

**Need to review the proposal of offshore sand mining along the
Kerala Coast.-laid**

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): The Union Government move to begin offshore sand mining along Kerala coast. The sea sand mining will harm coastal eco system and fisher folk livelihood. The Government of Kerala is also disagreed with the proposal. The offshore sand mining could adversely affect the livelihood of fisher folk, loss of habitat, environmental disaster to the coastal area, loss of employment etc. No study was conducted regarding environmental impacts, health impacts and socio economic impacts. The offshore sand in Kollam contains rare earth elements including radioactive elements. The move to privatization of sand mining in this area becomes futile due to the intervention of Atomic Energy Department. The present proposal is to provide space to private agencies for mining of sand containing rare earth elements including radioactive elements in an indirect method. The proposal is against the existing policy. Hence I urge upon the Government to drop the sea sand mining proposal.