

India's first-ever steel road

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In news—The **Diamond City of India, Surat**, has recently become the first in India to get a road that is made out of steel slag.

Key highlights-

- **It was built by ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India with CSIR India** (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research) & **CRR**I (Central Road Research Institute) along with the government think tank **NITI Aayog**.
- Laid in the Hazira Industrial Area, **the road consists of 100% processed steel slag**.
- **The 6-lane 1-kilometer long road** is an experimental project that may solve the waste material issue.
- The thickness of the road has been reduced by 30%.

About steel slag-

- **Slag is a byproduct of steel production** and is similar in character to volcanic rocks such as basalt and granite.
- **It is produced during the separation of the molten steel from impurities** in steel-making furnaces.
- It consists of silica, alumina, calcium oxide, and iron oxide.
- **Slag is primarily used in the cement and construction industries**, and largely in road construction.
- Steel slag is a major concern for steel industries as it is considered a waste material.
- The disposal of metallurgical and metal-processing waste in landfills is particularly hazardous for the environment.

