

No. M-21012/12/2022-TECH
भारत सरकार / Government of India
मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय / Cabinet Secretariat
राष्ट्रीय प्राधिकरण रासायनिक हथियार समझौता / National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention

प्रथम तल, चाणक्य भवन/ 1st Floor, Chanakya Bhavan
चाणक्य पुरी, नई दिल्ली-21/ Chanakya Puri, New Delhi-110021
Dated the 14th October, 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Invitation to apply for Two Research Fellowships in Analytical Chemistry Skills Development to be held at the Finnish Institute Laboratory, Finland in 2026 – reg.

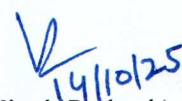
The undersigned is directed to inform that India is a signatory to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), headquartered at The Hague, The Netherlands is the implementing body of CWC. National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC), being the National Focal Point facilitates, participation of its officials, other Indian officials and other Indian national in training courses conducted by OPCW in the field of the Convention.

2. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW invites Nominations to apply for Two Research Fellowships in Analytical Chemistry Skills Development to be held at the Finnish Institute Laboratory, Finland in 2026 (TS Note No. S/2446/2025 dated 25th September, 2025 enclosed).

3. Accordingly, nomination of suitable, qualified and experienced candidates fulfilling the above requirements of the course, along with relevant supporting documents following the 'Guidelines for the OPCW sponsored events' issued by NACWC (enclosed), may please be sent to this office latest by 22nd October, 2025 through online portal - OPCW Training Management System (<https://training.nacwc.gov.in/Login.aspx>).

4. Applicant(s) who have already participated in the similar previous programme(s) may not be considered for the course. If selected, the participant must submit a report and a copy of the OPCW certificate to the National Authority, after attending the course/ training/ workshop/ event.

Encl.: As above


(Vivek Prakash)
Under Secretary & HoO
Phone: +91-11-24675528
Email: us-nacwc@gov.in

To

1. The Chairman, Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO), DRDO Bhawan, Vijay Chowk Area, Central Secretariat, New Delhi – 110004.
2. The Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) & Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Anusandhan Bhawan, 2 Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Marg, New Delhi – 110001.
3. The Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Krishi Bhawan, Raisina Road, Opposite Rail Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.
4. The Vice Chancellor, Harcourt Butler Technical University, Nawabganj, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh – 208002.

5. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Gandhinagar, Palaj, Gandhinagar, Gujarat – 382355.
6. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Guwahati, Surjyamukhi Road, North Amingaon, Guwahati, Assam – 781039.
7. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Hyderabad, IITH Road, Near NH-65, Sangareddy, Kandi, Telangana – 502285.
8. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Indore, Khandwa Road, Simrol, Madhya Pradesh – 453552.
9. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Jodhpur, NH-62, Surpura Bypass Road, Karwar, Rajasthan – 342030.
10. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Kanpur, Kalyanpur, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh – 208016.
11. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Kharagpur, Kharagpur, West Bengal – 721302.
12. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Madras, Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600036.
13. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Mandi, Parashar Road, Tehsil Sadar, Near Kataula, Kamand, Himachal Pradesh – 175005.
14. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Patna, Bihta, Patna, Bihar – 801103.
15. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Roorkee, Roorkee-Haridwar Highway, Roorkee, Uttarakhand – 247667.
16. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology (BHU) – Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh – 221005.
17. The Director, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), C.V. Raman Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560012.
18. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Bhubaneswar, Argul-Jatni Road, Kansapada, Odisha – 752050.
19. The Director, Defence Research & Development Establishment (DRDE), Jhansi Road, Gwalior – 474002. (Old Campus: Tansen Road, Gwalior – 474002.)
20. The Director, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Uppal Road, IICT Colony, Tarnaka, Hyderabad, Telangana – 500007.
21. The Director, Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT), HSIDC, Sector-20, Udyog Vihar, Opposite Ambience Mall, Gurugram – 122016.
22. The Director, National Chemical Laboratory, Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pune, Maharashtra – 411008.
23. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Bombay, Main Gate Road, IIT Area, Powai, Mumbai, Maharashtra – 400076.
24. The Director, Indian Institute of Technology – Delhi, IIT Delhi Main Road, IIT Campus, Hauz Khas, New Delhi – 110016.
25. The Director, North East Institute of Science & Technology (Formerly Regional Research Laboratory), Jorhat, Assam – 785006.
26. The Director, CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum, Mohkampur, Dehradun, Uttarakhand – 248005.



