

**WOMEN LEADERS: PROMOTING PEACE AND SECURITY**

**A Regional Project for South and Central Asia**

*These visitors are invited to the United States under the auspices of the Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program. Their program is arranged by the Institute of International Education.*

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**Accompanied By:** Birte Codel, U.S. Department of State International Visitor Liaison; and Mikolaj Korzistka, U.S. Department of State International Visitor Liaison.

**November 30 – December 16, 2016**

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PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVES

*The Department of State has outlined the following specific objectives for the project:*

* Explore U.S. efforts to promote women’s participation in all sectors of society as a central component of democratic governance;
* Learn about programs to encourage girls’ empowerment from an early age;
* Investigate programs to aid women in distress and protect women from domestic abuse;
* Examine policing in communities across the United States, including ways that men and women work in partnership in this sector;
* Meet with local police forces to learn about community policing, methods of management, hiring and the targeted recruitment of women;
* Learn about law enforcement and government-wide efforts to counter violent extremism;
* Investigate how specialized units in U.S. police forces, with the judicial sector, work to fight crimes such as trafficking in persons, drug trafficking and gender-based violence;
* Observe how civil society and NGOs monitor the behavior of law enforcement entities, as well as their efforts to establish stronger relationships between police forces and members of the community; and
* Gain insights into ways that law enforcement officials observe human rights laws.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

**Afghanistan Ms. Habiba DANISH**

Member of Parliament, Economic Commission

**Republic of India** **Ms. Swati SANYAL**

Community Unit Director, Swayam Community Center

**Kyrgyz Republic** **Ms. Aizhan ABDESOVA**

Senior Inspector, Department of Legal Provision and International Cooperation, Ministry of Internal Affairs

**Ms. Aizada SUINALIEVA**

Inspector, Department of Legal Provision and International Cooperation, Ministry of Internal Affairs

**Nepal** **Mr. Rupa LABUNG**

Inspector, Nepal Police

**Ms. Tara Devi THAPA**

Deputy Superintendent of Police, Nepal Police

**Pakistan** **Ms. Rabia USMAN**

Manager, Human Rights Center for Women, Department of Social Welfare, Government of Punjab

**Ms. Nabila YASMEEN**

Deputy Superintendent of Police/Assistant Director, National Police Academy

**Afghanistan**

*Name:* **Ms. Habiba DANISH**

*Present Position:* Member of Parliament, Economic Commission

*Education/Training:* Certificate, English Language, Bakhter Institute of Higher Education, Kabul, 2012

Bachelor’s Degree, Chemistry and Physics, Kabul University, 2005

*Memberships:* Chief, Parliamentary Youth Group, Afghan Parliament

Anticorruption Committee, Afghan Parliament

Counternarcotic Committee, Afghan Parliament

*Publications:* Multiple articles on women’s participation in politics consistent with Islamic teachings

*Address:* Parliament of Afghanistan, Darul Aman Street

Kabul

Email: habiba.danish@yahoo.com

*Languages:* Dari (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* Yes, 2005

*Other Travel:*  Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Turkey

*Professional Background:* In her position as a Member of the Parliament of Afghanistan, Ms. Danish provides input on agreements and legislation with a particular focus on ensuring that the rights of women and marginalized groups are included in national and international policy. She has played a leadership role in communicating a broader view of women's involvement in politics that is integrated with Islamic teachings.

**India**

*Name:* **Ms. Swati SANYAL**

*Present Position:* Community Unit Director, Swayam Community Center

*Previous Positions:* Legal Support Staff, Association for Social and Health Advancement, 2000 – 2010

Project Coordinator, Violence Against Girls and Violence Against Women Program, Action Aid India, 2006 – 2008

Project Coordinator, Anti-Trafficking, Action Aid India, 2005 –2006

Education Program Counselor, Raiganj Cooperative, 2004 – 2005

*Education/Training:* Master’s Degree, Social Work (in progress)

Master’s Degree, Library and Information Science, Vidyasagar University, 1999

Bachelor’s Degree, North Bengal University, 1997

*Address:* 9/2B Deodar Street

Kolkata, West Bengal 700019

Email: swayam@cal.vsnl.net.in

*Languages:* Bengali (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* No previous U.S. travel

*Professional Background:* Ms. Sanyal currently runs a community center that focuses on preventing violence against women and children. This role also entails working with a large number of community volunteers. She is interested in how domestic violence affects American women and the programs in place to support them.

**Kyrgyz Republic**

*Name:* **Ms. Aizhan ABDESOVA**

*Present Position:* Senior Inspector, Department of Legal Provision and International Cooperation, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Kyrgyz Republic

*Previous Positions:* Career Development Specialist, SOS Children’s Villages, 2014 – 2015

Deputy Director, African Mining Metallurgical Group, 2010 – 2012

*Education/Training:* Master’s Degree, Comparative Politics of Europe, Institute of Political Science, Aix-en-Provence (France), 2007

Master’s Degree, International Relations, Kyrgyz National University, 2006

*Address:* 21, Baltagulova Street

Bishkek 720044

Email: aijan.abdesova@gmail.com

*Languages:* Kyrgyz (primary), English, French, Russian

*U.S. Travel:* Maryland

*Other Travel:* Democratic Republic of the Congo, China, France, Kenya, Montenegro, Rwanda, Turkey, United Arab Emirates

*Professional Background:* Ms. Abdesova manages the interactions between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Kyrgyz Republic and international organizations, embassies and nonprofit organizations. She is particularly interested in law enforcement activities in the United States, especially as they relate to countering violent extremism and the legal aspects of anti-trafficking programs.

