## **MEDIA RELEASE**



## AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION

Australia Awards Scholarships: Media Release

# Australia Awards Scholarships

#### AUSTRALIA AWARDS SCHOLARS DEPART FOR AUSTRALIA

Sixty five Bangladeshi candidates have been awarded Australia Awards scholarships to pursue postgraduate studies in Australia, commencing in 2015.

Seventeen scholarships were awarded to candidates from the ethnic minority groups in Bangladesh, reflecting Australia's commitment to opportunity for all. More than 50 per cent of the Australia Awards scholars are women.



Australian High Commission farewells the 2015 Intake Australia Awards scholars from Bangladesh

At a ceremony in Dhaka on 17 November 2014, the Australian High Commission's Counsellor for Development Cooperation, Ms Priya Powell, congratulated the Australia Awards scholars on their achievement and wished them well for their studies.

"You join the many hundreds of Bangladeshi scholarship holders who have studied in Australia over the decades, and applied their experience to Bangladesh's growth and development. And you further strengthen the ties between our two countries."

Ms Powell noted the scholarships would strengthen Bangladesh's capacity in key sectors such as education, health, public financial management, public administration and governance.

Mr Mohammad Zahangir Alam, Joint Secretary of the Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance, congratulated the Australia Awards scholars and expressed his thanks to Australia for its valuable support and cooperation.

More than 950 Australian Government scholarships have been awarded in Bangladesh since the 1970s.

Scholarships are an important part of Australia's development assistance to Bangladesh. The Australian Government offers the Australia Awards scholarships annually.

The next round of Australia Awards scholarships will open for applications from 1 February 2015 until 30 April 2015. Please visit the Australia Awards website: <a href="https://www.australiaawards.gov.au">www.australiaawards.gov.au</a> or <a href="https://www.australiaawardsbangladesh.org">www.australiaawardsbangladesh.org</a> for further information.

## Australian High Commission, Dhaka, 17 November 2014

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