

## Summary of Interview

**Name: Anuij Kumar Shou**

Place of Work: Satgram Incline

Post: Piece Rated Loader

Place of Interview: Interviewee's home

Language: Hindi

Date: 05/02/2005

Anuj Sahu got the job after his mother took V.R.S. on 25/07/1995. In ECL there is a scheme for female workers that if she becomes unfit or want to give job to his male dependent then he gets the job. His grandfather came to West Bengal in search of work in colliery at pre-nationalization period. His father also was a miner. They have build a house in their village at Patna district of Bihar. Once or twice they go to their village home. After his father's death his mother got the job. He has to load two tub of coal which is equal to two tons of coal for getting full hazira (wage) of one day. If they are able to load extra tub after two tons than they get 60 to 70 Rs. per tub. But the full wage of day for loading two tons of coal is Rs. 250. For extra tub they do not get the wage for carrying coal from the working face to the rail road in the mine. If all the necessary conditions are fulfilled loaders can give extra production. One of his colleagues got prize for highest production of around 112 ton in a month at the time of depillaring. Then all loaders can give production average of 5 tubs per day. But most of the time there is a lack of necessary conditions for quick production. Such as the extension of rail road for movement of tub upto the working face has not been completed and necessary materials and equipment for blasting are not available. Then they cannot even fulfil the target of two tons production. If higher authority can recognise the above problems then the loader gets 'fell back' wage, which is 10-20 Rs. less than actual amount of hazira. Though loader earns more than other workers, but they do the hardest job. Tindal workers, who are engaged in carrying materials between surface and underground also do the hard work. But they do not work in single, but in group.

He remains absent from his work five to six days in a month because like school going children loaders are not willing to do their work. But some of the loaders are very regular for their compulsion to earn money. Specially old edged family men always try to produce more than two tons to maintain their family. But new comers have no such obligation. So they are unwilling to work hard. His opinion is that aged loader should be shifted after certain age limit from piece rated to time rated.

He is in congress party. He does not know the name of the union. They are used to place their demand to the higher authority via unions, not directly. According to him unions must be careful to the workers and the work condition of the mine. The union leaders

who have posting in the underground must go to the underground for work. But most of the union leaders are not willing to go underground.

He does not know about the coming steps of privatisation and outsourcing.