



Civil Rights Division



Tennessee Department of Transportation

The Civil Rights Division is celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month by recognizing some of our employees.



CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

Robinur M. Chowdhury, E.I.

Operations District Specialist
Region 4, Memphis TN

He enjoys playing the guitar, outdoor games, and going for long drives.

“Diversity means courage and strength.”

- Robinur M. Chowdhury

Joined TDOT Family January 2019

What does Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month mean to you and why?

The Asian American and Pacific Islanders have made significant contributions to many aspects of American culture, history, and society including science and medicine, literature and art, sports and recreation, government and politics as well as activism and law. In 2021, Kamala Harris became the first Asian American Vice President of the United States. This celebration and/or recognition promotes diversity and equity.

What had the biggest influence on your career?

I got the passion for building something new from my father who was a teacher by profession. One of my uncles played a vital role to make me choose the Civil Engineering education. Nevertheless, I was always amazed to see how a road was built from nothing (soft ground) to pitch-black asphalt (very hard surface) ready for vehicles.

The TDOT EPIC initiative was launched recently. How do you see your role as empowering people and influencing the culture?

Inclusion within the TDOT workforce makes me feel valued and appreciated. I see myself as a pen that connects the dots towards the progress of the EPIC journey.

How do you suggest we create a workforce that supports diversity, equity, and inclusion?

Thanks to TDOT, I have received my permanent residency in the USA while keeping myself busy working for the state of Tennessee. I believe there are many more qualified candidates with diverse backgrounds and ethnicity who deserve a chance to work for TDOT.