

# **Kashmir Charitable Trust-AJK**

*Lower Plate near Four fields Mosque Muzaffarabad AK*

## **Distribution of Sewing Machines**

*Dated: September 22; 2006*



## **Introduction**

Kashmir Charitable Trust-UK is a community based charity organization & is registered in UK with registration# 105317 in 1996. It is working for the backing of vulnerable and marginalized Kashmiri people at both sides of LOC. After the devastated earthquake of 2005, KCT started its work in Azad Kashmir to support their people in the time of distress & started various projects concerned with relief and rehabilitation. KCT-UK wanted to start sustainable projects so it promoted the strength of youth and developed the capacity of the local team up to the level that within one & half year, the local volunteer force of KCT was able to carry different projects by self-help. So in January 2007 the management of KCT-UK decided to register a new organization under the supervision of KCT-UK & gave it the name as KCT-AJK. It is registered in AJK with registered# 6320 under the society's act of 1860\21.

## **Background**

KCT is working for Kashmiri people on both side of line of control. It is a voluntary organization which is striving to assist affected population to return to normality in their routine life. It is committed to the root causes of the problem, trying to improve the life standard of the people, especially for the poor, the oppressed, & the marginalized people in Urban & Rural Areas of Kashmir.

A severe earth quake of 7.6 intensity, struck the AJ&K and its surrounding areas on October 8; 2005, causing colossal losses to life, property and infrastructures, leaving nearly seventy five thousands dead, over hundred thousands seriously injured and several hundred thousands shelter less, without food and daily necessities. This natural calamity got immediate response from various domestic and international agencies, for the rescue and relief of the affected people. After the huge disaster, some changes have taken place to bring normality in the day to day life of ordinary people. However, there are still those people who have been struggling for better life.

## **Need Assessment**

The women are subjected to a dwindling status in key stream decision making process that affects their access to services. Beside their hard work in conditions of spending more time in household works, in taking care of children and even helping their men on the farms or in offices, the contribution of women efforts neither monetized nor appreciated. Women were perishing their talent because nobody was there to use their talent for beneficial purposes and nobody was there to encourage them.

KCT strongly believes in women empowerment that's why it has started a number of programs for the welfare of women.

## **Objectives**

- To empower those widows who are the sole earners of their families.
- To evaluate the data and know correct figures of widows in this district.
- To enable these women to be self-sufficient.

## Activity

During the devastated earthquake, the livelihoods were destroyed totally and people have become hand to mouth. KCT realized this situation intensively because our skilled people have become beggar, they do not have a source of livelihood. The houses and their luxuries all were ruined badly.

Many women have become widows in the result of this calamity. In some families, there were only sole earners who were expired in the disaster such types of families, where the burden of entire family has on the tender shoulders of women, are facing every day's challenges. Some women are skilled but they don't have resources to utilize their skill and get benefit from it. KCT has given them an opportunity with the resource to use their ability and get benefit. KCT has distributed 17 sewing machines in different vicinities of district Muzaffarabad.



## Methodology

Initially, the volunteers of KCT collected accurate data of widows from district Muzaffarabad then it was analyzed and scrutinized to make this process crystal clear so that every deserver could get her share. After scrutiny, the machines were distributed among the widows so that they could again start their work to survive their families.