

Title: Need to start construction work of Mughal Road on the national highway in J&K and also to make a tunnel at Zojila in the State.

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (ANANTNAG): Sir, the State of Jammu and Kashmir is linked with the rest of the country with only one national highway. This road starts from Pathankot and connects Srinagar. The road between Pathankot and Jammu remains open for the whole year. The second part of the road which connects Jammu with Srinagar remains often closed due to rain and snow. The third part of the road which connects Srinagar with Leh remains closed for six months due to heavy snowfall at Zojila. Due to this condition of the road, the people of the State face great hardship. In view of the militancy in the State and undeclared war from Pakistan, the Army movement is often affected. The Government had announced that it will start a new road as alternative known as Mughal Road. The work was started but again it was stopped.

Therefore, I request the Government of India to start immediate construction of Mughal Road and make a tunnel at Zojila so that the road remains opened to Leh for the whole year.