Executive Summary Report

Study on Production and Consumption of Specialty Steel in India

Joint Plant Committee (Ministry of Steel)

September 2026

Argentina | Australia | China | Colombia | Hong Kong | India | Japan | Poland | Singapore | Switzerland | UAE | UK | USA
Crisil Limited: Lightbridge IT Park, Saki Vihar Road, Andheri East, Mumbai 400 072, India
Phone: +91 22 6137 3000 | https://Intelligence.Crisil.com
/company/crisil @CrisilLimited /CrisilLimited /user/CrisilLimited /lifeatcrisil

Crisil
a company of S&P Global

1.1 Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study is to establish a universally applicable definition of Specialty Steel through a combination of detailed import analysis and industry inputs. It also aims to develop a near-comprehensive list of steel products that qualify under the established definition. The study further includes conducting a detailed market assessment of the key qualifying steel products and formulating policy recommendations for the Specialty Steel sector.

1.2 First reference to the term 'Specialty Steel' in Indian context

The term 'Specialty Steel' gained formal policy recognition in India in 2021, when the Government of India introduced the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Specialty Steel. The scheme was designed to promote domestic manufacturing of high-grade steel, reduce import dependence, enhance value addition, and strengthen India's competitiveness in advanced steel segments. Under this initiative, financial incentives were offered to eligible manufacturers based on incremental production and sales of identified Specialty Steel products over a defined base year.

However, despite the introduction of the PLI scheme, the absence of a clear and universally accepted definition of Specialty Steel, along with the lack of an officially notified list of qualifying products, created ambiguity regarding the scope and coverage of the scheme. This uncertainty has raised concerns about the effectiveness of potential policy interventions (including PLI and other policies) aimed at supporting the Specialty Steel sector and achieving the intended objectives of capacity creation and import substitution.

In this context, the present report seeks to develop a structured and comprehensive definition of Specialty Steel tailored to the Indian market. The study also aims to establish a detailed classification framework for Specialty Steel products. Through rigorous market assessment, trade data evaluation, and product-level screening, the report intends to identify and compile an exhaustive list of steel products that can be categorized under Specialty Steel for policy, industry, and analytical purposes.

1.3 Establishing a Definition of 'Specialty Steel'

1.3.1 Methodology adopted to establish a definition of 'Specialty Steel'

The methodology follows a market and trade analysis approach that begins with translating imported steel items into an industry-relevant classification of steel products based on multiple parameters. Import data for steel-specific HS codes under Chapter 72 (HS 7204 to 7229) is compiled for FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 and the analysis is undertaken at the level of distinct product descriptions to ensure appropriate granularity for product classification.

Each product line is mapped to its HS code and then systematically tagged across key parameters used for market segmentation - steel type (Carbon/Alloy/Stainless), product form (flat/long/cast/forged), category and sub-category, value-addition processes (e.g., coating/plating, heat treatment, surface hardening, wire drawing, decarburization, annealing, insulation coating), and price premium fetched over the corresponding ordinary / commodity base steel product.

The methodology aims to determine the underlying reasons for imports of the steel products and apply the same criteria to the complete universe of steel products, leading to the formulation of a universally applicable definition of Specialty Steel and the identification of items falling therein. The approach ensures transparency, repeatability, and comparability across years, while providing a defensible basis for identifying Specialty Steel items for subsequent reporting and policy analysis.

1.3.1.1 Detailed break-down of import data for HS codes under Chapter 72

The first step in the process of defining Specialty Steel is to break down the import data under chapter 72 of HS codes. This step is intended to identify, understand, and analyse steel products for which India depends on imports.

The import profile of steel products under Chapter 72 is represented through a systematic classification of entries corresponding to HS codes 7204 to 7229. The dataset comprises of three financial years from FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 enabling a comprehensive analysis of import trends and patterns. Each imported item is identified by its unique product description and is mapped to its respective HS code, ensuring alignment with international trade nomenclature and facilitating cross-comparison with global data.

The steel imports are segmented by type, distinguishing among *Carbon Steel*, *Alloy Steel*, and *Stainless Steel*.

Further, products are categorized according to their physical form, including *flat* products, *long* products, *cast* products, and *forged* products. This segmentation provides clarity on the nature and intended application of the imported materials.

In addition to the primary classification, each product is further assigned to a relevant steel category, such as *coated or plated products*, *Alloy Steel products*, *wire products*, *electrical steel*, *Stainless Steel* and to a sub-category, such as *Ni-coated steels*, *tool steels*, *tyre bead wires*, and *cold rolled grain oriented* (*CRGO) / cold rolled non-grain oriented (CRNO) electrical steels*. This layered categorization ensures that both broad and niche segments of the steel import basket are adequately represented.

