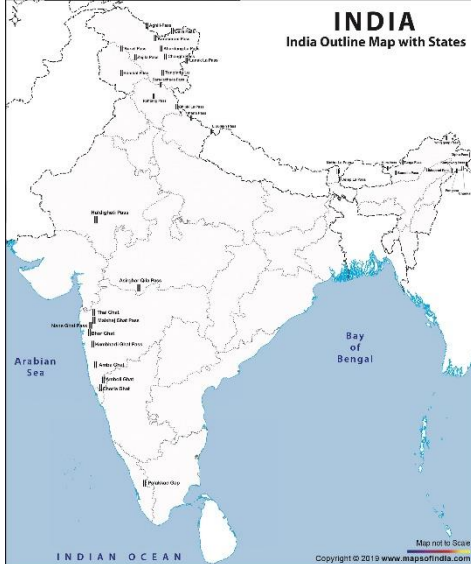


By Dr. Gaurav Garg



INDIA

India Outline Map with States



INDIA

India Outline Map with States



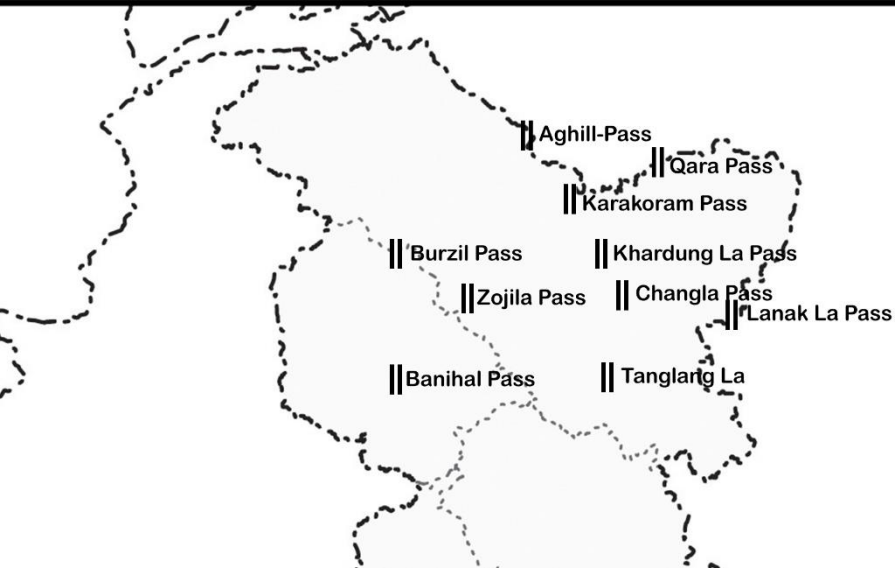


Map not to Scale

Mountain Passes in Ladakh

- Khardung La
- Zoji La
- Pensi La
- Taglang La
- Chang La
- Lanak La
- Imis La

- Aghill Pass
- Fotu La
- Namika La
- Marsimik La
- Karakarom Pass
- Qara pass



Khardung La

Khardung La is a mountain pass in **the Leh district** of the Indian union territory of Ladakh.

The pass on the Ladakh Range is north of Leh and is the gateway to the **Shyok and Nubra valleys**.

Maintained by the Border Roads Organisation, the pass is strategically important to India as it is used to carry supplies to the Siachen Glacier.

The elevation of Khardung La is 5,604 m (18,380 ft)



Zoji La

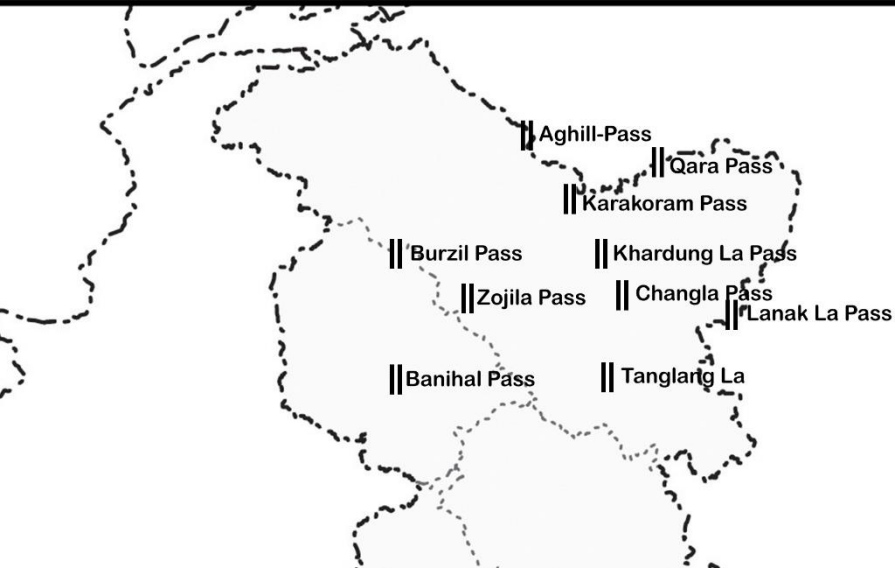
Zoji La is a high mountain pass in the Himalayas in the Indian union territory of **Ladakh**.

Located in the Drass, the pass connects the Kashmir Valley to its west with the Drass and Suru valleys to its northeast and the Indus valley further east.

The **National Highway 1** between **Srinagar and Leh** in the western section of the Himalayan mountain range traverses the pass.

