

**Need to initiate operation of cargo, passenger and cruise services from Kollam Port in Kerala- Laid**

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM):** Kollam Port is the one of the oldest ports. This port is having immigration check point facility. A coastal ship project was launched. Major shipping companies showing interest in the port to commence shipping operation. Now it is proven that huge foreign ships can easily operate from Kollam Port. Kollam Port is suitable to operate cargo ship services from Kollam Port to Lakshadweep and Maldives. Kollam is the nearest port from Southern part of Lakshadweep. The possibility of operating cargo ships, passenger ships and cruise ship service from Kerala is high. But the authorities are not given importance to promote the development of Kollam port. Hence, I urge upon the Government to initiate action for operating cargo ships, passenger ships and cruise ship from Kollam Port and utilise the Kollam Port considering its high potential.