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Title: Need to set up a Mega Leather Park at Rukmapur in Karimnagar, Telangana.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (KARIMNAGAR): The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion is implementing a sub-scheme 'Mega Leather Cluster' under Indian Leather Development Programme for setting up mega leather clusters in the country. The objective of developing Mega Leather Clusters is to create world-class infrastructure and to integrate the production chain in a manner that caters to the business needs of the leather industry so as to cater to the domestic market and exports.

It must be noted that the scheme is demand driven and not location specific. Therefore, in order to augment economic development and employment in my constituency, I request the Hon'ble Minister for Commerce and Industry to set up a Mega Leather Park in Rukmapur, Choppadandimandal in Karimnagar. Proposal to set up a leather park at Rukmapur village was first mooted in 2003 by the then NDA government. After the authorities identified 134 acres near Rukmapur village for the purpose, for reasons unknown, the then State Government chose Nellore district, dropping Rukmapur.

Later, the then Chief Minister assured to set up the park in Rukmapur. However, the project didn't take off owing to alleged discrimination towards the Telangana region in erstwhile undivided Andhra Pradesh.

As the Chief Minister of Telangana willing to facilitate the creation of this Park, I urge the Centre to consider the proposal and fulfil the long-standing demand of the people of the village.