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Concrete as a construction material.

• what is concrete?

- concrete is the most widely used man made construction in the world is second only to water as the most utilized substances on the planet.
- It is often by mixing cementing material, water & aggregates & some time admixture in required proportions.
- The mixture when placed in forms in allowed to cure hardens into a rock-like mass known as concrete.
- The hardening is caused by chemical reaction between water & cement & it continues for a long time & consequently the concrete grows stronger with age.
- The hardened concrete may also be considered as an artificial stone in which the voids of larger particles (coarse aggregate) are filled by the smaller particles (fine aggregate) & the voids of fine aggregate are filled with cement. In concrete mixed the cementing material & water from a paste called cement water paste, which is addition to filling the voids the fine aggregate & coarse aggregate & bind them together as masses. their by cementing material.

→ The key to producing a strong, durable & uniform concrete that is high performance concrete lies in the careful control of its basic & process component this are the following cement :- Portland cement, the most widely used ingredient in present day comprises phases that consists of compounds of calcium, silicon, alumina, iron, & oxygen

aggregate :- This are primarily naturally occurring inert granular material such as sand, gravel, crushed stone,

water :- The water content & the mineral & chemical dissolved in it are crucial to achieving quality concrete.

• chemical admixtures :-

These are the ingredients other than Portland cement & aggregates that are added to the mixture initially before or during mixing reduce the water requirement, accelerated or retarded setting specific durability character etc.

• supplementary cementing material :-

It is also known as mineral admixtures contribute to the properties of hardened concrete through hydraulic one

- pozzolanic activity,

Ex - Natural pozzolanas, Flagash, ground-granulated, blast furnace, slag, silica-fume,

→ concrete has high compressive strength but its tensile strength is very low, in situation where tensile stress are developed the concrete is strengthened by steel bars short randomly distributed fibers forming a composite construction called Reinforced cement concrete (R.C.C) or fiber reinforced concrete, the concrete without reinforcement called plain cement concrete (P.C.C) or concrete.

\* Grades of concrete :-

Grade		material
		Cement : Sand : aggregate
① M <sub>5</sub>	-	1 : 5 : 10
② M <sub>7.5</sub>	-	1 : 4 : 8
③ M <sub>10</sub>	-	1 : 3 : 6
④ M <sub>15</sub>	-	1 : 2 : 4
⑤ M <sub>20</sub>	-	1 : 1.5 : 3
⑥ M <sub>25</sub>	-	1 : 1 : 2

M<sub>10</sub> - M<sub>20</sub> = Ordinary concrete

M<sub>25</sub> - M<sub>55</sub> = Standard concrete

M<sub>60</sub> - M<sub>80</sub> = High strength concrete.

→ For  $m_s$   $m$  is mix design &  $s$  is characteristic  
-~~is~~istic compressive strength after  
28 days.

• Advantages of concrete :-

Concrete as a construction material has the following advantages

- (1) concrete is economical in the long run as compare to other engineering materials. Except cement, it can made from locally available coarse & fine aggregate.
- (2) concrete possesses a high compressive strength, & the corrosive & weathering effect are minimal when properly prepared its strength is equal to that of a hard natural stone.
- (3) the green or newly mixed concrete can be easily handle & molded or formed in to virtually any shape or size according to specifications
- (4) It is strong in compression & has unlimited structural applications in combination with steel reinforcement. concrete & steel have approximately equal coefficient of expansion.

- (5) concrete can be pumped & hence it can be laid in difficult positions also.
- (6) concrete can even be spread on an field into fine cracks for repair by the gunning process.
- (7) It is durable, fire resistance & requires very little maintenance.

• Disadvantages of concrete :-

The following are the dis-advantages of concrete.

