Sizzling on two wheels

Kareena Kapoor and Minissha Lamba are setting the trend for biker babes in Bollywood

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Actors Salman Khan, John Abraham, Dino Morea and filmmaker Sanjay Gupta can eat their hearts out. Who said big mean machines are meant for macho men only? Joining the road hogs on snazzy two-wheelers are some of Bollywood's sexiest babes. And leading the pack in zip, zap, zooming on high-powered bikes is none other than Kareena Kapoor. Revving in her wake, and throwing up an equal amount of dust is the hot Minissha Lamba. Mumbai, unfortunately, will have to wait a while before these gals take to its pot-holed roads on their mean machines; but before that, get ready to catch the biker babes in their forthcoming flicks.

The sexy, shapely Bebo in hot pants will have traffic policemen whistling a different tune when she is seen cruising on a massive 600 cc bike in Rohit Shetty's *Golmaal Returns*. And, Minissha, who changes gears in Sanjay Ghadvi's *Kidnap* by first appearing in a bikini, then gets onto a powerful bike that's guaranteed to send men's pulses racing. Akshay Kumar, who was known for doing his own stunts, will be proud of these actresses who are doing the same without any body double.

"Riding a bike was liberating. It was something I always wanted to do — it's feminine, fiesty and fun. The thrill of speeding and the wind gushing in your face is a freedom of a different level," says Minissha. She's peeved that Hindi films don't show women riding heavy bikes. But Kareena Kapoor isn't complaining. In fact, the actress who rode a bike on the beach in *Yuva* was game for it when director Rohit Shetty suggested she ride a bike in *Golmaal Returns*. "We wanted her to add glamour and grandeur to the title song which has been lavishly shot in Bangkok. After a little practice, she was ready to zoom," said Shetty, while Bebo who is Paris told *BT*, "It was a great experience."

Minissha now wants to do more of such riding. "In the western world, not only are women truck, bus and taxi drivers, but a lot of them ride heavy bikes for pleasure. From Pamela Anderson to Halle Berry to Charlize Theron, they have all shown their biker attitude on the silver screen. Why shouldn't Indian women push their speed limits?"

Vroom-vroom, indeed!

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RACING AHEAD: Kareena Kapoor and (left) Minissha Lamba

first look