Further, each product is assigned a corresponding value addition process. Value addition processes include surface treatment, coating or plating, baking or curing, surface finishing, alloying, heat treatment, surface hardening, wire drawing, patenting, stress relieving, pickling, pickling and oiling, brass or bronze coating, decarburization, annealing, insulation coating, and peeling or polishing. The inclusion of these parameters provides insight into the technological sophistication and processing intensity associated with the imported steel products.

The categorization process and criteria using the relevant parameters are detailed out, as follows, for illustrative purposes:

Table - Parameters for breaking-down of import data for HS codes under Chapter 72

Parameters	
Financial year	FY 2022-2023, FY 2023-2024, FY 2024-2025
4-digit HS code	7204 to 7229
Steel types	Carbon Steel, Alloy Steel, Stainless Steel
Product type	Flat Product, Long Product, Cast Product, Forged Product
Category of Steel	Coated/Plated Products, Alloy Steel Products, Wire Products, Electrical Steel, Stainless Steel, etc.
Sub-category of Steel	Ni-coated, Tool Steel, Tyre Bead Wires, CRGO/CRNO, etc.
Value Addition	Surface Treatment, Coating/Plating, Baking/Curing, Surface Finishing, Alloying, Heat Treatment, Surface Hardening, Wire Drawing, Patenting, Stress Relieving, Pickling, Pickling and Oiling, Brass/Bronze Coating, Decarburization, Annealing, Insulation Coating, Peeling/Polishing, etc.

Source: Crisil Intelligence, Industry

Apart from the parameters listed above, price premium percentage is also determined for each of the products over their corresponding base material in ordinary / commodity form. The calculation methodology for the price premium and the basis for selection of base material in ordinary / commodity form for the products under consideration are provided for illustrative purposes in the section 5.1 of the Annexure chapter. It is to be noted that while arriving at the premium percentage, it is assumed that the prices of key raw materials used in the production of Specialty Steel remain stable, with any abnormal price fluctuations arising from geopolitical uncertainties excluded from the analysis.

Inclusion of Value Addition Processes (including Upstream / Downstream Value Addition) in the import data break-down

Value addition is assessed through the presence of specific upstream and downstream processing interventions reflected in the import description and product category. The interventions are grouped into distinct value-addition pathways such as surface preparation and surface engineering, metallurgical enhancement through alloying and heat treatment, mechanical processing and metallurgical conditioning in wire-based products, and advanced processing routes for performance-critical grades such as electrical steels. Accordingly, the classification assigns each identified import item to one or more value-addition processes, thereby enabling consistent tagging and comparability across years and categories.

1.3.1.2 Detailed analysis of imported products

The imported products with high price premiums are analysed in detail to understand their specific properties and end-use applications. As a result, it is observed that the primary reasons behind imports of such products include:

a) presence of specific properties;

b) high degree of value addition;

c) complex manufacturing processes including the requirement of dedicated production lines; and

d) usage in critical end-use applications

which results in high price premiums for the products over the corresponding ordinary / commodity steel products.

In this step, a detailed analysis of key high price-premium imported steel products with respect to their upstream and downstream value addition processes, specific properties induced as a result of the value addition processes, and usability in critical end-use application areas as a result of the induced specific properties is undertaken.

Coated and plated steel products, such as nickel-coated materials, exhibit enhanced corrosion and oxidation resistance, improved hardness, wear resistance, and good solderability, rendering them suitable for use in automobile fuel systems, electrical terminals, appliances, and machinery parts. Alloy Steel products, represented by tool and die steels, are characterised by high hardness, wear resistance, heat resistance, and strength, which are essential for cutting tools, dies, moulds, and industrial knives. Wire products, including tyre bead wires, possess high tensile strength, fatigue resistance, and strong adhesion with rubber, making them indispensable for tyre reinforcement in automobiles, off-road vehicles, agricultural machinery, and construction equipment. Electrical steels, such as CRGO and CRNO grades, are distinguished by high magnetic permeability and low core losses, supporting their application in transformer cores, motors, and generators. This classification underscores the role of advanced processing in conferring specialised properties, thereby enabling these steel products to meet the stringent requirements of critical sectors including defence, aerospace, oil and gas, automotive, energy, electrical machinery, and industrial manufacturing.

As a result, the products listed in the above table command high price premiums over the corresponding base materials, which are in ordinary or commodity form. While arriving at the premium percentage, it is assumed that the prices of key raw materials used in the production of Specialty Steel remain stable, with any abnormal price fluctuations arising from geopolitical uncertainties excluded from the analysis. For illustrative purposes, the relationship between the products and the corresponding base materials is provided in section 5.1 under the Annexure chapter.

The classification based on value addition, the specific properties which are induced because of the value additions, and end-use applicability which arises as a result of the induced specific properties thus forms the analytical foundation for the subsequent definition and identification of Specialty Steel within the scope of this report. Based on these factors, a universally applicable definition of Specialty Steel has been derived as described in the following section.

