

Incidence of Occupational Disease among Mica Workers of Jharkhand

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ABSTRACT This paper attempts to show the incidence of occupational disease among mica workers of Giridih, Jharkhand. Four hundred and twenty mica workers from four villages surrounding Giridih town were surveyed by Sociological Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Giridih relating to the project "Gender and Labour: A Study of Mica manufacturing Industry of Giridih" in 2001-2002, funded by Indian Statistical Institute. Within the mainframe questionnaire, a section on occupational disease was incorporated. Data were fed into SPSS format. It was found that 58 out of 420 mica workers are suffering from various types of problems; of these 33 mica workers are suffering from respiratory problems that includes chronic obstructive airway diseases, cough with breathlessness etc. It is found that mica industry has severely failed to protect the health of the mica workers.