



- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate **Atal Tunnel, Rohtang** on 3rd October 2020.

Atal Tunnel

- It is the **longest highway tunnel** in the World.
- It is a horse shoe shaped, single tube double lane tunnel.
- The 9.02 Km long tunnel **connects Manali to Lahaul-Spiti valley** throughout the year.
- Earlier the valley was cut off for about 6 months each year owing to heavy snowfall.
- The Tunnel is built with ultra-modern specifications in the **Pir Panjal range of Himalayas** at an altitude of 3000 Mtrs (10,000 Feet) from the Mean Sea Level (MSL).
- The tunnel reduces the road distance by 46 Kms between Manali and Leh and the time by about 4 to 5 hours.
- The South Portal (SP) of Atal Tunnel is located at a distance of 25 Km from Manali, while the North Portal (NP) of the tunnel is located near village Teling, Sissu, in Lahaul Valley.
- It is 10.5-metre wide and has fire proof emergency egress tunnel built into the main tunnel itself.
- It has the state of the art electromechanical system including semi transverse ventilation system, SCADA controlled firefighting, illumination and monitoring system.

Background

- The historic decision to construct a strategic tunnel **below the Rohtang Pass** was taken on **June 03, 2000** when late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Prime Minister.
- The foundation stone for the Access Road to the South Portal of the tunnel was laid on May 26, 2002.

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1) **India PV EDGE 2020**, sometimes seen in the news recently, is a global symposium being organized by?

- NITI Aayog
- Invest India
- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- All of the above

2) Scientists from Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune have recently found two new species of pipeworts, a plant group known for their varied medicinal properties, in which of the following regions?

- Western Ghats
- Great Indian Desert
- Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- None of the above

3) Consider the following statements with respect to **Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC)**

- It is dedicated to the task of developing man-power for popularizing the use of Indian Sign Language, teaching and conducting research in Indian Sign Language.
- It is an autonomous national institute of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities in the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

4) Consider the following statements regarding the legislative procedure in the State Legislature

- There is a system of joint sitting in state legislature to resolve the deadlock between the two Houses on passing the Bills.
- If an ordinary Bill passed by the Council is transmitted to the Assembly and