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New Delhi, October 1

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She was speaking on 'safe city' at a seminar organised by the union ministry of housing and urban poverty alleviation on the occasion of the World Habitat Day.

"Today's policing model is based on Police Act, 1861. It is a reactive model, a creation of the male mindset will not have a woman as a leader," Bedi said. In the current policing model, women will continue to be victims of crime, said Bedi, who is serving as director general of the bureau of police research and development.

She said that the system's deficiency was brought out by the Supreme Court, when it underlined the urgent need of amending the specific needs of the country last year.

"I don't know if our country has any policing model at all, and if it has some what kind of a model was it? It is in a sarcastic vein.

Bedi, who earned distinction for giving a humane touch to jail administration during her tenure as director of the Tihar Jail here, suggested a 'police-public' model, which would have people's participation in policing.

As an example, she narrated how during her brief stint as the IG of Chandigarh, she ensured the presence of a woman representative of NGOs in the duty-room at police stations, following which, women felt at ease to approach the police and had their FIRs lodged, with the result that the incidence of crime declined. —UNI