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Title: Request the Central Government for recognition of design, ecosystem support, empanelment and partnership with the Balaji Institute of Surgery, Research and rehabilitation for the Disabled (BIRRD) Trust , Tirupati.

SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU (NARASARAOPET):

Sir, today is the International Day of Disabled Persons. On this occasion, I would like to speak about the contributions of the Balaji Institute of Surgery, Research and Rehabilitation for the Disabled (BIRRD) to the service of orthopaedically challenged persons reeling under poverty. This Institute is situated in Andhra Pradesh.

The BIRRD Trust which is run by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam in Tirupati under a State legislation provides medical treatment to those suffering from polio, cerebral palsy, congenital anomalies, spinal injuries, orthopaedic handicap, etc. I would like to inform the House that at this Trust, artificial limbs, callipers, aids, food, medicines and other services are provided free of cost to the needy and the poor.

It was started in 1985 as a 30-bed hospital but now it has expanded to an almost 350-bed hospital. In 2018, a total of 1,50,000 medical cases were taken care of by this hospital. But the Government must come forward to support the endeavours of this Institute so that they can continue the good work and service to the differently abled people.

We are talking of establishing the National Institute of Design and setting up of four new medial device parks for the growth of indigenous production and skill. However, these different initiatives cannot work in isolation. In fact, the Government must form a welfare ecosystem, especially for the vulnerable groups in society like the disabled, senior citizens and the poor. Design support would also improve the usability and efficiency of artificial limbs and aids that are contextual to the Indian lifestyle of movement. A collaborative effort is necessary to bring organisations with interest and companies with relevant products.

I would like to request the Central Government for recognition of design, ecosystem support, empanelment and partnership with the BIRRD Trust so that it could grow and expand its operations across the country.

सभपति महोदय: श्रीमती वांगा गीता विश्वनाथ को श्री श्री लावू श्रीकृष्णा देवरायालू द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है ।

19.00 hrs