



BNACWC

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BANGLADESH NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

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CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)

CWC is an arms control agreement. The convention outlaws the production, stockpiling, transfer and use of chemical weapons. The convention was adopted on 03 September 1992 in Geneva and opened for signature in Paris on 13 January 1993. CWC entered into force on 29 April 1997 for making the world free of Chemical Weapons and ensuring peaceful use of chemicals. Salient aspects of the convention are:

- All member states must destroy all Chemical Weapons and related production facilities.
- Member states can produce/use toxic chemicals for peaceful purposes only.
- Every member state should have National Authority to implement the CWC at national level.
- All member states must have the necessary legislations for implementation of the CWC.

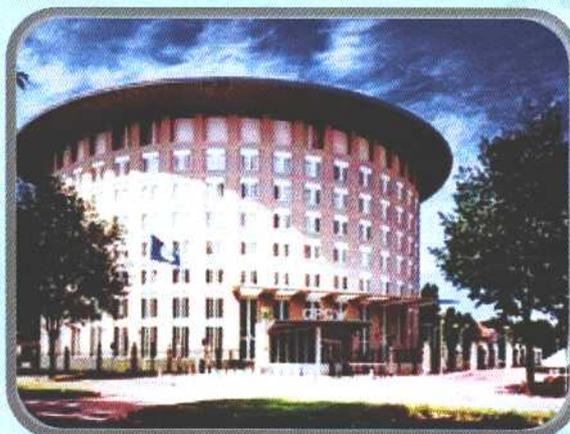
ORGANISATION FOR THE
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE
DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING AND
USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR
DESTRUCTION



OPCW

ORGANIZATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS (OPCW)



OPCW is an independent, autonomous international organization with a working relationship to the United Nations. It is the apex implementing body of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). The headquarters of OPCW is located in the Hague, Netherlands. As of today, OPCW has 193 member states, working together to implement the CWC globally. The mission of the OPCW is to implement the provisions of the CWC in order to achieve the vision for a world free of Chemical Weapons and threat of their use. As of 31 October 2021, 98.9% of the world's declared chemical weapons have been verifiably destroyed. OPCW was awarded with the coveted 'Nobel Peace Prize' in 2013 for its extensive efforts for making a world free of Chemical Weapons.

BANGLADESH NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (BNACWC)

BNACWC is the prime implementing body of the CWC in Bangladesh. Bangladesh signed the CWC on 14 January 1993 and ratified the Convention on 25 April 1997. The Armed Forces Division (AFD) was given with the responsibility to organize, coordinate and execute the role of National Authority in December 1997. To implement the CWC and fulfill the obligations under the Convention, Government of Bangladesh has enacted the "Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006" on 24 September 2006, through which "Bangladesh National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention (BNACWC)" was formed. The Principal Staff Officer (PSO) of AFD is the Chairman of BNACWC. It consists of total 21 members at the status of minimum Joint Secretary and equivalent from ten ministries, Civil and Military Relations Directorate of AFD, three military services and other five commerce, customs and chemicals related organizations. Executive Cell of BNACWC has dedicated officers and men to coordinate the affairs of BNACWC. The office of the BNACWC is located at the premises of the AFD at Dhaka Cantonment.





RECENT CHEMICAL INCIDENTS IN BANGLADESH AND AROUND THE WORLD

Recent Chemical Incidents Around the World



Ammonium Nitrate explosion caused massive destruction including 218 deaths in Beirut (4 August 2020)



Chemical explosion in a container vessel MV "X-PRESS PEARL" (May 2021) near Colombo Port, Srilanka



More than 60 people have been killed after a fuel tanker exploded in northern Haiti (14 December 2021)

Recent Chemical Incidents in Bangladesh



Fire incident at a chemical factory at Sreepur of Gazipur (11 February 2021)



Massive fire incident at a Factory in Narayanganj (08 July 2021)



A devastating fire broke out at a plastic factory at Bogura (14 December 2021)

TRAINING EVENTS OF BNACWC

Identification of Most Traded Schedule Chemicals at Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR)

BNACWC, being the prime regulatory body for the effective implementation of CWC and Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act-2006, is putting emphasis on developing the capacity of the customs and police officers to identify unknown chemicals and its further handling procedures. Accordingly, BNACWC planned a day long training programme on 30 November 2021 at Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR). A total of twenty four participants from Bangladesh Police and Customs participated in this training.



