



26 September 2016

Press Release

The High Court Division Rule on the fire at Tampaco Foils

On 26.09.2016, a Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court Division comprising of Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim and Mr. Justice Ashish Ranjan Das issued a Rule Nisi upon the concerned persons to show cause as to why their failure and negligence to perform their duties should not be declared to be without lawful authority, and why they should not be directed to take necessary action as required by the law and the Constitution to effectively investigate, prosecute and punish those responsible for the deaths and injuries of persons resulting from the factory fire and building collapse at Tampaco Foils Limited on 10.09.2016 at Tongi, Dhaka. The Court also directed them to take all necessary measures for this purpose and to prevent any such occurrences in future, including securing payment of adequate compensation to the victim workers by the respondents, and to others who have suffered injuries, and to the families of the deceased who died in the factory fire. The Hon'ble Court also issued an interim order directing Respondent no. 3, the Bangladesh Bank, to identify and freeze the bank accounts of the Respondents no. 16-18, Tampaco Foils Ltd and the MD and Chairman of the company to ensure that the funds held therein are used to pay compensation for the victims, payment of salary, funds and other allowances of the workers of the factory, and for the reconstruction of the factory building. The Court also directed the Respondents to intimate the Hon'ble Court about the steps they have taken meanwhile, in respect of ensuring adequate compensation for the victims both workers and their family members two months from the date of the order by submitting a compliance report.

On 10 September, 2016, according to media reporting, the 5-storey factory of Tampaco Foils Ltd in Tongi caught fire at around 6am. The latest updates on the news announced 39 people have lost their lives, and many more are injured or missing due to this incident.

The court hearing was led by Dr. Sharif Bhuiya. Advocates Z. I. Khan Panna, Barrister Sara Hossain, Barrister Tanim Hossain Shaon and Advocate Sharmin Akhter were also present at the hearing.

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