- (1) concrete has low tensile strength & hence cracks easily, therefore concrete is to be reinforced with steel bars or meshes or fibers.
- (2) fresh concrete shrinks on drying & hardened expand on wetting. Provision for construction joint has to be made to avoid the development due to drying shrinkage & moisture movements.
- (3) concrete expand & contracts with the change in temperature hence, expansion joints have to be provided to avoid the formation, the cracks due to thermal movement.
- (4) concrete under sustained loading undergoes creep resulting in the reduction of pre-stress the pre stress construction.
- (5) concrete entirely impenetrable to moisture & contains soluble salts which may cause a efflorescence.
- (6) concrete is liable to disintegrate by alkali & sulphate attack.

## ② 2nd chapter

### Cement

- Cement - cement is a well known building material & has occupied an indispensable place in construction work, there are of variety of cement available in market a mixture cement & sand when mixed with water to form a paste is known as cement mortar, whereas the compressive product obtained by mixing cement, water & an inert matrix of sand & gravel or crushed stone is known as cement concrete.

→ cement mortar used in portland cement.

→ portland cement is defined as hydraulic cement, that is a cement that not only hardens by reacting with water but also forms a water resistance product.

- OPC - portland cement having adhesive & cohesive which provide binding medium for desiccant ingredients

→ It is obtained by mixing together in a defined proportion, a mixture of naturally occurring argillaceous (alumina) & calcareous materials to a partial fusion on high temperature ( $1450^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

The product obtained on burning is called as clinker or nodules (3-25mm) diameter, is called & ground to the required fineness to produce a material known as cement.

→ during the grinding of clinker, gypsum or plaster of parice (casay) is added to adjust the seting time the amount of gypsum is about 3% by weight of clinker, is also improve the soundness the cement.

composition of portland cement :-

→ The raw material consist mainly lime, silica alumina & iron oxide, depending upon the wide variety of raw materials used in the manufactures in cement the oxide composition of PPC are as follows :-

Oxide	Percentage	Average
Lime " $CaO$ "	60 - 65	63
Silica " $SiO_2$ "	17 - 25	20
Alumina " $Al_2O_3$ "	3.9 - 9	6.3
Iron oxide " $Fe_2O_3$ "	0.5 - 6	3.3
Magnesia " $MgO$ "	0.5 - 4	2.4
Sulphur trioxide " $SO_3$ "	0.5 - 2	1.5
Alkalies	0.5 - 1.3	1.0



→ The composition of portland cement basically mainly 4 compound:-

Tricalcium silicate 'C <sub>3</sub> S'	3CaO.SiO <sub>2</sub> (alite)	25-50
Dicalcium silicate 'C <sub>2</sub> S'	2CaO.SiO <sub>2</sub> (belite)	20-40
Tricalcium Aluminate (C <sub>3</sub> A)	3CaO.Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (aluminite)	5-12
Tetra calcium Alumina Ferrite (C <sub>4</sub> AF)	4CaO.Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (Ferrite)	6-12

→ The two silicate mainly C<sub>3</sub>S, C<sub>2</sub>S, together constitute about 70-80% of the cement but C<sub>3</sub>S, C<sub>2</sub>S give the same product called calcium silicate & calcium hydroxide.

→ C<sub>3</sub>S having a faster rate of reaction accompanied by greater heat evolution develops early strength.

→ On the other hand C<sub>2</sub>S hydrates & hardens slowly & provides much of ultimate strength.

→ C<sub>3</sub>S & C<sub>2</sub>S need approximately 24% & 21% water by weight.

→ Thus a higher % of C<sub>3</sub>S results in reapp hardening with an early gain in strength at a higher heat of hydration.

→ C<sub>3</sub>A in cement is comparatively small than water required for the hydration of cement is fully offset. It provides weak resistance to sulphate attack.

## Hydration of cement :-

When the cement comes in contact with water the hydration of cement process both inward & outward in the sense that the hydration product get deposition on the outer periphery & the nucleus. & the on hydrated cement inside, grate gradually diminished in volume.

→ The reaction proceeds slowly for 2-5 hrs before accelerating as the surface skin breaks.