Member Secretary, BNACWC delivering opening remarks to the participants



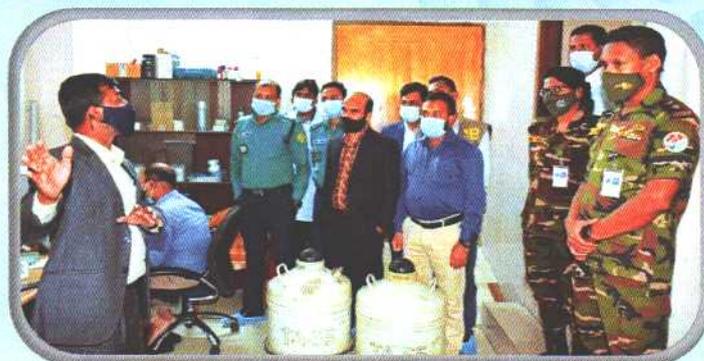
Chairman, BCSIR handing over certificate to a participant



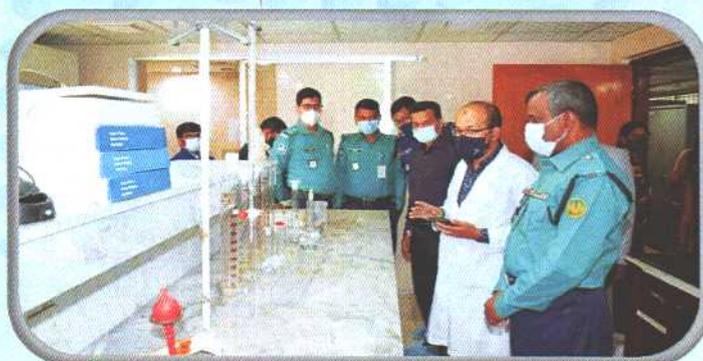
Staff officer from BNACWC Executive Cell delivered lectures on related topics



Staff officer from BNACWC Executive Cell delivered lectures on related topics



Officers from BCSIR briefing the participants on Sample Collection Procedure



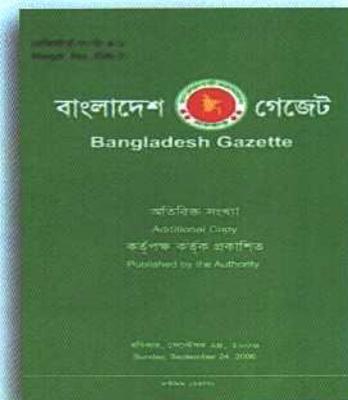
Officers from BCSIR briefing the participants on Sample Collection Procedure



NATIONAL LEGISLATIONS ON CWC IN BANGLADESH

Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006

As per the article VII of CWC, each State Party should adopt their own legislation for ensuring implementation of CWC. Accordingly, the 'Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006' was approved by the Parliament of Bangladesh and published on 24 September 2006 on Gazette. It has total 08 chapters, 49 articles and a chart of three types of schedule chemicals. It lays out comprehensive procedure to implement CWC in Bangladesh including necessary laws, penalty and punishment.

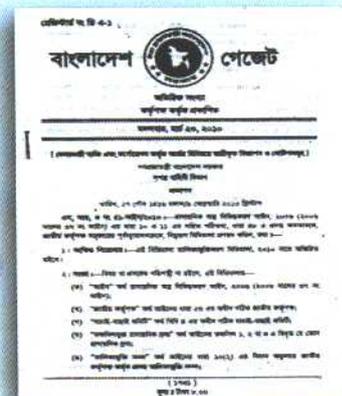


Enrollment Rules 2010

The Enrollment Rules Mentions about the obligations, criteria, procedure and submission of various documents of chemical industries/organizations for being enlisted to the National Authority. The rule was adopted on 09 February 2010 and published in Bangladesh Gazette on 23 March 2010. It is a supplementary rule to the Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006. This rule is composed of 13 articles.

Import Policy Order 2011

This policy was adopted on 19 October 2011 and published in Bangladesh Gazette on 25 October 2011 as the amendment of the Import Policy Order 2009-2011. After amendment a new sub-section (Sub-section 60) was included under the section 25 of the Policy. It also included an annex (Annex 3) where the lists of all Schedule Chemicals with their Harmonized System (HS) code and Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) Registry Number were attached. According to the new sub-section 60, the chemicals of annex 3 can be imported by fulfilling the conditions of Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006 and Enrolment Rules 2010. Bangladesh government amends the Import Policy Order in each every three years.



