
**In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and
Child Labor in the Production of Goods**

India

Submitted to:

U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of International Labor Affairs
Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking
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Table of Contents

Summary of Goods	4
Type I Interview Notes	11
Type II Interviews	43
Site Visit Notes	89
Researcher's reasons for not including forced adult labor.....	106

Summary of Goods India

1. Silk sarees/cloth

Some highlights about silk:

- About 2% of the total textile is silk and China is the largest producer of silk followed by India.
- 90% of the silk in India is mulberry-based.
- Silk weaving in India is all handloom-based.
- India is the biggest consumer of silk in terms of volume and Japan tops the list in terms value.

Area producing cocoons, silk reeling units where cocoons are boiled to get silk and silk weaving units were visited in Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Uttar Pradesh.

Some of the common factors for the children being employed are:

- Poverty compels many parents to send their children to work either with them or alone. Some emergency like illness, accident, police case, and marriage of son or daughter pushes them into the vicious circle. They have to borrow money and in lieu of this pledge their services.
- It was also noticed that the children without parents are more prone to this type of work. Children of widows and divorcee women are equally vulnerable.

All the three stages of silk cloth/saree production listed above will be discussed separately in the following text.

Silk cocoons

Karnataka is the largest produce of cocoons in India. Kolar district of is traditionally knows for silk production. Kolar districts has recently been divided into two districts – Kolar and Chikbalapur. Abud Jeevika Bridge School located in village Baserapatna in Sidalagata taluka of Chikbarapur district was visited to meet the children who worked as child labor n recent months.

- Mulberry cultivation and silk worm rearing is one of the major occupations in the area. Mostly those who own land are engaged in it and most of them belong to higher castes.
- Labor is required for various activities such as weeding and irrigating the mulberry crop, cutting it and bringing it to the place where silk worms are being

reared (mostly the houses or a place close to the house of the farmer/rearer). The bamboo mats locally called 'chandrika' on which silk worms are reared needs to be cleaned and mulberry leave need to be spread on the chandrikas.

- Most of the silkworm rearers keep labor to take care of the above mentioned activities. Some employ the adult labors (parents) along with the children. Generally the labors take advance and work on small wages.
- Children in silkworm rearing are often from the same villages and stay in their own houses.
- There are a number of children employed in silkworm rearing.
- Those who employ them do not feel that they are doing any bad rather they feel that they are helping them out from adverse situations. Some of the adults who were contacted felt that some of the employers take good care of us.
- The area is about 70 km away from the state capital Bangalore and many people know that employing child labor is against law and they refused to talk on the issue.
- Bridge school run by a NGO in the area was visited in order to talk to the ex-child labor, who worked in last six months.
- Silkworm rearing is predominantly done by Hindus and the child labor comes mainly from Hindu community and some from Muslims.

Silk reeling

Village Mehboobnagar was visited to get information on the child labor in silk reeling. Here also most reeling unit owners are aware that employing child labor is against the law. The staff of local NGO and their contact from the village cautioned not to talk to anyone without permission. We talked to a man whose three children work in a reeling unit.

- While we were talking to a man whose three children work in silk reeling units, some other villagers also gathered and a woman said "Go to any house in this locality and you will find at least one child who works in silk reeling units. This is what we are doing for so many years."
- A round of some of the streets of the village revealed that there are a large number of silk reeling units in the area.
- Children both male as well female were working in the units. At couple of place we were allowed to take a picture without noting down their names and interviewing them.

- Adults at the units told that the children go to study in school and work part time after the school hours only and children shook their heads in agreement. This was not convincing as it was working hour for the school when we visited the units. We were finally able to talk to the children and we were told they actually work full time. Local contact told that these children have been told that whenever someone from the Labour Dept. or any outsider comes they should tell that they work only part time after school hours.
- Silk reeling units are owned predominantly by Muslims. Some estimates that more than 99% silk reeling units in Chikbalapur and Kolar districts are owned by the Muslims. Almost all child labor in silk reeling units is Muslim.

Silk weaving

Kanchipuram is known for its silk sarees. Silk sarees are woven on handlooms. It is worth mentioning here that the economic situation of loom owners is also not good. We went to village Dusi in Thiruvanamali district. This village is located at about 9 km from Kanchipuram town, which is a headquarters of Kanchipuram district.

The village has about 100 looms. Many families own 2-4 looms, which are installed in their houses. They get work from middlemen on contract basis i.e per saree basis. Loom owner works with his brothers/ wife/children and employ some children. They say that if they start employing adult laborers that it would not be profitable at all. They hardly earn 3000 rupees (70 USD) a month (including their own labor) when they employ 2-3 child laborers and pay them Rs 300 (7 USD) per month. If they hire an adult and pay 1500 rupees (35 USD) they will not save enough to run their house.

We met a person who had a handloom and produced sarees. Presently he is working on a small hand loom of other and producing small cotton towels. He gets Rs 25 (0.58 USD) a day. When he was asked that why he does not weave sarees when he owns a loom. He said that he has become old and weaving saree is a hard work, which he cannot undertake now. His clothed body was enough of proof of his misery.

These children started working at the age of 6-7 years. It is the parents of the children who find an employer for them. An advance is taken from the employer by the parents. Sometimes the children are not aware of that how much amount has been taken as advance. The advance money is less when the children start working. After a few years when the children learn the activities, the parents often start looking for another employer. They get higher advance amount as the child becomes trained. Generally they keep on changing owners after every 2-4 years.

Although one does not see much of impact of the labor law in this village as one finds children working on all the looms. Local contact said that some changes have been witnessed and children of 6-7 years are not employed now. Children of 11-12 years work now and within a couple of years they are 14 years, the age which is allowed to work as

per Indian law. Loom owners want children to work but mainly after school or after dropping out at the age of 13-14 years.

These children have lost their childhood. What we observed at all the looms where we went that the children spoke very little and all the time they were busy with work and with full seriousness while talking to us.

2. Embroidery

Embroidery work using machines and ‘arra tari’ hand needle work is another sector which employs a large number of children. One needs to install an embroidery machine in case of embroidery but in case of ‘ara tari’ one needs needles and frame (often a cot). Most of them are women dress materials and sarees, girls’ frocks and skirts are embroidered either by machine or with hand needles.

The researcher visited Tonk, a town (also district headquarter for Tonk district) in Rajasthan state to talk to the parents and children working in embroidery units. Walking through the streets reveals that children are working on almost all the embroidery units with a couple of adults.

‘Arra tari’ work is done in many houses and a women’s group organizer helped us in entering one such house where 6-7 girls of 6-15 years were working. The woman who owns the unit explained the details and told that her own daughter also works with the girls.

Girls from neighborhood work in the unit. No machine or infrastructure is required for this. Middlemen come and give the cloth and the design. The girls do the needle work as per the design.

Mostly the Muslim community is involved in this work.

3. Beedi making

Beedi rolling is an occupation to about 3 million workers in India. This task is home-based and the view is often taken that the children are just helping their parents at times. Visit to Tonk showed that children are actually working full-time in beedi rolling.

Parents feel that its home-based nature makes beedi making a suitable employment for the girls.

NGO representatives and locals told that high incidence of respiratory disease like T.B is found in Tonk. This is because the beedi workers inhale lot of tobacco daily.

4. Knitwear/hosiery

Tirupur in Coimbatore district of Tamilnadu state has a large number of hosiery and knitwear units. It produces undergarments, t-shirts, skirts and other items for domestic as well as export markets.

There is always a demand for labor in Tirupur because of concentration of large number of units. This has resulted in better wages than many other parts of the state.

People migrate from various parts of the state with families and work in Tirupur.

Agents go to villages located in dry land agriculture areas, where the people are comparatively poor, to recruit labor, mainly children.

There is a scheme which is operation in Tamilnadu, which is an institutionalized and legalized form of employing child labor. This scheme is known as 'sumangli'. It was started by the employers with the claim that they will train the young girls and pay them Rs. 30,000 (704 USD) at the end of three year contract for their marriage. Girls of 14-20 years age group are employed under this scheme. Most of the girls are between 14 and 18 years age group and knowledgeable sources say that about 10% are even younger than 14 years. There are about 50,000 girls working under this scheme mainly in the textile and hosiery sectors. Since the scheme is meant for the girls above 14 years age, it has approval of the state government also. The girls employed under the scheme are exploited. They are not allowed to go home as staying in the hostels in the factory premises is mandatory. Cost of food and hostel rent are deducted from their small monthly payments. They are allowed to (taken to) go to market once in a fortnight but are accompanied by guards and have to return in a small time of an hour or so. Sexual exploitation of girls is rampant. Doctors in the area are witness to large number of teenage termination of pregnancies of these girls. They are made to work hard and had to work in standing position, which creates health problems.

5. Locks

Aligarh in Uttar Pradesh state is known for its locks. Lock industry has become a household industry in this town. People from surrounding villages work in the lock units. Aligarh is about 150 km from Delhi and the wage rate in this area are in the range of Rs 80 (1.87 USD) per day and lock industry does not pay that much so mainly the children work in lock industry. The owners of the units are experienced artisans and employ teenage boys, who can learn fast and work long hours at low wages.

Some years back these units were employing very small children (6-7 years old) but because of the government pressure children of less than 14 years are not employed now. But this is true for the villages surrounding Aligarh. Knowledgeable sources told us that in sum parts of Aligarh town the units working in narrow lanes still employ younger children.

6. Carpets

Carpets are produced in a number of towns in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. In Rajasthan it is produced mainly in the districts of Sawai Madhopur and Tonk. We tried to get information from the carpet units in Tonk of Rajasthan state. By the time we reached a person who owns looms and also get the work done in looms in 7-8 neighboring villages, it was 6 pm. The looms weaving carpets work hour is until 5.30 pm. This person told that children from 13-14 to 18 years work in carpet weaving. He said that after 25 years of age the person cannot be an effective carpet weaver as tying the knots (on which the quality and durability of the carpet depends) cannot be done effectively by people who are older than 25 years because it requires strength.

Most looms are lying closed because of lack of demand from overseas. The owner of a loom and agent said that the carpet business has seen a declining trend after the attack on the World Trade Center in America. He is contemplating a change of business. The fact that the many looms are not operational these days was confirmed by many others as well.

Varanasi of Uttar Pradesh was also visited to talk to carpet weavers and silk weavers. In Varanasi also most of the looms are lying closed and the loom owners are working as daily wage labors either locally or migrate to cities like Delhi and Mumbai to work as wage laborers for few months and come back. We met boys (18 years old) who are experts in silk weaving but were harvesting wheat. This boy said that he would prefer to work on a loom if he can get wages equal to what he is getting in wheat harvesting because wheat harvesting is done under scorching sun while he can weave a saree sitting under the roof.

Three villages that we visited all have more than 50 looms each but a total of about 10 looms were operational.

The local NGO contact tried to give an impression that child labor has been stopped completely in this area but the discussion with the loom owners gave enough of suspicion that child labor is being used in looms but the number of course is very small.

Knowledgeable sources told that hardly 10% looms are operational in the area and this is also the reason of significant decline (which is close to negligible) in child labor in carpet and silk weaving handlooms in Varanasi area. Work by NGOs and pressure of government has also helped in significant reduction of child labor in handlooms in this area.

7. Cotton Seed

Cotton, often referred as "White gold" has been in cultivation in India for more than five thousand years. In India, cotton is grown over an area of about 9 million hectares and the

average yield is 440 kg lint per hectare. Maharashtra, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh are the major producing states in India. Cotton provides livelihood for over 4 million farming families. Various allied activities like ginning, yarn and fabric production, textile processing, garment manufacture, marketing etc., provide employment to several million people.

