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Title : Need to establish a Cluster-cum-Handloom Park at Mangalagiri, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (GUNTUR): The sprawling premises of the erstwhile cement factory near the weaving town of Mangalagiri, in Guntur District, is an ideal place for locating the Cluster-cum-Handloom Park (Chenatha Park). Therefore, I appeal to you to use your good offices, for allotting it for Cluster-cum-Handloom Park (Chenatha Park) which will bring cheers to the despaired handloom weavers in the area and boost handloom cottage industry.

Mangalagiri, Guntur district is very famous for handloom products especially cotton sarees. These exquisite sarees are having huge demand globally. About 3800 weavers depend on weaving on their own 1000 looms and 2800 hired looms. Half of them are enrolled under co-operative fold and others are outside co-operative fold. About, 40% of the Mangalagiri population is dependant on handloom weaving and allied industry i.e., yard dealers, traders, warpers, dyers etc. Thus, around 3800 looms and 10,000 people are directly or indirectly dependant on the industry for their living. Their weaving and resulting trade are the main source of income for the weavers. Raw material is available locally as Guntur district is the large cotton crop sowing area in Andhra Pradesh and there are about 80 spinning mills around this place.

The annual turnover in this area is around Rs. 60 crores and they are earning foreign exchange to a tune of Rs. 40 crores.

These skilled weavers are committing suicides as they are not having required Infrastructural facilities and proper expert and marketing facilities. During the rainy season, the water enters the pits and the looms are immobilized. Hence, they could not attend to the regular work throughout the rainy season.

The development of deep water ports at Nizampatnam and Chirala will facilitate overseas exports. The proximity of the textile park at National Highway 5 and Guntur rail junction will help in easy transportation of cotton and textile products. The textile park, if established, would also attract weaving and garment industries as well customs, containers, banking and quality control facilities can be provided under one roof.

Keeping in view the above facts, I request you to kindly sanction setting up of cluster-Cum-Handloom Park in Mangalagiri, Guntur district comprising processing and other units which can provide gainful employment to the thousands of local experienced youth and this will help to develop value added technology also.