- Graduation in commerce from Madras Christian College
- Several MDPs including
 - Tata Group Executive Leadership program (conducted in association with the University of Michigan, Ross School of Business)
 - Wharton School program on M&A and alliances