



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
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# Mumbai Gets India's First Musical Road Playing 'Jai Ho'

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Mumbai has unveiled India's first-ever musical road on a section of the Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Coastal Road, where motorists hear the tune of "Jai Ho" from Slumdog Millionaire as they drive over a specially engineered stretch at a designated speed. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis inaugurated the 500-metre experimental stretch, which was conceptualised by former MP Rahul Shewale and developed by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). When vehicles travel over the grooves at about 70–80 km/h, the friction-induced vibrations produce sound waves that recreate the song inside the vehicle. This innovation is the fifth musical road in the world and the first in India.

## How the Musical Road Works

**Rumble Strips/Grooves:** Specially cut grooves (also called rumble strips) are laid on the road surface at precise intervals and depths.

**Sound Generation:** When car tyres pass over these grooves at around 70–80 km/h, the pattern of vibrations produces specific frequencies that form the melody of "Jai Ho."

**Warning Signage:** To ensure safety, signboards are installed at 500 m, 100 m, and 60 m before the musical stretch to inform drivers to adjust speed.

**Tribute Choice:** The song "Jai Ho", composed by A.R. Rahman with lyrics by Gulzar, won the Academy Award for Best Original Song—a cultural symbol chosen to evoke national pride.

## About Modi?ed Road Technology

### Kamaraj IAS Academy

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**Origin:** The concept of **musical or “melody” roads** originated in **Japan in 2007**, when engineer Shizuo Shinoda discovered that grooves cut into roads could produce musical tones at certain speeds.

**Global Examples:** Similar roads now exist in countries including Japan, Hungary, South Korea, and the United Arab Emirates.

### **Mumbai Coastal Road Project**

**Name:** Dharmaveer Swarajyarakshak Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Marg.

**Purpose:** A major infrastructure corridor to reduce traffic congestion and provide a high-speed urban expressway connecting South Mumbai to the Western suburbs.

**Benefits:** Reduces travel time significantly, enhances connectivity and is a key part of urban mobility planning in Mumbai.

### **Innovation Meets Culture**

This project blends infrastructure and cultural expression—using engineering precision to play a famous Indian song and enhance the commuter experience.

The move reflects a trend in urban infrastructure to introduce creative and sensory elements alongside traditional utility.