

2013 International Scholarship Officer

IAWP International Recognition and Scholarship Officer for 2013



Rowshan Ara Begum

Deputy Inspector General (DIG)

Bangladesh Police

Co-Chairs **Linda Mayberry** and **Cindy Shain** and members of the IAWP International Scholarship Committee are pleased to announce the recipient of the 2013 IAWP International Scholarship, **Rowshan Ara Begum**, Deputy Inspector General (DIG), Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Bangladesh Police. The selection process was very competitive this year. Applications for this coveted scholarship were received from four continents, representing very professional police women from such diverse countries as Columbia, Uganda, Sri Lanka, Germany, Antigua, and Georgia to name a few.

DIG Begum earned a Master of Social Science (MSS) degree from the University of Dhaka and began her professional police career in February, 1988 and has served in a variety of high-profile positions including Assistant Police Commissioner of the Accounts Section, Reserve Office, Traffic Division and Training Unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police - the largest police unit of Bangladesh Police.

Due to her dedication and hard work, she was the first woman police officer in the Bangladesh Police given the responsibility of a Superintendent of Police (SP) at the district level. She later served in different units as Deputy Commissioner, Additional Commissioner and Acting Commissioner of Police. Throughout her career,

DIG Begum has been dedicated to guarantee law and order, prevent crime, ensure security for public life and establish a people-friendly democratic policing system. She was twice awarded with the “Inspector General Good Services Badge” for playing an important role in controlling terrorist activities, arresting terrorists, and recovering illegal drugs, arms, and ammunitions.

DIG Begum is a strong supporter of women’s rights. She works with communities, political leaders, journalists and others to create awareness of violence against women and children, by championing women’s rights issues including women’s education and combating human trafficking. As recognition, she was awarded the Anannya award given to an outstanding woman in Bangladesh from the national magazine, Anannya.

Her dedication to policing goes beyond her national boundaries. She served as a Crime Analysis Officer in a UN Peacekeeping Mission in Kosovo, and as Chief-of-Staff, UNMIS-UNPOL Peacekeeping Mission in Sudan. At the same time she served as ex-officio President of Women’s Network for UNMIS-UNPOL with a membership from 42 countries.

At the inception of the Women’s Network of Bangladesh Civil Service in 2010, DIG Begum was a member of its executive committee. She is the former President (her tenure ended this April) of the Bangladesh Police Women’s Network (BPWN). Her goal is to create a congenial networking atmosphere and develop professionalism within the BPWN. She actively supports engagement with community leaders, professional groups and NGOs (with importance to women’s rights). She was instrumental in obtaining approval from the Government of Bangladesh to host the 1st Asian Regional Women Police Conference of IAWP, with the theme “Leadership for Police Women in Asia,” in 2012.

When she was selected as the winner of the 2013 IAWP Scholarship Award, she responded to Committee Co-Chairs, Cindy Shain and Linda Mayberry, *“I am delighted to get this scholarship offer. I underscore this year's theme of “A Century of Experience to Excellence” and I believe this conference will allow the participants to acquire the experience of a century. I am going to be a proud participant of the conference. I am eagerly waiting to learn new and exciting knowledge that will my useful for my country.”*