

PREFACE

The modern concept of sound health refers to "The health which is the outcome of the interaction between the individual and his environment. He is healthy who is well adjusted'.

Sound health in relation to vocation and employment is of utmost importance to the very life of the person who works and to the society as a whole. Occupation for the sake of livelihood has always been fraught with situations which cause ill health. Such situations have aptly been labelled as "health hazards". Occupational health, therefore is an attention seeking aspect which needs to be investigated at individual, group and community level. The environment at the industry has implications not only on the health, productivity and progress of workers in the industry but also on society as a whole.

Health status of the industrial workers has not been a major research problem among medical geographers. Since medical geography analyses the interrelationships between the human environment on the one hand and disease, nutrition and health care on the other, the impact of the industrial environment on the health of the workforce employed in various industries and the nature of health care provisions available for this segment of the population, forms an important area of study.

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