

Summary of Interview

Name: Majera Bibi

Place of work: Overburden of the Tara Colliery

Categorisation: Coal Collector from Overburden

Immediate employer: Self Employed

Place of interview: Interviewee's Home, Churulia

Language: Bengali

Date: 09/04/2005

She collects coal from the overburdens of Tara Open Cast Mines. From an age of 22 years she is a resident of Churulia. His husband has two wives. After six children of Majera Bibi his husband left her. Then onwards she lives with six children in his mother's home. His father was dead before her marry. She has done the work of preparation of muri (puffed rice). Then she has sold churi of the girl. This was not sufficient. So she started to cut grass for sale. Then she was engaged as a domestic servant. Now she earns money by collecting coal. She is doing this for five to six days in a week. If she can give labour then she collects coal for one cycle. By selling it to the cycle wala she gets Rs. 40. Simultaneously she is doing the work of agricultural labour and sales churi. There are lots of problems to collect coal. If one stone falls from the hill of overburden then legs can break. But they are coupled to go for this work. Party gives job in its own way like 10 of one village and other 10 of other village. She does not like this work. If the government would do something then it would be better. None of her children go to school. Her one son is a driver of Dumper and other one of a Taxi. Lastly she said that if the agricultural land is also taken by OCP then the agricultural work will be lost.