Hybrid cotton seed was introduced in 1970s. Hybrid cotton seed has become a big business for the both multinational and national seed companies. Production of hybrid cotton seed requires emasculation, pollen collection and pollination of the cotton flowers. Large number of labor is required for this activity. Seed companies contract farmers for producing cotton seed. These farmers hire labor to get the emasculation and pollination work done on their farms. The seed companies give farmers a fixed amount for per kilogram of seed produced. Cotton seed production requires almost 10 times more labor than the normal cotton crop. These contract farmers try to increase their profits by saving on labor cost. This is the reason that they prefer to hire child labor because the wages paid to child labor is much less than the adult labor. They also feel that the work of emasculation and pollination requires bit tender hands and child labor suits this very well. In terms of work efficiency the children also do as much work as the adult and may be more.

Extensive work has been done on employment of child labor in cotton seed production in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. Small quantities of cotton seed are also produced in the states of Karnataka and Maharashtra. Pressure created by the NGOs on the seed companies has reduced the number of child labor employed in the cotton seed production but it is estimated that still a large number of child labor are employed in cotton seed production. This number may be several thousands.

The contract farmers hire labor through labor agents. The labor agents are from the labor supplying areas, which are poor. The labor agents contact the perspective child labor in his neighborhood, village and nearby villages and some times the villages where they have relatives. The competition among the agents is also increasing over time as there is higher a number of agents. Sometimes there are more than one agent in one village and each one wants to hire more labor to get his commission.

In case of Gujarat cotton seed farms, the child labor are supplied from the tribal areas of neighboring Raajasthan state.

3. Are goods for domestic consumption or export?

Both. Carpet, handicrafts, brassware, sari work and silk are exported in large quantities.

4. Who employs them?

By contractors, sub-contractors, trafficked and also directly by the employers. These contractors and subcontractors are sort of middlemen who charge money from the employer and sometimes they take money from the employer for the wages of the children and make payments to the children after a heavy cut. Some of them mainly those who are into trafficking are also criminal in nature.

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Majority are trafficked. (information on the origins and destinations was not provided)

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based slavery, etc)

Debt (bondage), caste based, trafficking, enticement and abduction.

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

There is an organized racket, which is involved in trafficking.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes both in cash as well as kind but the amount is negligible.

9. What tasks do they perform?

Manual work. Are also involved in hazardous activities related to production of various products.

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face? (Are other elements of “menace of penalty” present)?

Physical abuse, shame and mental trauma and sexual abuse in case of boys and girls both. It is done by the employers, middlemen and the elder co-workers. Children are scolded and beaten and are told that they are learning work.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

They cannot leave at will. Various type of control mechanisms are used like heavy dues, get papers signed (give some advance amount and get a paper signed as a contract not to leave. The children do not know that this is not a legal document as they are below 14 years), fear etc. Fraudulent means and mental coercion are used. They are threatened that if they left they would be beaten and they will be handed over to the police.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

The work places have very poor environment. Children sleep in small rooms where they work. 12 children share 10X10 ft rooms. They work places are locked from outside both during the day and night. None of the working place has proper ventilation and sufficient space for the children to work. The cleanliness and the hygienic conditions are very poor.

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

Brief description of the Organization:

_____ is a NGO working nationally. _____ was the nodal organization for India for the _____ on _____. The Secretariat for South Asia is in _____, Nepal. _____ conducted studies on bonded labour in seven states. They conducted these studies more as an academic exercise. They bring out a monthly journal names as Labour File, through which they raise various issues related to labour including forced/child labour. They are working towards complete abolition of bonded labour system by he year 2015. Education of children of bonded labours is also their concern.

Types of institution: Government _____ (please specify Federal or State Level)
Local _____
International _____
Workers' Union _____
Private Business/Company _____
Other _____

1. In what occupations/activities do forced labor victims and/or children work?

The system of boned labor still exists but the bondage is now taking new shapes. Labor from a poor state like Bihar may be in bondage in an agriculturally rich state like Punjab. Forced labor is engaged mainly in agricultural work, brick kilns and mines. These are the places where they are not easily noticed.

2. What good(s) do the roduce ?

Bricks, crops, other items also. Do not know more details on it. We coordinated the studies in different states and were not part of these studies.

3. Are goods for domestic consumption or export?

N.A

4. Who employs them?

Landlords (the employers), brick kiln owners.

5. How do they come to be invloved in these occupations/activities ?

Poverty is the major reason, which makes them go into bondage. They know that it makes them bonded labor but they still do it as this seems to be the only source of living for them.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based salavery, etc)

Mainly debt bondage The debt is taken from the employer. The amount varies greatly and it may range from Rs. 5,000 to 20,000 (My guess)

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

N.A.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

They are paid as advance.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

All the tasks, which the master asks them to do.

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of “menace of penalty” present)?

It fills them with low social esteem.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

No, they can't.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

N.A

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

They are from low caste poor families and mainly work in rural areas.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

N.A

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

N.A

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

N.A

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Date of Interview: 27 and 28 2008

Time of Interview: 11.00 am on 27 [redacted], & 7.30 pm on 28 [redacted]

Location of Interview: [redacted] office, Avinashi, Tamilnadu and with [redacted] Bangalore (City, Province)

Interviewer's name: [redacted]

Interviewee's Name and Official Title: [redacted]

Organizational Affiliation: [redacted]

Brief description of the Organization: [redacted]

Types of institution: **Government** _____ (please specify Federal or State Level)

Local [redacted]

International [redacted]

Workers' Union _____

Private Business/Company _____

Other _____

1. In what occupations/activities do forced labor victims and/or children work?

Child labor :

In this area it is mainly knitwear, hosiery and textile. Dying and printing also but the number is very small.

2. What good(s) do the produce ?

Garments and cotton textile

3. Are goods for domestic consumption or export?

Both.

4. Who employs them?

In the 1990s every production was employed but now export oriented units have stopped. The factories that produce for domestic consumption employ child labor. Small units doing some job work (work on number of piece basis for the big factories) for the export oriented units also employ child labor. Thus it is difficult to differentiate between domestic and export oriented units. The order (work) is carried out by many different units located in various places (within Tirupur town) and there is no direct control of the export oriented units. In the last 3-4 years there has been an increased number of involvement of girls between 15 to 18 years age after the 'Sumangali' scheme (details about the scheme have been provided in the summary of goods) has been launched. Sumangli scheme is for the girls above 14 years age, but 10% of them are of less than 14 years age but are reported as 14 years or older.

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

Through middlemen, who go to the villages and recruit them. Most child labor comes from the dryland districts, which are poor. Families and children also come on their own in search of work. Tsunami and the reduction of beedi rolling work have also increased the number of child labor in Tirupur hosiery and knitwear industry.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based salavery, etc)

They may not fall under official definition of forced labor but those recruited under Sumangli scheme are guarded and not allowed to go home for more than once a year. They have to work for a minimum of three years to get the payment, which they are supposed to get as lump sum (cumulative payment) after working for three years.

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

N.A no information was given.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, they are paid in cash. Under sumangli scheme a small amount (about Rs. 200) is paid per month after deducting the cost of food and hostel. Rs. 30,000 to 35,000 are paid to those who has work for three years. Many girls find it difficult to work for three years as they have to work 10-12 hours a day standing. It especially becomes difficult for them during the 4-5 days of menstrual cycle. Employers also try to find one fault or the other so that the girls leave before completing 3 years so that they do not have to pay the term-end amount of Rs. 30,000 to 35,000.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

Cutting extra thread from the garments, putting tags, packing and assisting the tailors.

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of "menace of penalty" present)?

They have to work very long hours i.e. 8.30 am to 8.30 pm. During peak season they have to work until mid-night.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

No they can not, particularly those working under sumangali scheme.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

Unhealthy (congested places) Long working hours and no facilities (recreation, food, transport facilities) of any kind.

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

We are talking in the context of Tamilnadu state. They come mainly from the Tirunelveli, Anuradhapurm, Shringeri, Theini, Madurai, North and South Arcot district. After the tsunami from Nagapattanm and Thanjavur districts also.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

Children of 7-8 years also work in smaller units (units employing less number of labor and producing small quantities) but for children under the Sumangli Scheme they work in organized large units (those which employ large numbers of labors and produce large quantities) and they are of ages 14 to about 20 years age (most of them are below 18 years of age). Some children (about 14%) of these are below 14 years (say 13-14 years)

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

Belonging to poor families and also low social strata of the society.

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

Between 5,000 to 10,000 children work in smaller units and most of them are under 14 years.

Under sumangali scheme almost all large units employ about 100 children. In total about 50,000 children work in Coimbatore textile industry and 30,000 in Tirupur hosiery and knitwear industry.

4. Who employs them?

Landlords, brick kiln owners, farmers producing silk, silk reeling units.

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

Poverty and illiteracy are the main reasons. Children work through their parents. Parents take advances and send the children to work.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based salavery, etc)

Small advances equal to one year's wages are taken by the bonded labor but the situation is not like earlier days. Now the terms are renewed every year. In some cases when there is some serious illness large amounts are also borrowed. Most come willingly as they do not have options.

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

Trafficking is more in case of domestic labor but not in case of sericulture.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, they are paid on yearly basis. In addition to wages two pairs of clothes and food is also provided to the forced laborer.

In case of child labor a small amount is paid on monthly basis.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

Forced laborers do all types of agricultural work, taking care of the livestock, and domestic work. They also do brick making in the case of brick kilns.

Child laborers help their parents in making brick kilns. In sericulture they cut and gather mulberry leaves from the field, irrigate fields, clean the place and chandrikas (bamboo mats where cocoons are reared). In silk reeling units they work in almost all stages from boiling water to separating silk from cocoons.

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of "menace of penalty" present)?

In majority of cases there is no real threat. Most masters are benevolent and help the laborers in hard times and are always supportive. Laborers work with full devotion to their masters. In rare cases if the forced laborer runs away, he will be brought back and beaten.

In case of child labor, they are deprived of education and they have to work for long hours in poor conditions and have health hazards.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

No. If they want to go for some reason, they have to arrange for a substitute.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

Unhealthy, particularly in case of silk reeling. Small rooms with no proper ventilation.

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

We are talking in context of Karnataka. They are found in all parts of the state.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

Mainly boys work in silk rearing and both boys and girls in the case of silk reeling. In these days, most child laborers are 14 years or older.

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

Poor dalits are more vulnerable for forced labor.

Child labor comes from poor families of dalits and Muslims in most cases.

Most cocoon producing work is done by Hindus and child labor also mainly Hindus but belong to a lower caste. In case of silk reeling the employers as well as the child laborers are mainly Muslims.

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

N.A

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Date of Interview: 25 March, 2008

Time of Interview: 12.00 noon

Location of Interview: office, [redacted] (City, Province)

Interviewer's name: [redacted]

Interviewee's Name and Official Title: [redacted]

Organizational Affiliation: [redacted]

Brief description of the Organization:

[redacted] is an organization with [redacted] as its HQ and regional office in [redacted]. [redacted] works for child labor and forced labor issues. [redacted] got a forced child labor released in 2007 with the help of [redacted] News team. They work on child issues and run schools for child education. [redacted] also runs vocational courses for the young girls and women.

[redacted] was a bit hesitant in giving the interview and wanted that it should not be shared with any one here. He said that after the [redacted] news last year which brought the issue of forced child labor in [redacted], where government claims that there is no child labor, he was threatened by the employer as well as the then District Collector.

Types of institution: Government _____ (please specify Federal or State Level)

Local [redacted] _____

International [redacted] _____

Workers' Union _____

Private Business/Company _____

Other _____

1. In what occupations/activities do forced labor victims and/or children work?

Silk weaving and papad making. The number of child labor has reduced from about 30,000 about 9 years ago to 1,000 to 1,500 at present in silk weaving in Kanchipuram district. The reason is that those who were children at that time have become adults by now. There has not been much of fresh recruitment of children has taken place. Now, children work more in papad making units, which does not attract as much attention as silk weaving.

