

VIABILITY AND PROSPECTS OF *MUGA* SILK CULTIVATION IN THE LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT OF ASSAM

AMRIT PAUL¹ & SANJEEB K JENA²

¹Research Scholar, Department of Commerce Rajiv Gandhi University,
Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh, India

²Professor and Guide, Department of Commerce Rajiv Gandhi University,
Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh, India

ABSTRACT

Muga Silk industry has an abode of self-importance in the socio-economic and cultural life of the rural people of Assam. It is, therefore, needless to say that *muga* silk industry occupied an indispensable role in the economy of Assam throughout the reign of Ahom and the following period to present-day, as the trade of *muga*, the golden silk, is valued at Rs 200 crore. With good organization, the industry could develop up to 10 times of its current size. There are around 9500 sericulture villages manufacturing *muga*, Eri, and mulberry silk in the state of Assam. The age old *muga* silk industry is deteriorating due to many factors. It is evident that the production of *tassar* and *eri* raw silk is increasing and is satisfactory, but the production trend of unique *muga* silk is fluctuating and declining. Thus, through the present paper, an effort was made to study the viability and prospect of *muga* culture in the Lakhimpur District of Upper Assam.

KEYWORDS: Assam, Cost-Benefit, Lakhimpur, Muga Silk, Prospects, Value-Chain, Viability