

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SURFACE TRANSPORT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2246

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000

CONSTRUCTION OF ALTERNATIVE ROAD TO LADAKH

CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE;MAHESHWAR SINGH;MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to construct an alternative road route to Ladakh in Jammu and Kashmir from Himachal Pradesh side by constructing tunnel under the Rohtang pass; and

(b) if so, the time by which the work on this project is likely to commence and the tentative time frame for its completion?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The existing road to Ladakh is via Jammu - Srinagar - Kargil - Leh. An alternative road route namely Manali - Sarchu - Leh is also being maintained and improved by BRO. For improving the serviceability of this road a tunnel under Rohtang pass is required to be constructed. Presently geological investigation and feasibility studies for the tunnel are being carried out and investment decision would depend on the outcome of the feasibility study.

(b) It is too early to indicate the time frame.