Use of child labor is still prevalent in Silk weaving in the bordering villages of neighboring district of Thiruvannamalai. Everyone's attention is on Kanchipuram (because Kanchipuram is known all over the country for its silk sarees and a large production for domestics and export market takes place here. Media and NGOs highlighted the issue of child

labor in silk weaving in Kanchipuram) and also the employers have become aware that they may be in trouble if they employ child laborers. The awareness level in the other districts is low but they also do job work for the businessmen based in Kanchipuram. Some of these villages are only 7-8 km from Kanchipuram but are part of another district and are using child labor. These are small loom owners, who work with family labor and employ 1-4 children. The earnings for them also are not high and they earn their living with difficulty. They earn some profits because of the very low payment to the child labor and also get their family members to work. Many households in some villages have 1-2 looms in their houses.

Children also work in construction work and brick kilns.

2. What good(s) do they produce ?

Silk saree.

Break stones in small pieces in construction work. Make bricks or help their parents make bricks at brick kilns

3. Are goods for domestic consumption or export?

Silk sarees are for both.

4. Who employs them?

Small home based loom owners. Contractors for construction, Brick kiln owners. The middlemen also operate in case of construction work and brick kilns

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

Parents take advance payments and ask their children to work at hand looms. The advance may be met by some exigency or they could pay the amount of the previous employer if one wants to change the employer. Normally the employer is changed to get higher advance amount so that the advance of the previous employer is returned and some may be kept for own use.

It is not important for them what occupation they work in, but working is their compulsion. Some children feel bad about the departmental raids on the employers. They say that the labor dept snatches away their job from them. Children in Kanchipuram who worked in silk weaving that were asked to leave are now working in other occupations like tea shops, hotels, mechanic shops etc.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based slavery, etc)

Mainly debt, but nobody considers them as bonded labor.

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

N.A The respondent did not give any information.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, they are paid in cash on a monthly basis. The amount paid is just Rs. 200 to 300.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

In the beginning when they start learning, they work as helpers to the weavers. After 5-6 months they start doing all types of work done at hand looms. (chrakha, weaving, and.....)

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of “menace of penalty” present)?

They have very long hours, i.e. 7.00 am to 7.00 in the evening. They come to work and return home to their villages by walking, which sometimes can take up to 5 km.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

No, they cannot. They have to return the advance amount before leaving and it is possible for them only when they find another employer.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

N.A

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

They work in rural as well urban areas Kanchipuram is in Southern India and this respondent talked about Kanchipuram area). They are mainly from the same village or the neighboring village.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

Boys work in silk weaving. The age group is 7-8 years to 13-14 years

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

Children from poor families and orphans.

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

Can't be assessed but more than 1000.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Date of Interview: 14 March, 2008

Time of Interview: 12.00 noon

Location of Interview: office, New Delhi (City, Province)

Interviewer's name: _____

Interviewee's Name and Official Title: _____

Organizational Affiliation: _____

Brief description of the Organization:

Types of institution: **Government** _____ (please specify Federal or State Level)

Local _____

International _____

Workers' Union _____

Private Business/Company _____

Other _____

1. In what occupations/activities do forced labor victims and/or children work?

Zari, brassware, paper cones (used in loud speakers), beedi, carpets, germ cutting and polishing. Besides a large number in domestic work. Child prostitution is also on the increase.

2. What good(s) do the produce ?

Clothes with zari work, loud speakers, beedis, gems, brass utensils and decorative items, carpets

3. Are goods for domestic consumption or export?

Both, but do not know the exact proportion and to which countries.

4. Who employs them?

Agents, contractors and producers directly.

Small producers. Children are not employed by the large production houses but in case of most of the products the

production is done by small units and many times family units through agents. Finally all this production is often marketed by the large business houses and exporters.

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

By force (the interviewee did not elaborate how), trafficking, circumstances (poverty and illiteracy), family business. Many children work in the units run by relatives or neighbours. In some cases they are hired through the agents.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based slavery, etc)

Not much information.

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

Trafficked children are more in drug peddling and not that much in production of goods.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes but sometimes not (in the beginning when the children start working, they are considered trainees and not paid wages). Also, how much they are paid and when they are paid is a question. They are being employed saying that they are being trained and not paid in the beginning.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

Cleaning, goods production, raw material cleaning, various pre-production and production activities. They do not have direct interface with the market.

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of “menace of penalty” present)?

Physical abuse, sexual abuse and mental abuse.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

They are not allowed to go out.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

Environment is not good nor healthy and can be abusive in many cases.

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

More in cities (this is true for all parts of the country). More girls than boys; this however is product specific.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

5 years to 13-14 years

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

Mainly lower caste among the poor. Orphans from poor families are easy pray.

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

N.A.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Date of Interview: 5 March, 2008

Time of Interview: 2.30 PM

Location of Interview: Delhi (City, Province)

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name and Official Title: [REDACTED]

Organizational Affiliation: [REDACTED]

Brief description of the Organization:

[REDACTED] is more than 20 years old organization formed by [REDACTED] has also served as member of Parliament and is member of various high level committees on bonded labor and labor issues. [REDACTED] has identified and got released a number of forced labors from brick kilns and stone queries. They filed PILs (Public Interest Litigations) in Supreme Court of India for demanding proactive government action in identifying and rehabilitating forced labor and also demanded better rehabilitation package.

Types of institution: **Government** _____ (please specify Federal or State Level)

Local [REDACTED]

International [REDACTED]

Workers' Union _____

Private Business/Company _____

Other _____

1. In what occupations/activities do forced labor victims and/or children work?

The dynamics are changing over time and incidence of forced adult labour has decreased significantly. Brick kilns used to have lot of forced adult labour in the areas around Delhi and other states as well. The boom in construction industry has increased the demand and labour in such a high demand that the advances they demand are at par with the existing wage rate, no interests are paid on these advances and increased number of agents have increased the bargaining power of the labor. This has almost eliminated the existence of adult forced labor at least in the areas around Delhi.

Zari, leather and ornaments producing units in Delhi have forced child labor. Child labor is found in various other occupations like domestic work, mechanics garages, tea shops, small hotels, garbage collection. This organisation is

based in Delhi and he could not provide more list.

2. What good(s) do the produce ?

Zari garments, various leather products (mainly ladies hand bags, bags, wallets) and ornaments.

3. Are goods for domestic consumption or export?

Mainly domestic consumption. Some Zari items are exported also, mainly to Gulf countries.

4. Who employs them?

Small units in unorganised sector.

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

They are mainly hired through relatives who run the units or where the relatives work as labor. Agents also bring them and some times they convince and lure them and their families by telling so many positive things about working.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is use ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based slavery, etc)

None of the above. Children come with the full knowledge of their parents. Parents themselves send them. They come to learn and normally open their labor/or child labor in the production of goods, if at all.

They open their own units of zari by the time they attain the age of 17-18 years. But the children in some cases are also kept under watch and not allowed to go out. This owners say is done to protect them as they are children from known families.

There is lack of serious research related to bonded labor. Supreme Court judgement is used by different people in different ways. A systematic survey and research is yet to be conducted on the issue of bonded labor.

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

The agents of the production unit owners bring children and at times it is on false promises, but once they come and start working they are threatened also so that they may not leave. The children are from India. In some cases they are the children of illegal Bangladeshi migrants living in Delhi slums.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes they are paid but small amounts ranging from Rs 50-100/month. After they get trained better they are paid on piece rate basis.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

Manual work. Assisting the trained workers in the beginning.

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of “menace of penalty” present)?

At times they are slapped, particularly in the learning stage. Not much psychological problem as they come from poor families and the environment in their houses is not better than in the production unit.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

They can not leave on their will. They sleep on floor in the production units and are not allowed to go out.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

It is not a good environment, it is very bad. They do not have any facility (like toilet, bathroom etc) in the production unit and 10-12 children share the small room to sleep on its floor.

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

I am talking about Delhi, which means urban area.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

In all the three goods (Zari, garments and leather products) it is boys mainly in the age group of 7-14 years.

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

The units of zari and leather are mainly run by the Muslims and the child labor is also muslim.
As for the ornaments perhaps it is manily Hindus.

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

There are about 40,000 child labor in Zari industry alone. Do not know the total workforce in Zari but children should be about 70% of total labor in Zari. Do not have estimates for other goods.

Muslim community which produces paper cones feels that it is only they who know this technique and it is kept as a closely guarded secret so much so that they do not marry their daughters outside the paper cone producing community. Only family, neighbors and relatives work in these units.

The units (carpet weaving units and gem cutting units) are small family owned and the job work is given by the contractor. These units employ their own family labor and neighbors and children from the same village. Migrants from Uttar Pradesh (who came here 20-30 years ago) provide lot of child labor. There are some units, which employ 10-15 children and use cheap means to make them work long hours and extract work.

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

Poverty and the opportunity to work in own home or in own village. Parents send their children to work. Most families, particularly Muslims have 5- 8 children and they consider them assets for working and earning.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based slavery, etc)

We do not feel there is forced labor these days in Rajasthan.

Researcher's Note: They work in Rajasthan and do not want to talk about other states.

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

N.A.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes. Wages are based on piece work basis. In carpet children get up to Rs. 40/day (0.94 USD/day). Some children in the carpet industry become so experts at the age of 12-14 years that they earn up to Rs. 7,000 (164/USD) a month.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

Almost all the tasks, which elders perform in these production units.

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of "menace of penalty" present)?

The work is tedious. They have to keep sitting on their knees for long hours and it creates pain in the knees. Children working in beedi making suffer from respiratory diseases. Large size families, poor diets and long hours of work make most girls anemic.

Digestive disorders, eyesight problem and reproductive health problem (in case of girls) are some of the common problems.

In carpets a knife is used to cut the thread and they often cut their fingers. They keep on working with their cut fingers.

These days carpet work has reduced a lot. When there was more work, employers used to give cigarettes and tobacco to make them work for longer periods. Some used to show them blue films to lure and retain them and also to make them work for long hours.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

There is not much force of the employers these days but they are not provided leaves when work is more. They are not given any off days and working hours are increased from about 10 to 12-14 hours a day.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

Physical environment is not good.

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

They are mainly local from Rajasthan and some are migrants from Uttar Pradesh. These people came some 20-30 years ago and have started living here.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

Children start working from the age of 7-8 but these days reduced work in carpet and increased awareness has reduced the number of children of less than 14 years age. In other occupations like arat tari and beedi workers which are mainly home-based activities smaller children also work.

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

Children from poor families.

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

N.A

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Date of Interview: 12 April, 2008

Time of Interview: 11.30 am

Location of Interview: office, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

Interviewer's name: _____

Interviewee's Name and Official Title: _____

Organizational Affiliation: _____

Brief description of the Organization:

_____ was registered in 1991 and is in the field since 1993. It is working on the issues of child labor and women development. Work in more than 100 villages of Banaras districts and slum areas of Varanasi. Focus is only action development and not research and documentation. Children working in Silk sari and carpet weaving have been the main concern. Believes that good quality education can help in reducing child labor and therefore open schools and work towards improvement of education in existing government and religious schools like madarsas of Muslims. Community participation is encouraged in education.

_____ says that all children who are not going to school re child labor. They either work in their houses or in others houses or business. Government does not accept that there are child labor. He very rightly agues that there are schools for child labor in 40 districts, which s an clear indicator of the existence of child labor. How can there be a child in child labor school if there are no child labor?

Types of institution: Government _____ (please specify Federal or State Level)

Local _____

International _____

Workers' Union _____

Private Business/Company _____

Other _____

1. In what occupations/activities do forced labor victims and/or children work?

Children work as laborers in many activities in Uttar Pradesh. Some of the production activities in which child labor is

involved are carpet weaving, dari (mat) weaving, silk weaving, cotton saris, artificial jewelry, bangle making, brass ware, locks, beedi rolling, artificial beads, stone queries, statue carving, marble stone carving

2. What good(s) do they produce ?

As mentioned in 1 above.

3. Are goods for domestic consumption or export?

Both, domestic as well as export.

4. Who employs them?

Some are employed through agent and rest directly by employers. About 65% children work in home-based units and 35% work in the factories..

