

Bitumen

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Bitumen Latest News

The ongoing conflict in West Asia has hit India's push to expand road infrastructure as Bitumen was also caught in the crossfire with an import dependency ranging between 30 to 40%.

About Bitumen

- It is a dense, highly viscous, **petroleum-based hydrocarbon**.
- It is found in **deposits such as oil sands and pitch lakes** (natural bitumen) or is obtained as a residue of the distillation of crude oil.
- Bitumen is primarily used for paving roads and is **known as black gold** in the pavement industry.
- **Properties**
 - It is known **for its waterproofing and adhesive properties**.
 - It has adhesive properties, and is **soluble in carbon disulphide**.
 - It is composed of complex hydrocarbons and contains elements like calcium, iron, sulfur, and oxygen.

- The quality of material and ease of production depends on the source and type of crude oil from which it is derived.

- **Applications**

- Bitumen is versatile and widely used.
- It is commonly used in the **construction industry, notably for roads and highways.**

Source: IE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-bitumen/>

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