

# Atal tunnel

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**In news**— Atal Tunnel has now been certified by the World Book of Records, as the 'World's Longest Highway Tunnel' above 10,000 Feet.

## About Atal Tunnel-

- It provides all-weather **connectivity from Manali to the Lahaul – Spiti Valley.**
- It was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 3 October 2020.
- The cost of the entire project is Rs. 3,200 crore.
- **The 9.02 km long, strategically significant, Atal Tunnel,** that runs under the 'Rohtang Pass' was constructed on the Manali – Leh Highway under the challenging conditions of freezing temperatures in extremely difficult terrain.
- The tunnel reduces the travel time and overall distance between Manali and Keylong on the way to Leh by 46 km.
- It is built with ultra-modern specifications in the **Pir Panjal range of Himalayas at an altitude of 3000 mtr** (10,000 feet) from the Mean Sea Level (MSL).
- Shape (cross-section) of Tunnel: Horseshoe
- It is 10.5-metre wide and has a 3.6 x 2.25 mtr **fire proof emergency egress tunnel built into the main tunnel itself.**
- The tunnel was built using the New Austrian tunnelling method and has been equipped with a semi-transverse ventilation system, where large fans separately circulate air throughout the tunnel.



## About World Book of Records, UK-

- It is an organization that catalogues and verifies extraordinary records across the world with authentic certification in the **United Kingdom and Europe**.
- Its primary objective and goal is to Record, Honour, Listing and appreciate, authenticate and adjudicate events which can be termed as activities of world standard.
- Since its inception in the year 2017 it has spread its wings and it is working with global presence in Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia and Australia.