

*“When I saw he had been placed as the police commissioner when by rank he was junior, I decided to move on with my life”*

**KIRAN BEDI, INDIA'S  
FIRST WOMAN IPS  
OFFICER, DELHI**

“I do not have to go very far to identify that one moment of belief. It arrived the moment I saw that someone else had been placed as the Delhi police commissioner when by virtue of seniority and rank he was junior. I decided right then and there that it was time to move on with my life. It was now a matter of time, how soon and when? This decision meant renunciation of a service I loved the most. It also meant starting life all over again in many ways and giving up all the creature comforts, pretty much ahead of time, which came with my rank and seniority. But this was it. I now owed it to myself to rise above and make the statement that self-respect was more important to me.

Besides, the work I was to leave behind was non-effective and non-magnetic. This is how the system had made it, by deliberate neglect as I saw for myself. And all along I had not seen any sense of urgency in the powers that be to infuse new life into it. Even though it is still the only central organisation in police research and training, the central government was content to use it as a back office for all

the paper work. I had never allowed myself to be slave driven. My inner self revolted and I listened to my inner voice.

I decided to move on from paper to people, from subservience to total freedom, from subordination to self-mastery.



“I am happy that I could throw off the yoke of security and walk free and get wings. As I fly literally and figuratively, I see flocks of many hues joining in and even assembling, asking me to take charge. I am challenging myself to traverse many more paths and experience newer routes to determined destinations. Or destiny sent destinations!”