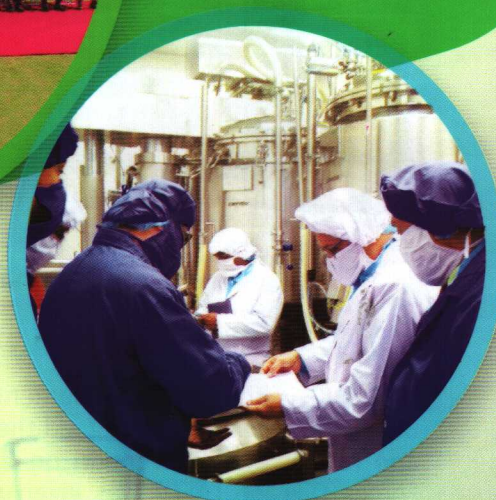
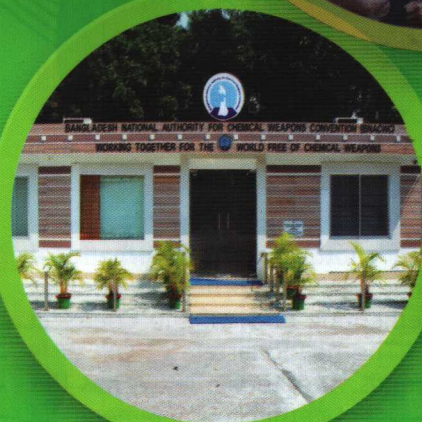
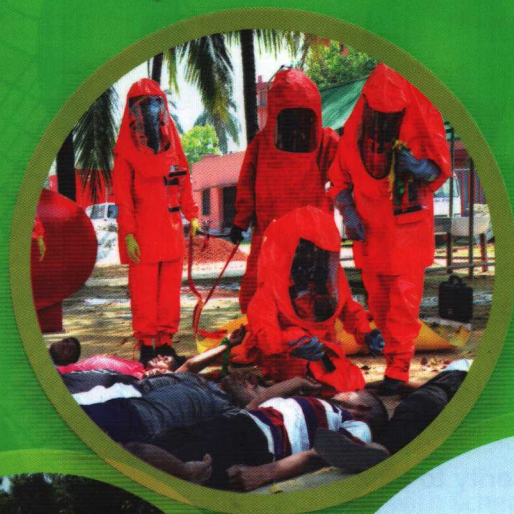




BNACWC NEWSLETTER

Year 04 ■ Edition 11 ■ January-March 2019



BANGLADESH NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (BNACWC)

Address : Prime Minister's Office, Armed Forces Division, Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka-1206

Website : www.bnacwcafd.gov.bd, **E-mail :** bnacwc@bnacwcafd.gov.bd

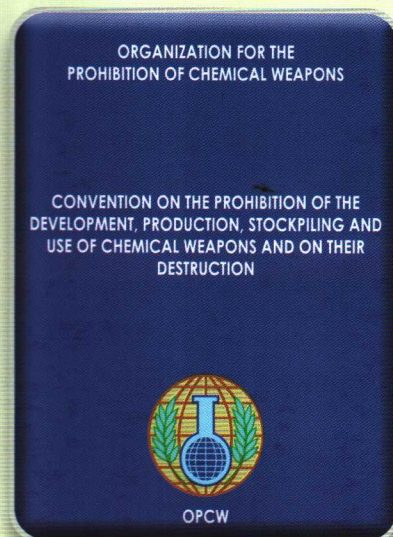
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CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)

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. For making a world free of Chemical Weapons and using chemicals only for peace, progress and prosperity, CWC entered into force on 29 April 1997. Summary of the conventions are:

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



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, who are working together to implement the CWC globally. The mission of the OPCW is to implement the provisions of the CWC in order to achieve their vision for a world free of Chemical Weapons and of the threat of their use. As of 20 November 2018, 96.62% of the worlds 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 Chemical Weapons free world.

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 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 17 members at the status of minimum Joint Secretary and equivalent level from eight ministries, three military services and other five chemistry, commerce and customs 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 in Dhaka Cantonment.





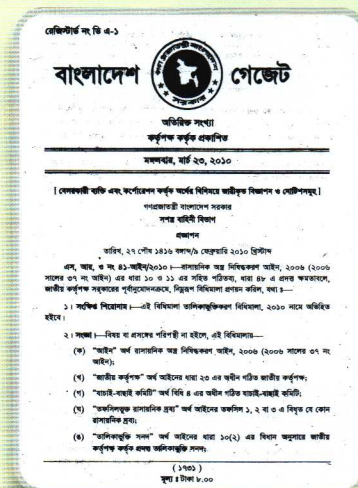
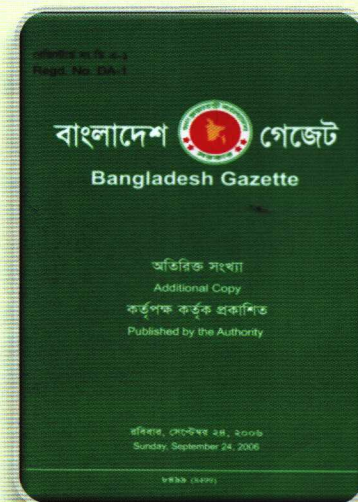
BANGLADESH NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

