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Title: Regarding according to special category status to the state of Andhra Pradesh and request for CBI inquiry into the burning incident of chariot of Laxmi Narasimbha temple at Antarvedi Town in Andhra Pradesh by antisocial elements.

SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV (HINDUPUR): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak in Zero Hour.

I would like to bring this to the kind notice of the Central Government. Our hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has met our hon. Prime Minister six times and the hon. Home Minister ten times since 2019 requesting that a Special Category Status be accorded to the State. In the Rajya Sabha, the former Prime Minister had told us that a Special Category Status would be extended to Andhra Pradesh since the State was at disadvantage. However, the people of Andhra Pradesh have been betrayed by the Central Government.

I request for expediting the CBI inquiry into the incident of burning of a chariot of Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple at Antarvedi Town in Andhra Pradesh by anti-social elements. The abovementioned incident took place on the nights of 5th and 6th September, 2020. Accordingly, on 11th September, 2020, the Andhra Pradesh Government vide order G.O. MS No. 105 had decided to handover the investigation of this unfortunate incident to the Central Bureau of Investigation. But, still, there has not been any progress in this case and the process of investigation is slow.

Through you, I would like to request the hon. Home Minister to direct the CBI to expedite the investigation and bring closure to the case so that the true culprits can be traced.