HYDERABAD: Narrating tales of trying times when they were compelled to break the gender stereotypes, several women achievers from across all walks of life highlighted why gender should not be a barrier for women in pursuing their goals.

Speaking at the Young Thinkers Conference 2018 held at the Indian School of Business (ISB), Aishwarya Boddapati, Lt Commander, Indian Navy, who led the first all women crew that circumnavigated the earth shared how undertaking the voyage brought about confidence in all other spheres of life.

"On board, we were electricians, plumbers, mechanics, housekeepers and chefs. We could not take a back step on anything saying that I am a girl I cannot repair a fuse or do plumbing. Your gender should not stop you from doing any work," she said.

The Young Thinkers Conference is jointly organized by the British Deputy High Commission, Hyderabad, and the Indian School of Business.

Jaahnavi Sriperambuduru, a 17-year-old Indian mountaineer currently on the mission to summit the seven peaks, pointed out that many people asked her 'if it is necessary'.

ACP (Crime and SIT) and She Teams head Swati Lakra narrated her experience of heading a team into Naxal hotspot villages in
Nizamabad at the beginning of her career and later her stint as the Vijayanagaram SP. "In the history of naxalism, never did Naxalites return our weapon to us. It was a great achievement - we had won that kind of a battle."