Improvement of heritage route

*254. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to State:

- (a) what is the planning of Government for the improvement of Heritage Route between Ahmedabad and Dandi;
 - (b) whether there is separate budgetary provision for this work; and
 - (c) what is the time schedule for the completion of the work?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Heritage Route from Ahmedabad to Dandi has been declared as National Highway No. 228 in June, 2006 and is being entrusted to the Government to Gujarat for development and maintenance. Government of Gujarat has been requested to prioritize the improvement works on this National Highway for consideration under Ministry's Annual Plans. At present, no separate budget provision has been made for improvement of this National Highway.

(c) Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and therefore no time frame can be drawn.

Locating young sporting talent

*255. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have set up any machinery to locate young sporting talents in rural areas and small villages;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have taken a view on the debate over the recent case of young sporting prodigy who ran long distance; if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government would support its agencies to encourage such child prodigies with scientific training under qualified trainers?