

Assistance Received By Tazreen Victims and their Families Previous to the Establishment of the TCA

1. Financial assistance provided through the Government

According to the list received from the Office of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA):

- 109 families of the deceased and missing workers were paid a compensation of BDT 700,000
- 92 injured workers were paid a compensation of BDT 100,00 each.

Out of BDT 700,000 which was paid to each family of 109 deceased and missing workers from the Prime Minister Welfare Fund, the contributions (in BDT) were as follows:

- Prime Minister's office BDT 200,000
- Ministry of Labor and Employment 100,000
- Lee & Fung BDT 100,000
- C & A Foundation BST 100,000
- Bankers' Association of Bangladesh BST 100,000
- BGMEA BDT 100,000

2. BGMEA's salary support

The BGMEA has started a salary scheme for the families of the deceased and missing workers. Under this scheme, since December 2012 the BGMEA provided salaries to the families of 90 deceased and missing workers based on their designation and their last salary received.

3. C&A Foundation's support to injured worker and families of deceased/missing workers

Since the fire on November 24th, 2012, Caritas -with financing from C&A Foundation- has been implementing various assistance and support programs for the injured workers and the families of the deceased and missing workers:

a. Support for injured workers

Medical treatment, salary compensation and psychological counselling were provided to 104 injured workers. The salaries were calculated based on the workers' grade and minimum wage, as set by the Government in 2010, with the salary grade being increased by one with regards to the actual grade the worker had at the date of the accident. Caritas regularly meets the workers in their villages and follows up on their health and economic conditions. Travel costs for required medical assessments in the Caritas office in Dhaka are being reimbursed.

Currently 20 workers are still undergoing treatment and receiving salary support. The program will continue until December 2016.

b. Vocational training with business capital

Vocational training was offered to injured workers who recovered their health yet did not wish to return to work in a garment factory. Caritas provided training to 31 workers in their chosen trade and supported each of them with business capital for the amount of BDT 30,000/- to enable the launch of their businesses.

c. Cash support to elderly dependents of deceased / missed workers

Since December 2012, Caritas is supporting elderly dependents of 48 deceased or missing workers with BDT 1,200 per month. The family themselves decided who should receive the support.

The program will continue until December 2016.

4. C&A Foundation and Fung (1906) Foundation's support to orphan children

The Tazreen Factory Workers Victims Fund was established by Fung (1906) Foundation and C&A Foundation to provide support for children who lost one or both parents in the Tazreen fire.

Caritas is managing this program on the ground and is currently providing assistance to 86 orphan children (2 more children received support but have left the program). The guardian of the children receives a monthly payment of BDT 1,200 to cover the living and schooling expenses of the child in his care. Additionally, BDT 2,800 per month is deposited in a bank account in the name of the children which they will be able to access once they reach 18 years of age, which is when the support ceases. Caritas visits the children regularly to ensure their well-being. The program will continue until June 2030.