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Title: Need to review the Dr. Meena Kumari report on deep-sea fishing.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): The recommendations of Dr Meena Kumari committee are against the interests of fisher folk in the country. The Government implemented the recommendations of the committee even without considering the suggestions of the stake holders. Deep sea trawling was permitted in violation of the assurance given in the House. The suggestion is that Indian crew may not be qualified enough to man operations in this water and foreign hands should be deployed. The panel ignored the fact that Indian fishermen are already operating in water beyond 500 meters. The recommendations of the committee are against the spirit of Murari committee. The present report will help to lease out the marine territory of India to foreign ships and foreign crew.

Hence I urge upon the government to reject the Dr Meena Kumari committee report.