

Hike in Prices of Palmolein and other Vegetable oils by FPS

107. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of palmolein and other vegetable oil distributed through the network of fair-price shops under the Public Distribution System has shown an abnormal hike in the recent months; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) and (b). The issue price in respect of imported edible oils to be distributed through the Public Distribution System was last revised and increased with effect from 1st September, 1989, by Rs 2,000/- PMT. This increase in price had then become inevitable because of a wide gap between the retail prices of imported edible oils and the derived prices of indigenous edible oils based on the support prices of oilseeds which was acting as a disincentive to farmers on the one hand and posing a danger of its diversion to unauthorised channels; on the other.

Pre-Paid Ticket Advice for Job Seekers Abroad

108. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN:
PROF. P.J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government imposed a new condition that a Pre-paid Ticket Advice (PTA) was essential for emigration clearance for those who get a job in the Gulf countries;

(b) whether a number of representa-

tions have been received by Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government are aware that this will cause harassment to thousands of job-seekers, particularly from Kerala in the Gulf countries;

(d) whether there is any proposal to reconsider the decision; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c). The emigration Act 1983 and Rules framed thereunder provide that 'To and fro air passage at the employers' cost' must be included in every contract for employment of an emigrant worker. The provision came into force with effect from 4 February 1987. The provision is meant to protect workers. Accordingly, it will benefit them, rather than harassing them.

(d) and (e). In view of (a) (b) & (c). above does not arise.

Postponement of All India Entrance Test for MD/MS

109. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Entrance test for admission to MD/MS and other courses was postponed recently at the request of some Member of Parliament and a large number of the candidates;

(b) whether it is a fact that there were large-scale discrepancies and bungling in the computer programme done for issuance of hall tickets for these examinations;