1.3.2 Universally Applicable Definition of ‘Specialty Steel’

Establishing a clear and operational definition is essential to distinguish Specialty Steel from conventional grades, particularly in the context of policy initiatives and market assessment.

The analysis from the above-mentioned methodology indicated that the primary reasons behind imports of such products include:

a) presence of specific properties;

b) high degree of value addition;

c) complex manufacturing processes including requirement of dedicated production lines; and

d) usage in critical end-use applications;

which result in high price premiums for the products over the corresponding ordinary / commodity steel products.

Based on these factors, a universally applicable definition of Specialty Steel has been derived.

Specialty Steel includes those steel products that satisfy all the following conditions:

1. **Possess Specific Properties making them superior or distinguishing them from ordinary/commodity steel products**, wherein key specific properties include Corrosion and Oxidation Resistance, High Hardness, High Wear Resistance, High Abrasion Resistance, High Solderability, High Heat Resistance, High Tensile Strength, AHSS, High Fatigue Resistance, Strong Adhesion With Rubber, High Magnetic Permeability & Low Core Losses, High Pitting & Crevice Corrosion Resistance, High Chloride Resistance.

2. **Find applications in critical end-use areas such as Automobiles, Electrical Machinery, Defence, Aerospace, Oil and Gas, Power, Energy, Industrial Manufacturing, Shipbuilding, Telecommunications, Data Centers, Railways, etc.**

3. **Go through Complex Manufacturing Processes requiring a Dedicated Line or Undergo Upstream / Downstream Value Addition Processes**, wherein Upstream / Downstream Value Addition Processes include Surface Treatment, Coating/Plating, Baking/Curing, Surface Finishing, Alloying, Heat Treatment, Surface Hardening, Wire Drawing, Patenting, Stress Relieving, Pickling, Pickling and Oiling, Decarburization, Stress Relieving, Insulation Coating, Peeling/Polishing.

4. [As a result of the above,] **Command high Price Premiums over the corresponding ordinary/commodity base steel products**[1].

The above-mentioned definition aligns with established industry practices and technical standards, focusing on the distinctive properties, advanced processing methods, and critical applications that set Specialty Steel apart from conventional steel grades.

1.3.3 List of 'Specialty Steel' products

As a result, a near-comprehensive list of products falling under the definition of Specialty Steel is as follows:

Table: Specialty Steel products

Carbon Steel	• Brass coated wire including hose reinforcement • API steel • Coated steel • Tyre bead wire • Tyre cord • SA 516 steel / Boiler grade

[1] *For illustrative purposes, the relationship between the products under consideration and the corresponding base materials along with the price premium calculation methodology is provided in section 5.1 under the Annexure chapter.*

	• Tin mill products • Electrical steel • Cladded steel • HSS / AHSS material • Rail products • Quenched and Tempered products
Alloy Steel	• Tool and Die steel • CHQ steel • Spring steel • Bearing steel • Valve steel • Case Hardening steel • High speed steel • Free-cutting steel • Forging quality steel
Stainless Steel	• Precipitation Hardening steel • Duplex and Super Duplex steel • Austenitic steel • Martensitic steel • Ferritic steel

Source: Crisil Intelligence, Industry

Coated steel categories include various Carbon Steel products that have been surface-coated with a range of materials, such as Brass, Zinc, Nickel, Aluminium, Silicon, Copper, Chromium, Magnesium, Co-polymer, Vinyl, rubber, or Polyvinyl chloride (PVC), either individually or in combination (alloyed form). Additionally, coated steel products can be categorized into electrolytic coated types, including Electrolytic Galvanized Iron (EGI), Electrolytic Chromium Coated Steel (ECCS), and Zinc-Nickel Alloy coated steel. It also includes galvannealed steel, pre-painted galvanized (PPGI), pre-painted galvalume (PPGL), and pre-painted zinc-magnesium (PPZM).