NATIONAL LEGISLATIONS ON CWC IN BANGLADESH

Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006

The Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006 was approved by the Parliament of Bangladesh and published on 24 September 2006 as 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. Summary of the act are:

- Development, production, stockpiling, transfer, use, engagement in military preparation, assisting or encouraging for using chemical weapons are strictly prohibited but one can use toxic chemicals for permitted purpose (Article-5).
- Every person or industry dealing with Schedule Chemicals, Discrete Organic Chemicals (DOC) and DOC containing element of Phosphorous, Sulphur or Fluorine (PSF) must be enrolled with National Authority (Article-10).
- Any person who deals with Schedule Chemicals, DOC and DOC containing PSF is bound to supply necessary information and documents within the prescribed form and time to the National Authority (Article-20).
- Any person who commits an offence by contravenes of Article-5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 20 and 21, shall be liable to be sentenced to certain term of imprisonment or to a fine. The offence under this act shall be non-bail able and cognizable.

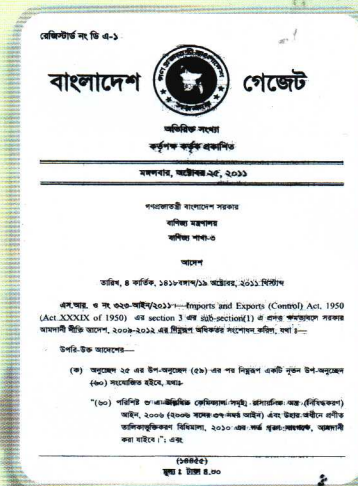


Enrollment Rules 2010

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

Import Policy Order 2011

This policy was adopted in 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) has 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 are 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.



EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Training on Chemical Safety and Security Management in Industry

BNACWC organized a short training course on “Chemical Safety and Security Management in Industry” from 30-31 January 2019 at Armed Forces Division, Dhaka. The objective of the training was to assist stakeholders in growing a sustainable chemical safety and security culture in industrial sector. The training featured valuable lessons from eminent scholars on CWC, related national legislations, chemical safety and security related issues, dual use of chemistry, hazard and risk management procedure etcetera. It also included group exercise and group presentations to promote cooperation and team building. Total 41 Chemists and Chemical Engineers from different reputed industries, officers from various government and non government organizations participated in this training event. Chairman, BNACWC awarded certificates to the participants at the end of the training course.



Participants listening to a presentation at the training venue in Armed Forces Division



BNACWC resource person from Industry (Berger Paint, Bangladesh Limited) conducting class on 'Industrial Chemical Management in Bangladesh and Best Practices' in the training



BNACWC resource person from Bangladesh University of Science and Technology (BUET) conducting class on 'Industrial Safety Management System' in the training



Participants engaged in group exercise



Chairman, BNACWC awarding certificate to a participant of the training course



INSPECTION AND VERIFICATION

Local Inspection at Square Pharmaceutical Limited and Square Toiletries Limited

According to Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act, 2006, BNACWC conducts industry inspection regularly to verify declarable chemical activities and to ensure peaceful use of chemicals in industries. BNACWC Inspection Sub-committee inspected Square Pharmaceutical Limited and Square Toiletries Limited, Shalgaria, Pabna plants from 17 to 18 Feb 2019. Inspection Sub-committee was comprised of 12 inspectors from different ministries and organizations. Inspection started with the pre-inspection brief by the industry representatives followed by onsite inspection splitting in 03 major groups (Plant site, Chemical Storage and Chemical Consumption). The event ended with the post-inspection brief by the inspection team where inspectors presented their recommendations.



Pre-inspection brief by the representative of Square Pharmaceuticals Limited



Onsite inspection by the inspection team of BNACWC



BNACWC inspection team is verifying chemical consumption



BNACWC inspection team is interacting with the representatives of Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd



BNACWC inspection team inspects chemical storage facilities of Square Toiletries Ltd



INTERACTIVE SESSION

Interactive Session on Chemical Incident Preparedness for Hospitals (HOSPREP) with Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) and Combined Military Hospital (CMH) Dhaka

Victim management of chemical related incident or accident is different from other incident and accident. Doctors and other medical personnel must have special knowledge and training for proper management of chemical victim. Hospitals must have necessary infrastructure and special arrangement also. In order to growing awareness and building capacity of hospitals for the management of chemical victim, BNACWC team visited Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) on 26 February 2019 and Dhaka CMH on 04 March 2019. Interactive sessions between the hospital managements and BNACWC were held followed by visit to probable sites for necessary infrastructure. During site visit medical authority appraises the team on their tentative plan on ground for the chemical incident preparedness of respective hospitals.



