

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1283
ANSWERED ON- 06/02/2026
KAILASH MANSAROVAR YATRA

1283. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is actively engaging with the Chinese side to facilitate the early resumption of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, which was suspended due to the pandemic and border restrictions, and if so, the details of progress made in this regard;**
- (b) whether the Government has examined the possibility of opening an additional, more convenient route for the Yatra via Shipki La Pass in Himachal Pradesh, if so, the details thereof and the current status of inter-ministerial and bilateral consultations;**
- (c) whether technical, security and connectivity assessments for the Shipki La route have been initiated in coordination with the Government of Himachal Pradesh and central agencies, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen infrastructure and ensure safer and improved pilgrimage experiences?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to d) Yes Sir. Ministry of External Affairs organized the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra 2025 between June and August, 2025 through the two official routes of Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand and Nathu La Pass in Sikkim, in cooperation with the state governments of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim and also the Indo-Tibetan Border Police.

It is the Government's endeavour to constantly improve the conditions for the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra. In the past, the Ministry of External Affairs has requested the Government of China for opening of alternative routes for the Yatra, including through Shipki La Pass in Himachal Pradesh. The Chinese side cited difficulties in opening alternate routes to Kailash Manasarovar. The Government remains engaged with China on opening of additional route for the Yatra.

The Ministry of External Affairs provides assistance, on self-financing basis, to the Yatris undertaking the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra by providing facilities like transportation, accommodation, food, medical

tests, guides etc. The Ministry of External Affairs also coordinates with the Government of People's Republic of China as well as various Indian agencies for the smooth conduct of this Yatra. A provision for air-lift of pilgrims by helicopter is also made on the Indian side in case of a medical emergency.
