

## CHILD LABOR IN MICA MINING



Mica is a natural mineral used in the production of paint, printing ink, cosmetics, plastic articles and transportation vehicles and in construction and oil industries. Mica is used in paint industry (a) to produce pearlescent paints mainly for automotive sector and (b) to have a barrier of mica flakes for the retardation of water penetration

40% of the naturel mica sold in the global market is reported to be sourced from China, and almost 33 % from India. It is also reported that most mica mining in India is conducted illegally and child labor is widespread.

International Paint and Printing Ink Council, IPPIC supports the efforts to affect a change in the practice of child labor. VdL and ACA appear to be the member societies which lead this initiative of IPPIC.

By a statement on mica pigments publicized on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2016, IPPIC called the mica using paint manufacturers from the regions of member associations to support (a) continuing due diligence efforts by companies to address the risk of child labor throughout the supply chain (b) collaborating other stakeholders to address the issue, (c) communicating publicly the results of related efforts, and (d) supporting the efforts of governments on the prevention of child abuse.