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

Poverty and the lack of good schools in their localities.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based slavery, etc)

N.A

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

N.A.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes. They work almost as much as an adult but are paid less than adults. They are also paid much less than the minimum wages fixed by the government. Globalization has brought a lot of silk from China, which is of poor quality. But because of its cheap price this has rendered many loom owners to be jobless and vulnerable to work on less wages.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

Almost all the tasks, which elders perform in these production units. Working on the charkha and weaving

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of “menace of penalty” present)?

Children working at an age when they should be in schools is in itself a psychological risk.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

Yes, if they have not taken the advance. Some times the labors take advance payment and they are required to return the advance amount before leaving the work.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

Physical environment is not good. Small rooms with low heights. No proper ventilation and lighting facilities.

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

They are mainly locals from Rajasthan and some are migrants from Uttar Pradesh. These people came some 20-30 years ago and have started living here.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

Children of 7-8 to 16 years work in the occupation mentioned in question 1.

Of the total workers, 20% are children and 80% are adult. Girls constitute 70% of children and 30% are boys.

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

Poor families of Scheduled castes and other Backward Classes and also Muslims of low social strata among them like Julaha (Ansari, who are traditional handloom weavers) are more vulnerable simply because they are poor.

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

N.A

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Date of Interview: __19 March, 2008__

Time of Interview: __12.00 noon__

Location of Interview: [REDACTED] *Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh* (City, Province)

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name and Official Title: [REDACTED]

Organizational Affiliation: [REDACTED]

Types of institution: **Government** (please specify Federal or State Level)

Local [REDACTED]

International [REDACTED]

Workers' Union _____

Private Business/Company _____

Other _____

1. In what occupations/activities do forced labor victims and/or children work?

Victims work in many trade areas like agriculture, brick kilns, as cattle herds, carpet weaving, and glass bangle making units, way side restaurants, bars, petty shops, mechanic sheds, red light areas etc. as well at Handloom industries, Brass industries, Lock industries, Silk industries, Slate mines and Manufacturing Units, Match and fireworks, Making shoes, garments, Beedi-rolling, Synthetic Gemstone & Diamond polishing, and many other home based industries. Many other occupations involving children are Rug picking, Shoe-shining, Hawkers, vendors, news-paper sellers, Coolies etc. India also has children working in urban pockets as domestic child laborers.

2. What good(s) do the produce ?

Agriculture products, Handloom products, carpets, bangles and other glassware products, Brass, Beedies, shoes and other domestic services

3. Are goods for domestic consumption or export?

Both.

4. Who employs them?

Farmers (rural areas). Money lenders (urban and rural areas), Factory/Industry owners (urban and rural areas), MNCs and in urban areas as domestic servants' cross sections of people employ them

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

Through middlemen. Many children are bonded and enslaved to work against advances taken by their families from their employers.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based salavery, etc)

All those mentioned are applicable

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

In the example of Hybrid Cottonseed cultivation farmers prefer employing young girls to any others for various reasons. In the areas where child labour is not sufficient, (the cultivation of cottonseed is concentrated in some areas and during the season a large number of labor is required, which is not available in these areas and has to be brought for distant places.) farmers try to get them from places far off (as far as 150 kms also). In such areas where child labour is abundant, there are middlemen available. Farmers arrive into an agreement with them (always oral, no written) to get the children. Middlemen lure parents by offering huge amounts of money as wages. Poor parents agree to send their children by taking one or two thousand rupees (23-47 USD) as advancements and send their children off to work with them. Around 15% of the parents don't know where the child(ren) is/are being sent.

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Most of the time they are paid in cash only and payment in kind is also there.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

Sibling care, Service at hotels, restaurants, canteens, tea stalls, shops and way-side establishments, cleaning utensils at the employers' homes, washing clothes, harvest, transplantation, cattle herding, fetching waters, cross pollination in hybrid cottonseed farms, Sowing, removing weeds and harvesting, carpet weaving, bangles making, Beedi making, Shoe making, Gemstone polishing, Silk weaving, undergarments making. Children and forced laborers are involved in variety of works that vary from region to region. Yes some work is more abundant in a particular area. Rural and area also depends on what product. Agricultural work is in rural areas while other work is more in urban and semi-urban areas.

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of "menace of penalty" present)?

Physical abuse (beating) and oral abuse are not uncommon. If some thing like theft takes place in the masters' homes both the workers and their family members also face the wrath (scolding). In cases where the job assigned is not up to the expectations a cut in the payment also takes place. Children who work long hours on farms under scorching bright sun without any rest while inhaling pesticides and other chemicals in production of agricultural goods are certainly subject to health hazards. Apart from that many girls are subject to hazards of physical and sexual abuse even at a young age of 10 to 12 years.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

As long as their debt is not yet cleared they can't leave at their will. If anyone tries to flee away their family members get victimized – they may be made to work forcibly and may be beaten.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

The environment is not safe at all. A bonded labor boy may be taking care of some 50 animals. He takes them for grazing in the grazing yards. In the case of the carpet industry, Match & Fire works factories, bangle & glassware industry, lime kilns, brick kilns – no where can any one expect better humane conditions (The labor has live in small rooms with very low roof and no ventilation, no toilets). The middle class and elite groups in the urban pockets hire domestic servants who are supposed to do all house chores against no or meager payment. These children are also subject to inhumane behavior from the employers.

Apart from the above, child labour hampers the child's development and the child.

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

Across the length and breadth of the country- no rural urban divide -- in all the states of India.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

From 8 years old kids to 70 year old (wo)men also work. However, young children from 8 years to 18 years always preferred as child workers are always cheap laborers.

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

Based on the nature of work boys and girls are preferred. For example in the Hybrid Cottonseed production, especially for cross pollination of the seeds, young girls are preferred. There is no urban rural divide here also. However, children from dalit groups are always vulnerable.

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

As far as statistics are concerned, according to census data of India in 2001, it is calculated that in the production of agricultural goods 38% are children, 11% of children work in manufacturing units, 6% of children work for allied activities, 34% of children who work for cultivation were engaged in India. In the state of Andhra Pradesh, it is calculated that 57% of children work in producing agricultural produce, 15% of children work for cultivation, 9% work in manufacturing unit, 6% work in allied activities and 6% of children are engaged for producing industrial goods.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Date of Interview: 27 March, 2008

Time of Interview: 4.30 pm

Location of Interview: _____, Tirupur, Tamilnadu _____ (City, Province)

Interviewer's name: _____

Interviewee's Name and Official Title: _____

Organizational Affiliation: _____)

Brief description of the Organization:

The organization works for the welfare of child labor. They do advocacy, awareness creation and run schools for child labor. _____ also works on the issues of HIV/AIDS, trafficking and rights bases approaches. They have residential school and give psychological support to the children who run away from their homes. They have posted a staff at a bus stand to take care of the children who come to Tirupur after fighting with their parents and save them from the clutches of the agents who are looking for children at the bus stand.

Types of institution: **Government** _____ (please specify Federal or State Level)

Local _____

International _____

Workers' Union _____

Private Business/Company _____

Other _____

1. In what occupations/activities do forced labor victims and/or children work?

Garment units, printing, dying, construction and brick kilns.

2. What good(s) do they produce?

Garments

3. Are goods for domestic consumption or export?

Both.

4. Who employs them?

Small units in the supply chain. Export units do not employ child labor. They have a board displaying 'No child labor'. The export units do not employ child labor directly. Sub-contractors in the supply chain engage child labor. If we consider international definition of child then most of the children working under *sumangali* scheme are also children

as they are between 14 to 19/20 years old. As per Indian Factories Act children above 14 years are allowed to work

5. How do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

Through middlemen and advertisements. Agents are always looking for children at bus stands and as soon as a child gets off a bus s/he is offered a job. The wage rate in Tirupur is much better than other parts of the state. The mobility of labor is not that much therefore he compared it within the state. In other parts of the country it better in some places and less in others. Many children come after failures in examinations, after having fights with their parents and whole families (children come with the family and start working) also come. Last year (2007) 467 children were rescued from the bus stand of Tirupur. These days some girls of fewer than 18 years being brought from Assam states (one of the states in Northeast India). This is quite recent and about 20 girls have come from Assam.

6. If applicable, what type of forced labor is used ? (debt bondage, indenture servitude, caste based slavery, etc)

In knitwear factories there is no forced labor but some units have child labor. Forced labor may exist on brick kilns to some extent. The labor on brick kilns take advance and are not allowed to leave the kilns till the amount is repaid back.

7. How is trafficking in persons related to forced persons do they come to be involved in these occupations/activities ?

N.A

8. Are they paid for their work ? If so, how ? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, they are paid and even though the amount is better compared to what they would have earned in the places they are from, but here the amount is much less than what the adults earn.

9. What tasks do they perform ?

Various. In knitwear production line there are three main stages and at each stage one adult is supported by one child. Like arranging the lining cloth over the main cloth, cleaning the garment (removing unwanted threads etc.) putting tags (about half a dozen tags are put on each garment), folding the garments. Cleaning the floor and cleaning the machines is also done by the children.

10. What physical and psychological risks do they or family members face ? (Are other elements of “menace of penalty” present)?

Children working in printing and dyeing suffer from skin disease and poor eye problem. In knitwear they suffer from asthma/TB and most girls are anemic. Working hours are from 8.30 am to 8.30 pm and in peak season they work double shift at times three shifts (peak season is normally around November). One shift is of 8 hours and they get Rs 30/shift. As a routine they work for 12 hours a day.

12 hrs work = Rs 45/day

16 hrs work = Rs 60/day

24 hrs work = Rs 90/day.

During peak season they have to work till mid-night.

11. Are they able to leave their workplace at will ? (If so, are other elements of coercion present)

Depends on the employer. Those working under sumangali scheme are not allowed to leave. They are taken to the market once in a week and sometimes in a fortnight. Factory guards accompany them on all market visits. The girls are taken in a group and are given a fixed time of 1-2 hours in the market. An eye is kept on them in the market.

12. What are the environments in which they work ?

Unhealthy. Long working hours and no facilities of any kind.

13. In what regions of the country do they work ? Do they work in cities or in rural areas ?

Mainly from the southern districts of Tamilnadu. These districts have remained farming areas and the people are very poor.

14. (For each good), What is the typical age/gender of individuals producing the goods ?

Both boys and girls. Sumangli scheme is only for the girls of 14-20 years age group. More than 80% of them are less than 18 years. In local units children above 10 years work and in some cases one can find 8-year old children also. There are more boys than girls in these units.

15. What specific groups of people are more vulnerable to engagement in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good (e.g boys versus girls, urban versus rural, indigenous/ethnic groups etc.

Belonging to poor families and also low social strata of the society. Roughly about 60% of the child labor are from scheduled castes and 40% from backward castes. Only a negligible number may be from general category or forward castes.

16. What is the estimated number/percentage of adults and/or children engaged in forced labor and/or child labor in the production of each good ?

There are a total of 350,000 laborers in garment factories in Tirupur of which 10,000 are children. 75% of the children working in Tirupur are migrants from southern districts of the state.

As per government data 46,908 girls are working under sumangali scheme. Girls of age group 14-20 are taken under this scheme and at least 80% of them are below 18 years.

Type II Interviews

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: 10 April, 2008

Time of Interview: 1.30 pm

Location of Interview: House cum work place

Place/Locality: [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: [REDACTED] (Child laborer)

Good(s) produced: Beedi

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for eight members – father, mother, five sisters (excluding one married) and one brother (8 member family). Father is a drunkard (he work as a wage laborer now and then) and mother is patient of TB. She has been rolling beedi for last many years.

Mother cuts leaves for beedi making and three sisters aged 5, 13 and 11 roll beedi. Brother is 8 years old and does not do anything. They jointly earn Rs 60/day (1.4 USD/day). All the sisters are illiterate.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Beedi making

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Beedi

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Beedi rolling

4. Who is your/their employer?

Home-based. Work is given by beedi agent.