→ The crystal of various resulting compounds form an interlocking random three dimensional filling the space originally occupied by the water, resulting in stiffening.

## water cement ratio :-

i) A cement of average composition requires about 25% of water by mass for chemical reaction.

ii) → The relation between water to cement ratio strength lesser the water used higher the strength of concrete since that much water.

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# Physical Properties of portland cement

## ① Fineness test:-

- The fineness of a cement is a measure of the size of particles of cement & expressed in terms of specific surface of cement. It is an important factor in determining the rate of gain of strength.
- For a given weight of cement the surface area is more for a finer cement than for a coarser cement.
- The residue of cement should not exceed 10% when sieved on a 90  $\mu$  sieve.

## ② ~~Setting~~ setting time:-

Cement when mixed with water forms paste. Finally a hard mass is obtained. In this process of setting a stage is reached when the cement paste is sufficiently rigid to withstand a definite amount of pressure. The time to reach this stage is called setting time.

- It is divided in 2 parts, named initial & final setting time.

The time at which the cement paste loses its plasticity is termed as initial setting time. (it should not be 30 min).

The time taken to reach the stage when the paste becomes a hard mass is known as final setting time. (it should not be more than 600 min or 10 hrs)

### i) Soundness -

The unsoundness cement is caused by the undesirable expansion of some of its constituents sometimes after setting.

The soundness is due to the presence of free lime & magnesia in the cement. The free-lime hydrates very slowly because it is covered by thin film of cement, which prevents direct contact between lime & water.

### ii) compressive strength:-

The strength paste generally carries out in tension & compression. The ability of cement to make concrete in compression is strong therefore this are largely this supersede the mortar cube crushing paste & concrete compressive strength.

Cement mortar (1:3) having an area of saw area prepared & tested in testing machine.

## Types of cement

- 1) By using additives, changing the chemical composition of the portland cement, varying the percentage of 4 basic compounds through the different raw materials it is to obtain several types of cement, each with some unique characteristics for the regular performance a gradual increase in 'C<sub>3</sub>S' content & fineness as enable generate proper very high strength at early ages.

Type of cement	oxide composition %				compound composition %		
	CaO	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>3</sub> S	C <sub>2</sub> S	C <sub>3</sub> A
Ordinary cement	63	20.6	6.5	3.6	40	30	11
Rapid-hardening	48.5	20.7	5.2	2.9	50	21	9
Low-heat	60	22.5	3.2	4.6	25	45	5
Sulfate resistance	64	24.5	3.7	3.0	40	40	5

### General properties of portland cement

The commonly use portland cement in it is branded as 33 grade, 43 grade & 53 grade

having 28 days min compressive strength exceeding 33, 43 & 53 mpa respectively all the 3 grade of ordinary portland cement the same material by increasing the tricalcium silicate (C<sub>3</sub>S) also by finere grinder clinkere.

IS 10262 - 1982 has classify the OPC grade wise from A to F during open the 28 days compressive strength are,

A (32.5 - 37.5) mpa or N/mm<sup>2</sup>

B (37.5 - 42.5)

C (42.5 - 47.5)

D (47.5 - 52.5)

E (52.5 - 57.5)

F (57.5 - 62.5)

OPC based cement :-

opc based cement are the following type :-

- Rapid hardening portland cement
- low heat portland cement
- sulfate-resisting cement
- masonry cement
- water proof cement
- white portland cement
- color portland cement

→ Hydrophobic cement

→ Air-entraining cement.

→ Expansive cement

→ Oil-well cement

→ Rapid hardening cement :-

• The cement is similar to OPC but high "C<sub>3</sub>S" content & finer grinding, a higher

fineness of cement particles greater surface area for action with water, & gain strength more quickly than OPC.

• It is only about 10% costly of them OPC.

