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PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

A function to bid farewell to Shri M. Hamid Ansari, Vice President of India and Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha, on expiration of his term of office, was held on Thursday, the 10th August, 2017 in the GMC Balayogi Auditorium, Parliament Library Building, New Delhi.

The function was attended by the Members of both Houses of Parliament (Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha) and other dignitaries including Prime Minister, Former Prime-Minister, Vice-President elect, Speaker, Lok Sabha, Deputy Speaker Lok Sabha and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Leader of the House, Rajya Sabha, Leader of the Opposition, Rajya Sabha and some Ministers from the Council of Ministers. Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha welcomed Hon'ble Chairman, and other dignitaries.

While giving the welcome speech, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Ananth Kumar recalled the very first day of Shri M. Hamid Ansari ten years back wherein he had stated that majority to my right (treasury bench) and minority to my left (opposition) play significant and equal role in democracy.

Leader of the opposition, Rajya Sabha Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad focused on the personal research capability of Shri Ansari.

Delivering his speech Leader of the House, Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley recalled the width of interest of Shri Ansari and the varied subjects he spoke.

While delivering her speech the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan commented on caring attitude towards the Members in a delegation on a foreign visit of Shri M. Hamid Ansari.

Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Prof. P.J. Kurien while reading the farewell address apart from other qualities of Shri M. Hamid Ansari mentioned about his innate goodness and even-handed approach to harmonies competing and conflicting viewpoints in the House which helped him in conducting its proceedings in a fair, impartial and dignified manner.

Bidding farewell to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi stated that the tenure of Shri Ansari for ten years without any controversy in a public life is his major achievement.

Giving the concluding speech the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri M. Hamid Ansari said that presiding the House for a long period of ten years was not difficult for him because in Rajya Sabha, even though Members exchanged their conflicting views it was in a purposeful manner and without any personal acrimony which is rarely found in other countries.