

## Parveen Talha - Padma Shri Awardee

Educated at Loreto Convent High School / College ,Lucknow , securing a first class in MA Economics ,she taught in Lucknow University from 1965 to 69 .In 69 she appeared for the Civil Services exam and was selected to the Indian Revenue Service becoming the first Muslim woman to achieve this distinction .

Parveen served with dedication in all her postings be it as a Central Excise Commissioner, a Deputy Narcotics Commissioner of Utter Pradesh and as Director General of Training at the National Academy Of Customs Excise and Narcotics (NACEN ) Faridabad . For her outstanding service in excise department she was awarded the Presidents Gold Medal in2002 .

In her capacity as Director General of NACEN she initiated the Customs department in their role in controlling the smuggling of Ozone Depleting Substances by introducing training programmes for customs officers .Hence it was through her efforts that NACEN was raised to an International Status when the World Customs Organisation (WCO) identified it as a Training Institute for the Asia-Pacific Region for training Custom officers of this region to control smuggling of OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES .This was brought into effect after she signed an MOU with the United Nations Environment Programme .

She became on September 30<sup>th</sup> 2004 , the first Muslim Woman to be made Member UPSC , the office which she demitted on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009.She was awarded a Padma Shri in 2014 for her outstanding contribution to the civil services

Parveen Talha resides in Lucknow and a collection of her short stories titled Fida-e-Lucknow has been published by Nyogi Books and was released by Vice President Hamid Ansari.