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Mother is rolling beedi for many years.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, based on piece work.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

N.A (home based work)

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

N.A

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

N.A

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

N.A. Home based work

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

N.A

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

Work from home.

15. How old are you?

15 years old.

16. What is your education level?

Never went to school.

17. Whether the person is male/female

Female

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

For more than five years. Her sisters aged 13 and 11 also roll beedi the whole day.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: 8 April, 2008

Time of Interview: 1.30 pm

Location of Interview: Neighbour's house

Village: [REDACTED] **Block:** [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: [REDACTED] (Child laborer)

Good(s) produced: Hybrid cotton seed

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for ten members – father, mother, four sisters and four brothers.
The farm where the girl worked: There were 18 boys and 1 girl on the farm where this girl went to work last year.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Cotton breeding.

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Hybrid cotton seeds,

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Collection of pollen, emasculation, pollination and other agricultural work asked by the landlord.

4. Who is your/their employer?

A landlord (the owner of the cotton farm) in the village [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Her elder brother, who is 18 years old went to work there. She also went with him for the last two years.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, Rs 50 (1.18 USD)/day in 2007 and Rs 40 (0.94 USD)/day during 2006.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

I worked from 4 am until 8 am, 9.00 am to 1.00 pm and again 2.30 pm till 7 pm. The job was to collect pollen, emasculate and pollinate the flower. Sometimes I did some other farm work like weeding maize field.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

Scolded

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No, we have to cook our own food after the work. We cook in group.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

Not during the crop season. We can go to a different place next year if we want. The owner does not leave for the season, which lasts for 2.5 months.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

About 90 km.

Researcher's Note: They are taken in a jeeps by the contractor/Agent

15. How old are you?

14 years old

16. What is your education level?

Illiterate

17. Whether the person is male/female

Female

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

Worked during last two crop seasons (2006 and 2007). Will do this year also.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __8 April, 2008____

Time of Interview: _2.30 pm_____

Location of Interview: House of the child labor

Village: [REDACTED] Block: [REDACTED] District: [REDACTED] State: [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: [REDACTED] (Child laborer)

Good(s) produced: Hybrid cotton seed

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for ten members – father, mother, four sisters and four brothers
Cottonseed farm where the girl worked: 25 children worked at the farm where I worked. 7 of us were girls and 18 boys. Most children who work on cottonseed farms are younger than 18 years age.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Cotton breeding.

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Hybrid cotton seeds,

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Collection of pollen, emasculation, pollination. Also asked to collect fodder and feed cattle some times. When there is rain or pollinations work is over, they are asked to work in the maize field.

4. Who is your/their employer?

A landlord (owner of the cottonseed farm) in the village [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Through my elder brother who is an agent.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, Rs 1200 (283 USD)/month and Rs 300 (7.09 USD)/ month are deducted for food.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 4 am till 10 am, 10.30 am to 1.00pm and again 2.30 pm till 6.30/7 pm. Pollen collection, emasculation and pollination and sometimes other agricultural work like weeding irrigating.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

Scolded

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No, we have to cook our own food after the work. We cook in group.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

Not during the crop season. We can go to a different place next year if we want. Owner does not leave for the season, which lasts for 2 to 2.5 months.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

About 80 km.

15. How old are you?

15 years old

16. What is your education level?

Illiterate

17. Whether the person is male/female

Female

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

Worked during last two crop seasons (2006 and 2007).

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Cotton breeding.

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Hybrid cotton seeds,

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Spraying chemicals on the crop, irrigating the crop.

4. Who is your/their employer?

A landlord in the village [REDACTED].

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Initially he worked through his brother who is also an agent. Anyone who can develop a good relation with the farm owner and can promise the farm owner to bring children can become an agent. This person worked as a laborer for two years and convinced the farm owner about his organizing skills. The children go to work every year for so many years. These agents mainly take children from their neighborhood or from the villages of their relatives. Parents also like to send the children with a known person.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, Rs 100 (1.36 USD)/day.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 4 am till 12 noon (12 noon to 2 pm rest) 2 .00 pm till 7.00 pm.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

Scolded

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No, he eats with the group.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

Not during the crop season. We can go to a different place next year if we want.
Owner does not leave for the season, which lasts for 2 months.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

About 60 km.

15. How old are you?

16 years old

16. What is your education level?

Up to 5th class

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

Four years. Two years as as a laborer and two years as an agent. Will go again this year.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: 27 March, 2008

Time of Interview: 2.30 pm

Location of Interview: Place : [REDACTED] *class- a special school run by* [REDACTED]

Village: [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: [REDACTED] (*ex-Child labor*)

Good(s) produced: *Hosiery unit*

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for six members - mother, father, three brothers and self. The family has migrated here from [REDACTED] district. Her Parents sell flowers and one elder brother (17 years old) also sells flower. One younger brother who is 11 years old was also selling flowers but the [REDACTED] brought him to the school. One elder brother who is 14 years old works in the hosiery company. She was working in the company and left in September 2007 after the [REDACTED] convinced her parents.

The girl told that about 15 children of less than 18 years age work in that factory and they are still working there.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Hosiery factory

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Hosiery items

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Helper to the tailor. Cutting extra threads from the garments.

4. Who is your/their employer?

Hosiery company (the girl told the name of the company but the NGO asked not to mention the name of the company)

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Children from the neighborhood where we live work there. I and my brother also went. Parents also said that the wages are good. Those children are still working there as they do not want to study but want to work.

Researcher's Note: The respondents want to study.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Got Rs 40 (0.94 USD)/day for working from 8 am to 8 pm..

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 8 am to 8 pm and some times asked to do over time also.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

No threats but have to be attentive in their work.

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No we have to carry own food.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

Perhaps yes. They never tried but felt that perhaps they may be able to leave.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

About one km.

15. How old are you?

12 years old

16. What is your education level?

Left school in class 6th.

17. Whether the person is male/female

Female.

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

Worked only for three months before the NGO approached her parents to send her to school run for child labor. The family came to Tirupur from Madurai district in April/May last year

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: 27 March, 2008

Time of Interview: 2.30 pm

Location of Interview: Place : [redacted] *class- a special school run by* [redacted]

Village: [redacted] **District:** [redacted] **State:** [redacted]

Interviewer's name: [redacted]

Interviewee's Name: [redacted] (*ex-Child labor*)

Good(s) produced: *Hosiery unit*

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists of five members - mother, father, two sisters and self. The family has migrated here from Thiruvananthapuram district, which is about 9 hours journey by bus. His father works as a tailor in a factory and mother works in the checking standard center of that factory. His elder sister, who is 15 years old, also works in the checking center of the factory where her mother works. His younger sister goes to school. He worked for about four months before his parents were approached by the [redacted] in January 2008.

Ten children of less than 18 years were working in the factory where [redacted] worked and he says that they are still working there.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Hosiery factory

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Hosiery items

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Worked in the checking center. His job was to check the garment and cut the extra threads etc.

4. Who is your/their employer?

Hosiery company. This is a different company from the previous interview. The children were telling the name but the local contact asked not to give the names of the company.

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

.My parents and sister work in that factory and they helped me to get work there

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Got Rs 20 (0.47 USD)/day for working in 8 am to 8 pm shift.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 8 am to 8 pm and some times asked to do over time also. They are paid for the overtime.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

No threats but have to be attentive in their work.

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No, we have to carry own food.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

Yes we can.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

About one km.

15. How old are you?

12 years old

16. What is your education level?

Left school in class 6th.

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

Worked only for four months before the NGO approached his parents to send him to the school run by █████ for child laborers.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __10 April, 2008____

Time of Interview: _2.45 pm_____

Location of Interview: [REDACTED]

Place/Locality: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: [REDACTED] (Child labor) D/o [REDACTED]

Two other sisters of [REDACTED] (Ms. [REDACTED], 10 years old and ms. [REDACTED], 8 years old), her mother, the owner of the unit and other girls working in the unit were also present and participated in the discussion.

Good(s) produced: Sarees and clothes like blouses decorated with needle work

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for eight members – father, mother, three sisters (excluding one sister who is married) and three brothers. Father works as a driver and mother rolls beedi. Brothers, who are 19 and 16 years old, worked and learned embroidery work by working on embroidery units and now have installed their own embroidery machine in a room in their home. They earn Rs. 70-80/day.

Three sisters aged 13, 10 and 8 work in this unit in the neighborhood, where they work with 4 more girls with hand needle to do needle work on the clothes

Ms. [REDACTED] is the boss. She is the daughter of the owner. She is 13 years old and studied upto 7th class and is working for last four years. She is an expert in design. This work is done at the house of Ms [REDACTED]. The brothers run embroidery unit in a separate place. The respondents are neighbor of Ms. [REDACTED].

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Needle work on saree and other clothes like clothe for blouses, pillow covers, etc.

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Value added clothes after needle work

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Needle work and put beads and small shining stars on the clothes/sarees as per the given design. Design is given by the businessmen who give the job work. They do not own any of these units. The businessmen trade the embroidered and hand needle worked clothes. There are agents who bring clothes and design to the mother of Ms [REDACTED]. Ms. [REDACTED] mother deals with the agents for fixing the price of the work. The agents get the work done for the businessmen and sometimes the businessmen directly give it to those who do needle work.

4. Who is your/their employer?

Needle work unit in the neighborhood.

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

They are our neighbors. My mother arranged the work.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes. (declined to tell directly).

Researcher's Note: The owner said that they get paid for piece work and he children are also paid accordingly. She cited an example of the saree on which seven girls were working. She told that she will get Rs. 250 (5.9 USD) for this saree and will distribute 60% i.e Rs 150 (3.5 USD) among the girls based on based on their experience and work. This saree will be completed in one day. This means the girls will get Rs. 10 to 30 (0.23-0.70 USD)/day for this.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Same as what's in our home.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

N.A

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

N.A

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

N.A

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

Close by in the neighborhood.

15. How old are you?

13 years old. The sisters who also work are 10 and 8 years old.

16. What is your education level?

Illiterate

17. Whether the person is male/female

Female

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

For the last two years. (Mother added that [REDACTED], who is 10 years old is working for last six months and [REDACTED], who is 8 years old is working for the last two months. It is better to put the child at work early so that she perfects the art, she added).

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __28 March, 2008____

Time of Interview: _2.30 pm_____

Location of Interview: [REDACTED] School,

Village: [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: __Mr. [REDACTED] (ex-child laborer)

Good(s) produced: Silk cocoons

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for five members – father, mother, two brothers and self. His parents work at the same farmers fields where he worked. His younger brother also worked there before both of them left working and joined the bridge school. The elder brother, who is 18 years old has left home without telling two years ago.

He the landlord scolded the [REDACTED] staff for convincing my parents to send us to bridge school.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Silk cocoon rearing.

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Silk cocoons

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Separating cocoons, putting mulberry leaves to the silk worms, brining mulberry leaves from the field. Irrigating mulberry plants. Cleaning cocoons and chandrikas (the mats on which cocoons are reared)

4. Who is your/their employer?

A landlord (Mr. [REDACTED]) in the village

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Parents work there and they took us.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, Rs 25/day

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

Yes. My father has taken an advance of Rs. 10,000.

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

For constructing the foundation of the house.

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 6.30 am to 9.30 pm.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

Yes, if you work slow.

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

Scolded

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

Yes, food twice a day (once in the morning and once in the evening)

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

My parents are still working there but I and my brother left because of the NGO.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

Within the village, about 0.5 km.

15. How old are you?

13 years old

16. What is your education level?

6th class

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male.

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

Two years. Left in September 2007.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __28 March, 2008____

Time of Interview: _3.15 pm_____

Location of Interview: [REDACTED] School,

Village: [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: __Mr. [REDACTED] (ex-Child labor)

Good(s) produced: Silk cocoons

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for five members – mother, two brothers, one sister and self. He lost his father some years ago. His mother is a housewife. His two elder sisters who are 20 and 18 years are married. One elder brother (15 years old) work in silk rearing and one (14 years old is studying. His elder sister who is 17 years old is into sheep rearing.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Silk cocoon rearing.