Zoji La Tunnel is a 14.2 km long road tunnel under Zoji La pass in the Himalayas between Sonmarg and Drass town in Kargil district of the Indian Union Territory of Ladakh, currently under construction.

The tunnel along with **6.5 km long Z-Morh Tunnel**, (which is 22 km before Zoji La tunnel towards Srinagar) will ensure year-long road connectivity between Srinagar and Kargil which currently remains closed for about seven months due to heavy snowfall on the Zoji La pass





Pensi La

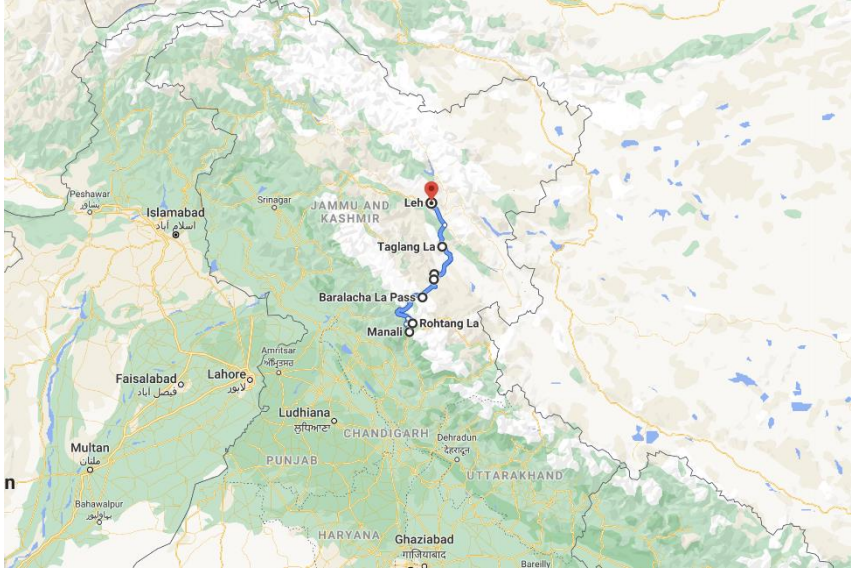
Pensi-la (Pensi Pass) is a mountain pass in the Ladakh union territory of India, which is known as the Gateway to Zaskar.

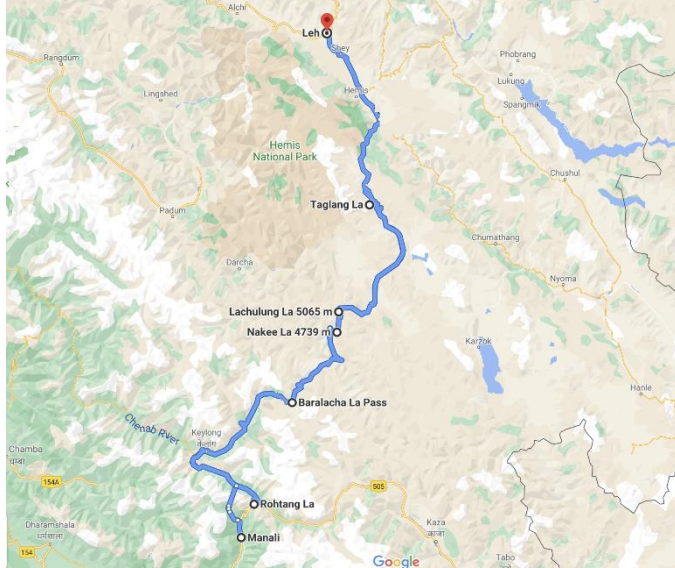
Pensi La is 4,400 m (14,436 ft) above sea level and connects the Suru Valley region to the Zaskar Valley region



5 High Altitude Himalayan Passes on the Manali-Leh Highway!

1. Rohtang La
2. Baralacha La
3. Nakee La
4. Lachulung La
5. Taglang La





Taglang La

Taglang La or Tanglang La, elevation 5,328 metres (17,480 ft), is a high altitude mountain pass in the Indian union territory of Ladakh.

It is traversed by the Leh-Manali highway. During winters, it's almost impossible to cross this road

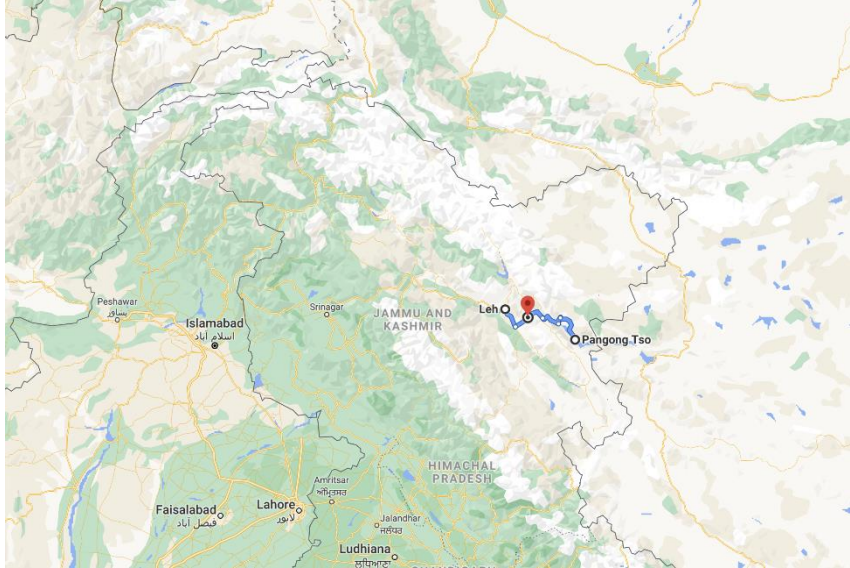
Chang La

The Chang La is a high mountain pass in Ladakh at an elevation of 5,360 m or 17,590 ft.

