

Be precise and clear in your thoughts.
It will reflect well on the screen

Through her EYES

It is a myth that a film made by a woman director has to be a women's film. Not taking too kindly at that is Chitra Palekar, whose debut venture *Maati Maay* was the inaugural film of the Chennai women's international festival. Chitra laments that the perception of a woman has to be different for the simple reason that she is a woman. Inevitably, the film a woman makes will reflect her feelings towards her ilk. She may not hold cudgels for but deep within her will be the longing to use the platform to air her feelings. Not sure if there is equality among the sexes, Chitra felt one should not judge from the happenings in the metro cities. "You have to spare a thought for the scores of women still grappling with caste issues. One has to understand the magnitude of their sufferings, having borne it silently over the years. Why we always have to make a judgement based on the lifestyle of the privileged section of the society? How many movies have focused on the ones living below the poverty line? Again does the gender of the director venturing into untried areas, matter?" Chitra questions. Put your creativity to test and it will reflect well in your thoughts, is the formula for good meaningful films, said Chitra in a nutshell. "A woman's point of view stands to gain currency when she does not view the medium as commercial. There are so many options to pick from in the days when the modern liberated women are living examples of the independence they had craved for," she says. As the punchline, Chitra hastened to add that one has to make a movie from the bottom of the heart. "Be precise and clear in your thoughts. It will reflect well on the screen," said Chitra.

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