

ESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). No such proposal has been received from the State Government. However, Central as-

sistance is provided to the State Government upto 1991-92 under various schemes is as follows:-

<i>Name of the Schemes</i>	<i>(Rs. in Lakhs)</i>
Fuelwood & Fodder Scheme Project	50.00
Minor Forest Produce	0.20
Seed Development Scheme	16.35
Decentralised peoples nursery	99.38

[*Translation*]

Varadarajan Committee Report

4106. **SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accepted the recommendations of the Varadarajan Committee;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government for implementing these recommendations; and

(c) if no action has been taken so far, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Petroleum & Chemicals vide its Memorandum dated 16th July, 1974, constituted an expert committee chaired by Shri S. Varadarajan for advising the Government and the Indian Oil Corporation on the Environmental impact of the proposed Mathura Refinery on the Taj Mahal and other historical monuments in Agra. The committee recommended the following:

- (i) Shutting down of 2 coal-based plants (10MW Cap each) of UP State Electricity Board located in the Agra Zone;
- (ii) Dieselisation of coal-based locomotives in the railway marshalling yard at Agra;
- (iii) No new pollution-causing industries to be located on North-East of Taj Mahal;
- (iv) Existing small-scale industries, particularly foundries should be relocated in South-East of Agra beyond the Taj Mahal;
- (v) No new large industries such as fertilisers and petrochemicals to be set up in the neighbourhood of the refinery. Location of any new industry in Agra region should be so chosen to exclude any increase in environmental

pollution in the area of the monuments.

- (vi) The pollution level in the Agra Region be monitored by an appropriate authority, on a continuous basis. Studies should be conducted periodically to determine whether any deteriorations has occurred in the monuments and if so, measures should be taken to arrest the same. The committee recommended the Archaeological Survey of India to make such studies;
- (vii) Use of coal in the power plant of the Mathura Refinery should be deferred till suitable technology is available for reducing emissions from the same;
- (viii) A minimum of 3 ambient air monitoring stations should be set up between the refinery and Agra.

All these recommendations have been implemented.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Lifeline Express

4107. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI AIHITHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experimental hospital on rail called "Lifeline Express" has been

found successful in extending medical facilities to the remote areas in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to start such hospital in trains on permanent basis in each State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Lifeline Express has visited two remote areas of Bihar and treated 3789 patients so far.

(b) At present there is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Increase in Air India Flights

4108. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION & TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the number of Air India flights on international routes, to encourage more tourists from abroad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). In order to promote tourism, the number of flights of Air India have recently (with effect from 27.10.1991) been increased from 7 per week to 10 per week on the India-Singapore route and from 4 per week to 6 per week on India-Japan route.