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Title: Need to set up a National Institute of Fashion Technology at Mangalagiri in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): There is no doubt National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) is a leader in fashion education with an ability to integrate knowledge, academic freedom, critical independence and creative thinking. With firm foundation in fashion education in the domains of design, management and technology, NIFT has made its mark not only in the country but also gained international reputation as a premier institute for fashion technology.

Undivided Andhra Pradesh had NIFT at Hyderabad to cater to the needs of the present States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. But, after bifurcation, the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh does not have an NIFT and there is a need for one to help the textile clusters in the State. There is a NIFT in all the major states of the country and Andhra Pradesh is equally a big state with more than 4 crore population and deserve to have one.

Mangalagiri in Guntur district is a famous handloom cluster and Andhra Pradesh State Handloom Weavers Co-operative has also shifted its office to Mangalagiri after bifurcation. Secondly, Mangalagiri is also part of the new capital region of Andhra Pradesh. So, it is suitable for setting up of NIFT here.

In view of the above, I request the Minister of Textiles to consider setting up of NIFT at Mangalagiri in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh at an early date.