→ Low-heat portland cement

• The cement is less reactive than OPC & is often obtained by increasing the proportion of "C<sub>2</sub>S" & reducing "C<sub>3</sub>S". This reaction in the content of more rapidly fibrous compound C<sub>3</sub>S & C<sub>2</sub>S is a slow development of strength but ultimate strength is same.

• It is used in mass cement construction.

### 3) Sulphate-resistance cement :-

- A portland cement with low  $C_3A$  &  $C_4AF$  contents is very effective against sulphate attack. Such a cement having high silicate content is called sulphate resisting cement.
- IS 456-2000 limits the total content of  $C_4AF$  &  $C_3A$  such that they both shall not exit 25%

### 4) masonry cement :-

- This cement is manufactured by intimately grinding a mixture of OPC clinker (5-25mm) & gypsum with mineral additives or inert materials such as lime stone dolomite, carbonated sludge & air entraining agents in suitable proportion generally to a fineness greater than that of OPC.
- masonry cement conforming to the standard requirement can be produced by intergrinding 3 parts of portland cement clinker & 5 parts of granulated blast furnace slag.
- Setting time - initial - 90 min  
Final - 24 hrs



→ white portland cement:-

- The process of manufacturing white cement is the same as OPC but the amount of iron oxide which is responsible for greyish color is limited to 1%

- This is achieved by careful selection of raw material & often by the use of refined furnace air (RFA) or gas fuel in place of pulverized iron in kiln

• water-proof portland cement:-

→ It is manufactured by adding a water proofing substance to ordinary portland cement during mixing.

→ The common admixtures are calcium stearate, aluminium stearate, gypsum treated with tannic acid.

• color portland cement:-

→ This is basically portland cement to which pigment is added in quantities up to 10% during the process of grinding the cement clinker.

## Hydrophobic Cement:-

- This type cement is obtained by adding water repellent film forming substances like stearic acid, boric acid, oleic acid & pentachlorophenol to OPC during grinding of cement clinkers.
- This cement is useful for the less having high humidity, poor transportation systems & perforce storage for long time.

## Air-entraining cement:-

- This cement manufactured by small quantity of air entraining agents like alkali salts, alcohol resins, synthetic detergent or alkyl aryl sulfate type & calcium ligno sulphate with OPC.

It is added to an extent 0.025 - 0.10% by weight of OPC cement clinkers at the time of grinding.

## Expansive cement:-

Cement which doesn't shrink while hardening & expands slightly time is called expansive cement.

This cement is commonly used for grouting anchors, bolts or grouting machine - function or prestress concrete ducts.

- Oil-well cement :-

- The annular space between steel casing & cementary of wellbore through oil-well has been dealt of drill. It shall be by cement slurry to prevent escape of oil & gas.
- It is used at considerable depth where prevailing temperature may be high  $350^{\circ}\text{C}$  under pressure up to 150 mpa it resist corrosion condition from sulphur gas

- Very high strength cement :-

The cement of this category can be obtained by improving porosity & micro-structure of cement paste as follows.

→ removing entrapped air :-

In the conventionally mixed cement paste relatively long voids or defects are usually present due to entrapped air which limit the strength. In one of the systems water soluble polymer is added as a rheological aid to permit cement to mixed with a very small amount of water & as final processing of strength entrapped air is removed by application of pressure of 5 mpa.

providing densely packed system :-  
opc & ultrafine silica fume are mixed up into  
densified system containing homogeneously  
arranged particles. A compressive 270 mpa  
has been obtained with silica fume substituted  
paste

achieving densification with pressing by this  
method with warm pressing i.e. applying  
heat & pressure simultaneously to cement  
paste. result in proximity & generation of  
very homogenous of fine micro structure  
with small porosity.

non-opc cement :-

- High alumina cement
- magnesium phosphate cement

High alumina cement :-

This cement basically different from opc &  
concrete made with it has properties  
different from opc concrete.

