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Title: Need to direct Government of Kerala to withdraw move to private mineral sand mining in coastal areas of the State- Laid.

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (QUILON) : Serious issue arising out of the decision of the Government of Kerala to allow private companies to mine in the coastal areas of Kerala. This is part of an intrigue to thwart the endeavour pronounced by Hon. Prime Minister for investment of about Rs. 1500 cr. by NDMC in collaboration with IRE and KMML both PSUs. This is certainly a move to privatise the mining and separation of strategic minerals. The privatisation of this strategic sector will be a great threat to the security of the nation and detrimental to our national interests. Indiscriminate private mining will cause adverse environmental problems and shatter the livelihood of the fishermen community of coastal Kerala. Hence, I would like to urge the Central Government to retain the mineral sand mining absolutely in public sector in view of our national security and national interests. I urge the Government of India through you, Sir, to resist this move of Government of Kerala to allowing private sector mining.