



on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh

SAFETY NOTIFICATION TO WORKERS IN ROCK KNITWEARS LTD.

(Address: : Doshaid, Ashulia, Savar, Dhaka)

Date: 4th December 2016

The Accord is a legal agreement between international garment brands and unions that represent workers. The purpose of the Accord is to protect the safety of garment workers by inspecting factory buildings, identifying risks to worker safety, and making sure that factory owners eliminate these risks by renovating and repairing the buildings.

The Accord has conducted an inspection of Rock Knitwears Ltd. on 6th February 2015 and found a number of problems that could cause serious harm to workers. The Accord has asked Rock Knitwears Ltd. to make changes to eliminate these risks. Unfortunately, Rock Knitwears Ltd. has failed to:

- Remove locking features or rendered inoperable from the egress doors/gates. This could result in workers be locked in the factory during a fire or another emergency.
- Remove collapsible gates/sliding door/rolling shutters. This could be an obstacle for workers during evacuation in case of fire incident or another emergency.
- Install fire doors. This could result in workers becoming stuck on the higher floors of the building if there is a fire.
- Install a fire alarm system. This could result in workers not being warned that there is a fire.
- Complete fire separation in the relevant areas. This could result in workers becoming stuck on the higher floors of the building if there is a fire.
- Safely install and maintain electrical equipment and fix up electrical wiring. This could create serious electrical hazard at any moment in the factory which might lead to fire incidents.

The Accord has made many efforts to get the owners of Rock Knitwears Ltd. to fix these safety hazards, so that workers will be safe, but the owners have refused to do so.

As a result, Rock Knitwears Ltd. is unsafe for workers. Because of this, the brands that have signed the Accord will no longer do business with Rock Knitwears Ltd. and will no longer place any orders at the factory. The Accord wants to make sure that all workers at Rock Knitwears Ltd. are aware that the building is not safe.

If workers choose not to work at Rock Knitwears Ltd. because of these safety risks, or if Rock Knitwears Ltd. closes, the brands that have signed the Accord will make an effort to help workers find jobs at nearby factories that are safe. There is no guarantee that a job will be available, but the brands will try to assist.

For information, workers can contact:

The Accord:

- Mr. Rob Wayss, Mobile No. 01755-583744
- Mr. Kamrujjaman, Mobile No. 01766-695911

The Industrial Bangladesh Council:

- Mr. Roy Ramesh Chandra, Mobile No. 01819-223014
- Mr. Amirul Haque Amin, Mobile No. 01731-201302

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- Mr. Kutubuddin Ahmed, Mobile No. 01711-047688

Also, the government of Bangladesh has established a helpline for RMG workers at: 0800-4455000. There is no charge for calling this number.

STICHTING BANGLADESH ACCORD FOUNDATION

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