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Silk cocoons

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Separating cocoons, putting mulberry leaves to the silk worms, brining mulberry leaves from the field. Irrigating mulberry plants. Cleaning cocoons and chandrikas (the mats on which cocoons are reared)

4. Who is your/their employer?

A landlord in the village.

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

His elder brother works there and he went with him.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, Rs 35 (0.82 USD)/day

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 9.00 am to 8.00pm.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

Scolded

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

Yes food twice a day (once in the morning and once in the evening)

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

No they can't leave during the day if they wish to leave. [REDACTED] convinced the landlord to let him go to bride school.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

Within the village, about 0.5 km.

15. How old are you?

13 years old

16. What is your education level?

6th class

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male.

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

Worked for one year. Left in August 2007.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: 25 March, 2008

Time of Interview: 2.00 pm

Location of Interview: Place: [REDACTED]

Village: [REDACTED] District: [REDACTED] State: [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: [REDACTED]

Good(s) produced: Silk sarees

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for five members - mother, father, one elder brother and one younger sister. Father distributes newspaper in the house and mother is a housewife. Elder brother who is 24 years old is working at the same loom. He studied up to class IV and is working for last 12 years and earn Rs 500 (11.82 USD) a month. Younger sister is going to school in class II.

This child (Mr. [REDACTED]) was working earlier in a near by village [REDACTED]. He had to walk 2 km to go to work there. His father took an advance of Rs 7,000 (165 USD) from the loom owner in [REDACTED] village (the amount was taken from respondent's employer). His Rs. 7,000 have been returned from the advance of Rs. 10,000 (236 USD) that is father took from his present employer. Parents take some advances form the employers where they ask to find work for their children. In the beginning when the child is not skilled the advance money is less. Parents keep on searching for a new employer after 2-3 years and take an higher amount as advance from the new employer. Each time the amount of the first employer is returned and the remaining is used for own requirements.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Silk weaving. handloom

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Silk sarees

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

All work required for weaving at a handloom

4. Who is your/their employer?

A person who owns two looms and I work from his house.

Researcher's Note: Most of the loom are installed in houses and there are no factories and the children work in these houses.

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Father took advance of Rs. 10,000 from the loom owner.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Get Rs. 300 (7.04 USD) per month.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

The advance of Rs. 10,000 (234 USD) needs to be returned to the loom owner when the work will be left from here.

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

The advance amount was used to construct a new house (hut).

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 8 am till 6.30 pm. About half an hour break to eat food.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

No threats but have to work very seriously. The children do not take chance to shirk work if they do so they may be beaten by the employer and by the parents. If the employer asks them to leave they have to arrange the advance amount and getting another employer for a child who is not sincere is not easy.

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No we eat our own food.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

No, can't go out during work hours. If we want to leave the job, we have to return the advance amount.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

Close by just some households away.

15. How old are you?

12-13 years old. (he was not sure about his age and said may be 12-13).

16. What is your education level?

Studied upto class 3rd.

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male.

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

One year at present employer and two years at pervious employer.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __25 March, 2008____

Time of Interview: _3.00 pm_____

Location of Interview: Place : [REDACTED]

Village: [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED] .

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: __Mr. [REDACTED], child labor

Good(s) produced: Silk sarees

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for six members - mother, father, three sisters and self. Father is a weaver in some other place and gets Rs. 1500 (35 USD) per month. Mother works as a construction laborer. He is the eldest in the siblings. Two sisters do not do any paid work but do household work in own house. The youngest and one sister help the mother. Elder brother who is 24 years old is working. He being the eldest is working for last 7 years. Presently he is getting Rs. 300 (7.09) per month. Was getting Rs 125/per month about two years ago when he was working with a different employer.

The loom owner:

The loom owner has two looms. He and his wife work on the loom. His daughter who has studied up to the 9th class is also working on the loom for the past 4 years. The loom owner gets Rs. 1,000 (23.64 USD) for a saree, which is prepared by an adult and a child in about 10 days. The loom owner gets less money for the sarees which can be prepared in less time and more for those which require more time.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Silk weaving. handloom

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Silk sarees

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

All work required for weaving at a handloom

4. Who is your/their employer?

A person who owns two looms and work from his house.

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

My father arranged the work. He took advance of Rs. 7,500 (177 USD) from the loom owner.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Get Rs. 300 (7.09 USD) per month.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

The advance money needs to be returned to the loom owner when the work will be left from here. The advance amount needs to be returned in full.

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

The advance amount was used for the funeral of the grand father.

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 9 am till 6.30 pm. About half an hour break to eat food.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

No threats but have to work very seriously.

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No we eat our own food.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

No, can't go out during work hours. If we want to leave the job, we have to return the advance amount.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

Come from village named Nagai, which is about 3 km from here. Come by walk.

15. How old are you?

15 years old

16. What is your education level?

Studied up to class 3rd.

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male.

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

Working for the last seven years. Working with the present employer for about two years.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __25 March, 2008_____

Time of Interview: _4.00 pm_____

Location of Interview: Place : _____

Village: _____ **District:** _____ **State:** _____ .

Interviewer's name: _____

Interviewee's Name: __Mr. _____ (Child labor) s/o Mr . _____

Good(s) produced: Silk sarees

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for five members - mother, father, one sisters and one brother. He is the eldest. Father is a wage laborer and a drunkard; he does not work regularly. Mother works as a domestic help, the sister studies in class VI and the brother in class VIII.

Being the eldest he left school in class IV and started working since then. His parents did not want him to study. He has changed employers. The present employer is the fourth one. The first employer was when he did not know that work gave an advance of Rs. 2000 (47 USD) and the present one gave Rs. 10,000 (236 USD) as an advance; out of this Rs. 7,000 (165 USD) was returned to the pervious (third) employer. Advance amount is also known as a holding amount here. It is his father, who chooses the employer and tells him where to work. The advance was taken by his father but against his services.

There is no weekly off. We get one day off in one month. Salary is deducted if we fall sick. "Once I fell down a tree and had back pain so did not come for work for 3 days. My salary was deducted."

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Silk weaving. handloom

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Silk sarees

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

All work required for weaving at a handloom

4. Who is your/their employer?

A person who owns two looms and I work from his house.

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

My father arranged the work. He took advance of Rs. 10,000 from the loom owner.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Get Rs. 300 (7.09) per month.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

The advance money needs to be returned to the loom owner when we leave the work.

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

My father is a drunkard and broke his leg. Money was used for his treatment in the hospital.

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 8 am till 6.30 pm. 20 minutes break for eating food. Earlier I used to work from 6.30 am to 8 pm.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

No threats but have to work very seriously.

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No we eat our own food.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

No, we can't go out during work hours. If we want to leave the job, we have to return the advance amount.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

My village is 2 km away and I come by foot. Start at 7.30 and return back at 7.15. Before (when working with other employers) I used to go alone by walking.

15. How old are you?

14-15 years old

(He is not sure.)

16. What is your education level?

Left school in class 4th.

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male.

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

Working for the last 6-7 years. Working with the present employer for about two years.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __28 March, 2008____

Time of Interview: _1.00 pm_____

Location of Interview: House of the Interviewee.

Village: [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: Mr. [REDACTED] (father of the child laborer)

Good(s) produced: Silk

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for five members – self, wife, two sons and one daughter. He works as labor at a silk reeling unit. All his three children work in the same silk reeling unit where he works and wife is housewife.

He studied up to class 7th and is working at a silk reeling unit for the last 10 years and get Rs. 80 (1.87 USD) per day. His daughter who is 11 years old boils cocoons in the silk reeling unit and gets Rs. 40 (1.87 USD)/day. His elder son who is 11 years old work on the spinning wheel to roll the silk and get Rs. 30 (0.70 USD)/day

His second son who is 7 years old cleans the wastage at the silk reeling unit and get Rs. 10 (0.23 USD)/day.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Silk reeling

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Silk

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Work at a boiler to boil the cocoons

4. Who is your/their employer?

Silk reeling unit in the village

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

I have been working there for the last 10 years. I needed more advance for building house so asked my children also to work there.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Depending on age.

11 year girl gets Rs 40 (1.87 USD)/day

9 year boy gets Rs. 30 (0.70 USD)/day

7 year boy gets Rs 10 (0.23 USD)/day.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

Yes. I took Rs. 10,000 (234 USD) four year ago.

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

Took it for house building

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 6 am to 4-5 pm, some times asked to do over time also.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

No, I take care that they work nicely.

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No, we have to carry own food.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

Yes but after repaying the advance.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

Within the village, about 0.5 km.

15. How old are you?

30 years old

16. What is your education level?

Left school in class 7th. Children were not sent to formal school but to [REDACTED] (Islamic school) for some time.

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male. His children working in the same unit are: one female and two males.

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

He is working for the last 10 years. His daughter is working for the last 4 years and his son for the last 2 years.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __12 April, 2008____

Time of Interview: _3.00 pm_____

Location of Interview: [REDACTED]

Village: [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: __Ms. [REDACTED] (ex-Child laborer)

Good(s) produced: Carpets

A brief background of the family of the child labor:

The family consists for eight members – father, mother, five brothers and one sister. The loom in their house is closed for last 3-4 months. Father works at a handloom in a nearby village and get Rs. 1,500 (35 USD)/month. Mother is a housewife. He and his elder brother, his two uncles and father used to work on loom but now it has not remained profitable. He used to study along with work.

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Carpet weaving . (This is not a good case as involvement of children in this sector has reduced a lot). Some children still work in this sector but we could not talk to them).

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Carpets

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Assisting the uncle in weaving carpet.

4. Who is your/their employer?

Hand loom run by the father

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Family occupation for earning the living.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes, based on job work (piece work).

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Worked after school hours and on holidays.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

N.A

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

N.A

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

N.A. Home-based work

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

N.A

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

Work from home.

15. How old are you?

13 years old.

16. What is your education level?

Study in class IX

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

For the last four years but has left now after the [REDACTED], has created awareness in the village

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __1 April, 2008____

Time of Interview: _2.30 pm_____

Location of Interview: House of child laborer

Village: [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: __Mr. [REDACTED]_____

Good(s) produced: Locks

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Lock company

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Locks

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Packing of locks

4. Who is your/their employer?

A lock company

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Through other from the village who work there.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes (declined to tell the amount). But other told that he gets Rs 600 (14 USD)/ month.

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 9 am till 5.30 pm. Work from a small place where many workers work.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

Scolded

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

Yes, but how will we learn work if we will leave like this.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

13 km.

15. How old are you?

13 years old

16. What is your education level?

Studied up to V class

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

For the last six months.

In-country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and/or Child labor in the Production of Goods

(India)

Interview with child labor/families of child labor

Date of Interview: __1 April, 2008_____

Time of Interview: _2.30 pm_____

Location of Interview: House of child labor

Village: [REDACTED] **District:** [REDACTED] **State:** [REDACTED]

Interviewer's name: [REDACTED]

Interviewee's Name: __Mr. [REDACTED]

Good(s) produced: Locks

1. In what occupations/activities do/did you/the child victim(s) work?

Lock company

2. What good(s) do you/they produce?

Locks

3. What tasks do you/they perform?

Assembling the lock

4. Who is your/their employer?

A lock company

5. How did you/they come to be involved in these occupations/activities?

Family condition is poor and my father requested one person from my village, who works there and he helped me to get the job.

6. Are you/they paid for their work? If so, how? (i.e. cash, in-kind).

Yes (he hesitantly said about Rs 1000 or 23 USD)/month)

7. Do you/the child owe a debt to your employer that you work to pay back?

No

8. If so, how was this debt incurred?

N.A

9. What are your/their working conditions? Are there dangerous tools, machinery, fumes, or other physical risks?

Work from 9 am till 5.30 pm. Work from a small place where many workers work.

10. Are you/the child beaten/abused by the employer?

No

11. Are you/they threatened by the employer if certain job tasks are not performed? What kind of threats?

No, I am experienced now.

