

Atal tunnel

February 10, 2022

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.