**Kyrgyz Republic**

*Name:* **Ms. Aizada SUINALIEVA**

*Present Position:* Inspector, Department of Legal Provision and International Cooperation, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Kyrgyz Republic

*Education/Training:* Diploma, Jurisprudence, Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, 2012

*Address:* Frunze Street 69

Bishkek, Chui 720040

Email: aizadasuinalieva@gmail.com

*Languages:* Kyrgyz (primary), English, Russian

*U.S. Travel:* No previous U.S. travel

*Professional Background:* Ms. Suinalieva is responsible for developing contracts, agreements and other official documents required for the work of the Ministry of Internal Affairs with foreign partners. She is interested in meeting with U.S. law enforcement and judicial officials and to learn how they are working on countering violent extremism, illegal drug trafficking, organized crime, corruption and illegal migration.

**Nepal**

*Name:* **Ms. Rupa LABUNG**

*Present Position:* Inspector, Nepal Police

*Previous Positions:* Head, Metropolitan Traffic Police Division, 2016 – Present

Training Coordinator, National Police Academy, 2015 – 2016 Instructor, Regional Police Training Center, 2013

Head, Women and Children’s Service Center, 2012 – 2013

*Education/Training:* Post Graduate Degree, Police Science, Tribhuwan University, 2012

*Address:* Thapathali

Kathmandu

Email: labungr@yahoo.com

*Languages:* Nepali (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* No previous U.S. travel

*Other Travel:* India, Italy

*Professional Background:* Ms. Labung has served as an instructor and trainer for various police academies and centers in Nepal. She is particularly interested in providing equal opportunities for female and indigenous officers.

**Nepal**

*Name:* **Ms. Tara Devi THAPA**

*Present Position:* Deputy Superintendent of Police, Nepal Police

*Previous Positions:* Police Inspector, Nepal Police, 1999 – 2011

*Education/Training:* Various professional education courses on human rights, law enforcement, sexual exploitation and women’s development, 2001 – 2013

Master’s Degree, Tribhuvan University, 2005

Bachelor’s Degree, Tribhuvan University, 1996

Proficiency Certificate, Tribhuvan University, 1993

*Memberships:* The International Association of Women Police Officers

*Publications:* Various academic publications on domestic violence and the condition of street children in Nepal

*Address:* Metropolitan Police Circle

Saatdobato

Email: taradevi\_thapa@hotmail.com

*Languages:* Nepali (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* Minnesota

*Other Travel:* Haiti, Italy, Sudan

*Professional Background:* Ms. Thapa is currently in charge of a police department in the Lalitpur District and, in this position, she has over 250 police personnel that work under her direct supervision. Her unit is responsible for collecting intelligence, investigating crimes, formulating and implementing security plans, crime scene management, and monitoring and evaluation activities. She is interested in observing U.S. policing, particularly with respect to combating gender-based violence, trafficking in persons, and use of technologies in crime control.

**Pakistan**

*Name:* **Ms. Rabia USMAN**

*Present Position:* Manager, Human Rights Center for Women, Department of Social Welfare, Government of the Punjab

*Concurrent Position:* Bali Memorial Trust (with Domestic Violence Helpline)

*Previous Positions:* Manager, Ministry of Human Rights, 2011 – 2014

*Education/Training:* Master’s Degree, Food and Nutrition, University of the Punjab, 2002

*Address:* 148-A

New Muslim Town

Lahore, Punjab 54800

Email: rabia14180@gmail.com

*Languages:* Urdu (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* No previous U.S. travel

*Professional Background:* At the Human Rights Center for Women, Ms. Usman helps to connect thousands of women who are subject to gender-based violence with various services, and to provide them with opportunities for economic growth and empowerment. These services include legal support, medical assistance, police protection and skills training. She also manages the administration and management of the center and develops safety, counseling, and mediation programs with a variety of stakeholders. She works actively with police officials, lawyers, women’s police stations, media, civil society organizations and parliamentarians, and provides significant input into policymaking and legislation.

**Pakistan**

*Name:* **Ms. Nabila YASMEEN**

*Present Position:* Deputy Superintendent of Police/Assistant Director, National Police Academy

*Previous Positions:* Police Inspector, National Highways and Motorway Police, 2013 – 2014

Public Information Officer, UN-Africa Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), 2012 – 2013

Sub Inspector, National Highways and Motorway Police, 2002 – 2012

*Education/Training:* Bachelor of Science Degree, Physics/Math, Peshawar University, (1999)

*Address:* House 7, Street 3,

Islamabad Homes, Sector H-15

Islamabad 44000

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*Languages:* Urdu (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* France, Saudi Arabia, Sudan

*Professional Background:* Ms. Yasmeen is one of only two females in the training wing of the National Police Academy. As part of the training wing, she is responsible for developing training materials and instructing in-service police officers and new instructors at the academy. Ms. Yasmeen also had the opportunity to represent Pakistan on its United Nations mission to the Sudan.