



PM to dedicate India's longest road tunnel to the nation

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The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, will dedicate to the nation, India's longest road tunnel – the 9 kilometre long "Chenani – Nashri Tunnel" – on April 2nd, 2017.

The tunnel on NH-44 which connects Jammu with Srinagar, will reduce travel time between the two cities by upto two hours. It achieves a distance-reduction of 31 kilometres, bypassing snow-bound upper reaches. The estimated daily fuel savings are to the tune of Rs. 27 lakhs.

Besides avoiding large scale deforestation and tree-cutting, the tunnel will provide a safe, all-weather route to commuters travelling from Jammu and Udhampur, to Ramban, Banihal and Srinagar.

The tunnel is equipped with world-class security systems, and is expected to boost tourism and economic activities in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Key Features of the tunnel

- It is a single-tube bi-directional tunnel, with a 9.35 metre carriageway, and a vertical clearance of 5 metres.
- There is also a parallel escape tunnel, with "Cross Passages" connecting to the main tunnel at intervals of 300 metres.
- It also has smart features such as an Integrated Traffic Control System; Surveillance, Ventilation and Broadcast Systems; Fire Fighting System; and SOS call-boxes at every 150 metres.
- The project has been completed at a cost of over Rs. 2500 crore

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