

## Z-Morh Tunnel

### Why in News?

The Z-Morh tunnel is to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister on January 13, 2025 that was started in 2018.

- **Z-Morh tunnel** - It is named after the Z-shaped stretch of road that the tunnel has replaced (Z-Morh translates to “Z-turn” in English)
- **Aim** - To provide all-weather connectivity to the Sonamarg tourist town.
- **Location** - Between Gagangir and Sonamarg in **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- **Construction** - It is built under the Mountain glacier of Thajiwass Glacier between Gagangir and Sonamarg.
- **Need** - At present, the Gagangir-Sonamarg stretch of the road gets blocked by heavy snowfall and avalanches that hit the area every year.
- **Features** - It is a 6.5 km long 2-lane road tunnel and the main tunnel is 10.8 metres long, with a modified
  - **Horseshoe shaped tunnel** - 7.5 metres.
  - **D-shaped ventilation tunnel** - 8.3 metres.
- **Advantage** - It takes only 15 minutes to travel the 6.5 km long tunnel compared to hours over the zig-zag road up and down the hills.
- **Significance** - It is to become the 1<sup>st</sup> strategic corridor between Kashmir and Ladakh.
- It will also enhance military logistics and boost tourism and the economy.
- It will help the employment of local youth and boost tourism and allied activities in the area.



Z-Morh Tunnel together with the adjacent Zoji-La Tunnel, on the Srinagar-Leh

*Highway will provide year-round weather-proof connectivity to Baltal (Amarnath cave), Kargil and other places in the Ladakh region.*

***Zojila Tunnel**, which is under construction will be the longest tunnel in Asia, which cut through the Himalayan range at Zojila Pass to reach the Kargil district in Ladakh.*

## **Reference**

[The Hindu| Z-Morh Tunnel for Winter Tourism](#)