12. Does your employer provide food and shelter? If so, do you/they have enough to eat?

No.

13. Are you/they able to leave your/their workplaces at will?

Yes, but how will we learn work if we will leave like this.

14. How far away is your/the child's home? How did you/they get here (to this place of employment)?

13 km.

15. How old are you?

16 years old

16. What is your education level?

Studied up to IV class

17. Whether the person is male/female

Male

18. How long has the person been working in the situation/circumstance?

For the last two years.

Site Visit Notes

India

1. Karnataka

Initially planned:	Kolar – Silk Rearing (Child labor)
Finally visited:	Chikbalapur – Silk Rearing/cocoon production Chikbalapur – Silk reeling
Type of labor:	Child labor

Reasons for change in location: Kolar district which is adjacent to Bangalore district has been divided in two districts namely Kolar and Chikbalapur. Mulberry based cocoon production and silk reeling is a widely spread activities in these tow districts. Chikbalaur being closer to Bangalore, the state capital was visited and children and parents of child labor working in silk reeling and ex-child labor from silk rearing farms were interviewed.

Some details about the sites visited

Brief on Silk In India and Karnataka: India is the second largest producer of Silk after China. China produces 69,000 tones of silk and India about 16,000 tons. Karnataka state is the leading silk producing state in India, which accounts for more than half of the silk produced in India. Silk production and reeling is done in this state while the silk goes for weaving to various states and including a large quantity to Kancheepuranm area in Tamilnadu. Silk producing area was therefore selected to visit to meet the children working in silk rearing and silk reeling.

As per 2005-06 data area under mulberry was 179,000 hectare in India, while it was 220,000 hectare during 2000-01. The area under mulberry declined because of imports from China. Indian imported 9,258 tons of silk from China and this resulted in significant fall in silk prices and farmers in Karnataka state uprooted nearly 49,000 hectares of mulberry crop. About 75% of the mulberry cultivation in Karnataka in rainfed and suffer due to drought conditions.

Silk sector provides employment to 5.65 million people. Of the total about 82% (4.7 million) are agriculturists who grow mulberry and produce cocoons and rest about 18% (about 1 million) are reelers and weavers.

According to the estimates total output value of silk sarees is distributed as under:

Cocoon growers	:	56.8	%
Reelers	:		6.8%
Twister	:		9.1%
Weaver	:		10.7%
Traders	:	16.6%	

During 2005-06, the total production of mulberry based raw silk was 15,445 tons (about 13% of the world production). About 90% of the total silk produced in India is mulberry based.

The value of the exports was 31942 million rupees during 2005-06. Export of silk sarees has declined to more than 95% during last decade. Export data shows that 4,25,177 sq metres of sarees were exported in 1998-99 while only 6,273 sq metres sarees were exported in 2005-06 but the export of stoles has increased from 38,161 sq metres in 1998-99 to 19,0915 sq metres during 2005-06.

1. Cocoon production:

A large number of 4.6 million people are dependent on mulberry cultivation and cocoon production in India and large proportion of them are in the area visited for this research. Kolar and Chikbalapur are the districts where silkworm rearing is done at small scale by a large number of farmers. Farmers of all size class of holding i.e. small to large are engaged in mulberry cultivation and silkworm rearing. Smaller ones do it in the part of their house while the larger ones have separate place to keep silkworms. Mulberry is cultivated on 179,000 hectares and area and a total of 126,261 tons of cocoons are produced in India.

Various activities are required in production of silkworms like:

- cultivation of mulberry,
- cutting mulberry leave and bringing them to the place where silkworms are being kept.
- Feeding the silkworms
- Cleaning the chandrikas (mats) on which silkworms are kept.
- Collecting cocoons.

Larger farmers require labor to carryout various activities. Some do not want to use the labor of their family members and some need more labor in addition to the family members. Most villages have landless families and wage labor is the main source of earnings for them. Those who need labor prefer to go for an annual contract with the labor because if the labor leave in between there is a possibility of suffering sever loss. Landlessness and lack of job opportunities works in favor of those who are looking for cheap labor. An advance is paid depending on the number of family members who offer them to work. Often the parents who work as labor take their children as well to work with them and this the employers like families with children as they do not have to pay only small amount to the children. These chidden are dropouts from primary school.

The local contact who are running child labor bridge school told that it will not be possible to talk to the employers as they are not being liked them because they are convincing the parents of the children who are working as labor to stop working and join the school. When we asked the children in the bridge school to raise hands who worked in cocoon production during last six months, most of them raised their hands (see picture)

Age group: Children of 8-9 to 14-15 years work with their parents in cocoon production.

Working conditions: The work is not confined to one place. They work at farms and at homes/places where silkworms are reared. They have to start work by 9 am and work till 9-9.30 pm. The work is not hazardous.



Ex- child labors in a bridge school run by local NGO named [REDACTED]

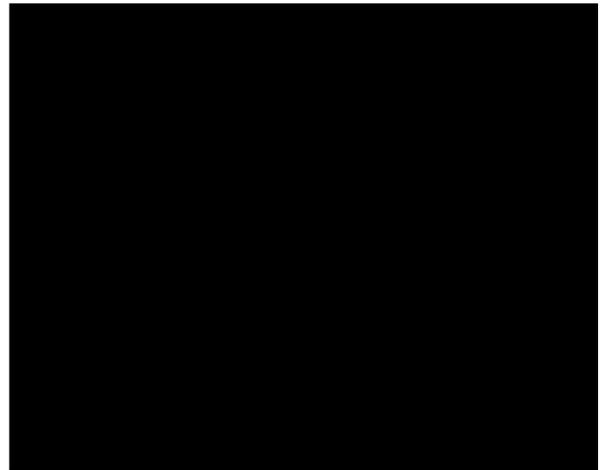
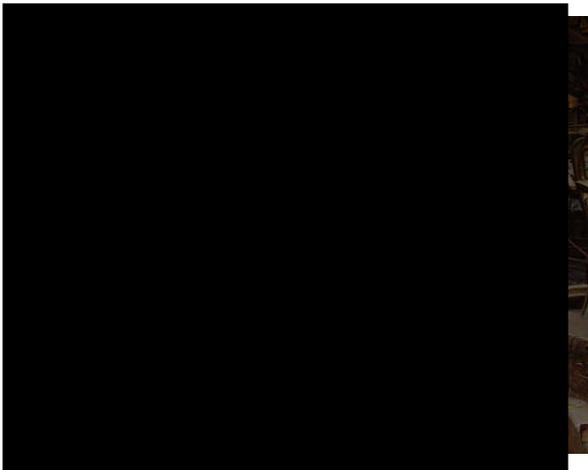
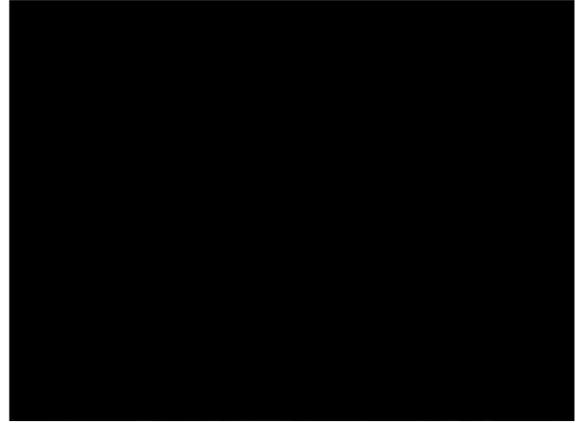
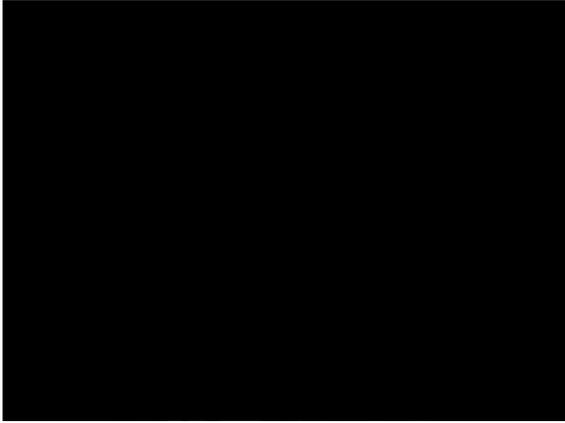
2. Silk reeling

Silk reeling is done mainly in the areas where cocoon production is done. Since a large quantity of cocoons are produced in this area, a large number of reeling units are also located here.

Silk reeling is done in small units employing 4-6 persons. Almost each unit has 2-3 children (both male and female). The employers have told the children that whenever anyone from outside asks them about their work, they should tell them that they go to school and work part time in the reeling units but this is not true. The fact is that 90% of the children working in the reeling units do not go to school and are either drop outs or never been to the school.

The place that was visited [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] of Chikbalapur district has almost 100 silk reeling units. Child labor is employed by almost all units. We could talk to a man whose three children (one daughter and two sons) work in a reeling unit but it was not possible to talk to children. A walk through the filthy and stinking (cocoon boiling creates a foul smell) narrow lanes, revealed that children were working all over. Some photographs were taken (could not take more photos as I was asked not to do so). The photos given below show children working in silk reeling units.

Age group: Children of 7-8 to 17-18 years work in silk reeling units.



Two reeling units showing child labor (both male and female)

These photographs do not have the permission of the owners/workers to use the photographs

Working conditions: The working conditions in the reeling units are not good. The units are operated from small rooms, which look so unhygienic. The places stink because of the cocoons are boiled. Workers have to put their hands in the water to take out the cocoon and wash the silk. Sometimes the water remains too hot. They have to keep their hands in water almost full day. Most people who work in reeling units suffer from some skin disease; they have swollen hands during rainy seasons.

2. Tamilnadu

Initially planned:	Kanchipuram – Silk Sarees (Child labor) Tirpur – Knitwear (Child labor) Shivakasi – Fireworks and Match Box (Child labor)
Finally visited:	Kanchipuram – Silk sarees Tirpur – Knitwear
Type of labor:	Child labor and forced child labor

Reasons for not visiting Shivakasi - Fireworks and Match Boxes: Could not get a contact to go there and have interviews with the present and/or ex-child labor. Knowledgeable sources told that the issue of child labor in fireworks and match box factories in [REDACTED] was raised more than two decades ago. The factory owners and even the child labor avoid talking to any outsiders. It is difficult there to talk about the issues with out a good local contact.

Some details about the sites visited

Kancheepuram is traditionally known for silk weaving. A lot has been written in the press both national and international about engaging child labor in the silk weaving units in Kancheepuram. INDUS project has also worked there. Officials claim that there is no child labor in silk weaving in Kancheepuram.

1. Kancheepuram – Silk sarees

Kancheepuram silk sarees are quite famous and are used during weddings. These sarees cost up to more than one lakh rupees (about USD 2,500). The cost varies depending on the type of zari work in which gold and silver are used. More the quantity of gold zaari more is the cost of saree. It is estimated that 13,500 kg raw silk and 8,000 marcs gold are used every month in Kancheepuram area. Silk weaving is considered a hard work in comparison to the cotton weaving. People start working in cotton weaving after they get older.

[REDACTED] frs of. Kancheepuram was visited. The village has about 100 handlooms. Visit to four units revealed that all the units employ child labor (photographs given below)



Child labor working on the loom



Loom owner's wife and daughter working on their loom



Child labor working on the loom



Child labor working on the loom



Loom owner working on his loom



Loom owner working on his loom

Estimates show that there are about 10,000 child laborers working in the silk weaving in villages of Kancheepuram and Thirunamalai districts. Interview with the children working on the looms revealed that they fall under the category of forced labor. Parents of these children have taken advance from the employers. They have to work there till the advance amount is paid. The advance amount is paid normally after the parents find another employer from whom they take an advance, which is slightly more than the pervious advance.

Age group: Children of 13-14 to 18 years work in silk saree weaving. Earlier much younger (6-7 years) children were also working but the government pressure has reduced the new employment of 6-7 years old children and most of children working are those who started working 3-5 years ago.

