

**Press Information Bureau
Government of India**

Union Home Minister Amit Shah expresses gratitude to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on inauguration of the ‘Atal Tunnel’ and described it as an engineering marvel

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“It will also strengthen our defence preparedness and generate employment by giving impetus to the tourism sector”

New Delhi, October 3, 2020

Union Home Minister Amit Shah expresses gratitude to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on inauguration of the ‘Atal Tunnel’ and described it as an engineering marvel. In a series of tweets, Shri Amit Shah said, “A historic day for the entire country as the vision of Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji comes true! Congratulations to BRO for working relentlessly on this unprecedented project.”

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The 9.02 kilometre long tunnel is built with ultra-modern specifications in the PirPanjal range of the Himalayas at an altitude of 3,000 Mtrs (10,000 Feet) from Mean Sea Level (MSL). The Atal Tunnel has been designed for traffic density of 3,000 cars per day and 1,500 trucks per day, with maximum speed of 80 km/hr. It has state of the art electromechanical systems including semi transverse ventilation, SCADA controlled fire fighting, illumination and monitoring systems. The tunnel has ample safety features built into it.

The historic decision to construct a strategic tunnel below the Rohtang Pass was taken on June 3, 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.

The Union Cabinet met under the chairmanship of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on December 24, 2019 and decided to name the Rohtang Tunnel as the Atal Tunnel, to honour the contribution made by the former Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

<https://twitter.com/AmitShah/status/1312330009202192385?s=20>

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