संचार मंत्री (श्री हेमवतीनन्दन बहुगुणा) : इस सप्लीमेंटरी का जो सवाल है उससे कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है।

श्री राम भगत पासवान : वित्तीय मामलों का जो प्रश्न है वह भी पी एण्ड टी बोर्ड के अधिकार के अन्दर आता है।

MR. SPEAKER: The question is about granting greater autonomy to the P & T Board and 'if so, the nature of autonomy proposed to be granted'.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: But the hon. Member was asking whether I may make use of this autonomy for granting some allowance to the P. & T. employees. That is a question which is hardly relevant to the question tabled.

SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA: May I know what is the present autonomy and what will be the future autonomy?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: The present has now become past so far as the present position stands. The P&T Board will now exercise and is currently exercising all powers of the Ministry in financial matters. All other Ministries have certain powers and the same powers are now being used by the Board. The Board does not have to go to the Communications Ministry for finalisation of a number of things except where external finances are involved.

श्री डी० एन० तिवारी : रेलवे बोर्ड का हमारा अनुभव बहुत ही कटु है। प्रति वर्ष हाउस में उसको एबालिश करने की मांग उठती है। मैं चाहता हूं कि वही अधिकार इस बोर्ड को न दें जिससे वही प्रतिक्रिया इसके बारे में भी हर साल दोहराई जाए। क्या मंत्री महोदय इस सिलसिले में सतर्कता बरतने की कोशिश करेंगे ?

श्री हेमवतीनन्दन बहुगुणा : सिफारिश यह थी कि पी एण्ड टी बोर्ड को रेलवे बोर्ड की तरह बना दिया जाए। उसके मैरिट्स और डीमैरिट्स में जाए बगैर मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि ऐसा करना हमने कई कारणों से ठीक नहीं समझा। जितना वाजिब समझा है वह माननीय सदस्य की आकांक्षाओं के अनुरूप है।

SHRI R. P. YADAV: May I know from the hon. Minister the present composition of the Board?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGNA: The Board has a Chairman and Members who are drawn both from the Tele-communications and the Postal side. One Member who is called Member (Finance) looks after financial matters and is drawn from the Financial Service of the Government of India.

Atomic Power Station in Bihar

*614. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:

SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bihar Legislative Assembly has unanimously adopted a motion demanding the setting up of an atomic power station in Bihar;

(b) whether the said motion has been received by the Central Government; and

(c) if so, their reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री ने योजना मंत्रालय या योजना मंत्री के सामने बिहार में परमाणु बिजलीघर की स्थापना करने का कोई प्रस्ताव रखा है, यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और इसके बारे में सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

MR. SPEAKER: I am really surprised. To part (a) you say 'Yes, Sir, and to the ext question whether the said motion was received by you you say, 'No, Sir.'

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: After receipt of the question, we made enquiries from the Bihar Legislative and Bihar Government as to whether a resoluution was passed or not....

MR. SPEAKER: When you have said, 'Yes, Sir', that means you will have some communication.. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: After receipt of this question by my office, I verified from the Bihar Government and the Bihar Assembly whether any resolution was passed. At the same time, I verified from my office whether we have received any communication. So far as the communication is concerned, we have not received it, but. it is a fact that a resolution was passed.

MR. SPEAKER: How do you know it as a fact if there was no communication?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: He establishes the communication.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I establish the communication.

MR. SPEAKER: About the resolution, you say that no communication was received from the Bihar Government or the Bihar Assembly but you say that a resolution was passed... Any way, I do not want to go into it.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मेरा प्रश्न मंत्री जी ने शायद सुना नहीं है। बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री ने योजना मंत्रालय या योजना मंत्री के सामने बिहार में परमाणु बिजली घर की स्थापना करने का कोई प्रस्ताव रखा है, यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और इसके बारे में सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: We have not received any proposal from the Bihar Government.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : बिहार में और खास तौर से उत्तर बिहार में बिजली की भारी कमी है तथा विधान सभा के माध्यम से बिहार की पांच करोड़ से ज्यादा जनता की सर्वसम्मत मांग को देखते हुए क्या सरकार बिहार में परमाणु बिजली घर बनाने का विचार रखती है, यदि नहीं, तो क्यों नहीं ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: We have not received any proposal. But, on the basis of my information I would tell that nuclear generation requires huge investment and if we look at the production cost we find that we have to invest nearly 10 paise per unit here whereas in thermal generation, it is about 7 paise or so. There is lot of coal in Bihar and with investment of Rs. 140 crores it is possible for Bihar to produce nearly 300 kw. raising to 400 kw. The gestation period for thermal station is 5 to 6 years and for nuclear power it is nearly 10 years.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : सब से अच्छी बात यह है कि जो मंत्री बनाया जाए वह सारे देश का दौरा कर' लिया करे और यह देख लिया करे कि कौन सा देश का भाग कैसा है। उत्तर बिहार की बात करते हैं

तो समस्तीपुर तक तो बड़ी लाइन है लेकिन उसके बाद छोटी लाइन हो जाती है और कोयला जाता नहीं है। बिहार लेजिस्लेचर ने पास किया है कि चम्पारण में बाल्मीकि-नगर या भैंसालोटन कहिए वहां एटमिक एनर्जी का कारखाना लगाया जाए। अगर मंत्री जी को पता नहीं है तो मंत्री जी इसके बारे में फिर दरियाफ्त कर लें और इस सवाल को आप हल करें उस वक्त तक जब तक सूचना न आ जाए। उत्तर बिहार और बाकी देश की पर कैपिटा कंजम्पशन में एक और सवा ग्यारह का अन्तर है। इतने ज्यादा बैक्वर्ड एरिया के लिए मंत्री जी क्या एटमिक पावर स्टेशन लगाने की बात सोच रहे हैं और सोच रहे हैं तो कब तक उसको वह लगाने जा रहे हैं? क्या लैजिस्लेचर से भी दरियाफ्त करेंगे कि पास किया है या नहीं किया है?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपको पता है मोशन आई है और आई है तो क्या रिएक्शन है, क्या इसका आपको पता है?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI D. P. DHAR): I must feel guilty in that I cannot oblige the hon. Member as far as the motion is concerned. There are certain pre-requisites which determine the establishment of an atomic power station at a particular place. The location has to be determined according to those pre-requisites. It is very well known that the atomic generation is a costly power. As my friend has said the cost of generation per unit would be about 10 paise as against thermal generation which would be about 6-7 paise. Thirdly, it has to be remembered that any power which is transmitted beyond 500 miles becomes not only expensive but uneconomic. It would be in my humble opinion not at all feasible to have an atomic power station in Bihar where there is abundance of coal. What is necessary is utilisation of that coal for conversion into thermal energy.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Telephone Exchanges in Palghat District, Kerala

*603. SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish more Telephone Exchanges in Palghat District, Kerala, during 1973-74; and

(b) if so, names of places selected for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened during 1973-74 in Palghat District, Kerala:

(1) Alanalloor	50 lines SAX
(2) Padagiri	50 lines SAX
(3) Agali	25 lines SAX
(4) Kunnisseri	25 lines SAX

Forwarding of Applications of Stenographers Grade III for Higher Posts

*605. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH BISHT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs have recently passed certain orders which do not permit the regular Stenographers Grade III of M. H. A. cadre to apply for higher posts in other Government Departments/Organisations/Public Undertakings;

(b) if so, whether the said orders are against those orders of the Department of Personnel which permit all the Central Government employees to