



Z-MORH TUNNEL: INFRASTRUCTURE

NEWS: PM to open Z-Morh tunnel, key feature in year-round Kashmir-Ladakh corridor

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

The Z-Morh tunnel in Jammu & Kashmir ensures year-round connectivity to Sonamarg and Ladakh, enhancing tourism and strategic access while boosting the local economy. Built at ₹2,680 crore, it incorporates advanced safety features.

Location and Purpose

- **Geographical Position:** Located in Ganderbal district, Jammu & Kashmir.
- **Strategic Role:** Part of the critical Srinagar-Leh Highway, providing uninterrupted access to Ladakh.

Tourism Benefits

- **Year-Round Tourism:** Ensures Sonamarg remains accessible throughout the year by avoiding seasonal closures due to heavy snowfall and avalanches.
- **Adventure Tourism:** Expected to attract tourists for winter sports and adventure activities.

Strategic Importance

- **Civil and Military Utility:** Key to ensuring continuous access to Ladakh, aiding logistical movement for both civilians and the armed forces.
- **Border Security:** Enhances India's preparedness and access to sensitive border regions.

Construction Highlights

- **Cost:** Built at an expenditure of ₹2,680 crore.
- **Length and Design:** The tunnel spans 6.5 km and includes:
 - Modified escape tunnel for emergencies.
 - Advanced ventilation and safety systems.

Economic Impact

- **Local Economy:** Expected to significantly boost regional livelihoods through tourism and infrastructure development.
- **Tourism Revenue:** Increased tourist footfall in winter expected to generate additional revenue streams.



BI-DIRECTIONAL TUNNEL TO LEH

First survey
1997

Planning started
1999
(after Kargil war)



SINCE 2006

Source: https://epaper.thehindu.com/ccidist-ws/th/th_delhi/issues/115230/OPS/GD1DR4AB5.1+GJ6DR6E8D.1.html