

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding cost of RTPCR tests conducted at Airports-laid.

SHRI T. N. PRATHAPAN (THRISSUR): The RTPCR tests at many Airports of the country is costlier compared to the market. Especially in Kerala, the laboratory agencies at Airports charge ₹2490 for RTPCR tests while it's just ₹500 for testing in the outside laboratories. Actually, the charges are different and too high to be afforded by the common people. Later, courts interfered in this issue and set it to ₹500. Now, expatriates, especially to UAE, suffer a lot because of this alleged loot. There are around 100 airplane services to UAE every week from Cochin airport alone. After Omicron threat this may affect all passengers. The travellers need to have another RTPCR for even entering the Airport, and later unjustifiable charges are asked for RTPCR. This should be stopped. The charges for RTPCR should be similar to charges prevalent in the market. The ministry of civil aviation must take clear action in this regard.