

Z-Morh Tunnel

Source: BS

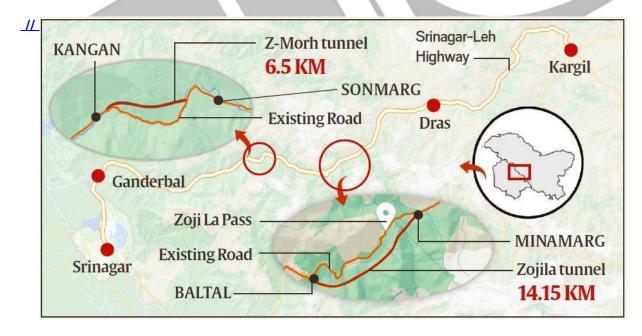
In a militant attack, seven persons were killed in the **Z-Morh tunnel**, a strategic infra project on **the Srinagar-Sonamarg highway**. This is the **first militant attack on a key infrastructure project in J&K.**

About Z-Morh Tunnel:

- It is a 6.4 km long tunnel envisaged to **provide all-weather connectivity to Sonamarg,** a renowned tourist spot along the Srinagar-Leh highway.
- Originally planned by the <u>Border Roads Organisation (BRO)</u> in 2012. Re-tendered later by the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) to a private company.

Strategic Importance:

- The tunnel is being **constructed in an area prone to snow avalanches**, making the road to Sonamarg impassable during most part of the winter.
- It is a key part of the larger Zojila tunnel project and is essential for all-weather connectivity to Ladakh facilitating quick access for military personnel to the border areas of Ladakh.
- This connectivity is crucial for Indian defense forces stationed near the Pakistan border and for deployments against <u>Chinese forces in Eastern Ladakh</u>



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