

BEIJING-LHASA KEY ROAD LINK COMPLETED

Relevant for: International Relations | Topic: Effect of policies and politics of developed & developing countries on India's interests

Continuing its infrastructure build-up in Tibet, China has completed a key section of the Beijing-Lhasa expressway, a 295-km stretch from Lhasa to Nagqu. This section is located at an average altitude of 4,500 metres above sea level, which Chinese state media have termed the world's highest expressway.

In a separate development opposite the Central sector in Uttarakhand, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) has set up surveillance equipment and cameras opposite the Kio Dhura pass, according to intelligence inputs.

"Yellow balloon-shaped surveillance equipment are co-located with a windmill and solar panel at the site," according to inputs.

The Lhasa-Nagqu section is part of the G6 Beijing-Lhasa expressway and is the first expressway linking Lhasa, the capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region to north Tibet. It also connects the PLA's Central Theatre Command with the Western Theatre Command which is responsible for the border with India, an official source said.

"An important stretch of the expressway between Nagqu to Yangbajain of Lhasa-Nagqu section was put into operational trial on August 21. On completion of Lhasa-Nagqu section, the driving time between Lhasa and Nagqu has reduced from six hours to three hours," an official source said.

The completed expressway will pass through seven major cities of China including Beijing, Hebei, inner Mangolia, Ningxia, Gansu, Qinghai and Lhasa with an approximate length of 3,710 km, the official added.

In June, China had launched a high speed bullet train connecting Lhasa with Nyingchi, a strategically located Tibetan town located close to Arunachal Pradesh.

Continuing regular exercises in the area, the PLA has conducted two live firing exercises under its Xinjiang Military District (XMD in the first week of September, officials said. The Artillery regiment of 8 Mountain Infantry Division conducted live firing exercise employing PCL-181 155mm vehicle mounted howitzer guns in the high altitude plateau, an official said.

[Our code of editorial values](#)

END

Downloaded from crackIAS.com

© **Zuccess App** by crackIAS.com