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**Fire on garments factory report**

nayem ? October 12, 2019 Writing reports ? Shohag, Dhaka; December 12, 2019 : A terrible fire accident took place in the Mohakhali area of Dhaka city on November 11, 2018 at 12 noon when an 11-story clothing factory building caught fire. The smoke enveloped the entire building as a result of which people inside the building could not leave despite their better efforts. The fire department and Civil Defense personnel rushed to the site immediately to put out the fire. The Bangladesh Army and The Bangladesh Air Force also sent their personnel and helicopters to rescue the victims. Even the people who make up all walks of life joined the rescue operation spontaneously. After working hard for nearly 8 hours, personnel from the Fire Brigade and The Civil Defense in collaboration with the other agencies managed to extinguish the fire. The fire claimed 8 lives and many others were seriously injured in the accident. The wounded were admitted to different hospitals and clinics in the city. The cause of the fire has not yet been determined. The government has formed a 3-member investigative committee to find out the cause of the fire. A devastating fire at a Salim Reza garment factory, Savar, 3 November 2019: Last Sunday, November 3rd, a devastating fire broke out at 7 a.m. at a textile and clothing factory in Savar. The factory was Moon Textile and Garment Factory, located at rajbari bus stop. It was a six-storey building. The fire broke out at 7:00 a.m. It was an electrical short circuit. The factory suffered huge losses. The fire gutted 4000-ton yarn and clothing, 75 knitting machines, 3 sharing machines, 45 planers and 570 sewing machines. Fortunately, none of the employees were injured. The total loss was estimated at 50 lakh taka. A case was filed at Savar Police Station. The factory owner was arrested and a five-member investigative committee was formed. Related Reports: This week's fire confirms that, despite the Bangladesh government's assertions to the contrary, national inspection agencies are not yet willing to take care of this important work. Bangladeshi media reports that the fire broke out on 4 March at the Anzir Apparels Ltd factory in Baipail, Ashulia, on the outskirts of Dhaka. Anzir Apparels (Unit 1) appears on the website of the Bangladesh Workers' Safety Alliance, a security program established by Gap, Walmart, VF and other American brands in response to the collapse of Rana Plaza. According to the Alliance website, the factory failed to make adequate progress on corrections after the 2014 inspections revealed massive security issues. In the Alliance removed it from its list of factories, meaning none of the Alliance's brands could produce there. The factory closed in March 2016. Problems identified include the lack of an adequate fire alarm system, firefighting equipment and safe emergency exits. According to the workers, the factory remained unclosed, but reopened two months later. A One brand placed an order in 2017, but within three months the factory closed again rather than corrected as needed. This week's fire shows that the factory started producing once again; according to workers as of 2017. It did so without adequately addressing the obvious security issues identified in the original inspection reports that were made available to the public and shared with the authorities. The inspection body that should have overseen this, the Bangladesh Department of Factory and Establishment Inspection (DIFE), appears to have recorded the factory's resumed activity, but has not taken any action. On its website and on the Remediation and Coordination Cell (CCR) website, an umbrella organization for Bangladeshi inspection authorities Anzir Apparels Unit 1 appears as in operation, showing a summary of the Alliance's initial damning inspection report, but without further signs of action. The factory not only ignored security measures, but also workers' rights. He recently changed his name to BP Fashion in an apparent movement to break the factory syndicate, which is registered under the factory's old name. The union has not been able to register again at the supposedly new factory. This is particularly worrying, as workers' ability to organize is critical for workers to protect their own safety, posing dangers collectively and rejecting unsafe work. The Agreement recognizes freedom of association as a central part of its mandate. Therefore, national inspection bodies knowingly allowed a factory to operate and that they had not been able to repeatedly address alarming security hazards when requested and active throughout these years, except for two brief sessions in 2016 and 2017. This flagrant lapse of responsibility demonstrates once again that Bangladesh's national inspection authorities are dangerously behind in the inspection, monitoring and implementation of correction in clothing factories under their control. This observation is demonstrated by numbers; for example, according to a September 2018 report co-signed by the Bangladesh government, only 29% of initial safety defects detected in factories covered by national inspection agencies have been corrected. Many of the remaining safety issues pose immediate dangers to garment workers and most correction deadlines have expired years ago. The assessment of the situation is further hampered by the lack of transparency: not a single follow-up inspection report is available to the public. In recent months, the Bangladesh government has ensured to trademarks, foreign governments and journalists that their national inspection bodies are up to the task of inspecting and enforcing the repair in all clothing factories in the country. It repeatedly stated that it was time for international security programmes created in response to this tragedy to surrender their responsibilities to national inspection bodies; applauding the to round up their activities and actively try to restrict the Agreement. Ineke Zeldenrust of Clean Clothes Campaign says: In light of the lack of capacity of national inspection bodies, once again demonstrated by this fire, and further aggravated by the fact that they also have responsibility for all other industrial buildings in the country, at this time any transfer from Accord covered factories to these