Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)

***Prelims**: Current events of National and International Importance| International organisations*

Why in news?

Recently, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons held Asia Meeting in New Delhi in 2025.

- **Entered into force** - 1997
- **Objectives** - To *eliminate an entire category of weapons of mass destruction* by prohibiting the development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, transfer or use of chemical weapons by States Parties.
- **Membership** – 193 nations.
- **India's membership** – India is an original signatory.
- **Role of signatories** – States Parties must take the steps necessary to enforce that prohibition in respect of persons (natural or legal) within their jurisdiction.
- **Implemented by** - Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
• **Formed in** – 1997 • **Headquarters** – The Hague, Netherlands • **Objectives** – To *implement the Chemical Weapons Convention* (CWC) and to oversee the global endeavour to *permanently and verifiably eliminate chemical weapons*. • **Activities** – It *organises regional meetings of National Authorities annually* to support implementation of the Convention through capacity building of National Authorities. • This interaction fosters bilateral and regional cooperation and bolster networks among National Authorities. • **Recognition –** It was awarded the *2013 Nobel Peace Prize*.

Role of India in Elimination Chemical Weapons

- **National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC)** – It is the national authority responsible for *implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in India*.
- **Indian Chemical Council (ICC)** -It is India's oldest Chemical Industry Association works closely with the NACWC for reaching out to industry.
- **Recognition to India's efforts** – *ICC received the OPWC- The Hague award in 2024,* as a co-recipient, for its role in promoting chemical safety, compliance with the Convention, and enhancing industry-wide security practices in India.
- This is the 1st time globally, that a chemical industry body was honoured with this award.

*The '**OPCW-The Hague Award'** recognizes individuals and organizations that play a significant role in advancing the goals of the Chemical Weapons Convention.*

Reference

PIB| Regional Meeting of OPCW in India

