



World's Highest Motorable Road at Umling La

Why in News

Recently, the [Border Roads Organisation \(BRO\)](#) has constructed and completed black topping the **world's highest motorable road at Umling La pass** in Eastern [Ladakh](#), located at an altitude of 19,300 ft.

Key Points

▪ About the Road:

- By constructing this road, BRO has **created a record in high-altitude road construction.**
 - It bettered the **previous record of a road in Bolivia** connecting to its **volcano Uturuncu** at 18,953 ft.
- The strategic road built under '**Project Himank**' passes through the Umling La Top and **connects Chisumle and Demchok villages.**
- It will enhance the **socio-economic condition and promote tourism in Ladakh.**
- The road is close to the [Line of Actual Control \(LAC\)](#) and will allow quick movement of troops and equipment.

▪ Comparing the Road:

- The road has been constructed at an **altitude higher than the [Mt Everest Base Camps](#)** as the South Base Camp in Nepal is at an altitude of 17,598 ft, while North Base Camp in Tibet is at 16,900 ft.
- The road has been constructed much **above the altitude of [Siachen Glacier](#)** which is at 17,700 ft.
- The **Khardung La Pass in Leh** is at an altitude of 17,582 ft.

▪ Project Himank:

- **Project Himank**, is a project of the BRO being implemented in the Ladakh region of Jammu & Kashmir.
- This project started in 1985.
- Under this project, BRO is responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads and related infrastructure including the world's highest motorable roads.

Pass	Link/Features
Banihal Pass	Kashmir Valley with the outer Himalaya and the plains to the south.
Bara-Lacha-La Pass	Lahaul district in Himachal Pradesh with Leh district in Ladakh.
Fotu La Pass	Leh with Kargil of Ladakh
Rohtang Pass	Kullu Valley with the Lahaul and Spiti Valleys of Himachal Pradesh.
Shipki La Pass	Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh with Autonomous Region of Tibet, China.
Jelep La Pass	Sikkim with Autonomous Region of Tibet, China.
Nathu La Pass	Sikkim with Autonomous Region of Tibet, China.
Lipu Lekh Pass	Chaudans valley of India with Autonomous Region of Tibet, China. It is located close to the tri junction of Uttarakhand (India), China and Nepal.
Khardung La	Ladakh with Siachen glacier.
Bom di La	It is in Arunachal Pradesh

Source: PIB

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