Rules for Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006

Ever-increasing manufacturing sector of Bangladesh is causing a consistent rise in the use of chemicals resulting in increased production of Discrete Organic Chemicals (DOC) and transfer of Schedule Chemicals. For ensuring better chemical safety and security management, proper implementation of 'Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006' is a prerequisite. As such, to implement the act properly, Chairman, BNACWC formed a Rules Drafting Committee to formulate rules on this act. The committee has prepared the rules titled as 'Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Rules, 2021' and sent to ministry of defence for finalizing and publishing on Bangladesh Gazette. Along with the act, the rules will provide great support in implementing CWC in Bangladesh and ensuring chemical safety and security all over the country.



LOCAL INSPECTION OF BNACWC

Local Inspection at Shahajalal Fertilizer Factory Limited, Fenchuganj, Syllhet

According to 'Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006', and 'Enrollment Rules, 2010' BNACWC regularly conducts industry inspection to verify declarable chemical activities and ensure peaceful use of chemicals in industries. BNACWC Inspection sub-committee inspected Shahajalal Fertilizer Factory Limited, Fenchuganj, Syllhet on 01 November 2021. Inspection started with the pre-inspection brief by industry representatives which was followed by onsite inspection to plant site, chemical storage and verification of chemical consumption data. Events ended with the post-inspection brief by the inspection team, where inspectors presented their recommendations to the industries.



Interactive session between the members of visiting team and officials from SFCL



Members of the inspection team interacting with the technicians at the Central Control Room



Inspection team visiting the Central Control Room



Plant site inspection by the inspection team



Inspection team visiting the store house of SFCL



Plant site inspection by the inspection team



BNACWC IN 2021- A PICTORIAL REPRESENTATION



17th General Meeting of BNACWC



Visit to Benapole Land Port by BNACWC Expert Team



Training on 'Handling of Dangerous Goods' at Chattogram Port



Outreach programme at Fire Service and Civil Defence (FSCD) Training Complex



19th Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Asia



Rescue and medical management team being decontaminated after the rescue operation



Visite to Chemical Cargo storage of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport



Local Inspection of BNACWC at a Chemical Industry

OFFENCE, PENALTY AND TRIAL FOR VIOLATION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS (PROHIBITION) ACT, 2006

To ensure effective implementation of CWC in Bangladesh, Chapter VII of 'Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006' mentions about different penalties for violation of the articles of the Act. Penalties for violation of some important articles are appended below:

Article	Offence	Penalty
Article-31	Violation of Article 5 Develop, produce, acquire, stockpile, transfer and use of Chemical Weapons	Maximum 14 years of imprisonment and upto Tk 50 thousand as fine
Article-32	Violation of Article 6 Developing premises or equipment for producing Chemical Weapons	Maximum 10 years of imprisonment and upto Tk 30 thousand as fine
Article-33	Violation of Article 7 Production, acquire, use etc of Schedule 1 chemicals other than peaceful purposes	Maximum 5 years of imprisonment and upto Tk 15 thousand as fine
Article-34	Violation of Article: 8 Transfer of Schedule 2 & 3 chemicals to/from countries not a party to the CWC	Maximum 4 years of imprisonment and upto Tk 12 thousand as fine
Article-35	Violation of Article 9 Import & export of Schedule Chemical	Maximum 3 years of imprisonment and upto Tk 10 thousand as fine
Article-37	Violation of Article 20 Not supplying the info on activities related to schedule chemicals	Maximum 1 year of imprisonment or upto Tk 3 thousand or both as fine
Article-38	Violation of Article 21 Disclosure of confidential info	Maximum 1 year of imprisonment or upto Tk 5 thousand or both as fine

INTERACTIVE SESSION ORG BY BNACWC AT OLD DHAKA

A good number of traders/merchants of Old Dhaka are involved with chemical business. Accidents resulting from chemicals are commonplace at Old Dhaka due to lack of knowledge and understanding on Chemical safety and security management. To generate awareness among the traders/merchants, BNACWC organized an interactive session for the Bangladesh Chemical and Perfumery Association on 07 December 2021. Staff Officers from BNACWC delivered lectures on 'Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006', Enrollment Rules, CWC etc which were followed by an interactive session with participants. Total 24 members of the associations were present at the session. This kind of interactive session helps generating awareness among the traders/merchants on overall chemical safety of Bangladesh.



Chief Patron	: Lieutenant General Waker-Uz-Zaman, SGP, psc Chairman, BNACWC and Principal Staff Officer, Armed Forces Division
Patron	: Commodore Mohammad Manzur Hossain, (G), BSP, ndu, psc, BN Member Secretary, BNACWC and Director General, Civil and Military Relations Directorate, Armed Forces Division
Supervisor	: Colonel Mohammad Masud Parvez, afwc, psc Colonel Staff, BNACWC and Civil and Military Relations Directorate, Armed Forces Division
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