

Zojila Pass and Razdan Pass Reopen After Short Winter Closure

Why in News?

The <u>Border Roads Organisation (BRO)</u> has announced that the **strategic <u>Zoji La Pass</u>**, located at an altitude of **11,650 feet** in the <u>Greater Himalayan Range</u>, has been reopened after a winter closure.

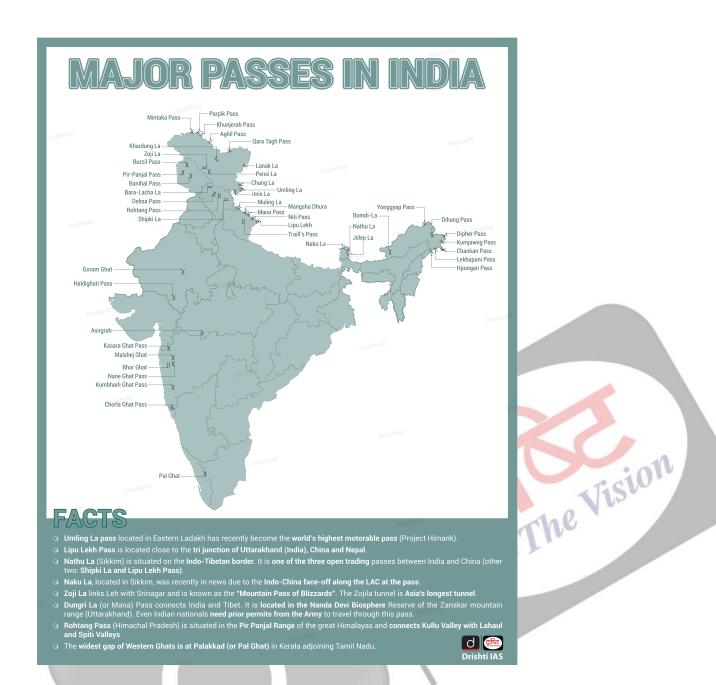
- Similarly, the Razdan Pass, which connects the Gurez sector to the Kashmir Valley, has also been reopened after a brief winter closure.
- Snow clearance operations were undertaken by Project Beacon and Vijayak from both sides of the pass.

What is the Significance of Zoji La Pass?

- Zoji La is a high mountain pass located in the Kargil district of Ladakh.
- The pass links Leh and Srinagar and provides an important link between Union Territories of Ladakh and Kashmir.
- Zoji La pass remains closed during winters due to heavy snowfall, cutting off Ladakh region from Kashmir.
- In 2018, the Zoji La tunnel project was launched. The tunnel is Asia's longest and strategic bi-directional tunnel, which will provide all-weather connectivity between Srinagar, Kargil and Leh.

What are the Other Important Passes in India?

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UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Q. Siachen Glacier is situated to the (2020)

- (a) East of Aksai Chin
- (b) East of Leh
- (c) North of Gilgit
- (d) North of Nubra Valley

Ans: (d)

Source: TH

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