Summary of Interview

Hiralal Verma

Hiralal is 53 year old. He retired from Kalyan Mill in 2002 taking VRS and other dues worth Rs 4,50,000. He lives with his wife, two daughters and one son. One daughter is married and lives separately. His wife has done her intermediate and teaches in a primary school. He himself has done B.A. first year. He tells us that along with his wife he also got an offer as primary school teacher but he preferred his mill job. At that time a mill worker's salary was higher than that of a primary school teacher. His father also worked in Kalyan Mill. When father retired, the family i.e. Hiralal and his brothers acquired three Paan shops. The shops provided adequate income.

With both husband and wife earning and with the supplementary income from Paan shops, the household did not face financial crunch at any time. The children studied in private school and studied well. The boy has done B.Sc. and is now doing MCA. One daughter has done M.A. in three subjects and M. Phil., and is now doing her Ph.D. The topic is a sociological study of women convicted as criminals. The young lady told us that she is very much interested in her research and would do further work with these women after she finishes her Ph.D. The other daughter has given up her studies after first year B.A. She is not interested in studying further.

The closing down of mill has not been a trauma for Hiralal. His wife is still earning and children are grown up and well educated. He used part of his VRS money in renovating and extending his house and lives in a large and well-constructed house. The rest of the money he keeps for his children's marriage. He does not feel the necessity to take up any earning activity at this stage. He enjoys a comfortable retired life.