Chang La is approached from Leh via Kharu and Sakti village by an asphalt road.

The Chang La is on the route to Pangong Lake from Leh.
The Changla Pass is the main gateway for the Changthang Plateau situated in the Himalayas.

The world's highest research station, established by the Defence Research and Development Organisation is functional in Chang La at a height of 17,664 ft.

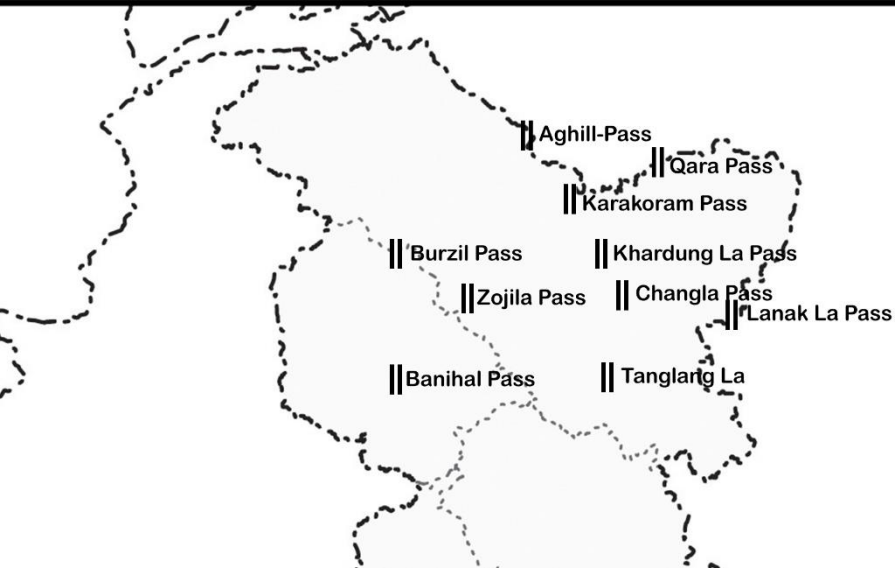


The Lanak La or Lanak Pass

It is a mountain pass in the disputed **Aksai Chin region**, administered by China as part of the Tibet Autonomous Region. **It is claimed by India as its border pass.**

Lanak La had been a well-established frontier point between **Ladakh and Tibet**, as confirmed by travellers from William Moorcroft in 1820 onwards.

Several travellers wrote in the late 19th and early 20th centuries that the traditional boundary between India and Tibet was at Lanak La.



Imis La

Imis La is an international high mountain pass at an elevation of 5.290m (17,355ft) above the sea level, located between Ladakh (India) and Tibet (China).

It is one among the major passes over the main Himalayan Range.



Aghil Pass

It is situated to the North of Mount Godwin-Austen in the Karakoram.

It connects **Ladakh with the Xinjiang province of China**. It remains closed during the winter season from November to May.



Fotu La

Fotu La or Fatu La is a mountain pass on the **Srinagar-Leh highway** in the Zaskar Range of the Himalayas in India.

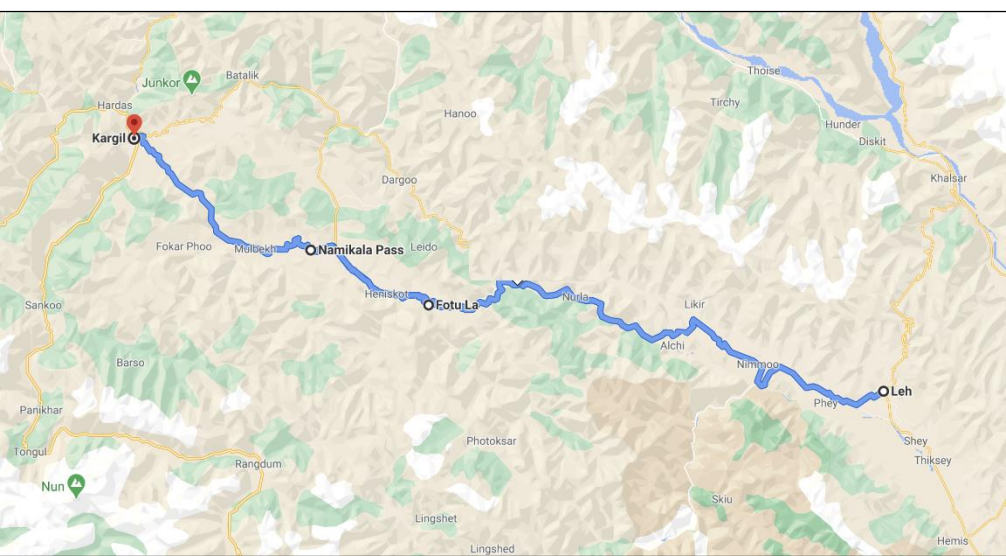
At an elevation of 4,108 metres (13,478 ft), it is the highest point on the highway, surpassing the famed Zoji La.

Fotu La is one of two high mountain passes **between Leh and Kargil**, the other being Namika La

Namika La

Namika La or Namika Pass (el. 3,700 m or 12,139 ft) is a high mountain pass in the Himalayas Zaskar Range in India along the Srinagar-Leh highway.

