

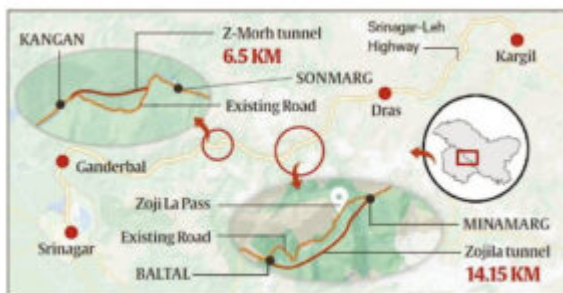
Zojila tunnel

September 30, 2021

In News- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari recently reviewed the construction work of the strategically important Zojila and Z-Morh tunnels on the Srinagar-Leh highway.

About Zojila tunnel-

- The 434-km Srinagar-Leh road connecting the Kashmir valley with Ladakh is snowed out at the 3,530-metre **Zojila pass** for four to six months every year.
- **Once completed, at 14.15 km, the Zojila tunnel will be India's longest road tunnel,** and Asia's longest bi-directional tunnel.
- The **Zojila tunnel between Baltal and Minamarg on the Srinagar-Leh section** will provide all-year connectivity between Leh and Srinagar.
- The distance from Baltal to Minamarg will come down to 13 km from the present 40 km, travel time is expected to be cut by an hour and a half.
- The **Z-Morh tunnel between Gagangir and Sonmarg** will provide connectivity in all weather conditions between Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir and Kargil in Ladakh.
- The highway will have 2 twin-tube tunnels, 5 bridges, and 2 snow galleries.



Note- Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Tunnel, also known as **Syama Tunnel**, and formerly as **Chenani-Nashri Tunnel**, is a road tunnel in Jammu and Kashmir, India. It is located in the Lower

Himalayas, on National Highway 44. It is also called **Patnitop Tunnel**. It is India's longest road tunnel with a length of 9.28 km and the country's first tunnel with a fully integrated tunnel control system.