HAC is very reactive & produces very  
high early strength reactive & produces  
very high early strength about 80% of  
ultimate strength is developed after the age  
of 24 hours & even at 6-8 hrs. HAC has  
an initial setting time of about 4 hours

8 Final setting time 5 hrs

- HAC is extremely resistance to chemical attack & is suitable for under sea water application
- The material used from its manufacture are lime stone or chalk & Bauxite, which are crushed into lumps not exceeding 100mm
- The raw material with appropriate proportion of coke are charged into furnace which is fired with pulverized coal or oil. The fusion take place ~~1600°C~~ of about 1600°C
- Magnesium - phosphate cement:-
  - It consist of a pre-packed mixture dead burnt magnesite & fine aggregate
  - It sets rapidly & yields durable high strength cement mortar. The dead burnt magnesite is obtained by calcining  $MgCO_3$  at or above 1500°C & grinding the product to fineness to 300000 - 350000  $mm^2/g$

## Aggregate, water & admixture ch-3

Aggregate :-

concrete can be considered to be an artificial stone obtained by binding together the particles of relatively inert fine coarse material with cement paste. aggregate is generally cheaper than cement & impact greater volume stability & durability in concrete.

- In any concrete usually aggregate forms about 70-75% of the total volume mass
- Aggregate influences the properties of the concrete such as water requirement, cohesiveness & workability in the concrete in the plastic stage.
- The aggregate is an inert filler material & its physical, thermal & chemical properties influence the performance to a great extent while choosing aggregate for a particular concrete. Following requirements should be kept in mind.

→ Economy of mixture

- strength of the hardened mass
- durability of the structure.

\* classification of aggregate:-

- The classification of aggregate based on their geological origin, size, shape, unit, etc.

\* classification according to geological origin:-

The aggregate are usually derived from naturally occurring materials having naturally reduced to desired size to crossing the sieveability of locally available deposit often geological history of the region.

- according to source of material of formation the aggregate are classified into two ways.

- (1) Natural aggregate
- (2) Artificial aggregate.

(1) Natural aggregate:-

This are naturally occurring aggregates of sand from natural deposit sand or gravel. The cheapest natural occurring aggregates is natural sand & gravel. The most commonly used source of naturally

2) Artificial aggregate :-

This are artificially manufactured or processed aggregate. The most widely used artificial coarse aggregate are clean broken bricks, & air cooled fresh blast furnace slag. The artificial fine aggregate may be saw dust flyash etc.

2) Classification according size :-

The size of aggregate used in concrete range from few cm or more down to a few  $\mu$

The max size of aggregate may vary but in each case it is to be so graded that the particles of different size

fraction are in ~~the~~ incorporated in the max in appropriate proportion.

- The particle size distribution is called the grading of aggregate.

• According to the size the aggregate are classified 3 types

- (1) Fine aggregate
- (2) coarse "
- (3) All-in "



① Fine aggregate :- The aggregate most of which passes through 4.75 mm is sieve & retained on 75  $\mu$  (i.e. 0.075 mm) is sieve size termed as fine aggregate.

\* material between 0.06 mm & 0.002 mm is classified as silt & smaller particles are called clay.

The soil consist sand, silt & clay in about equal proportion is called loam.

- Fine aggregate helpfull in filling of the voids of coarse aggregate. The fine aggregate of natural sand or crushed stone, sand or crushed gravel sand.

\* coarse - aggregate :-

The aggregate most of which retained on the 4.75 mm is sieve & content only that much of fine material by the specification as termed as coarse aggregate.

• on crushed gravel or stone may be one of the of tend by the crushing of gravel hard stone.

The graded coarse aggregate is described by its normal size 40, 20, 16, 12.5 mm etc.

All-in - aggregate :-

Some time combine aggregate available in natural - comprising different fraction of fine & coarse aggregate which are known as all-in - aggregate.

→ It is not generally making high quality concrete / single size aggregate :-

Aggregate comprising particles volume essential with a narrow limit size fraction are called single size aggregate.

Ex - A 20mm single size aggregate means all aggregate most of which passes through 20mm is sieve & the measure portion of which is retained in a 10mm sieve.