Working hours and working conditions: The children work for more about 12 hours a day and only one day off in a month. The looms are installed in a room in the house itself. They sit on the bench while working on the loom and on the floor while doing other activities. There is no place to rest. They sit on the ground during the 20 minutes lunch break. In some cases they have to walk on foot for 2-3 kms in the morning and evening to reach the place of work in some cases they are from the same village.

Payment: They are paid a small amount of Rs 200 to 300 per month (USD 5 to 8). Children of 6-7 years age is not hired these days (atleast that is what people say) but those who started working at the age of 6-7 years few years ago are still working. In case of leave due to illness amount for the number of leave-days is deducted.

2. ████████ - Knitwear

████████ is an industrial town located in ██████████ district of Tamilnadu state. A large number of textile, hosiery and knitwear industries are located here. A large workforce is required by these industries and people from all over the states and some even from other states come here to work as the wages are comparatively better. There are some jobs which can be carried out efficiently by the children and these companies employ children for those jobs because it is cheaper to hire them and the companies remain free of labor union issues. The number of child labor in the knitwear and hosiery industries of ██████████ has reduced significantly over last decade but according to the estimates of the NGOs working in the area about 10,000 child laborers are still working there. The wage rates paid to child here are at par and in some cases even higher than the wages paid to the adult labor in some parts of the states, and that is the reason that many parents send their children to work in the units there. The units are enclosed buildings and outsiders are not allowed to enter there. The discussion was held with the ex-child laborer who worked in last six months in a bridge school run by a local NGO named ██████████.

Age group: children of 8-9 to 18 years work in small knitwear units.

Payment: The wages paid to children cases are much better than other places (Rs 30 to 60 a day for 12 hours as against Rs 7-10 per day for a 12 hours day in silk weaving) almost equal to the wages paid to the adults in some areas of the state children.

Working conditions: It was not possible to get inside the factories and see the working conditions but the discussions with the knowledgeable persons revealed that most of the work is done standing and this becomes quite painful particularly for the girls during the periods of menses for the girls above 12 years. Working hours are increased to 18 hours a day during peak season.

Though they are paid for 18 hours but they have to go walking for 1-3 kms at mid night as no transport facility is provided.



Some of the children who were working in the hosiery/knitwear units. Photograph was taken in the child labor school run by NGO named [REDACTED].

3. Rajasthan

Initially planned:	Banswara/Udaipur – Hybrid Cotton, Ginning mills Jaipur – Gem cutting industry (was not sure??)
Finally visited:	██████ – Hybrid Cotton ██████ – Gem cutting, beedi rolling, embroidery work,
Type of labor:	Child labor

Reasons for change in location: ██████ of Udaipur district was visited in order to talk to the child labor/parents of child labor who worked in hybrid cottonseed production farms and Ginning mills in ██████.

It was planned (tentatively) to visit ██████ for talking to children working in gem cutting industry. The person from ██████ who worked in Rajasthan suggested that ██████ should be visited in place of Jaipur because Jaipur being state capital, it may be difficult to talk to children. The local contact also suggested this and told that in Tonk we can talk to children working in beedi rolling, carpet and embroidery units also in addition to gem cutting. ██████ is also in Rajasthan and it is adjacent district to Jaipur. ██████ town is about 70 km from Jaipur.

Some details about the sites visited

1. ██████ – Hybrid Cotton Seed

The cotton breeding work takes place during July to September and the farms were not visited. The children were interviewed in their houses. These children are from families who own small piece of agricultural land. The area being rain-fed and dry only rainy season crop is taken. Most adults and children migrate to work as wage labor. Adults migrate during summer months when there is no agricultural work on their fields.



Photograph showing the households and the fields without crops, [REDACTED], Udaipur District



Two of these girls went for working in cotton breeding farms in 2007. the photograph also shows the poor condition of the house. [REDACTED], Udaipur District. The girl in red saree is dressed like a married lady but she is not married. It was told that she just saw the married ladies dressed like this when she went out to work and has just tried to dress like her. She does not even know that the sindur on her forehead (a red clour mark put by married women) is the sign of being married.

Age group: The age group of those who work in cotton breeding farms is 9-10 to 15-16 years.

Working conditions: The working conditions could not be seen and as these children belong to the poor families so they do not have any complains about the working conditions except the long work hours. They work from early morning at 4.30 to 5 am till evening 7 pm with two breaks of 1 to 1.5 hours each. They have to cook their own food and live in a group in a room on the farm or close to the farm. Those who are working for the issues related to child labor tell that cases of sexual exploitation of the girls do take place on these farms. They also told that working for long hours in the fields sprayed with pesticides is not good for health.

2. █████ – Gem cutting, beedi making, Embroidery work and hand needle work

Interactions were done with the children and parents of children working in embroidery units, gem cutting units and beedi rolling in their houses.

Gem cutting

Interview could not be conducted with children working in gem cutting because the employer did not allow for it. However, he allowed taking photograph (please see below). The children of 12-13 to 18 years work in gem cutting and polishing units.



Children working in a gem cutting unit in █████, Rajasthan state.

Beedi rolling

A large number of households are engaged in beedi making from the homes. All such homes involve children in beedi making. In many families children work in beedi making as full time activities and some of these children have never been to the school.

Age group: Children of 6-7 to 18 years work in beedi working. This activity is done from home and children start participating from very young age. The age of the children who work almost full time for beedi making is from 12-13 to 18 years.

Health Hazard: Those who work for beedi rolling suffer from respiratory diseases including the tuberculosis. Local people told that the number of people suffering from respiratory diseases is very high in Tonk and it is because of beedi making.



The four girls sitting in front are sisters and three of them are engaged full time in beedi making. The local contact organized a group meeting in a meeting hall in the locality. The girls came with their beedi making baskets with them as they do not want to waste time.

Embroidery. While walking through the narrow streets number of small embroidery units could be seen where children were working but the local contact cautioned against talking to them.

Ara tari units (hand needle work)

Ara tari work is done in many households. This activity is done by girls only. Girls from the family and neighborhood work in such units. The work is done on job basis and the agents of the businessmen come with the design and cloth and the women in whose house this activity is done is the contact person. Payment is decided for each piece of work separately. These women engage children of neighborhood and normally get the work done in about half the cost she gets. The amount is distributed according to age, number of years of experience and the expertise of the girl. Parents send their children willingly to work. They consider it a good training, which every girl should have. Needle work is done on various types of clothes and garments used by women such as, saree, blouse, kurta (womens' long shirt), skirts etc.

Age group: Girls of 6-7 years to 16-17 years work in needle work. Most of these girls get married by the age of 15-18 years.

Health hazards: The only problem considered in this work is the eye sight. Working long hours with small needle and doing this fine work weakens the eye sight. One of the girls working on the unit visited was wearing specs.



Girls doing ara tari work on a saree.



Ara tari work is also done on ladies tops and kurtas.

4. Uttar Pradesh

Initially planned:	Khurja – Pottery Aligarh – Locks Agra – Ghunghru Lucknow (Districts near Lucknow) – Carpets
Finally visited:	██████ – Pottery (Could not talk to any child labor/ex-child labor or their parents) ██████ – Locks ██████ – Ghunghroo (Could not talk to any child labor/ex-child labor or their parents) ██████ – Silk textile and sarees, Carpets
Type of labor:	Child labor

Reasons for change in location/not getting child labor/ex-child labor or their parents to talk: It was suggested by some researchers that it will be good to visit areas near Lucknow for carpet weaving so it was included in the travel plan while suggesting the travel plan and budget. Later Lucknow was replaced with ██████ because the State Coordinator for ██████ is based in ██████ and he told that lot of silk weaving and carpet weaving work is done in that area.

Reliable local contacts could not be found in Khurja and Agra and interviews with children working in pottery and ghunghroo could not be held. It took time in getting contacts and when the contact was established they were traveling and not available.

Some details about the sites visited

1. ██████ - Locks

There are so many lock manufacturing units in ██████ city but it was not possible to talk to the workers there. A round of the narrow lanes where small lock units are based showed that there are a number family owned small units. Any outsider is observed with suspicion and people do not like to talk about any child labor issue.

A village named ██████, which is about 7 km from ██████, was visited on the suggestion of the local contact and interview was conducted with the children working in lock factories. The job is normally found with the help of someone who is already working in the factory. School dropout children work in these factories. The children who go to work from the near by villages are often above 14 years of age (Indian Factories' Act allows the employment of children above 14 years of age). These children told that smaller units employ children of less than 14 years age also but they are from the neighborhood only.

Different types of activities are carried out by the children. Unskilled children work in packing units and cleaning units those with skills work in sheet cutting and lock making units.

The smaller family units operate from the house or a small room nearby. The workers sit on the floor and work. The places are totally unattractive and unhygienic.

Age group: Children of 13-14 to 18 years are working in the lock industry

Health hazards: The work places could be seen from outside while walking in the narrow streets in [REDACTED] town. There are very small (2-3 workers) to large mechanized units in [REDACTED]. The working place of the small units is not hygienic and the laborers have to sit on the ground and work. The workers working in smaller units and in the sections of the bigger units where metal dust is created during work suffer from respiratory diseases and skin problems. Those working in packaging sections do not have any health problems. These are the opinions of the workers interviewed and a detailed study of the working environment is required before commenting on this.

2. Varanasi – Silk Sarees/Textile

Most of the silk saree/textile weaving looms and carpet weaving looms are not functioning in this area. Only about 10% looms in the villages visited are operational. The local contacts said that now there are no child labors in silk saree and carpet weaving because of the closer of looms and awareness generation by the government and NGOs and opening of schools in villages. One of the loom owners, however, said that a small number of children still work in looms.

There were loom owners who are now working as labors on others looms.



These two brothers have 3-5 years experience of carpet weaving. They used to work with their father after school hours in the loom owned by their father. They now go to the school and their

father works at a loom in a neighboring village and earn Rs 1500 per month. The loom which is not being used these days is seen in the background.

Age group: Only ex-child laborers could be contacted in this area. The age of the ex-child laborers varied from 14 to 18 years.

Health hazards: Those who worked and are working on the looms told that back pain is one of the problems and in case of carpet weaving the problem of respiratory diseases has also been noticed.

5. Andhra Pradesh

Initially planned: Markapur – Slate (was not determined)

Finally visited: No site visit

Reasons not visiting site: I had meetings with two NGOs (1. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]) working on child labor issues in Hyderabad/Secandrabad, the state capital of Andhra Praadesh. The possibilities of a site visit to Markapur were discussed with these NGOs and they suggested not to visit this location because without local contact it will not be possible to meet or talk to child labor as it is not being used so openly these days.

6. Gujarat

Initially planned: Cotton growing areas bordering Rajasthan – Cotton ginning

Finally visited: No site visit

Reasons not visiting site: Discussions with local contacts in Udaipur told that labor for the ginning mills in Gujarat goes from Rajasthan and the pressure by NGOs over last 3-4 years has created some fear among the employers. They told that longer stay is required to talk to the child labor working in these mills. We tried to find child laborers (who may have worked in ginning mills) in the villages which we visited but we met only adults (19-25 years) who were working or who have worked in the ginning mills.

Researcher's reasons for not including forced adult labor in the data collection efforts

Forced labor is reported from brick kilns, stone crushers, households and agricultural work on farms, etc. Some of the child labor also includes forced child labor but getting the details for forced child labor requires much more time than the period allowed in the contract.

Adult forced labor is often found in the isolated places and /or is not hired in groups like child labor. Some attempts were made to meet with the adult forced labor in Bangalore rural areas and in Chikbalapur district. However, only some of these victims who were released at least five years ago were available. They were, therefore, not included in this study. The employers know very well the repercussion of employing forced labor and therefore they do not let others know easily that the laborers working in their place are forced to work. Often the adult forced laborers are brought from other states and/or far away places. Therefore, it has become very difficult to contact them after they have been released.