

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Zero Hour is over now, We shall now take up the regular subjects.

13.01 hrs

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha.

' I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the National Highways (Amendment) Bill, 1992, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th August, 1992, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 26th November, 1992, with the following amendments:-

*Clause - 1*

That at page 1, for lines 3-4 the following be substituted, namely:-	Short title and commencement
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- \*1. (1) This Act may be called the National Highways (Amendment) Act, 1992.  
(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 23rd day of October, 1992"

*New Clause - 4*

2. That at pages 1, after line 11 the following be inserted, namely:-
- \*4. (1) The National Highways (Amendment) Ordinance, 1992 is hereby repealed. Repeal and saving

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the principal Act, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done or taken

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the occurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendments be communicated to this House.'

13. 04 hrs

[English]

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS (AMENDMENT)  
BILL

As returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the National Highways (Amendment) Bill, 1992 as returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments.

13. 04 hrs

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Fifth Report

[English]

SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO (Karimnagar): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Agriculture on " Dryland Farming and Watershed Management in Rainfed Areas."

13. 04 1/2 hrs

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON  
THE TABLE

Fifth and Sixth Reports and Minutes

[English]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): I beg to present the Fifth and Sixth Reports

(Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table and Minutes of sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

13. 05 hrs

### STATEMENT BY MINISTER

#### Jamia Millia Islamia

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Sir, You would kindly recall that certain incidents in Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) had attracted the attention and the concern of this House. The situation in JMI had caused concern to everyone. A delegation of the students led by the President and the Vice-President of the Students Union of the JMI met me on 7th June, 1992. The representatives of teachers and others of the University had also met me in this connection and all of them urged for early settlement. In consultation with all concerned, including the University authorities, we decided to refer the entire issue concerning the incidents in JMI to a Group of Eminent Persons. The Group consisted of:-

- (1) Justice (Retd.) M.M. Ismail,  
Formerly Chief Justice,  
Madras High Court.
- (2) Prof. A.M. Khusro,  
Formerly Vice-Chancellor,  
Aligarh Muslim University.
- (3) Shri Saiyid Hamid,  
Formerly Vice-Chancellor,  
Aligarh Muslim University.
- (4) Shri Zafar Jung,  
Member  
Wakf Board,  
Delhi.

I quote the advice of the Group which is as follows:-

"(1) Prof. Mushirul Hasan has expressed

his regrets and tendered a clear and categorical apology. This should be accepted whole-heartedly. Forgiveness is a godly quality and the Quran and the Prophet of Islam have encouraged it. We are confident that the Jamia community of students, teachers and other staff will not want to dilute these prescriptions for forgiveness.

(2) Incidentally, this trend towards large-hearted acceptance is also reflected in the altered stance of the University community. The Students' Union, the faculty and the administrative staff have all co-operated in the reopening of the University and taken steps towards the restoration of its normal functioning. This is indicative of their deep-rooted attachment to and concern for the well-being of the Institution to which they have the privilege to belong. Prof. Mushirul Hasan himself has been consistently critical of the blasphemous, crude, intolerable and non-secular approach of Salman Rushdie; we trust that the Jamia community, the Muslim community and all sensible people will not fail to take note of it.

To prevent recurrence of such incidents and to achieve purposeful co-ordination between students, teachers and administration there is no better method than dialogue on a continuing basis. Dialogue should never deteriorate into intolerant behavior and violence".

The Group has also noted that there are no principles or policies laid down with regard to the maintenance and up-keep of the Campus and the properties therein. The Group has advised for urgent steps to remedy those defects and to remove the deficiencies.

The Government has accepted the report and the same is being forwarded to the University authorities for immediate and appropriate action on the recommendations of the Group.

A copy of the Report is also being laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2801/92]