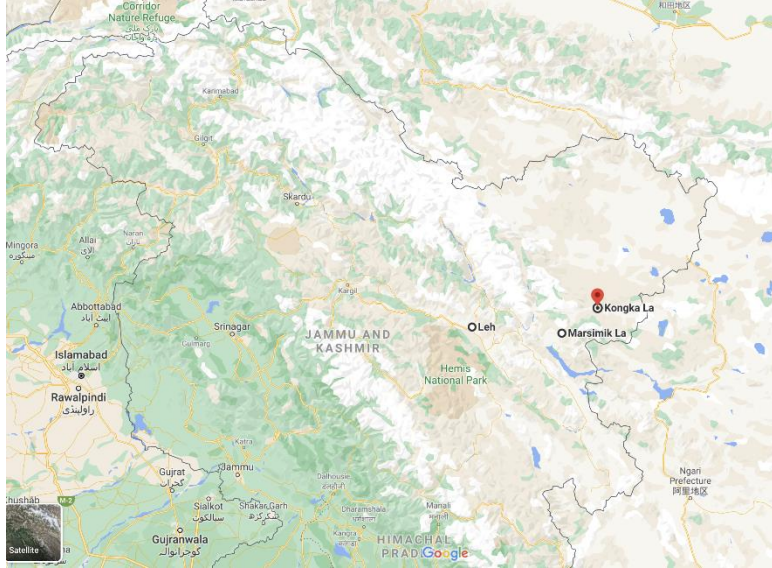




Marsimik La

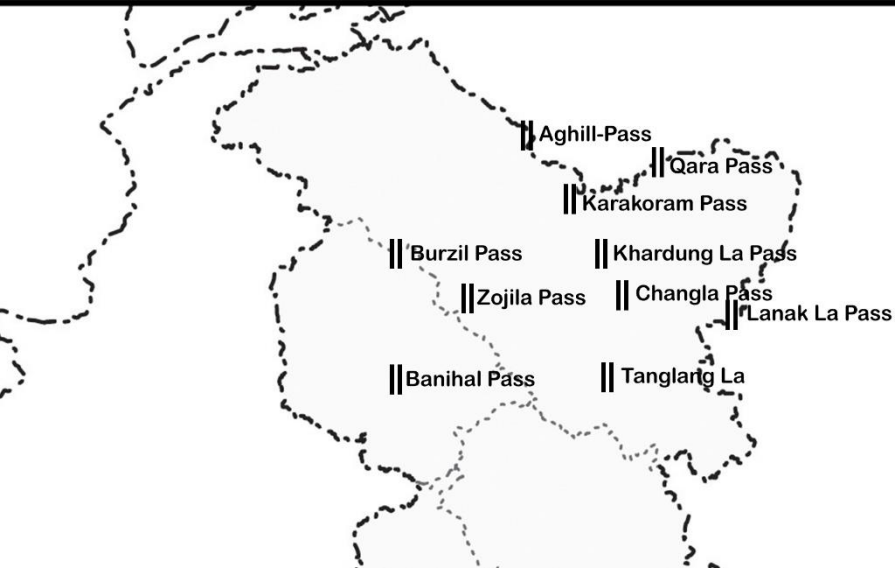
Marsimik La or Marsimek La, elevation 5,582 metres (18,314 ft) is a high mountain pass in the **Chang-Chemno Range in the Indian union territory of Ladakh**, 96 km (60 mi) east of Leh as the crow flies.

Located about 20 km (10 mi) northeast of the northwest tip of Pangong Lake, the pass is on the shortest route from there to the contested **Kongka Pass** area some 45 km (28 mi) northeast of Marsimek La on the China-India line of actual control



