(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) In 1985 the Government of Maharashtra had suggested that the HBJ Pipeline be taken along the Central railway route or a branch line be constructed to supply gas to fertiliser plants in Vidarbha and other areas in Maharashtra State.

(b) to (d). This was considered by Government and not found feasible.

Damage to communication system in Andhra Pradesh

*731. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated damage to the communication system in Andhra Pradesh due to natural calamities during the past year;

(b) the nature of the damage;

(c) whether Government have repaired the whole communication system;

(d) if so, how much communication system has been repaired so far; and

(e) the expenditure Government had to incur on repairs?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (e). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

1. There were extensive damages and Interruptions in communication systems in certain districts of Andhra Pradesh due to cyclones and floods during October/November 1987.

    — Services were affected in 27 exchanges in October 1987 and in 106 exchanges in November 1987.

    — Services were affected to 621 telephones in October and 4268 telephones in November 1987.

    — Exchanges failed due to Power failure.

    — Local and trunk lines were damaged due to gale winds.

2. All the communications have been restored.

3. An expenditure of about Rs. 20.00 lakhs has been incurred in repair and restoration of communications.

[*Translation*]

Telecast of Sansad Samachar

*732. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received for changing the time of 'Sansad Samachar' and to telecast it at 19.30 hours;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon; and