



Lipulekh Pass

[Source: IE](#)

India has rejected Nepal's objections to the resumption of **India-China border trade through the Lipulekh Pass**, asserting that Nepal's claims are not grounded in historical facts.

- **Nepal's Objection:** Nepal claims the Lipulekh as part of its territory according to its constitution.
- **India's Position:** India reaffirmed that border trade through **Lipulekh Pass began in 1954** and had been ongoing for decades before disruptions due to Covid-19.
- **Lipulekh Pass:** It is a high-altitude mountain pass in the **Kumaon region of Uttarakhand**, near the trijunction of **India, Nepal, and China**, linking Uttarakhand with Tibet.
 - Strategically located, it serves as a gateway to the higher Himalayas and is historically significant as an ancient trade route connecting the **Indian subcontinent with the Tibetan plateau**.
 - Lipulekh was the first Indian border post opened for trade with China in 1992, followed by Shipki La in Himachal Pradesh (1994) and Nathu La in Sikkim (2006).
 - The Old Lipulekh Pass, situated in the Vyas Valley of Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand holds immense religious importance as part of the [Kailash Mansarovar Yatra](#).



MAJOR PASSES IN INDIA



FACTS

- **Umling La pass** located in Eastern Ladakh has recently become the **world's highest motorable pass** (Project Himank).
- **Lipu Lekh Pass** is located close to the **tri junction of Uttarakhand (India), China and Nepal**.
- **Nathu La** (Sikkim) is situated on the **Indo-Tibetan border**. It is **one of the three open trading passes** between India and China (other two: **Shipki La and Lipu Lekh Pass**).
- **Naku La**, located in Sikkim, was recently in news due to the **Indo-China face-off along the LAC at the pass**.
- **Zoji La** links Leh with Srinagar and is known as the "**Mountain Pass of Blizzards**". The Zojila tunnel is **Asia's longest tunnel**.
- **Dungri La** (or Mana) Pass connects India and Tibet. It is **located in the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve** of the Zaskar mountain range (Uttarakhand). Even Indian nationals **need prior permits from the Army** to travel through this pass.
- **Rohtang Pass** (Himachal Pradesh) is situated in the **Pir Panjal Range** of the great Himalayas and **connects Kullu Valley with Lahaul and Spiti Valleys**.
- The **widest gap of Western Ghats** is at **Palakkad (or Pal Ghat)** in Kerala adjoining Tamil Nadu.

Read more: [Geostrategic Passes Connecting Kailash Mansarovar Yatra](https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/lipulekh-pass-1)