Jammu & Kashmir

- ✓ Burzil Pass
- ✓ Banihal Pass
- ✓ Pir Panjal Pass



Burzil Pass

The Burzil Pass connects **between Srinagar and Gilgit.**

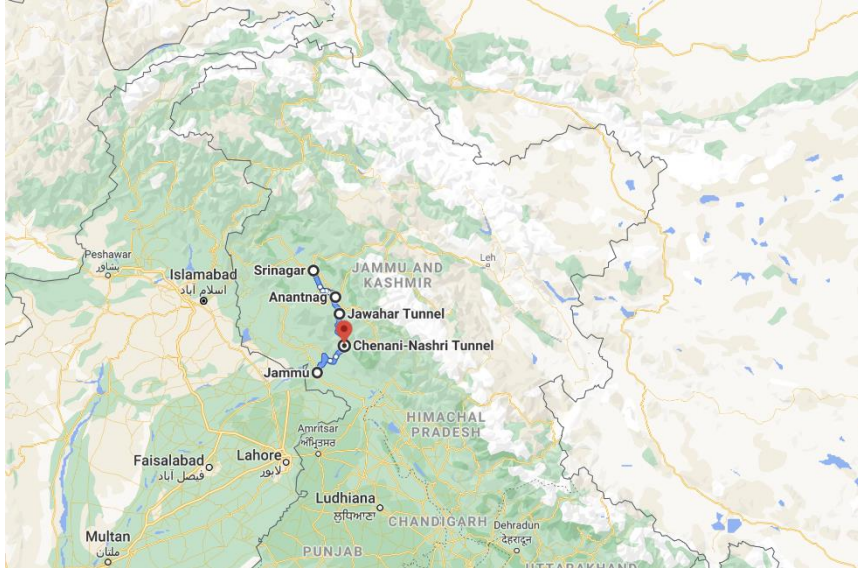


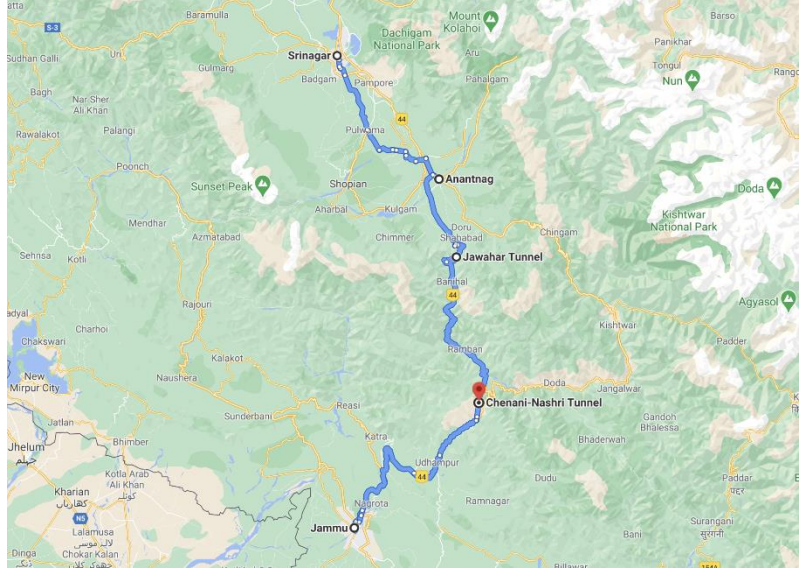
Banihal Pass

It is a mountain pass across the Pir Panjal Range at a maximum elevation of 2,832 m (9,291 ft).

It connects the **Kashmir Valley** in the union territory of **Jammu and Kashmir** to the outer Himalaya and the plains to the south.

It is also called **Jawahar Tunnel**

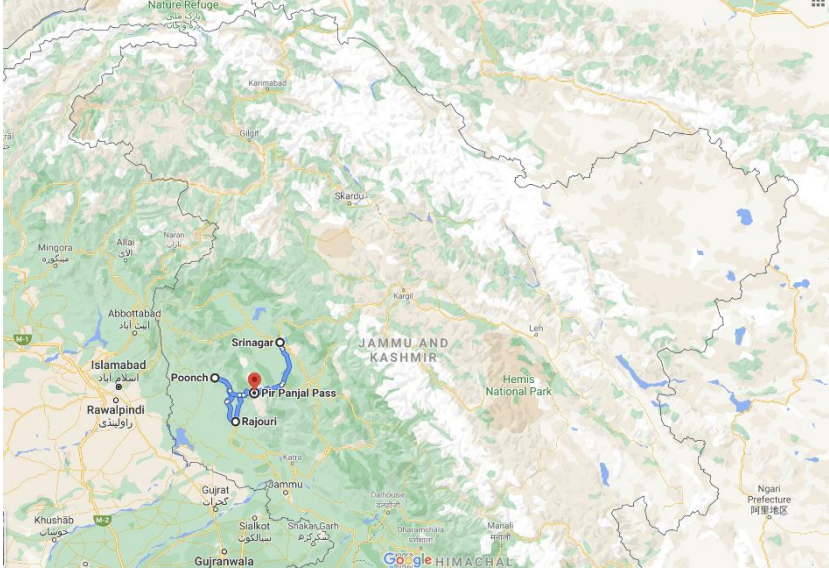




Pir Panjal Pass

The Pir Panjal Pass, also called Peer Ki Gali (or Peer Gali), is a mountain pass and a tourist destination, located in the **Pir Panjal Range in Jammu and Kashmir**.

It connects the Kashmir Valley to the **Rajouri and Poonch districts via the 'Mughal Road'**.



Himachal Pradesh

- ✓ Shipki La
- ✓ Rohtang Pass
- ✓ Baralachala Pass
- ✓ Debsa Pass
- ✓ Kunzum Pass
- ✓ Chanshal Pass
- ✓ Pin Parbati Pass
- ✓ Saach Pass
- ✓ Shingo-La



Bara-lacha-la Pass

Rohtang Pass

Shipki La Pass

Bara-lacha la

Bara-lacha la also known as Bara-lacha Pass is a high mountain pass in **Zaskar range**, connecting Lahaul district in Himachal Pradesh to Leh district in Ladakh, situated along the Leh–Manali Highway.

The **Bhaga river**, a tributary of the Chenab river, originates from Surya taal lake, which is situated a few of kilometers from the pass towards Manali.

The other major tributary of **the Chenab River**, the Chandra also originates from glacier in this region

Shipki La

The river Sutlej, enters India (from Tibet) near this pass.

