

PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF WOMEN TEA WORKERS OF CLOSED TEA GARDENS: A QUALITATIVE STUDY IN NORTH BENGAL

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ABSTRACT

Women workers constituted a significant labour force in India in tea industry of North Bengal. They contributing a lot to achieve not only in tea production but also national earning in global market. However, women workers suffered a lot due to inequalities and gender discrimination. Women tea workers faced a serious exploitation, subordination in study areas. Hardly Plantation of Labour Act (PLA) is implemented in the area. Their situation is worse especially in closed tea garden areas. This paper attempts to understand the challenges of women tea workers of closed tea gardens of North Bengal. It also suggested how to overcome their problems and up-liften of women tea workers in North Bengal.

KEYWORDS: *Women Tea Worker, Socio-Economic Status, Empowerment, Plantation of Labour Act (PLA), Tea Garden*

Article History

Received: 18 Oct 2023 | Revised: 19 Oct 2023 | Accepted: 25 Oct 2023
