

# Debenhams collapse to cause 'catastrophic Christmas' for 12,000 staff



**Ministers need to step-up and save our high streets before they turn into ghost towns**

GMB, Britain's general union, has responded to the 'catastrophic' collapse of high street giant Debenhams.

12,000 staff look set to lose their jobs in the coming months as the company announce 124 of their stores will ease trading.



This follows months of uncertainty for the= retailer after it filed for administration in April this year.

**Roger Jenkins, GMB National Officer, said:**

“Debenhams going bust could spell a catastrophic Christmas for 12,000 workers and their families.

“This will have a real and long-lasting negative impact on families and on local communities.”

“The last nine months have been difficult for the retailer’s employees who have battled hard to keep the company afloat with worries of stores closures and the dangers of coronavirus.”

“These workers will join tens of thousands of retail workers made redundant in recent months due to the pandemic and inadequate Government support.”

“It’s a travesty for families across the country as the high street continues to wither away in front of us.”

“Ministers need to step-up and save our high streets before they turn into ghost towns.”

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