It is located in Kinnaur district in the state of Himachal Pradesh

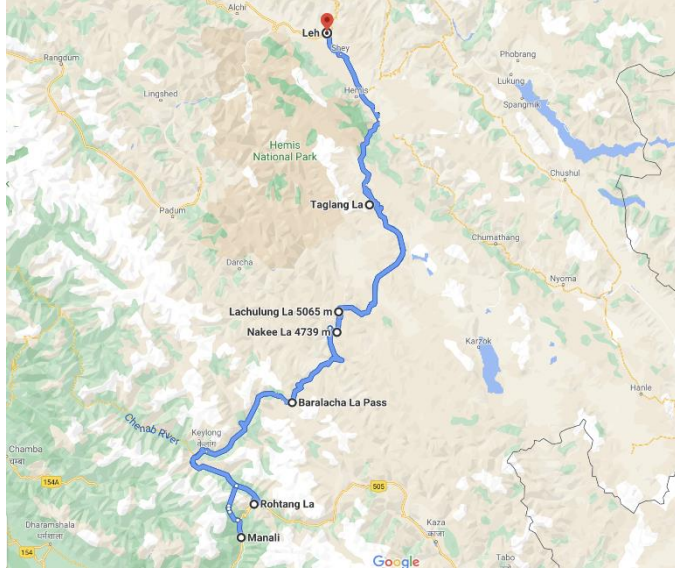
The pass is one of India's border posts for trade with Tibet along with Nathu La in Sikkim, and Lipulekh in Uttarakhand.

Rohtang Pass

It is a high mountain pass (elevation 3,980 m (13,058 ft)) on the eastern end of the Pir Panjal Range of the Himalayas around 51 km from Manali.

It connects the Kullu Valley with the Lahaul and Spiti Valleys of Himachal Pradesh, India.

Atal Tunnel (also known as Rohtang Tunnel) is a highway tunnel built under the Rohtang Pass in the eastern Pir Panjal range of the Himalayas on the Leh-Manali Highway in Himachal Pradesh, India.



Debsa Pass

Debsa Pass is a 5,360-metre-high (17,590 ft) mountain pass in the Himalayas and connects **Parvati valley with Spiti valley** of Himachal Pradesh, India.



Kunzum Pass

Kunzum Pass is a high mountain pass in the eastern Kunzum Range of the Himalayas. It connects Lahaul valley and Spiti valley



Pin Parvati Pass

Pin Parvati Pass) is a mountain pass in Himachal Pradesh, India, at 5,319 meters.

This pass connects Parvati valley on the Kullu side with the Pin valley on the Spiti side

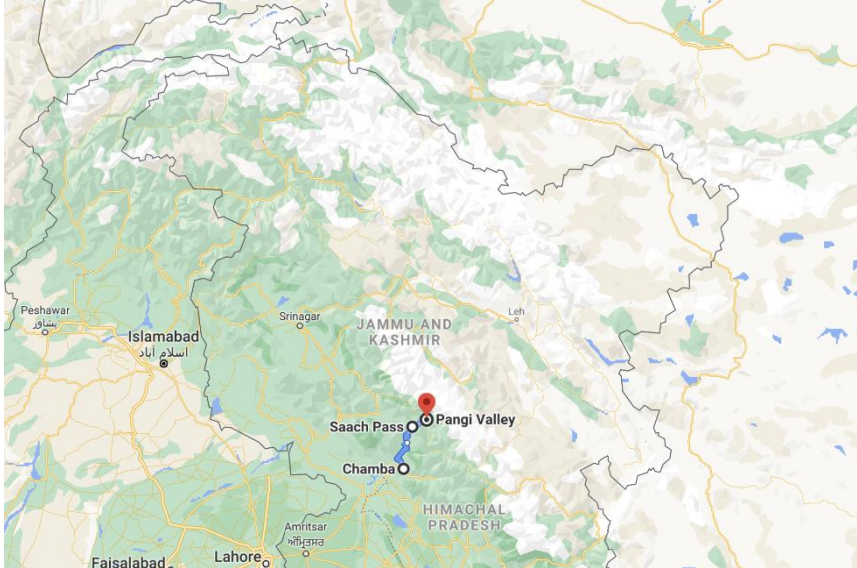
Chanshal Pass

It links **Dodra Kwar and Rohru (Chirgaon)** in the Shimla district. The pass sits atop Chanshal Peak, which at 4,520 metres (14,830 ft) is the highest peak in the Shimla district.

Saach Pass

Sach Pass is a 4,414-metre-high (14,482 ft) mountain pass in **Chamba District**, Himachal Pradesh, India on the Pir Panjal range of the Himalayas.

It connects the **Chamba valley with the Pangi valleys** of Himachal Pradesh, India.



Shingo La

Shingo-La (also known as Shinku La) is a mountain pass in India, on the border between Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh.

The pass is on a long-distance footpath linking Zaskar and Lahaul.



Himalayan Passes in Uttarakhand

- ✓ Lipu Lekh
- ✓ Mana Pass
- ✓ Mangsha Dhura
- ✓ Niti Pass
- ✓ Muling La

Lipulekh Pass

Lipulekh (elevation 5,200 m or 17,060 ft) is a Himalayan pass on the border between India's Uttarakhand state and the Tibet region of China, near their trijunction with Nepal

Nepal has ongoing claims to the southern side of the pass, called Kalapani territory, which is controlled by India.

It is also used by pilgrims to [Kailash Manasarovar](#).



Mana Pass

Lipulekh Pass

Mana Pass

The pass is one of the **highest vehicle-accessible passes in the world**

Mana Pass is located within the **Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve**

It is the source of the **Saraswati River**, a tributary of Alaknanda River.

Mana Pass is the last point between India and China Border.

Uttarakhand with Tibet

Mangsha Dhura
Muling La
Niti Pass

Mountain passes of Sikkim

- ✓ Nathu La
- ✓ Jelep La
- ✓ Goecha La
- ✓ Dongkha La
- ✓ Cho La

Nathu La Pass



Jelep La Pass

Nathu La

It is a mountain pass in the Himalayas in East Sikkim district. It connects the Indian **state of Sikkim** with Tibet.

