

"Balancing caregiving responsibilities and a professional career requires great time management and organisational skills and that is what I have learnt from the females I am surrounded by, including my trainer"

- Simran

Simran, a 25-years old girl, is now known as 'Makeover by Simran'. She is from a lower middleclass family and had a dream of becoming a beautician. She had always been fascinated by the art of beauty and wanted to help others look and feel their best.

However, the journey was not without challenges. In her community, pursuing a career outside of traditional roles was not permitted, and people held conservative views about women working outside the four walls of home. Despite the social pressures and expectations, Simran was determined to follow her passion.

Simran knew, that to pursue her dream, she needed to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge and decided to participate in Development Alternatives' Skills to Livelihood 45 days training and development programme supported by <u>HDBFS</u>. She signed up for Assistant Beauty Therapist course at one of the vocational training center in Jaipur, Rajasthan. The course provided her with a solid foundation in various beauty treatments, skincare, makeup techniques, and client management.

Throughout her training, Simran faced numerous obstacles. She often struggled with managing her studies alongside the household chores that were expected by the family. Many times, she had to juggle her time between attending classes and fulfilling her household duties, but her perseverance kept her focused.

After completing her training, Simran started working at a local beauty salon. Initially, she faced skepticism from some clients and colleagues who doubted her abilities due to her young age and background. However, Simran's talent, passion, and determination shone through her work.

She quickly gained a reputation for her attention to detail and ability to understand her clients' needs. Her clientele grew steadily as satisfied customers spread the word about her excellent services. She got repeated customers.

Simran's passion for her choice of career not only brought financial stability but also shattered stereotypes within her community. Other young girls, inspired by her journey, started considering careers beyond the conventional choices. Simran became a role model, encouraging young girls like her to pursue their dreams and break societal barriers.

Simran earns approximately INR 20,000 a month and takes care of her mother's medical bills as she's a diabetic. It shows her compassion and dedication towards her family, but her commitment to their well-being is equally admirable as her fiery zeal to work and be independent.

