Preface

Child labour is a curse. It is neither a new phenomenon nor special to India. It is a global problem and has existed in all ages with varying degrees and magnitudes. It is saddening to note that India is the largest employer of child labour in the world. The state of Uttar Pradesh is most populous state in India; it ranks first in child labour employment according to the latest census. Farther, survey published by ILO revealed that the total number of working children has increased rapidly and working girls outnumber working boys. This is important dimension of the problem of child labour and therefore, girl child in India requires specific attention in the context of child labour, since she is a child, a girl and laborer and faces discrimination on all counts.

The present study is a modest attempt to analyse the magnitude and the nature of the problem of girl child labour in Uttar Pradesh with special reference to silk industry of Azamgarh and suggest remedial measures to eliminate this social menace.

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The errors and omissions that remain are mine.

(Firoz Ahmad)