

(b) if so, the names of the countries and the details thereof ;

(c) the terms and conditions thereby ;

(d) the names of the countries where the construction of Railway lines are in progress ; and

(e) the foreign exchange earned therefrom from each country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) : (a) to (d). Indian Railways have offered to share their technical know-how in the railway sector with other developing countries who are planning to develop their respective railway systems. Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. (RITES) and the Indian Railway Construction Company Ltd. (IRCON), two public sector undertakings have been set up under the Ministry of Railways, the former to provide consultancy services in various spheres of railway technology and management and the latter to undertake the construction of major railway projects abroad. Some of the developing countries, like Syria, Iran, Ghana, Hongkong, Malaysia, Zaire, Philippines, Nigeria, Sri Lanka etc., have made use of these services and offers made to some other countries are pending consideration of the respective Governments. No contract for laying new railway lines abroad has been secured, so far.

(e) The gross foreign exchange earnings upto and inclusive of 1976-77 are—

Country	Rs. in lakh
Iran . . . . .	26.1
Syria . . . . .	23.6
Philippines . . . . .	7.6
Ghana . . . . .	5.8
Zaire . . . . .	1.7
Hongkong . . . . .	0.4
Malaysia . . . . .	0.1
Sri Lanka (ADB) . . . . .	0.7
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>66.0</b>

In 1977-78 the gross foreign exchange earnings are expected to be about Rs. 80 lakhs, realised mainly from Nigeria, Philippines and Ghana.

### Low Platforms

4636. SHRI AINTHU SAHOO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that platforms of many railway stations from Raipur to Vijayanagram are very low in height and as a result passengers face a lot of difficulties while entering the trains ; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to raise the level of those platforms to facilitate the public for getting in the trains ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) : (a) and (b). As per extant policy, high level platforms are provided at all important stations, medium level platforms at less important stations and rail level platforms at un-important stations on the Broad Gauge main line.

There are 43 passenger booking stations on Raipur-Vizianagram Broad Gauge section of South Eastern Railway. Out of these stations, 4 stations have been provided with high level platforms, 16 with medium level and the remaining 23 stations with rail level platforms.

Raising of the platforms from low level to high level is considered at stations on a programmed basis after taking into account the importance of the stations, passenger traffic offering there and after approval by the Railway Users Amenities Committee subject to availability of funds.

### Profits Earned by Foreign Concerns

4637. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) names of the foreign concerns which earned net year profit over one crore of rupees during the year 1975-77 ;

(b) whether their profits were sent to foreign countries ; and

(c) the extent of their profits used for developing industries of India ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN) : (a) to (c). As per the latest available information, 29 Indian subsidiaries and 7 Indian branches of foreign companies earned net profits (i.e. profits after tax) of more than Rs. 1 crore each during