

Labour Party Pakistan starts building 100 shelter homes

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Labour Party Pakistan has started building 100 shelter homes for the earthquake affected in area of Paniola, district Rawalakot for the earthquake victims.. Local committees working under the guidance of Citizen Relief Committee Kashmir had done the survey of the area to find out the neediest ones. The priority has been given to women and the most impoverished whose houses been totally demolished.

Some initial work on 25 houses has started in the village Nakar, with the full participation of the local community. The foundations of these houses are being built at present time. Several meetings of the effected people of the area have taken place for the building of these houses.

The houses can accommodate for a family of 8 to 10 persons. The land for these houses is give by the local community and LPP will bear the cost of the material and construction. The affected people will be responsible for the wood work and some manual labour. So a combination of local partnership is an integral part of the project.

This is nearly seven million rupees (\$ 116000) project. The financial assistance for this project has been provided by Action Aid Pakistan. The Labour Party Pakistan chairperson Nisar Shah is heading a team of volunteers to carry out this project. The houses will be ready till the end of November 2005.

May be, the LPP is the first political party in Pakistan to start building a more reliable residence instead of camps and tents that will not be sufficient to face the hardship of the snowing winter. By building these houses LPP has moved from planning to practice.

Labour Party Pakistan is founding member of Labour Relief Campaign and Citizens Relief Committee (CRC). The network for the relief work is growing and more and more individuals and organizations are joining CRC.

There are several other international organizations and individuals that have contributed to the Labour Relief Campaign. They have sent the financial support or indicated that they are in process of collecting funds.

They include

- 1- Olof Palme International Center, Stockholm
- 2- Graphic Union of Sweden
- 3- Industrial Union of Sweden
- 4- Socialist Party Sweden
- 5- LCR France and sections associated with United Secretariat of Fourth International (USFI)
- 6- Europe Solidaire sans frontières (ESSF), from France, and Solidarity Without Borders, Sweden
- 7- Scottish Socialist Party (SSP), Scotland
- 8- Democratic Socialist Perspective DSP (Australia)
- 9- Tariq Ali
- 10- Solidarity, USA

- 11- Socialist Worker, USA
- 12- Swedish trade union paper; Dagens Arbete
- 13- Swedish Teacher Union Goteburg
- 14- Food Union Sweden
- 15- Several individuals from France, Canada, USA and Australia etc

The amount sent from these organizations is and will be used for immediate relief like food, medicine, temporary shelter and transport. So far 9 trucks have been sent to the effected areas.

From 28th October, a team of five women from Women Workers Help Line are visiting affected areas of Kashmir. They include a medical team to treat the women of the area particularly. They also carry over 300 bags for children with new warm cloths and sweaters.

Please indicate if you have sent any donation. If you have not done, please do so at the earliest. We will be sending a complete report of the entire donation received and the expenditure so far on the relief.