Nathu La is one of the three open trading border posts between China and India; the others are Shipki la in Himachal Pradesh and Lipulekh

It is also **one of the five officially** agreed Border Personnel Meeting points between the Indian Army and the People's Liberation Army of China.

Daulat Beg Oldie in Ladakh
Kibithu in Arunachal Pradesh

Chusul in Ladakh
Bum-La near Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh
Nathu-La in Sikkim

Jelep La

It is elevation 4,267 m or 13,999 ft, is a high mountain pass **between East Sikkim District, Sikkim**, India and Tibet Autonomous Region, China.

Cho La (Sikkim and Tibet)

Cho La is a mountain pass in the Himalayas.

It connects Sikkim with Tibet. It is situated around 4 miles to the north-west of Nathu La.

The pass was the scene of a clash between Chinese and Indian troops on 1 October 1967

Goecha La

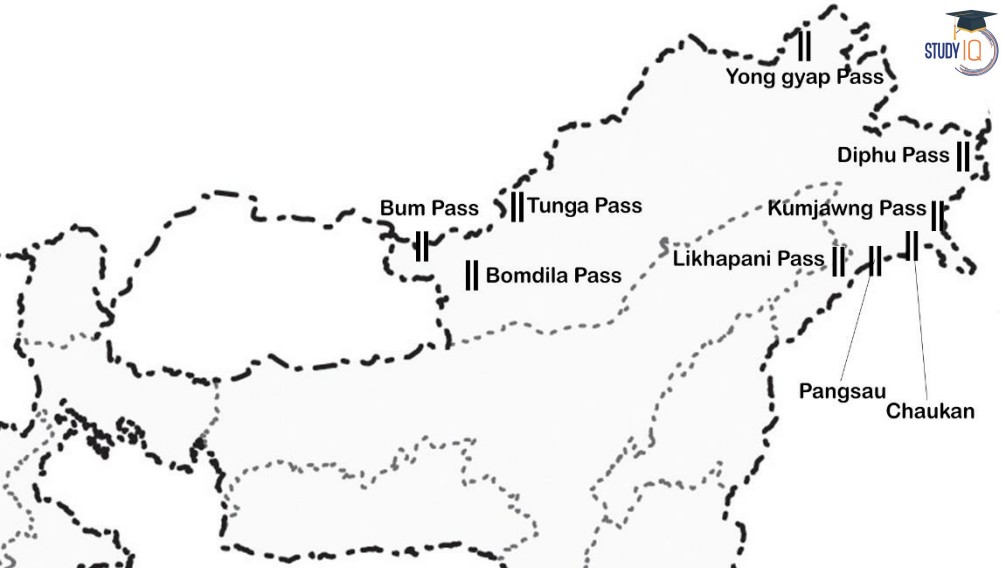
Goecha La (el. 4940 mt or 16,207 ft) is a high **mountain pass in Sikkim**, India in the Himalaya range. Yuksom to Goecha La trek is world famous. Yuksom is 7 kms from Siliguri

Dongkha La

The Dongkha la or Donkia Pass is a high mountain pass in the **Himalaya connecting Sikkim** in India with Tibet.
The nearby Tso Lhamo Lake is the source of the **Teesta River**.

Major Passes in Arunachal Pradesh

- ✓ Bum La Pass
- ✓ Milakatong La
 - ✓ Sela Pass
 - ✓ Diphu Pass
 - ✓ Dihang pass
 - ✓ Pangsau Pass



Bum La Pass

The Bum La Pass is a border pass between **Tibet's Cona County** and India's **Tawang district** in Arunachal Pradesh.

The pass currently serves as a trading point between Tawang and Tibet. It is also an agreed Border Personnel Meeting point for the security forces of China and India.

Milakatong La

It is a historic pass along the trade route between **Tawang** and Tibet

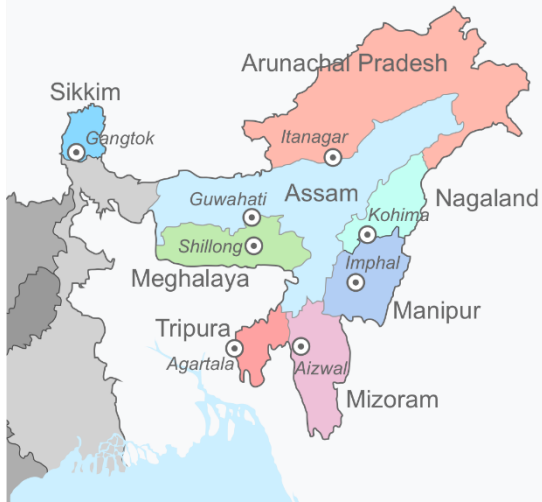
Diphu Pass

Diphu Pass is a mountain pass around the area of the disputed tri-point borders of **India, China, and Myanmar**.
It lies on the McMahon Line

Sela Pass

The Sela Pass is a high-altitude mountain pass located on the border between the **Tawang and West Kameng Districts of Arunachal Pradesh** state in India

Sela Tunnel is an under-construction road tunnel at 3,000 metres (9,800 ft) which will ensure all-weather connectivity between **Guwahati in Assam and Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh** state



ARUNACHAL PRADESH

DISTRICT MAP

LEGEND

- International Boundary
- State Boundary
- District Boundary
- State Capital
- District Headquarter



