

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Demand to check illegal mining done by Indian Rare Earth Limited (IREL) and need for proper ecological impact study in Allpat.

***SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA):** Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity.

I want to present before the House an issue of utmost importance, and I am thankful to the chair for giving me this opportunity. My constituency, Allapat, was ruined by the Tsunami disaster. Thousands of fisher men live there, and the entire village has gone on an indefinite strike for the last hundred and one days. Because of the illegal mining being done by the IRE the people are in a jeopardy. In the name of mining, the entire land mass is being eroded. People's lives have been affected. I have brought this issue before the Central Government, that the IRE is engaged in an inhuman enterprise. I sought the Central Government's interference, and also gave a letter to the minister. The poor people of Allapat and their land needs to be saved.

A true ecological impact, study has to be done in Allapat, and it is lack of such a study, that has led to this calamity in Allapat. Mining should be stopped immediately. By understanding the problem of the people, a proper ecological impact study has to be done.