



Bangladesh preparedness for possible chemical attack

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BANGLADESH



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**APAMT
2019**

Facing Challenges in Toxicology: Fusing Technology and People

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BNA/CWC



History:

- "Bangladesh National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention (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 BNACWC was formed.
- The “Principal Staff Officer” (PSO) of AFD is the Chairman of BNACWC. It consists of total 17 members.
- The office of the BNACWC is located at the premises of the AFD in Dhaka Cantonment.



Preparedness



First Responders from South Asia Region Reinforce Skills in Chemical Emergency Response

14 MARCH 2018



- First Responders from South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) boosted their emergency capabilities during a sub-regional training course on emergency response to chemical incidents held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 4-8 March, 2018.
- The training was jointly run by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Bangladesh National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention (BNACWC), and the Bangladesh Army.



- The training enhanced the capacity of OPCW member States to respond to incidents involving both chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals, providing the participants with knowledge on monitoring, detection and decontamination operations.
- In addition to theoretical segments, the training also included a practical session on the use of protection equipment, as well as a demonstration of an emergency response to a chemical attack, held at the Mirpur Fire Service and Civil Defense Training Center in Dhaka.



**Bangladesh Contributes
\$15,000 to Future OPCW
Centre for Chemistry and
Technology**

25 APRIL 2019



- The Government of Bangladesh has contributed \$15,000 to a special Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Trust Fund to support the project to upgrade the current OPCW Laboratory and Equipment Store.
- This project will result in the construction of a new facility, the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology (“ChemTech Centre”).

Member State News



**Bangladesh Showcases Impact
of OPCW Project on Hospital
Chemical Incident
Preparedness**

8 AUGUST 2019



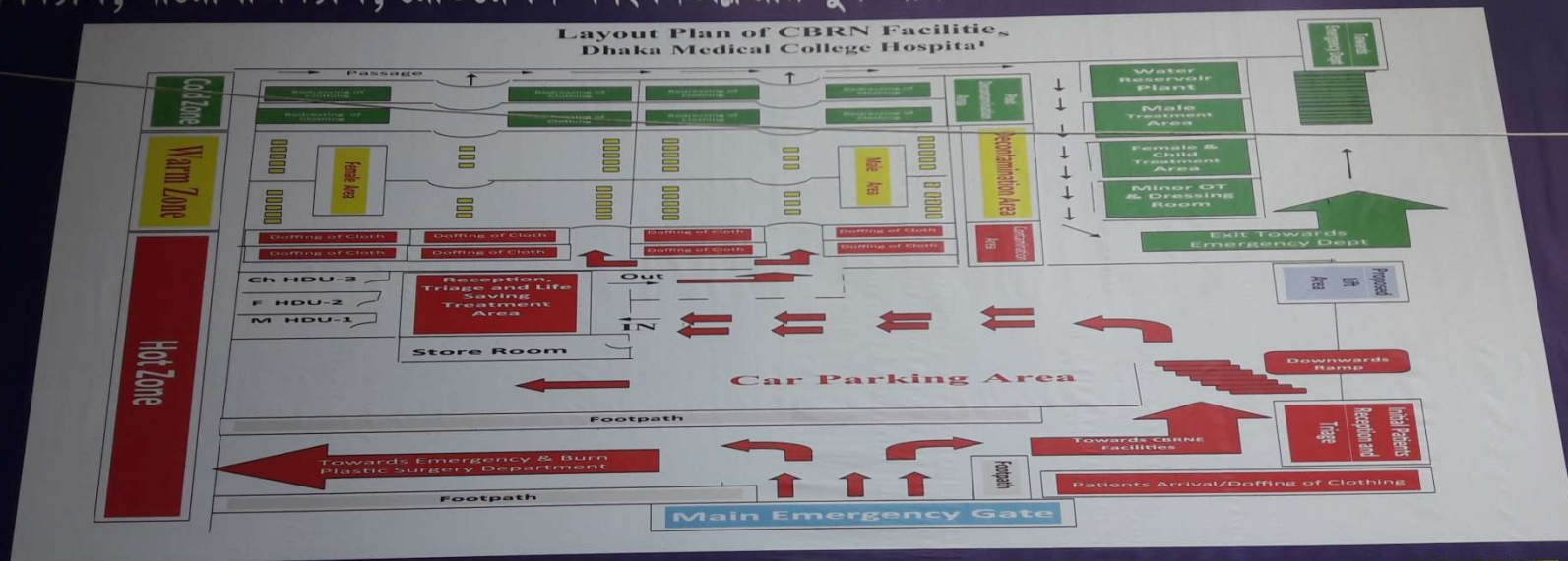
- Bangladesh showcased significant improvements to its emergency management capacity during the Chemical Incident Preparedness for Hospitals (HOSPREP) training in Dhaka, held from 22 – 24 July, 2019.
- Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) and Combined Military Hospital-Dhaka (CMH-Dhaka) hosted the national training in coordination with the Bangladesh National Authority (NA) and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).



■ The training, which covered the fundamentals of hospital emergency planning and management of chemical casualties, included a tour of newly-constructed patient decontamination and casualty management facilities of the two hospitals. Domestic funding and management of these initiatives was spurred by the hospitals joining the OPCW HOSPREP Project in 2018.



কেমিক্যাল, বায়োলজিক্যাল, রেডিয়েশন এবং নিউক্লিয়ার দুর্ঘটনায় আক্রান্ত রোগীদের চিকিৎসা ব্যবস্থাপনা কেন্দ্র



**CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIATION & NUCLEAR (CBRN) INCIDENT VICTIM MANAGEMENT CENTRE
DHAKA MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL**











MINOR OT













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07 Apr, 19

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16 Apr, 19

Recent Activities



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29 Apr, 19



Bangladesh National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention



1 hr • 🌐



An Interactive Session on Chemical Incident Preparedness for Hospitals (HOSPREP) Event, Malaysia and Future Plan of HOSPREP 2020 was held on 28 October 2019 at AFD Conference room. Chairman, BNACWC and Principal Staff Officer, AFD Lieutenant General Md Mahfuzur Rahman, OSP, rcds, ndc, afwc, psc, PhD Chaired the Programme.





- The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) has asked specialised hospitals, medical colleges and district hospitals in the country to take necessary steps to ensure proper treatment for victims of any possible chemical attack by militants.
- The DGHS in this regard sent a letter to the directors concerned of the specialist hospitals and medical colleges and civil surgeons/deputy directors of all district hospitals.



- A notice also directed each of the hospitals to form a special medical team to provide necessary treatment to victims of chemical attacks as well as arrange special training for all the team members, and also keep medical instruments and medicines in stock to deal with any emergencies.
- The DGHS also asked them to keep ambulances standby and arrange an alternative electricity supply (generators) to every operation theatre (OT).
- It also urged the government hospitals to ensure the capacity of treating chemical attack victims and be ready for it.



Finally, Bangladesh has began a long and arduous journey to build the capacity of hospitals to help chemical victims. We have started almost from scratch but are determined to press on with the HOSPREP initiative till full functional capability is developed. We wish that OPCW will continue supporting us during the process.

Thank You