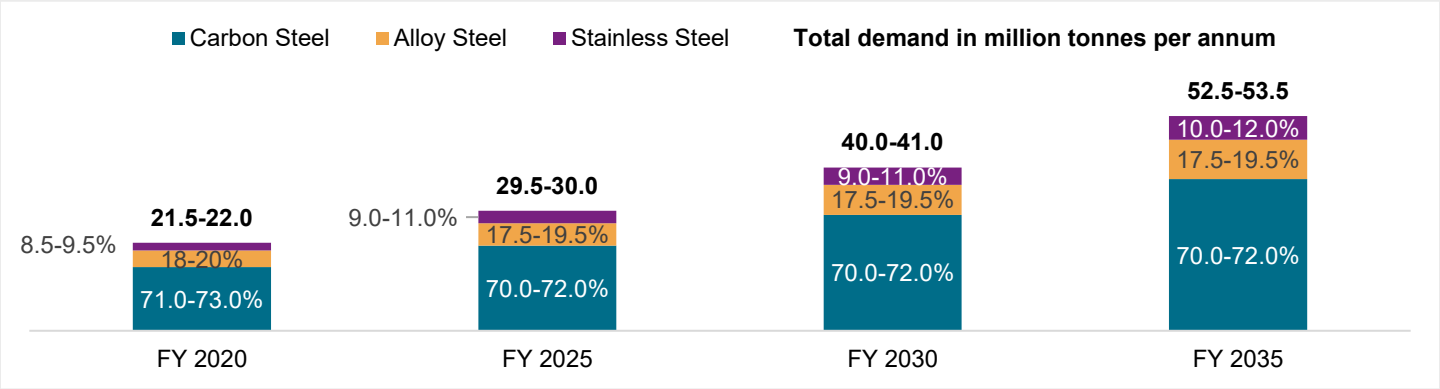
1.4 Market Assessment of Specialty Steel in India

1.4.1 Domestic demand of Specialty Steel (Review and Outlook)

India's domestic Specialty Steel demand rose from 21.50–22.00 million tonnes in fiscal 2020 to 29.50–30.00 million tonnes in fiscal 2025, and is projected to increase to 40.00-41.00 million tonnes in fiscal 2030 and to reach 52.50–53.50 million tonnes by fiscal 2035. Within this total, Carbon Specialty Steel continues to account for the largest volume, growing from 15.50–15.90 million tonnes in fiscal 2020 to 37.00–38.00 million tonnes in fiscal 2035. Alloy Specialty Steel demand, which expanded from 4.00–4.20 million tonnes to 5.30–5.60 million tonnes in fiscal 2025, is expected to increase to 9.50-10.00 million tonnes per annum in fiscal 2035. Domestic Stainless Specialty Steel demand, having increased from 1.85–2.05 million tonnes in fiscal 2020 to 2.95-3.25 million tonnes per annum in fiscal 2025, is projected to increase to 5.60–6.10 million tonnes per annum in fiscal 2035. The increasing demand for Specialty Steel in India is primarily driven by rapid infrastructure development, expanding manufacturing and automotive sectors, and the shift towards advanced, high-quality steel products to support economic growth and modernization.

Carbon Steel consistently accounts for 70–73% of Specialty Steel demand and remains the primary driver, while Stainless Steel's share is expected to increase from 9–11% in fiscal 2025 to 10–12% in fiscal 2035, and Alloy Steel is expected to maintain a stable average share of around 19-20%.