OPCW

For n/a pl. *01/30/2025*
US/HOO Technical Secretariat

S/2446/2025
29 September 2025
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR TWO RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT TO BE HELD IN 2026 AT THE LABORATORY OF THE FINNISH INSTITUTE FOR VERIFICATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION HELSINKI, FINLAND

PURPOSE OF THE FELLOWSHIPS

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to invite Member States to nominate two participants for research fellowships for analytical and organic chemistry skills development: One will focus on gas chromatography-high resolution mass spectrometry (GC-HRMS), and the second will focus on synthesis and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR). The fellowships will take place in 2026 at the laboratory of the Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (VERIFIN) in Helsinki, Finland.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FELLOWSHIPS

2. The fellowships are organised by VERIFIN and are designed for chemists with relevant practical and theoretical experience in synthesis and analytical chemistry. For the GC-HRMS research fellow, practical experience in analytical chemistry, including sample preparation, and gas chromatography, in addition to a theoretical understanding of mass spectrometry, are essential prerequisites. For the research fellow focusing on synthesis and NMR, practical experience in organic synthesis and NMR, as well as a theoretical understanding of organic reactions and NMR spectroscopy, are essential prerequisites. The selected research fellows must be prepared to work independently on a designated project. Although VERIFIN will propose the specific focus of the project, candidates may indicate their own areas of interest. Applicants who are at the early stage of their research careers are preferred.
3. During the practical laboratory component, the GC-HRMS research fellow will receive training on sample preparation and analysis methods for compounds related to chemical warfare agents, their precursors, degradation products, and the by-products of selected scheduled chemicals, in addition to the application of GCHRMS in this field. The synthesis and NMR research fellow will receive training on synthesis methods and purification of compounds related to precursors, degradation products, and the by-products of scheduled chemicals, as well as structure elucidation using NMR spectroscopy. The fellowships will also address the issues of quality assurance and occupational safety.

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TIME AND DURATION

4. The fellowships will each be for a duration of six months, starting in the spring of 2026. The exact date of commencement of the fellowships will be mutually agreed upon by the selected research fellows and VERIFIN.

SELECTION OF THE CANDIDATES

5. Two candidates will be selected for the two fellowships in two phases. The pre-selection of the candidates will be completed before 14 November 2025. The final selection by the OPCW will be made before 15 December 2025. Only successful candidates will be informed by the OPCW.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

6. VERIFIN will provide tutors, equipment, and infrastructure free of charge. The costs of accommodation, daily allowances, travel, and medical insurance will be borne by the OPCW.
7. It should be mentioned that VERIFIN will pre-select at least four candidates for the fellowships; their applications will be forwarded to the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW. The Director of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division will select the research fellows to be supported by the OPCW based on the recommendation of the Review Committee. Applications are to comply with the requirements of the OPCW Fellowship Programme, the details of which are available on the OPCW website (www.opcw.org).

ELIGIBILITY

8. The fellowship positions are open to citizens of Member States of the OPCW (a list of which is available on the OPCW website) that are developing countries or countries with economies in transition. It is intended for relatively young chemists with an academic background and laboratory experience, as indicated earlier. The candidates should have practical experience with computers and basic software. A good working knowledge of English is a prerequisite. Qualified women candidates are encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

9. Interested candidates should submit their applications on plain paper and should attach the following:
 - (a) an up-to-date curriculum vitae;
 - (b) an essay (not exceeding 500 words) describing the applicant's scientific background and experience in the relevant topics, outlining the objectives and the type of work experience the candidate wishes to achieve during the fellowship, and relevant research topics they are interested in;
 - (c) a letter of recommendation from the supervisor of the candidate at the institution where they are currently working, indicating how the training will be of benefit to the candidate's present position, institution, and country;