Diphu Pass

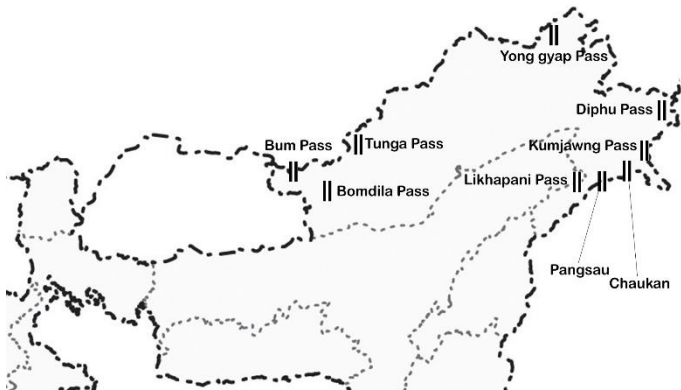
Diphu Pass is a mountain pass around the area of the disputed tri-point borders of India, China, and Myanmar. It lies on the McMahon Line

Dihang pass

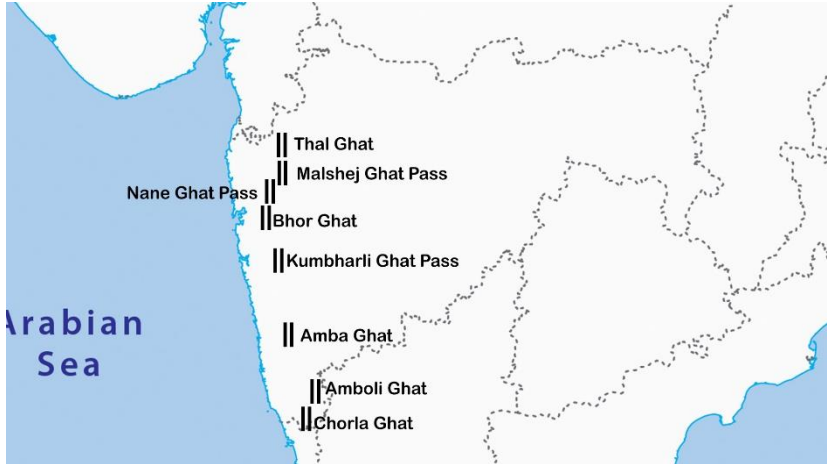
It is located in the Northeastern states of Arunachal Pradesh. This pass connects Arunachal Pradesh with Myanmar (Mandalay).

Pangsau Pass/Chaukan Pass

It is located in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. This pass connects **Arunachal Pradesh and Myanmar**



Mountain passes in Peninsular India



Bhor Ghat – It links Mumbai to Pune, passes through the Western Ghats

Goran Ghat - It connects the city of Udaipur with Sirohi and Jalore in Rajasthan

Tamhini Ghat – It is a mountain passage located between Mulshi and Tamhini in Pune

Palghat - Palakkad Gap

It is a low mountain pass in the Western Ghats between
Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu and Palakkad in Kerala.

The pass is located between the Nilgiri Hills to the north
and Anaimalai Hills to the south.

Thal Ghat - Thal Ghat is a ghat section in the Western
Ghats and It links Nasik to Mumbai.




A map of India with a dashed line representing a geographical feature. The line starts in the north, goes south, then east, then south again, and finally east towards the bottom right. The area to the left of the line is light blue, and the area to the right is white. The text 'Palakkad Gap' is written in black, with two vertical black bars to its left.

|| Palakkad Gap

Asirgarh Fort Pass - Dakkani Darwaza or Doorway to the Deccan.

Asirgarh Fort is an Indian fortress (qila) situated in the Satpura Range about 20 kilometres (12 mi) north of the city of Burhanpur, in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh.

Because the fortress commands a pass through the Satpuras connecting the valleys of the Narmada and Tapti rivers, one of the most important routes from northern India to the Deccan



A map showing a region with a blue body of water in the bottom-left corner. The land area is outlined by a dashed black line. A specific location is marked with two vertical black bars. The text 'Asirghar Qila Pass' is written above these bars.

Asirghar Qila Pass



Amba Ghat Pass - Amba Ghat is a mountain pass on Ratnagiri-Kolhapur road in Maharashtra, This ghat lies in the Sahyadri mountain ranges.

Malshej Ghat Pass - Malshej Ghat is a mountain pass in the Western Ghats range in the Kalyan–Ahmednagar Road of Maharashtra in the Western Ghats.

Naneghat Pass – It is a mountain pass in the Western Ghats range between the Konkan coast and the ancient town of Junnar in the Deccan plateau

Amboli Ghat Pass - Amboli Ghat is a mountain pass in the Sahyadri.

Kumbharli Ghat - The Kumbharli Ghat is a mountain pass in Maharashtra, India that connects the coastal Ratnagiri District in Konkan region of Maharashtra with the Satara District in Desh region. It cuts across the Western Ghats range.

Chorla Ghat Pass

Location: Sahyadri mountain range of Western Ghats
(Trijunction of the borders of Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra)

Shencottah Gap: Madurai-Kottayam

It is located in the Western Ghats. It joins the Madurai city in Tamil Nadu with the Kottayam district in Kerala.



Famous Battle of Haldighati took place in 1576 between the Kingdom of Mewar (Maharana Pratap) and Akbar's general Man Singh I of Amer. It connects Rajsamand and Pali districts of Rajasthan.

Important Passes in India

By Dr. Gaurav Garg