Figure: Domestic demand of Specialty Steel-trend

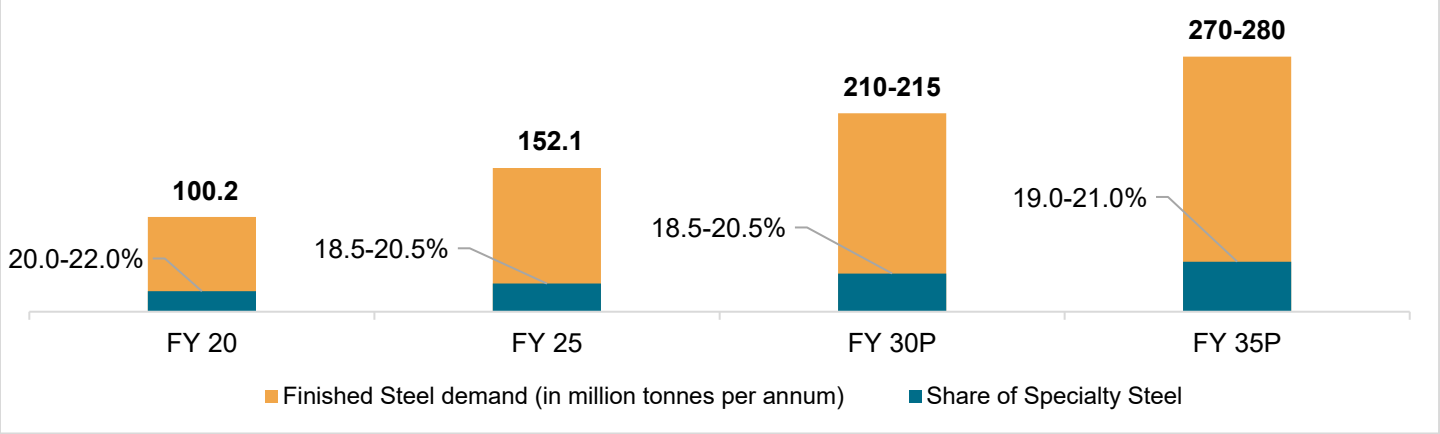


Source: Crisil Intelligence, Industry

1.4.2 Domestic demand of Specialty Steel vis-à-vis finished steel demand

The overall demand for finished steel in India stood at 100.2 million tonnes per annum in fiscal 2020 and 152.1 million tonnes per annum in fiscal 2025, and is projected to rise steadily, reaching 210–215 million tonnes per annum by fiscal 2030 and further increasing to 270–280 million tones per annum by fiscal 2035. Specialty Steel demand, which stood at 21.5–22.0 million tonnes in fiscal 2020, grew to 29.5–30.0 million tonnes per annum by fiscal 2025, and is expected to reach 40.0–41.0 million tonnes per annum by fiscal 2030 and 52.5–53.5 million tonnes per annum by fiscal 2035. The share of Specialty Steel in total finished steel demand, which stood at 18.5-20.5% in fiscal 2025, is projected to witness an increase to 19.0-21.0% through fiscal 2035, indicating that Specialty Steel demand is expected to grow at a slightly faster pace in the next ten years, as compared to the overall finished steel demand.

Figure: Share of Specialty Steel in domestic finished steel demand (in million tonnes per annum)



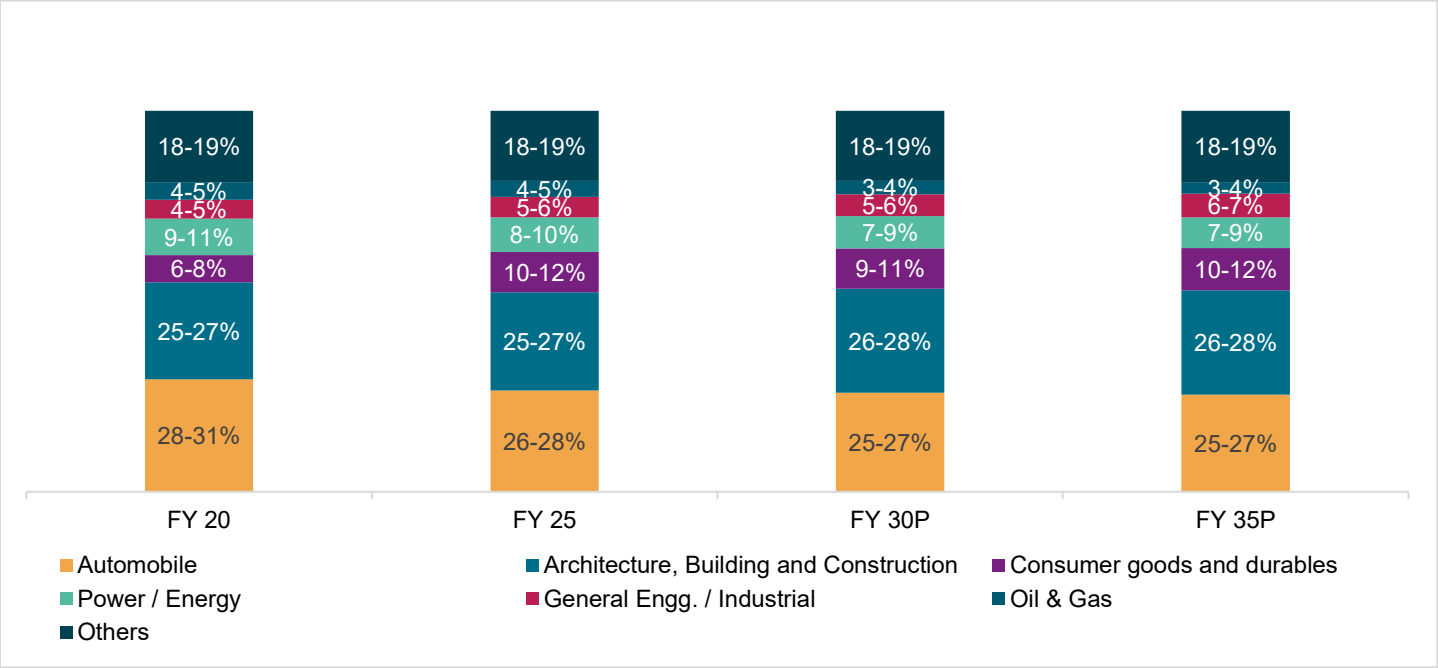
Source: Crisil Intelligence, Industry

1.4.3 Domestic demand of Specialty Steel - split by end-use applications

In fiscal 2020, Specialty Steel demand was primarily driven by the automobile sector, which accounted for 28–31% of total demand, and the architecture, building, and construction sector, which contributed 25–27%. In fiscal 2025, the share of automobiles moderated to 26–28%, while that of the architecture, building, and construction sector remained rangebound at 25-27%, narrowing the gap with automobiles. The share of consumer goods and durables segment in the overall Specialty Steel demand grew robustly from 6-8% in fiscal 2020 to 10–12% in fiscal 2025, indicating greater penetration of Specialty Steel in appliances and white goods. Looking ahead, the architecture, building, and construction sector is projected to further strengthen its position, reaching 26–28% of demand by fiscal 2030 and fiscal 2035, while the automobile sector is expected to remain broadly stable but edge down to 25–27% by fiscal 2035. The share of consumer goods and durables segment is

