

WHAT IS

QUESTION HOUR & ZERO HOUR



ZERO HOUR

Zero Hour is an Indian Parliamentary Innovation. It is not mentioned in any rule book but its existence is there since 1962 by convention.

Zero Hour is an informal tool available to the members to raise the matters without any prior notice.

It starts after question hour and lasts until the regular business is taken up.

The time gap between the end of zero hour and beginning of regular business (agenda) of the house is called Zero hour.

Its importance can be gauged from the support it receives from citizens, media, Mps and presiding officers despite not being part of the rulebook.

QUESTION HOUR

The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for the Question Hour.

During this one hour, Members of Parliament (Mps) ask question to ministers and hold them accountable for the functioning of their ministries.

KINDS OF QUESTIONS ASKED

STARRED

Requires an oral answer & hence supplementary questions can follow.

UNSTARRED

Requires an written answer & hence supplementary questions cannot follow.

SHORT NOTICE

Asked by giving a notice of less than 10 days. It is answered orally.