- (d) a completed OPCW Fellowship Programme application form (attached as the Annex to this Note); and
 - (e) a copy of the candidate's valid national passport.
10. Applications without valid contact information (including a mailing address and email address) will not be considered. Applications should be received by VERIFIN by 30 October 2025. Incomplete applications or those received after the deadline will not be considered. The applicant should also clearly indicate which fellowship programme they prefer (GC-HRMS or synthesis and NMR). Applications should be sent to the following address:

Applications for the GC-HRMS fellowship:

Arja Valtanen
VERIFIN
Department of Chemistry
P.O. Box 55
FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland
Email: arja.valtanen@helsinki.fi
Tel: +358 50 473 5795

Applications for the synthesis and NMR fellowship:

Harri Kiljunen/ Johannes Heikkinen
VERIFIN
Department of Chemistry
P.O. Box 55
FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland
Email: harri.kiljunen@helsinki.fi / johannes.heikkinen@helsinki.fi
Tel: +358 50 448 6566/ +358 50 323 3716

11. A copy of the completed OPCW Fellowship Programme application form (annexed to this Note) should be sent to the respective National Authority to the OPCW, which is requested to endorse the application and forward it to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, International Cooperation Branch, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by email (icb.events@opcw.org). Additionally, the endorsed application form should also be submitted directly to VERIFIN.
12. Additional information about these fellowships may be obtained from Arja Valtanen (arja.valtanen@helsinki.fi), and Harri Kiljunen (harri.kiljunen@helsinki.fi) and Johannes Heikkinen (johannes.heikkinen@helsinki.fi).

Annex: OPCW Fellowship Programme Application Form

Annex

OPCW FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME APPLICATION FORM

The applicant should complete sections 1 to 3 of this form, arrange for the endorsements by the home institution in section 4, and then send the form **by email to VERIFIN** and a copy to the respective **National Authority** with a request to complete section 5.

The National Authority should then forward the completed form to the International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, **by email to icb.events@opcw.org** (directly or through the relevant Permanent Representation). The endorsed application should be received by the OPCW and VERIFIN **no later than 30 October 2025**.

Please type or use **BLOCK LETTERS**

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION								
Family name*								
First name(s)*								
Date of birth	Day	Month		Year				
Nationality								
Address (home)	Street							
	Number			Postcode				
	City							
	Country							
Address (work)	Street							
	Number			Postcode				
	City							
	Country							
Telephone and fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home							
	Work							
	Mobile							
	Fax							
Email address	Home							
	Work							
Passport number								
Date of issue	Day	Month		Year				
Date of expiry	Day	Month		Year				
Place of issue								
Mother tongue								
Knowledge of languages	Read		Write		Speak		Understand	
	Easily	Not easily	Easily	Not easily	Easily	Not easily	Easily	Not easily
1.								
2.								
3.								
4.								

*

Please give the first and family names exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

[illegible]

S/2446/2025

Annex

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Have you received financial or other support from the OPCW for any activity during the past 36 months?	☐ Yes ☐ No	If "yes", please give details
Have you applied for any other support from the OPCW?	☐ Yes ☐ No	If "yes", please give details
Bank details (candidate)		
Account number		
Bank name, branch, and address		
IBAN		
SWIFT code		
2. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION		
Applications will not be accepted without both of the following:		
(a) ☐ Yes ☐ No	letter from the candidate's present home institution confirming that he/she will be granted leave to undertake the fellowship; and	
(b) ☐ Yes ☐ No	photocopies of relevant pages from the candidate's valid passport and updated curriculum vitae.	
3. SIGNATURE OF THE CANDIDATE		
		Date: _____
4. SIGNATURE OF THE HEAD OF THE CANDIDATE'S HOME INSTITUTION/ LABORATORY		
		Date: _____
5. COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATION BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY OR PERMANENT REPRESENTATION TO THE OPCW		



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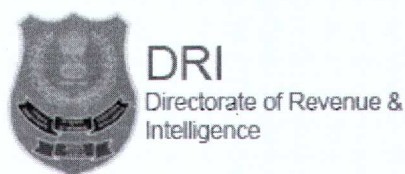
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NACWC Guidelines For OPCW Sponsored Events

1. Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Technical Secretariat (OPCW-TS) identifies requirements of different States Parties and invites nominations every year for Safety and Security of Chemical Industries, Laboratory Skill Development, Customs, Assistance and Protection against the use of Chemical Weapons and internship for University Students.
2. The event calendar for training/workshop/seminar/meeting etc. provided by the OPCW annually is being uploaded on the National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) website seeking nominations from various stakeholders. The aforesaid training calendar and related Office Memo's (OMs) are uploaded on NACWC's website along with OPCW-TS Note. Several subject specific trainings are also communicated to concerned Central/ State Departments and Private Institutions for seeking nominations.
3. The nominations of Central Government Departments/Institutions/Organizations while sending the nominations (in the format provided by TS, OPCW) are requested to adhere to the NACWC stated deadlines. Nominations of Central Government officials should invariably be accompanied with Departmental vigilance clearance certificate. The nominations from Central Government Departments/Institutions/Undertakings should fill the details through OPCW training management system, routing the application through the concerned Ministry. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-I.
4. The nominations of State Government Institutions/private entities/individuals should be routed through concerned Department/Ministry under the respective State Government filling the details online through OPCW training management system. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-II.

5. The nominations of Central/State/Private entities/individuals for the OPCW sponsored events on Chemical Emergencies/Disaster Management should be sent through proper channel and routed through concerned Department/Ministry under the respective Central/State Government by filling the details through OPCW training management system. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-III.
6. For chemical facilities Private entities/individuals for the OPCW sponsored events other than Chemical Emergencies/Disaster Management are required to be filled on line through OPCW training management system. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-IV.
7. The details of nominations for the OPCW sponsored events can be filled online through OPCW Training Management System (<https://training.nacwc.gov.in>) available on the NACWC web portal (<https://nacwc.nic.in>).
8. The nomination by NACWC for the concerned training/workshop/seminar/meeting etc. will be purely on the basis of merit i.e. preference will be given to Schedule-2 and 3 chemical facilities as well as candidates working with the National Authority or other Government Agency responsible for implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. The Endorsement letter, subsequent to the approval of Chairman, NACWC will be issued to nominee of Central/State/Private Entities. If the OPCW requests that the nominations are to be submitted online then it will be the responsibility of nominated individual(s) to fill the personal and other details on-line on the OPCW website (<http://apps.opcw.org/eventus>) and the nominee(s) should ensure that Performa prescribed in the Format of EVENTUS also is filled by them and the prescribed guidelines are required to be fulfilled by the nominee(s). The OPCW will communicate the invitation to the nominee(s) subject to fulfilling the requirement.
9. It is expected that the Nominee(s) exhibit excellent conduct while attending the concerned event. After completion of the training/seminar/workshop, a detailed report along with presentation is required to be submitted to the NACWC.
0. While proceeding to attend the concerned event organized by the OPCW, the nominee:
 - Should have basic knowledge of the CWC Act, 2000.
 - Make sure about the passport i.e. valid and protect the passport and report it promptly if it is lost, stolen or damaged during the period of a specific program.
 - Must familiarize with the visiting countries.
 - Make sure about the proper visas for the countries the participant is visiting or transiting and check any other entry or exit requirements.
 - Take personal responsibility for travel choices, safety, finances and behavior overseas, including obeying the laws of the visiting country.
 - If get arrested or detained for some reason, insist on Consular access (under the Vienna Convention) to a representative from the nearest Indian Embassy/Consulate.
 - Make sure of proper coordination with the NACWC (contact point JS/JD Tel. No: 24675763/24675691) and the Indian Embassy in the concerned visiting country.

- Presentation may be given in the specific event by the participant(s) should be in consultation with the NACWC.
- Should not illuminate irrelevant information which has national concern during the program.
- Who is outside from the Government Sector should adhere to the instructions given by the representative from the NACWC.
- From the Government Sector should adhere to the instructions given by the NACWC.
- Should focus on the subject matter for which the event is being organized.
- Are expected to implement the lessons learnt from the event attended in his day-to-day working/duties.
- Should share their lessons/experiences acquired during the event attended with the NACWC and parent institution.
- Must submit individual tour report to the NACWC within one week period after returning from the program attended.



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