expected to remain rangebound at 10–12% by fiscal 2035, and that of general engineering and industrial applications in the overall Specialty Steel demand is projected to improve from 5-6% in fiscal 2025 to 6–7% in fiscal 2035, highlighting increased Specialty Steel intensity in manufacturing and capital goods. The power and energy sector is expected to garner a share of 7-9% in fiscals 2030 and 2035, down from 8-10% in fiscal 2025. Oil and gas segment is also expected to show a similar trend, with its share in overall Specialty Steel demand expected to decrease to 3-4% in fiscals 2030 and 2035 from 4-5% in fiscals 2020 and 2025. Other applications are expected to remain stable at 18–19% throughout the period, indicating a diversified base of smaller end-use segments with a broadly unchanged combined contribution.

Figure: End-use application wise split of Specialty Steel demand



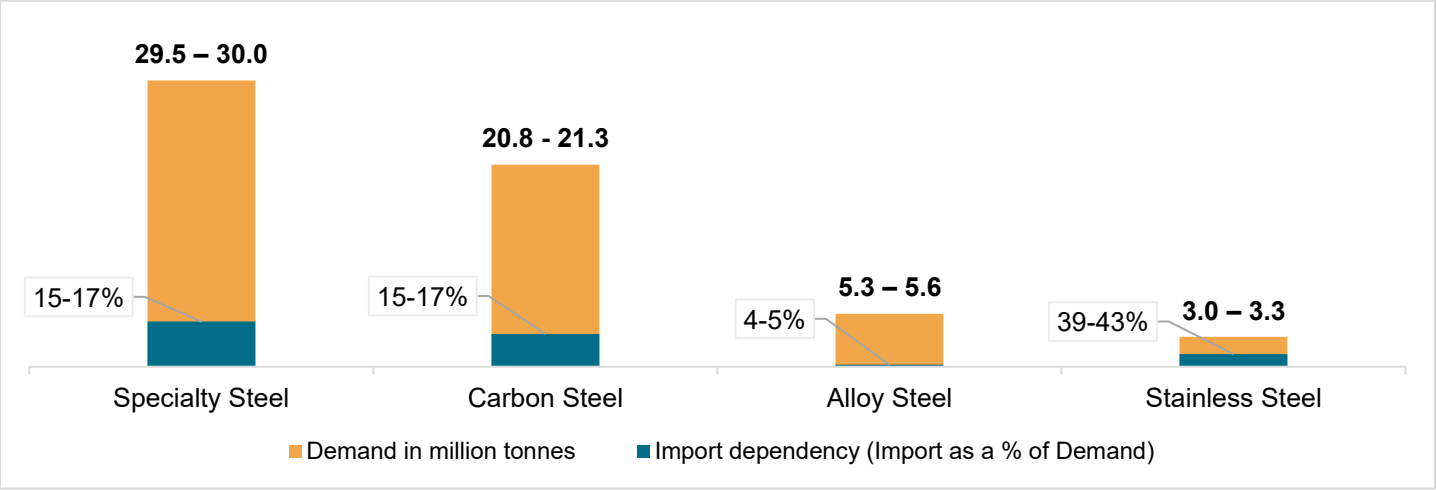
Source: Crisil Intelligence, Industry

1.4.4 Import Assessment of Specialty Steel in India

1.4.4.1 Import dependency of Specialty Steel (FY 2025)

The Specialty Steel (Carbon, Alloy and Stainless Specialty Steel combined) demand stood at 29.5–30.0 million tonnes per annum in fiscal 2025 with imports contributing 15–17%. Within this, Carbon Steel accounted for the majority of demand at 20.8–21.3 million tonnes with an import share of 15–17%. Alloy Steel had relatively lower demand of 5.3–5.6 million tonnes and the lowest import share of 4–5%, while Stainless Steel has the smallest demand base within the Specialty Steel segment at 3.0–3.3 million tonnes, but with a higher import reliance of 39–43%.

