



FIELD REPORT ON

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF WEAVERS IN SUALKUCHI SILK INDUSTRY OF ASSAM

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**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
CHARAIBAHİ COLLEGE**

Introduction

For students in the 5th Semester of Geography (Honors), the Department of Geography organised a field study programme at Sualkuchi in Kamrup district of Assam to meet the requirements for the practical paper on January 12, 2022.

Sualkuchi, in the Kamrup district of Assam, is one of the largest silk weaving villages in North-East India. It is located 30 kilometres from Guwahati. It is located on the north bank of River Brahmaputra. Sualkuchi covers an area of around 12 sq km. Sualkuchi, popularly known as the "The Manchester of Assam" or "Manchester of the East," is the textile hub of Assam. The weaving business is now struggling with numerous issues. These issues must be resolved immediately in order to boost the growth and prospects of weaving industry.

Objectives

The main objectives of this study are:

1. To evaluate the socio-economic condition of the Sualkuchi weavers.
2. To comprehend the working circumstances of the Sualkuchi block's female weavers.
3. To assess the marketing infrastructure in Sualkuchi.
4. To describe the challenges faced by the Sualkuchi weavers.

Methodology

The study included both primary and secondary data. In this study, questionnaires were created for the purpose of gathering primary data from the sample respondents. Secondary data are gathered through internet searches and published handbooks.

Observation and outcomes

1. The students investigated the present position of Sualkuchi Silk Industry and discussed the matter with the owners.
2. The students discussed with owners and weavers about the major problems faced by the silk industry of Sualkuchi.
3. The students observed the socio-economic conditions of the weavers and found that the majority of them are wage weavers who earn minimal wages in spite of working for more than ten hours a day.
4. After observing the marketing facilities and interviewing with the owners and weavers, the students found out that the majority of business owners depend on middlemen to market their goods. A very small percentage of those who sell their goods directly and a very insignificant proportion of them are associated with the cooperatives society.



