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Title: Regarding alleged atrocities on the Indian Fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy.

SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA (RAMANATHAPURAM): In the wake of persistent arrest of the Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu by the Sri Lankan Navy and with no signs of securing the release of 77 fishermen and their 102 fishing boats by the Indian Government, the Leaders of all Mechanized Fishermen Association of Tamil Nadu went on an indefinite strike on 22nd July. They had resolved to go on indefinite hunger strike from 28th July, 2016. The family members of those fishermen who have been arrested will also stage demonstrations and will join the indefinite hunger strike proposed by the Association from 28th July, 2016.

Speaker, Madam, now I would like to highlight the plight and serious circumstances under which the fishermen association has decided to go on an indefinite strike for the cause of the release of arrested fishermen and their boats. Since the atrocities of the Sri Lankan Navy are on the increase day-by-day, it has become a matter of daily ordeal for the Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu. Our fishermen are brutally attacked and, even within the Indian waters their cages and boats are looted, taken away as prisoners along with their boats and fishing equipment. Hundreds of fishermen have been killed....(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You do not have to read the whole thing.

SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA: I will just conclude, Madam. It is a very important matter.

HON. SPEAKER: It is not allowed to read out the whole paper during 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA: I will just conclude.

Madam Speaker, on 9th July, 2016 Prime Minister, Shri Ranil Wickremesinghe in Sri Lankan Parliament while answering a question said that neither the Indian fishermen nor their boats that had been taken into custody while fishing in Sri Lankan waters will be released. So, I would request the hon. Prime

Minister as only our hon. Prime Minister's direct intervention to find a permanent solution to settle this problem is expected. Hence, the Union Government must come out with an earnest action plan to ensure safety and security of our fishermen. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Kirit P. Solanki and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri A. Anwhar Raajhaa.