Figure: Import dependency of Specialty Steel (FY 2025)



Source: Crisil Intelligence, Industry

Note: For Stainless Steel category, the import volumes of cast products have not been considered in this report

1.4.4.2 Factors behind Specialty Steel imports (FY 2025)

Table: Import dependency and reasons for imports across Specialty Steel categories

Steel Type	Sub-category	Demand volume in kilo-tonnes in FY 2025	Import volume in kilo-tonnes in FY 2025	Import Dependency (Imports as a % of demand in FY 2025)	Percentage contribution of factors behind imports				
					Price advantage of imports	Domestic capability gaps	Limited SKU range	Customer Approval constraints	Others
Carbon Steel	Coated steel products	10,700-11,200	1,478.2	13-15%	55-60%	15-20%	5-10%	0-5%	5-10%
Carbon Steel	HRPO	3,400-3,500	47.2	1-2%	35-45%	20-30%	10-15%	10-15%	5-10%
Carbon Steel	Electrical steel	2,400-2.500	912.9	35-40%	20-25%	60-65%	5-10%	5-10%	5-10%
Carbon Steel	Rail Products	1,650-1,750	31.0	1-2%	10-15%	45-50%	15-20%	20-25%	5-10%
Carbon Steel	API	750-800	645.3	79-84%	5-10%	25-30%	10-15%	35-45%	5-10%
Carbon Steel	Tin Mill products	670-720	8.3	1-2%	25-30%	20-25%	30-35%	0-5%	5-10%
Carbon Steel	Tyre Cord	380-420	~0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Carbon Steel	Shipbuilding steel	310-330	8.5	2-3%	10-20%	35-45%	15-20%	15-20%	5-10%
Carbon Steel	Tyre Bead steel	180-200	6.2	3-5%	15-20%	5-10%	~0%	60-70%	5-10%
Carbon Steel	Boiler grade	90-110	0.6	~1%	5-10%	15-20%	30-35%	40-45%	5-10%
Carbon Steel	Brass coated steel wire	50-60	47.0	85-90%	5-10%	50-60%	5-10%	25-30%	5-10%
Alloy Steel	Forging quality steel	3,200-3,400	42.3	1-2%	25-30%	10-15%	10-15%	35-40%	5-10%
Alloy Steel	Bearing steel	700-750	36.7	5-6%	35-40%	5-10%	15-20%	20-25%	5-10%
Alloy Steel	CHQ steel	580-630	30.9	5-6%	15-25%	30-40%	15-20%	10-15%	5-10%

Steel Type	Sub-category	Demand volume in kilo-tonnes in FY 2025	Import volume in kilo-tonnes in FY 2025	Import Dependency (Imports as a % of demand in FY 2025)	Percentage contribution of factors behind imports				
					Price advantage of imports	Domestic capability gaps	Limited SKU range	Customer Approval constraints	Others
Alloy Steel	Spring steel	520-570	14.8	2-3%	10-20%	35-45%	15-20%	15-20%	5-10%
Alloy Steel	Tool and Die steel	120-150	85.0	60-65%	5-10%	70-80%	5-10%	5-10%	5-10%
Alloy Steel	High speed steel	90-110	1.7	1-2%	5-10%	55-65%	10-15%	10-15%	5-10%
Alloy Steel	Case Hardening steel	40-60	19.7	37-42%	15-25%	30-40%	15-20%	10-15%	5-10%
Alloy Steel	Valve steel	21-24	5.6	24-27%	5-10%	50-60%	10-15%	15-20%	5-10%
Alloy Steel	Free cutting steel	16-19	~0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stainless Steel	Austenitic steel	1,600-1,800	1,051.0	60-65%	65-70%	10-15%	5-10%	0-5%	0-5%
Stainless Steel	Ferritic steel	700-800	162.9	21-23%	45-55%	15-20%	10-15%	5-10%	10-15%
Stainless Steel	Martensitic steel	320-370	72.4	20-22%	30-40%	25-35%	10-15%	10-15%	5-10%
Stainless Steel	Precipitation Hardening steel	160-180	2.8	~1%	5-10%	50-55%	5-10%	15-20%	5-10%
Stainless Steel	Duplex steel	105-125	1.0	~1%	5-10%	50-55%	5-10%	15-20%	5-10%
Stainless Steel	Super Duplex steel	50-60	1.5	2-3%	5-10%	50-55%	5-10%	15-20%	5-10%

HRPO: Hot Rolled Pickled and Oiled

API: American Petroleum Institute

CHQ: Cold heading quality

Source: Crisil Intelligence, Industry

Note: A higher % figure against a steel product (as given in sub-category column) corresponding to a factor implies a stronger reason (vis-à-vis a factor with a lower % figure) behind the import of the steel product in FY 2025. For instance, for Coated Steel Products (Carbon Steel), the price advantage of the imported products vis-à-vis the domestically produced products was primary reason of their imports in FY 2025. In other words, as per the estimates, around 55-60% of the imports of Coated Steel Products in FY 2025 happened because they had the price advantage against the domestically produced Coated Steel Products, making it the primary reason behind the imports of Coated Steel Products in India in FY 2025.