agencies would be extremely irresponsible. There can be no further transfers of responsibilities until both the government and the Agreement have fully corrected all factories within their reach. Witnesses to the Bangladesh Agreement - Clean Clothing Campaign, International Labour Rights Forum, Maquila Solidarity Network and Workers' Rights Consortium – call on the Bangladeshi government to respond to this fire by publicly and unconditionally supporting the work of the Life-saving Agreement in Bangladesh until work began since Rana Plaza's collapse was completed completely. Liana Foxvog of the International Labour Rights Forum says: This fire should be an incentive for the Bangladeshi government to put its own store in order: speed up and improve follow-up inspections, enforcement and transparency. In turn, the Agreement should be quick to implement its plan to expand its scope to include boilers and related industries, and continue to offer its support to increase national inspection capacity. The Agreement should also seriously investigate complaints by factory owners about unfair prices that restrict remediation efforts. Post by Faizah Tasnim and Ismum Nawar Bangladesh's apparel industry is the country's most important manufacturing. It earns about \$5 billion each year and is about two-thirds of all exports. Bangladesh is the second largest clothing exporter after China. This country has about 2,500 apparel factories and 10 million livelihoods depend directly or indirectly (Independent, 2012). But Bangladesh has a very poor fire safety record. Even in many industries in this country they have no emergency leaks and too poor security measures. Since 2006, more than 5000 people have been killed in the factory fire according to The Clean Clothes Campaign, a sudopic advocacy group in Amsterdam (Bajaj 1). We have analyzed the fire of the Tazreen clothing factory, which is the deadliest factory fire in the country's history. It occurred on 24 November 2012 and at least 117 people were confirmed dead in the fire and at least 200 injured. Most fires in the garment industry are caused by people's unconsciousness and taking appropriate safety measures can reduce the risk fire, as well as the great loss of life and property. The fire at Tazreen's fashion factory was initially allegedly caused by an electric short circuit or a spark of cigarettes. The ignorance of the workers, as well as the authority, was responsible for that fire. According to our interviewee, what usually happens is that garment workers often smoke within the factory area. Cigarette fire can cause fire. Once again they misuse the electrical cable which can create a short circuit problem and cause fire. Therefore, the garment authority should make workers aware of the causes of the fire. Smoking should be prohibited within the garment and this rule must be strictly followed. They must ensure protection against fire and smoke. The smoke detector and fire alarm must be installed on each plant. The electrical wiring of each factory must be properly designed, installed and maintained. One of the main reasons behind the workers' deaths was the narrow exit and absence of any escape routes or emergency exits. The factory had only three narrow stairs for the workers. Many workers were unable to escape through the narrow exits. So the workers couldn't get out when the fire engulfed the building, said Major Mohammed Mahbub, chief operating officer of the fire department (Bajaj 2). Our interviewee said: The maximum clothing factories where I visited had no emergency exits. In a garment industry I saw that the authority has placed a sign showing Emergency Exit in the window. Therefore, appropriate outputs and appropriate escape routes must be designed. Doors must be protected and open along the exhaust direction. These should not be opened on the steps and sufficient space must be provided on the landing. One survivor, Mohammed Raju 22, said: There was no power supply, it was dark, and I lost my mother in the dark (Lower 2). Therefore, escape routes should be illuminated all the time, kept clear and indicated by signs. At Tazreen Fashions, the fire started on the ground floor and was being used as an ununs planned storage facility. Due to the large amount of fabrics and threads the fire quickly spread to the other floors. Firefighters took seventeen hours to extinguish it. If there were any automated fire defense systems, it could be prevented. Therefore, industries must be built with fire-resistant materials. After the incident, investigators found that there were not enough fire defense materials and most of them were not used, as most workers could not use those materials. Our interviewee said: When I visited the clothing factories, I saw very few fire extinguishers in some factories, but the thing is, the workers in those factories didn't know how to use them. Therefore, the authority must provide an adequate number of fire extinguishers. Garment workers must be properly trained and a regular fire drill should be performed. Back at Tazreen Fashions, there were enough sources of water inside or outside the factory. There must be enough water sources. A prior relationship with local services should be established and emergency contact details from the nearest fire service station should be written on each floor of each industrial building. With this incident we have come to know that short-circuiting and disrecognising workers, as well as owners are the reasons behind the fire of the clothing factory. Our interviewee suggested some precautionary measures that a garment factory should follow. These are: all garments must have emergency fire exits that must be so wide that at least two people can move at once, apparel workers need to be trained and there must be enough fire extinguishers on the garments, there must be emergency medical equipment in each apparel industry, emergency telephone number of the nearest firefighters must be written on each floor. He finally believes smoking should be banned in the clothing area. Therefore, we can say that fire in the apparel industry can be prevented by taking some necessary measures. It will save the lives of many people and a better working condition will encourage many people to come in this glorious sector. Sector.

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