

ZP inter-school events, 8.30 am onwards, various venues

'Indian women are stronger than men'



Mary Kom (centre) receives a souvenir on Wednesday.

Says Mary Kom, who was in the city to inaugurate the MIT Inter-Engineering Sports Meet

Tushar Dutt

'Indian women are stronger than men.' These words say a lot about the confidence Manipuri boxer MC Mary Kom possesses. Mary, who was in the city to inaugurate the MIT's National Inter-Engineering Sports Meet on Wednesday says if given a chance, India will have many women boxers winning medals in the Olympics.

"Indian women boxers are very talented. They have the calibre to win medals at international events, including the Olympics," says the boxer.

But she feels bad about the present situation, where women players discontinue their game after getting married. "Once the player gets married, she stops her game. I wish all players gets a family like I have, so that they can continue with their game and win medals for the country," she added.

It has been a good year for Mary, as she was awarded with the highest sporting honour — Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna and sport

Mary Kom

Boxer, India

Indian women boxers are very talented. They have the calibre to win medals at international events, including the Olympics"

from that, women boxing found a place in the Olympics. "It has been a good year for me. I was honoured with the award and the game found a place in the biggest sporting event. Along with that, I also got two sponsors, who will take care of my game. After getting all this, I will try to give back to all those, who have put their faith in me," says the boxer. Mary says life is not that easy for her, as she has to manage her game along with looking after her two children. "I practice for almost three hours everyday and then take care of my kids. But I will have to start practicing for more hours, as I am aiming for the London 2012 Games," says Mary.

This was Mary's first trip to Pune and the city seems to have impressed her. "It is a beautiful city and I loved the short trip I had. I would like to come back here again," she signs off.