

## Summary of Interview

**Name: Nilay Bhandary**

Place of work: Bilpahari OCP Patch

Post: Dumper Operator

Immediate Employer: A Transporting Agency, BLA

Place of Interview: interviewee's home

Language: Bengali

Date: 03/04/2005

He is a dumper driver in the Pundabashar Area of Asansol - Ranigange Coal Belt. His employer is a local transporting agent, BLA and name of the owner is Narayan Agarwala. Previously he used to drive truck in Madras. After coming back to Asansol he was searching for a job. He went to the office of the present employer seeing an advertisement in the newspaper. They selected him and send him to Assam. But Niiyoy could not stay long. Because of cold and fear of terrorism. After that he had started to work in Bilpahari OCP from Nov, 2003 and again he was transferred to the Sonepur Bazari OCP for coal transporting from mines to siding. In new workplace owners' prefers senior workers because of the more hurdle in the new place. Also newcomers have a tendency to leave the job. But he made some loan from his employer. So he is bound to stay to his work. They have no union. But it is necessary to form a union to place demand of proper wages, leave and decrease in working hours. If any worker has taken leave for medical ground then the wage of that day is deducted from monthly salary. It is not possible to do work throughout the whole month. He is a member of CITU. Union achieved the demand of double payment for the work on Sunday. Without any reason company transferred him in Durgapur. He escape from there. But employer did not agree to his re-joining. Then CITU union made arrangement for his rejoining to this company.

The environment of the present work place (Sonepur Bajari) is good. Company regularly sprays water. The management of Sonepur Bajari is better than the company of Bilpahari OCP. Also in Sonepur Bazari company is not able to give pressure. But the other private contractors are not ready to initiate talk with their union and they do not give any safety equipment to the workers like dust mask, helmet etc.

In their village the business of money lending is an important problem. Numbers of ECU workers are engaged in this business after retirement. The common people are used to borrow money, alcohol, prostitution etc. He knows about outsourcing. It creates some employment for unemployed youth. In ECL the relatives are getting most of the jobs. Now this tradition can be stopped. In the previous case one did not have the job through

the year. Now at least people get the job for 100 days in a year. Also if company takes the responsibility of a mine then the theft of coal can be prohibited, as it is his own wealth. Lastly he said that he has no plan or thinking about future. He does hard work and earn money.