

In developing countries the safety gap between industrialization and public health is still alarmingly wide. Most of the industrial - population in Sri Lanka is working in small plants. Small scale factories are vital in national economy, have substandard managements with poor safety and healthy provision for the workers, and far from the reach of community healthy service. The environment in many of these work places leave much to be desired.

Although the plants of the existing industries were installed at a time when safety standards were not known. There is little evidence that any of these projects had in the planning stage examined the operational history of similar project in other countries, where antipollution devices had satisfactory records or proved performances. In those countries where total elimination was technically impossible, devices of lower efficiency were reducing pollutont risks, while research was constantly in search of improvement. In developing countries because of the lack of money, material and technological skill may make the process non-viable. In our country pollution hazards only become identifiable after the evidence of their dangers had mounted up.

Due to rapid industrialization industries are cropping up with-out sufficient consideration, or even an understanding of their long term consequences to environment and their implication to human health and welfare. As a developping country development of industrial resources is crucial for Sri Lanka. However cost of pollution control is prohibitively high, if we dont monitor the environment now, we may eventually reach a situation worse than the environmental problems

faced by some of the highly developed countries.

11. LEAD POISONING IN SRI LANKA

2.1 Lead had wide industrial uses. Indeed it has been described as a yard stick of civilization. Lead contamination, due to the emission from industry, has existed for a very long time. In Sri Lanka, metallic lead is heated in open air and in open vessel, to produce lead oxides. This process performed without any protective devices like mask. There is no ventilation exhaust system. General condition of work are below normal and sanitary measures are poor and inadequate. Which in this case is the main cause of disturbance and intoxication is produced and scattered every where. Several contributions stressed the fact that present day gasoline engines had been developed to run on high octone leaded fuels and on immediate ban on the use of lead would results in loss of efficiency, higher fuel consumption and increased omission of other pollutants.① furnaces in which the fusing operations were performed.

1. So pollution due to lead will be unavoidable.

Men will have to work with lead in industries, but they have to be protected against abnormal lead absorption and subsequent poisoning. Therefore it is imperative to closely monitor the lead leavels in the workers to prevent resulting health hazards.

Division of occupational hygiene )

According to the Lady Ridgway Hospital report adults in these families were not affected.