

AIBS Fellowship Report

After the industrial accidents suffering of the workers becomes many folded. Physical disability and psychological trauma put the survivors in new challenges. The death and injury of the workers who are the only earner of the family brought unbearable miseries to their dependent family members. Considering the vulnerable situation of disaster survivors and dependent family members of deceased workers, it is a big academic debate why are industrial accidents getting worse and not better? Is it the case of power of the transnational corporations for not taking the responsibility? Who should take the responsibility and what are the ways of reducing their vulnerability? To address these questions, the study involves multiple participants that span from local to global. The first phase of field work with local participants particularly with disaster survivors, union organizers, representatives of labour welfare organizations and employers association was done with researchers' own initiative but the second part of data collection from MNCs and consumers from global north have been made possible through the AIBS fellowship. During fellowship period, a number of interviews were conducted with conscious consumers including students, faculties and professionals, labor activists and representative of civil society organizations. Primary findings of the data have been shared with many academics and scholars which significantly contributed to fine tune the research data. Based on the research findings, this study has developed a shared responsibility model for the protection of disaster victims. A sustained safety net programs can be designed based on this model. Therefore, it is a new contribution to academic scholarships in the field of industrial relations and global business. It is expected that this model would be useful in policy practice not only for sustainability of RMG industry of Bangladesh but also all other global manufacturing industries in the world.