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Title: Need to start work on setting up of Silk Park in Kancheepuram district, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P. VISWANATHAN (KANCHEEPURAM): Responding to the demands of the weavers of my constituency, Kancheepuram, in October 2009 the Ministry of Textiles had agreed to set up a silk Park to boost the silk handloom Sector at Kancheepuram and an announcement was made by the then Union Minister of Textiles.

This project was to provide direct and indirect employment to over 15,000 people and have facilities for silk twisting, weaving, dyeing, processing, ETP, centralized marketing and a research centre.

The estimated infrastructure cost for the project is Rs. 83.75 crores with 40% (Rs. 33.40 crores) from Central Government, 51% (Rs. 41.85 crores) to be made by private promoters and the balance 9% (8 crores), from State Government initially by way of providing land.

As on December 31, 2010, about 85 persons from the private sector, have remitted payment amounting to Rs. 1.50 crores.

In October, 2009, the district administration had identified a 75-acre site at Kizhkathirpur in Kancheepuram for setting up the silk park and has sought the approval of the State Government, But the land transfer has not taken place.

As there is no progress for the past over 20 months, I request the Minister for Textiles to accord work of the Silk Park on priority basis so as to implement the same without further delay.