

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, as suggested by the hon. Minister, we will take up the discussion on Motion of Thanks on the President's Address after the Zero Hour submissions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, we will go by that. And, accordingly, I instruct the Secretariat to reallocate time as per present arrangement of fourteen-and-a-half hours, अगर आधा घंटा इसमें गया तो, उसी हिसाब से समय को बांटना पड़ेगा और सभी सदस्यों को अवगत कराना पड़ेगा।

Normally, suspension of Zero Hour or Question Hour is not done. But, it was done at times earlier also. Now that there is a specific request and broad agreement in the House, I am willing to go by that.

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे (कर्नाटक):** सर, अगर आप चाहें, तो आज क्वेश्चन ऑवर ले सकते हैं।

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं सर। Parties should discuss it among themselves and then come to a conclusion.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, I don't dispute about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is over now.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: But, I am requesting you that Zero Hour can be suspended.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Khargeji, we will not discuss it anymore once the decision is taken. Now, we will take up Zero Hour submissions. Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy.

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### **MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION**

#### **Need for immediate attention of Government towards key issues being faced by Infrastructure Sector companies**

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Namaskaram Sir. We would request the Government of India to intervene and see how problems that are being faced by the infrastructure sector are addressed. There is a huge problem which has engulfed infrastructure companies, because of cost, time overrun and the delays in

execution of projects. Most of the companies are built over the years. Companies in existence for hundreds of years are now crumbled. There is a huge problem going on around this industry. This has to really support the nation building and is part of Atmanirbhar plan. So, until and unless the Government comes forward with some specific deliverables, it is going to be very difficult.

Hence, I request, through you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government to take necessary steps to support this industry. Thank you.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by Shri Reddy.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by Shri Reddy.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by Shri Reddy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The issue can be discussed elaborately during the General Discussion on the Budget, because it is connected with that. You have raised the issue; it is okay.

Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva. Dr. Thambidurai to associate with it. Both of you have to share time.

### **Need for steps to be taken to tackle harassment of Indian fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy**

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2021, four fishermen from Tamil Nadu reported missing. And, later, after four days, on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2021, it was reported by the Sri Lankan Navy that their bodies were found in the Palk Strait.

The contention of the Sri Lankan Navy was that boat of fishermen rammed into its vessel and hence the incident happened. But, it is actually not so. The fishermen were brutally attacked, killed and their catches have been taken away by the Sri Lankan Navy. This is not the first ever incident. We have been raising such issues in the House every now-and-then and fishermen in Tamil Nadu are compelled to quit their profession, because of harassment by the Sri Lankan Navy.

Thanks to the intervention of the hon. Minister of External Affairs, Shri Jaishankar. The Ministry said that a strong demarche was made to the Sri Lankan