1.5 Recommendations

1.5.1 Recommendations to boost domestic manufacturing and to reduce imports

Category	Recommendations
Enhancing Raw Material Security	**Domestic Mining Expansion**: Improve domestic mining of critical raw materials (Cr,Ni,Mo)
	Scrap recycling ecosystem: Build ecosystem for collection, segregation and processing

Category	Recommendations
	International sourcing linkages: Strengthen partnership with resource-rich countries
Capex Initiatives	**Enhancement of secondary refining capacities**: Invest to produce ultra-low purity steel
	Downstream processing capabilities: Invest to produce application-ready steel
Quality Ecosystem Enhancement	**Create national level testing and certification facilities**: Standardize evaluation of steel
	Quality control enforcement: Reduce inflow of sub-standard steel imports
	Digital traceability: Enhance transparency and quality assurance
Policy Support	**PLI coverage expansion**: Incentivize domestic capacity creation
	Longer incentive horizons: Improve viability for high-capex segments
	Input duty rationalization: Reduce landed costs of imported raw materials
	Domestic usage mandates: Support scale-up of domestic capacities
	DMI&SP expansion: Strengthen domestic participation in public procurement
Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) & Cluster Development	**Dedicated Specialty Steel manufacturing zones development**: Integrated eco-systems
	Promote co manufacturing with primary mills: Link upstream and downstream units
	MSME financing support: Expansion of downstream processing capabilities
	Strategic co-location: Reduction of logistics costs and turn-around times
Rationalization of Trade Policies	**Import safeguards**: Addressal of unfair pricing practices and Support of domestic mills
	Selective duty exemptions: Reduced duty on critical inputs to improve cost competitiveness
Research and Development (R&D) and Technology Acquisition	**Process innovation support**: Develop new and advanced steel grades
	Technology partnerships: Accelerate capability development in high-performance segments

1.5.2 Recommendations to reduce Import of Cheap / Substandard Steel & to develop a Specialty Steel Eco-system

Category	Recommendations
Strengthening Quality Control and Import Discipline	**Expansion and Strict Enforcement of Quality Control Orders (QCOs)**
	Strengthening of Port-level Testing Infrastructure, Random Batch Inspections, HS-code Checks and End-use Verification
	Strengthening of Anomaly Detection to Prevent Concessional Import Misuse and Third-country Routing
Strengthening Trade Defence Measures for Vulnerable Product Segments	**Fast-tracking of anti-dumping and safeguard measures**: Helpful in addressing losses to domestic industry
	Introduction of reference pricing mechanisms: Implementation of Minimum Import Price
	Continuously Monitoring of Country-wise Dumping Patterns and Trigger Targeted Trade Actions
Cluster-Based Manufacturing Ecosystem	**Development of sector-focused clusters**: For example, Development of HSS / AHSS manufacturing clusters nears Automobile Hubs
	Linking of Clusters with Defence Corridors for Alloy Steels and Engineering Hubs for CHQ / Forging Quality Steel
	Co-location of ISPs, MSMEs, Testing Laboratories and Tool Rooms to Support Domestic Value Addition
Structured ISP–MSME Collaboration Models	**Long-term supply agreements between ISPs and MSMEs**
	Establishment of common facility centres (CFCs): For example, set-up of common access to secondary refining processes through a service model
	Collaborative R&D initiatives: Accelerate development of advanced steel grades
	Technology transfer partnerships: Accelerate access to best practices in steel manufacturing

About Crisil Intelligence (formerly Market Intelligence & Analytics)

Crisil Intelligence is a leading provider of research, consulting, risk solutions and advanced data analytics, serving clients across government, private and public enterprises. We leverage our expertise in data-driven insights and strong benchmarking capabilities to help clients navigate complex external ecosystems, identify opportunities, and mitigate risks. By combining cutting-edge analytics, machine learning and AI capabilities with deep industry knowledge, we empower our clients to make informed decisions, drive business growth and build resilient capacities.

For more information, visit Intelligence.Crisil.com

About Crisil

Crisil is a global, insights-driven analytics company. Our extraordinary domain expertise and analytical rigour help clients make mission-critical decisions with confidence.

Large and highly respected firms partner with us for the most reliable opinions on risk in India, and for uncovering powerful insights and turning risks into opportunities globally. We are integral to multiplying their opportunities and success.

Headquartered in India, Crisil is majority owned by S&P Global.

Founded in 1987 as India's first credit rating agency, our expertise today extends across businesses: Crisil Ratings, Crisil Intelligence, Crisil Coalition Greenwich and Crisil Integral IQ.

Crisil's global workforce operates in the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Australia and the Middle East, setting the standards by which industries are measured.

For more information, visit www.Crisil.com

Connect with us: LinkedIn | Twitter

Crisil Privacy

Crisil respects your privacy. We may use your personal information, such as your name, location, contact number and email id to fulfil your request, service your account and to provide you with additional information from Crisil. For further information on Crisil's privacy policy please visit https://www.crisil.com/content/crisilcom/en/home/crisil-privacy-notice.html.