

Centre stage

These professions have been traditionally male dominated...till five passionate women dared to break the gender myth



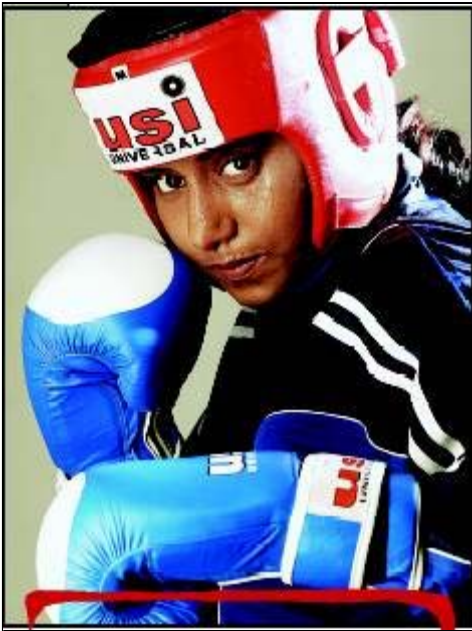
"I was the first lady to get a licence as a horse trainer in India. That was really out of the norm."

**Arti Doctor,
horse trainer**



"The gender myth still exists. My job is not easier or more arduous because I am a woman. And I've had my share of obstacles and I don't believe they are over yet."

**Madhu Krishnan,
chef**



"When I took up boxing, the prospect of donning the gloves was just very exciting. Finally, when I entered the ring, I knew I belonged in it."

**Razia Shabnam,
boxer**



"After the completion of my first race, I pulled off my helmet and the first reaction was, 'Oh, she's a woman!' My competitors were 18 men. People get shocked to see a woman racing, more so, because they do not expect women to drive well."

**Renuka Kirpalani,
rally and racing champion**



“Earlier if a woman said she wanted to be a DJ, she was laughed at. I realised I had overcome the gender bias when people would be shocked to see a woman at the DJ console, after a night of high-voltage performance.”

Megha Kawale,
disc jockey