

Summary of Interview

Name: Birendar Singh

Place of Work: Bengal EM TA

Post: Dumper Operator

Immediate Employer: EMTA

Place of Interview: Colliery quarter near OCP

Language: Hindi

Date: 19/04/2005

Birendra Sing came to Bengal as a worker of EMTA company from Palas village of Hajaribag six years before. At first he joined as a helper of Doser at Ramnagar Colliery with a salary of Rs. 600. Now he got promotion as a driver of Doser with a salary of Rs. 3300. He was informed about this work from an acquaintance (a common feature). He is school final pass. He was trying to get a job in Jharkhand police, Bihar Police, Rail etc. Now also he is trying to shift to a job with better salary. He has three brothers and seven sisters. His elder brother is a teacher. They have agricultural land. The land is cultivated by labour and also by lease holders. He said that they celebrate May day in a very ordinary way because the workers don't have much feelings about May day. In the holiday they play football or cricket with their colleagues. They have good relation with management. He does not know whether his job is permanent or temporary because there is no such dialogue with the employer. He is doing his job seriously. His aspiration is "if company is growing then we too will develop and we hope that one day we reach at the level of ECL." In response to the question about the transformation from private to Nationalization and again introduction of private ownership companies in this industry, he said that company with good reputation have much demand in the market. "If ECL is loss making and we are profit making then we will exist", it is inevitable that Government salary is much better than private. "At least" he express his great hope that "one day we were in the jhupri (small hut), now we stay in pacca bar! (concrete house)."