## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1208 ANSWERED ON:17.07.2014 HERITAGE ROUTE Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

## Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain sections of the National Highways including Ahmedabad-Dandi were declared as Heritage Routes and if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether the Heritage Route from Ahmedabad to Dandi has subsequently been declared as National Highway No. 228 and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed re-alignment of this route and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has received any representation from the Government of Gujarat in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon?

## **Answer**

## THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) to (e) Ahmedabad - Dandi route was declared as National Highway - 228 in June,2006. Since the functions of National Highway (NH) and the heritage route are distinct, it was earlier decided to delink the development of NH-228 from development of heritage path and to plan improvement of the NH as per relevant parameters and existing procedures of this Ministry. Accordingly, this Ministry had finalized the alignment taking into account the existing geometrics, minimum requirement of land acquisition for further geometric improvements and future prospect of development of the National Highway corridor. The alignment of NH-228 thus finalized was conveyed to the State Government on 23.11.2012 requesting for No Objection as it included State Highways and other arterial roads. The State Government did not support the proposed alignment.

The issue of the alignment was again discussed with the officials of Government of Gujarat in a meeting taken by the Secretary RT&H on 12th March 2014 wherein it was decided that entire alignment be re-visited by Ministry's officers alongwith State Govt. officials and a joint report on alignment be presented. Accordingly joint inspection of the alignment was carried out. Subsequently, a meeting was held on 5th June, 2014 under chairmanship of Secretary, (RT&H) and it was decided that Govt. of Gujarat shall prepare and submit the revised alignment of Dandi Route giving chainage wise details in consultation with Regional Officer, MoRT&H Gandhinagar as per alignment suggested during joint inspection of the official of Ministry and Govt. of Gujarat, keeping in view the points discussed during the meeting. It was also decided to obtain NOC from Ministry of Culture regarding the alignment of NH-228 and the walkway crisscrossing & running parallel to NH-228 and additional length to be taken over by Ministry of Culture.

The issue of the alignment was also discussed in the meeting held on 9th June 2014 at New Delhi between Honble Minister Road Transport, Highways & Shipping and Honble Chief Minister, Gujarat, it was inter-alia decided that the proposal of the alignment of NH-228 (Ahmedabad-Dandi Route) shall be submitted by Government of Gujarat along with all relevant details. The alignment would be finalized after the proposal is received from State Government.