

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6482
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2002
CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNEL IN HIMACHAL PRADESH
CHELLAMELLA SUGUNA KUMARI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Border Roads Organisation proposes to construct a nine Kilometre tunnel under the Rohtang Pass in Himachal Pradesh for linking Ladakh Region of Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the time by which the work on the project is likely to be commenced and completed;
- (c) whether the construction cost would be shared with the Government of Himachal Pradesh; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6482
9.5.2002

The technical feasibility studies for construction of underground tunnel at Rohtang have been completed. M/s. RITES have been asked to prepare the Detailed Project Report (DPR) and the Environmental Impact Study Report. Action is being taken to start the work of construction of approach roads to North and South Portals of the tunnel. The construction of tunnel will commence after the project is cleared by the Planning Commission and the investment decision is taken. There is no proposal of cost sharing with the State Government.