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Title: Need to set up a National Circus Academy for promoting the circus industry.– Laid.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (BADAGARA): The circus industry in our country is on the verge of death due to certain reasons. Though a popular entertainment medium like circus is being gainfully utilized to create and sustain children's interest in observing, learning new things, information about wild life and physical skills etc., it is not getting proper encouragement by the authorities. We know that the education and entertainment have undergone a sea change with modernisation and globalisation.

The situation has caused a very bad impact on the circus industry. Though the Central Government has been recommending to the State Governments for extending concession like exemption of entertainment tax and for provision of suitable ground for holding circus shows at concessional rent. Yet, the circus industry as a whole is in a pathetic state with new law on animal protection. Hence, the circus industry of our country is likely to have a natural death under the pressure and competition from the modern media and legislations that are brought in the name of protecting animals. Comprehensive reformation to this industry is needed by way of encouraging the talented circus artists while giving pensions to them and protecting their interests.

Formation of a National Circus Academy to conduct training and research on circus art is highly essential for the sustaining of the circus industry of our country.

I request the Government to look into the matter.