Interactive Session with Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH)



Interactive Session with Combined Military Hospital (CMH), Dhaka



Under construction infrastructure of DMCH for chemical victim management



BNACWC team and representatives of Dhaka CMH discussing on probable decontamination area



Director, DMCH appraised the BNACWC team on their future plan for chemical victim management



BNACWC team and representatives of Dhaka CMH visited probable site for infrastructure to deal with chemical victim

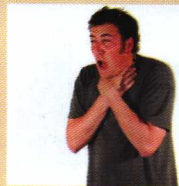
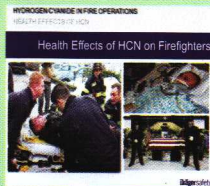





CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENTS (CWA)

Definition

Chemical warfare agents (CWA) are defined as 'any chemical which through its chemical action on life processes can cause death, temporary incapacitation or permanent harm to humans or animals'. These agents may be in liquid, gas or solid form.

Types of CWA

CWA	Example	Impact on Health	Pictures
Choking Agent	Chloropicrin (CG) Diphosgene (DP) Phosgene (PS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inflicting injury mainly on the respiratory tract. Irritate the nose, throat and especially the lungs. When inhaled, these agents cause alveoli, air sacs in the lungs, to secrete fluid, essentially drowning those affected. 	
Blood Agent	Hydrogen cyanide (AC) Cyanogen chloride (CK) Arsine (SA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distributed via blood and generally enter the body through inhalation. Inhibit the ability of blood cells to use and transfer oxygen. Effectively causing the body to suffocate. 	
Nerve Agent	Tabun (GA), Sarin (GB), Soman (GD), Cyclosarin (GF), VX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Block impulses between nerve cells or across synapses. Act primarily by absorption through the skin and lungs. Nerve agents are divided into two main groups: G-series agents and V-series agents. Some G-agents, particularly tabun and sarin, persist in the environment for only short periods. Other agents, such as Soman and Cyclosarin, persist longer and present a greater threat to the skin. V-agents are extremely potent, with only milligrams needed to cause death, and persist for long periods of time in the environment. 	
Blister Agent	Sulfur mustard (H, HD) Nitrogen mustard (HN) Lewisite (L) Phosgene oxime (CX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Act via inhalation and contact, affecting the eyes, respiratory tract, and skin; first as an irritant and then as a cell poison. Cause large and often life-threatening skin blisters which resemble severe burns, and often results in blindness and permanent damage to the respiratory system. 	
Riot control Agent	Tear Gas (CS) Pepper Spray (OC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intended to temporarily incapacitate a person by causing irritation to the eyes, mouth, throat, lungs, and skin. Riot control agents, such as tear gas, are considered chemical weapons if used as a method of warfare. Used as domestic law enforcement purposes. 	

INTERACTIVE SESSION



A staff level talk for capacity building of Armed Forces being the support responders to combat against Chemical Warfare Agents (CWAs) was held on 14 February 2019 at AFD conference room

FAREWELL OF OUTGOING MEMBER SECRETARY, BNACWC



Commodore S M Abul Kalam Azad, (G), NGP, ndc, psc, BN, joined AFD as Director General, Civil and Military Relations Directorate and Member Secretary, BNACWC on 24 January 2017. After two years of eventful tenure Commodore Azad left BNACWC for his new assignment at NHQ on February 2019. He was handed over a farewell souvenir by the members of executive cell of BNACWC

COURSES/SEMINARS ABROAD ORGANIZED BY OPCW



Md Akhtaruzzaman, Additional Chief Engineer, Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) and Md Shakil-Al-Mamun, Country SHE Manager, Unilever Bangladesh Limited attended "Seminar on the Chemical Weapons Conventions and chemical safety and security management for member states of OPCW in the Asia region", in Doha regional centre for CBRNE Training, Doha, Qatar from 26-28 February 2019.



- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Chief Patron | : Lieutenant General Md Mahfuzur Rahman, OSP, rcds, ndc, afwc, psc, PhD
Chairman, BNACWC and Principal Staff Officer, Armed Forces Division. |
| Patron & Supervisor | : Colonel Md Mahbubur Rahman Siddiqui, afwc, psc, Colonel Staff, BNACWC and
Civil and Military Relations Directorate, Armed Forces Division. |
| Editor | : Lieutenant Colonel Shams Mohammad Mamun, psc
General Staff Officer-1 (BNACWC) |
| Assistant Editors | : Major Md. Rokonujaman Khan, AEC, General Staff Officer-2 (Chemist).
Mr. Rafiqul Islam, Assistant Director (BNACWC).
Lieutenant Md Emran Hossain, BN, General Staff Officer-2 (BNACWC). |