

No. M-21012/18/2024-TECH
Government of India,
Cabinet Secretariat
National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention

1st Floor, Cabinet Secretariat,
Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi,
Dated 19th August, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Call for nomination for a Training Course for OPCW Member States in Asia on Sampling in a Highly Contaminated Environment Gurugram, India from 9th to 13th November, 2026 – regarding.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of the TS Note No. S/2554/2026 Dated 14th August, 2026, received from Technical Secretariat, Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), seeking nominations for the aforesaid training.

2. The training will provide expert knowledge and skills for up to 20 individuals responsible for conducting sampling of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals in highly contaminated environments as a result of a chemical attack or an incident involving toxic chemicals.
3. In view of above, nomination of suitable, qualified and experienced officer(s) of appropriate level, fulfilling eligibility criteria along with relevant documents as per the above TS note may be submitted through the Training Management System of NACWC, Cabinet Secretariat (<https://nacwc.gov.in/tms/>), latest by **30th August, 2026**, The candidate are requested to strictly adhere to the “Revised Guidelines for OPCW sponsored events” issued and hosted on the official website of NACWC, Cabinet Secretariat (<https://nacwc.gov.in/>).
4. Further, the Head of the concerned Department/Organization may also certify that the applicant is clear from vigilance angle and no departmental proceeding against the nominee is being contemplated or inquired into. It may also be ensured that nominated individuals have good command of English, both written and oral.
5. Applicant(s) who have already participated in any previous edition of the said course may not be considered for nomination. After attending the course, nominated individuals shall be expected to make a report and a brief presentation to the National Authority.
6. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Encl: As above

(Vivek Prakash)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

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To,

1. The Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman, DRDO, DRDO Bhawan, Rajaji Marg, New Delhi – 110011.
2. The Director General, Directorate General, National Disaster Response Force, Ministry of Home Affairs, 6th Floor, NDCC-II Building, Jai Singh Road, new Delhi.
3. The Director, Defence Research & Development Establishment (DRDE), Jhansi Road, Gwalior - 474002, Madhya Pradesh.

4. The Director General, Directorate General-Fire Services, Civil Defense & Home Guards, Ministry of Home affairs, Government of India, East Block-7, Level-7, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066
5. The Director, Institute of Nuclear Medicine & Allied Sciences, DRDO, New Delhi (director.inmas@gov.in)
6. Colonel PP (Concepts & Training), Directorate General of Perspective Planning (CBRN), General Staff Branch, IHQ of Ministry of Defence (MoD), (Army), Room No.-123, 'A' Wing, Sena Bhawan, New Delhi- 110011
7. The Joint Secretary (IS-I), Internal Security-I Division, North Block, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi- 110001.
8. The Joint Secretary (training) & CVO, Department of Defence, Ministry of Defence, South Block, Central Secretariat, Rajpath Marg, New Delhi- 110011.
9. The Director, Head of Department, Special Protection Group, Cabinet Secretariat, 9 Lok Kalyan Marg, SPG, New Delhi- 110001.
10. The Joint Secretary (Disaster Management), Hall 'B', 3rd Floor, NDCC-II Building, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi.
11. The Joint Secretary, International Cooperation, Ministry of Defence, Room No. 1098, South Block, 110001.
12. The Director General, CISF, Block No.13, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
13. The Director General, CRPF, Block No.01, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110003.
14. The Director General, BSF, Block No.10, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
15. The Director General, ITBP, Block No.02, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
16. The Director General, SSB, Force Headquarters, East Block-5, R.K. Puram, New Delhi- 110066.
17. The Director General, Assam Rifles, Arbuthnot Road, Laitkor, Shillong, Meghalaya- 793010.
18. The Director General, NSG, Headquarters NSG, Mehram Nagar, New Delhi- 110037.



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

S/2554/2026
14 August 2026
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES
IN ASIA ON SAMPLING IN A HIGHLY CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENT
GURUGRAM, INDIA
9 – 13 NOVEMBER 2026**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to invite Member States in the Asia region to nominate participants for a training course on sampling in a highly contaminated environment, which will take place from 9 to 13 November 2026 in Gurugram, India.
2. Jointly organised by the Government of India and the Secretariat, the course will provide expert knowledge and skills for up to 20 individuals responsible for conducting sampling of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals in highly contaminated environments as a result of a chemical attack or an incident involving toxic chemicals.
3. OPCW Member States in Asia that do not yet have sampling capabilities are especially encouraged to nominate participants. Given the objectives of the course and its technical nature, applicants should have a solid technical background in chemistry and the management of hazardous chemical substances. Applicants are expected to be familiar with the principles of first response, including sampling and chemical emergency management. Ideally, participants should have completed the full training cycle for first responders held by the OPCW in any previous year.
4. Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be worn for several hours each day, and participants must therefore be physically fit and able to wear such equipment for extended periods and in varying weather conditions. Previous practical experience in military, first response, or civil protection is desirable.
5. All participants must have a solid command of English, both oral and written, as all activities during the course will be conducted in English and no interpretation services of any kind will be available.
6. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraphs 3 to 5 above, and in line with the objectives of the course and the applicants' stated area of expertise. The Secretariat strongly encourages States Parties and National Authorities to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified female candidates.
7. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants. For sponsored participants, it will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, airport transfers, meals, and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.



8. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. To keep costs as low as reasonably practicable, participants are expected to arrive no earlier than Sunday, 8 November 2026 and to depart no later than Saturday, 14 November 2026. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the course or resulting from unauthorised changes to travel arrangements. Once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets, sponsored participants will be responsible for making sure they participate in the course. In the event of any unforeseen circumstances, participants should immediately contact the focal points responsible for the course (see paragraph 14 below for contact details).
9. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas, including transit visas, before travelling to India. Information on the visa support provided by the Secretariat will be shared with successful applicants.
10. Further details regarding logistics and other course-related information will be communicated to all confirmed participants at a later date.
11. Interested applicants are invited to register their nominations online **no later than 6 September 2026**. The registration link is accessible via the OPCW event management system (<https://eventus.opcw.org>). Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) in the online registration system must be answered in order for the candidate to be considered for this course. Endorsement by the candidates' respective National Authority is a prerequisite for consideration in the selection process, and must also be completed **no later than 6 September 2026**.
12. During the online registration process, a photocopy of the personal identification page of the applicant's passport is mandatory. The personal information provided in the application must match the details as shown in the passport, as this will be used for the issuance of flight tickets should an application be successful. Participants are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their personal information. Any inaccuracies may result in exclusion from the training course or additional charges that will need to be borne by the participants.
13. Only selected participants with an OPCW acceptance letter will be able to participate in this course. Candidates who have been selected to participate will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline.
14. The provisional programme for this training course is included as the Annex to this Note, and further details will be issued directly to the selected participants at a later date. Any questions may be addressed to the focal points for this training within the OPCW Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division: Ms Toko Okazaki (Email: toko.okazaki@opcw.org) and Ms Maria Elena Bruno-Pousadela (Email: mariaelena.bruno-pousadela@opcw.org).

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES IN ASIA
ON SAMPLING IN A HIGHLY CONTAMINATED ENVIRONEMENT
GURUGRAM, INDIA
9 – 13 NOVEMBER 2026**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 8 November 2026</i>	
	Arrival of participants
<i>Monday, 9 November 2026</i>	
09:00 – 09:15	Registration
09:15 – 10:00	Welcome and group photo
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Tea break</i>
10:15 – 10:30	General guidelines for the course and administrative information
10:30 – 11:15	Presentation: Overview of the OPCW and Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention
11:15 – 11:45	Country presentation: National Convention implementation
11:45 – 12:30	Presentation: Overview of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 14:30	Presentation: Protection against chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals – personal protective equipment (PPE)
14:30 – 15:30	Team formation, PPE distribution and demonstration: donning and doffing (Levels A, B, and C)
15:30 – 15:45	<i>Tea break</i>
15:45 – 16:45	Hands-on practice: PPE
16:45 – 17:00	Summary of day 1
18:00	Welcome dinner
<i>Tuesday, 10 November 2026</i>	
09:00 – 10:00	Presentation: Detection principles and equipment overview
10:00 – 10:45	Hands-on practice: Detection equipment (by groups)
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Presentation: Sampling – introduction, roles, types, equipment, and techniques
11:45 – 12:30	Presentation: Sampling procedure, chain of custody form, and sample form
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 14:30	Demonstration and distribution of sampling kit
14:30 – 16:30	Hands-on practice: Sampling kit, sampling form, and chain of custody form
16:30 – 16:45	<i>Tea break</i>
16:45 – 17:00	Summary of day 2

Time	Activity				
Wednesday, 11 November 2026					
09:00 – 09:45	Presentation: Decontamination methods for chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals				
09:45 – 10:15	Hands-on practice: Decontamination				
10:15 – 10:30	Tea break				
10:30 – 11:30	Presentation: Zoning – emergency management				
11:30 – 12:30	Presentation: Reconnaissance procedures				
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break				
13:30 – 14:00	Briefing on scenarios				
14:00 – 15:30	Exercise: Sampling in contaminated environment Level C (5 scenarios, group rotation)				
	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4	Scenario 5
15:30 – 15:45	Hydration break				
15:45 – 16:45	Exercise continued				
	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E
	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4	Scenario 5	Scenario 1
16:45 – 17:00	Summary of day 3				
Thursday, 12 November 2026					
09:00 – 09:15	Briefing on scenarios				
09:15 – 10:15	Presentation: OPCW designated laboratories				
10:15 – 11:15	Presentation: Case study				
11:15 – 11:30	Tea break				
11:30 – 12:30	Exercise continued				
	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E
	Scenario 3	Scenario 4	Scenario 5	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break				
14:00 – 16:00	Exercise continued				
	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E
	Scenario 4	Scenario 5	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
	Scenario 5	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4
16:00 – 16:15	Tea break				
16:15 – 16:45	Debriefing on sampling exercises				
16:45 – 17:00	Summary of day 4				
Friday, 13 November 2026					
09:00 – 10:30	Final exercise: Complex scenario				
10:30 – 10:45	Return of PPE				
10:45 – 11:00	Tea break				
11:00 – 11:30	Debriefing and evaluation				
11:30 – 12:30	Closing ceremony				
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break				
14:30	City tour				
Saturday, 14 November 2026					
	Departure of participants				