

Clauses 2 to 6 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to move that the Bill be returned.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I move:
That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today, there are 28 permitted Special Mentions. As all the Members concerned are not present, I suggest that the Special Mentions of those hon. Members who are present may be deemed to have been laid on the Table of the House. Do we have the consent of the House?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The approved text of the permitted Special Mention of the hon. Members who are present now shall be treated as laid on the Table as per the consent of the House. I will just read out the names.

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

Concern over damage caused by Elephants

SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA (Assam): Sir, elephant depredation, referring to the damages caused by elephants, poses a significant challenge, especially in regions

* Laid on the Table.

inhabited by the endangered Asian Elephant species. As human populations expand and encroach upon traditional elephant habitats, conflicts arise, often leading to adverse consequences for both humans and elephants. The need to address this issue has prompted initiatives to explore the possibility of shifting elephants to more suitable living spaces. The encroachment of human settlements into elephant territories often results in crop raids, property damage, and occasionally, human casualties. To mitigate these conflicts, we can think of strategic relocation of elephants to areas where their natural behaviours can be arranged without detrimental effects on the local communities. Shifting elephants to more suitable habitats is not only about protecting human interests but also ensuring the conservation of this endangered species.

Creating protected reserves or corridors for elephants allows them to roam freely, engage in natural behaviours, and helps maintain a healthy population. These conservation efforts aim to strike a balance between the needs of both humans and elephants, fostering coexistence rather than conflict. It is crucial to approach the shifting of elephants with careful planning, considering factors such as food availability, water sources, and the overall health ecosystem. Collaborative efforts involving wildlife experts, conservationists, and local communities are essential to ensure the success of such initiatives. I urge the Government to address the issue of elephant depredation through strategic relocation. In this way, we can contribute to the preservation of the endangered Asian Elephant species while promoting harmonious coexistence between elephants and human communities.

Demand for conversion into National Highway and four-laning of the Road

DR. K. LAXMAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, at the very outset, I thank the Union Government for sanctioning highest number of National Highways including Hyderabad Regional Ring Road and for allocation of more than Rs.1.10 lakh crore funds for National Highways, construction of a number of flyovers and underpasses in Telangana. Hyderabad-Ibrahimpattanam-Nagarjunasagar-Dornala Road is an important road which connects historical Nagarjunasagar Project, Nagarjuna Konda Museum apart from Buddhavanam which is being developed. This road is also a link between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Buddhavanam project was sanctioned by the Government of India as part of Krishna Valley Buddhist Circuit with a view to attract a large number of domestic and foreign tourists, particularly from South-East Asian countries.