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Title: Need to handover the land occupied by IRE for mining beach sand mineral to the land owners in Kollam district, Kerala and to implement rehabilitation scheme as per agreement.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Thank you.

My 'Zero Hour' submission is regarding the return of land to the people of Chavara village in my constituency taken over by the Indian Rare Earths Limited. Many decades ago, land of the poor fishermen was taken for beach sand mineral mining. Even after mining was completed, the land was not returned to the honest, poor fishermen in Chavara Village as well as Nendakara Village, Karithura and Kovilthottom in Chavara Village and Vellanathuruth in Alappattu in Kollam district of Kerala. The mining has been completed but the fishermen have not been given back their land. There is a specific agreement with the people of that locality that land would be given back after mining. Even a decade after completion of mining, land has not been given back. To my knowledge, it has to be decided by the Cabinet. The Union Council of Ministers has to decide about it. For every public sector undertaking if a transaction involving a property has to be done, the opinion or approval of the Union Council of Ministers is required and it is pending. I urge upon the Government to expedite the process so that the poor fishermen of this area will get their land back. So, immediate steps have to be taken by the Government for this. This is my demand and submission.