



**WORDS THAT INSPIRE:** Harshika Singh, IAS, speaks at the daylong eighth edition of TEDx at IIM-Ranchi, named Kaleidoscope of Possibilities, in CMPDI, on Sunday.

The Ranchi girl and St Xavier's College alumna, who went on to study at the London School of Economics, before coming back to India to answer her UPSC exams, spoke on how an "introverted girl from a small town" learnt to dream big.

As a schoolgirl, seeing a magazine cover with the words 'IAS topper' inspired her towards the world of civil services exams. A brilliant student who earned kudos at LSE too, she was disappointed with her first UPSC all-India rank of 640, but worked hard

to stand 8th in her second attempt.

Thanking god, she said she was glad for the kaleidoscope of opportunities that life throws at all dreamers in small cities.

Other speakers were IIM-R director Shailendra Singh, CEO-Education, Pratibha, in the ABP Group Supriyo Sinha, acclaimed chef Pankaj Bhadouria, one of the youngest Indians to speak at the United Nations headquarters in Vienna Raj Shamani, celebrated neuroscientist Abhijit Naskar, young entrepreneur-investor Farhad Acidwalla and Colonel Prabir Sengupta, a professional with over three decades of experience in leadership, management, administration and recruitment in the Indian Army. Picture by Manob Chowdhary