The elongation index of an defined as the % by weight of particles present in it whose greater dimension whose length is greater than  $\frac{9}{5}$  of their mean dimension.

Ex - mean size of aggregate =  $\frac{16 + 20}{2} = 18 \text{ mm}$

Elongated index =  $\frac{9}{5} \times 18 = 32.4 \text{ mm}$

\* elongated index =  $100 \times \frac{\text{weight of elongated aggregate}}{\text{weight of complete sample}}$

Flaky Index:-

It is the % by weight of particles having least dimension less than  $\frac{2}{3}$  of their mean dimension

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex - mean size of aggregate} &= \frac{16 + 12.5}{2} \\ &= \frac{28.5}{2} = 14.25 \text{ mm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Flaky index } \frac{2}{3} \times 14.25 = 9.5 \text{ mm}$$

classification of unit weight aggregate:-

- The aggregate can also be classified according to be normal weight, heavy weight & light weight.

(2) Normal weight aggregate:-

The commonly use aggregate i.e sand & gravel crushed rock such as granite, basalt, quartz, sand stone, lime stone etc which have specific gravity between 2.3 to 2.8. Produce concrete with unit weight range from 23-26  $\text{kn/m}^3$

Heavy weight aggregate :-

Some have weight or high density aggregate such as barite (S.G - 4.0 - 4.6) Ferro phosphate (S.G - 5.8 - 6.8), graphite (S.G - 3.4 - 3.7) Hematite (S.G - 4.9 - 5.3) Magnetite (S.G - 4.0 - 4.6) Limonite (S.G - 3.4 - 4.0), magnetite (4.2 - 5.2) are used in the manufacture of heavy weight concrete which is more effective as radiation shield, concrete having unit weight about 31, 30, 35, 39, 40, 47, 55, 74 kN/m<sup>3</sup>

\* Light weight aggregate :-

Light weight having unit weight upto 12 kN/m<sup>3</sup> are used to manufacture the structural concrete & masonry block for reduction of the self weight of the structure. This aggregate may be natural such as diatomite pumice may be natural or treated clay aggregate.

## Characteristic of aggregate :-

Aggregate are the inert material that is mixed in fixed proportion with cement material to produce concrete. These aggregate filters are volume increasing components are responsible strength, hardness & durability.

- The plastic stage aggregate influences the property of concrete such as water requirement, cohesive ness & workability of concrete while they influences strength, durability & hardened stage.

- The properties of aggregate which influence the properties of concrete are particle shape & size of aggregate, specific gravity, bulk density, water absorption, surface moisture, deleterious material, strength of aggregate, alkali reaction.

• The specific gravity of an is defined as the ratio of the mass of the solid in a given volume of sample to the mass of an equal volume of water at the same temperature.

The specific gravity of most aggregate varies between 2.4 - 2.9

Cement — 3.15

granite — 2.80

Pine-aggregate — 2.63

gravel — 2.66

Types of specific gravity :-

- 1) apparent specific gravity.
- 2) Bulk specific gravity.

1) apparent specific gravity.

The ratio of weight of aggregate to the weight of water occupying the volume equal to the solid aggregate.

2) Bulk specific gravity

The ratio of weight of aggregate to the weight of water occupying the volume equal to that of solid of aggregate including air is known as bulk specific gravity.

Specific gravity =  $\frac{\text{mass of oven dry aggregate}}{\text{air}} \cdot$

- mass of saturated surface dry aggregate / mass of saturated surface aggregate in water.

apparent specific gravity: -  $\frac{C}{C-B}$

water absorption:  $\frac{A-C}{C} \times 100$

loose bulk density: - it can be determined by filling the container with dry aggregate until it overflows from the container now label the top of container by weight the aggregate mass.

voids: - it is the empty spaces between the aggregate particles it is determined between gross volume of aggregate mass & the volume occupied of the particles along.

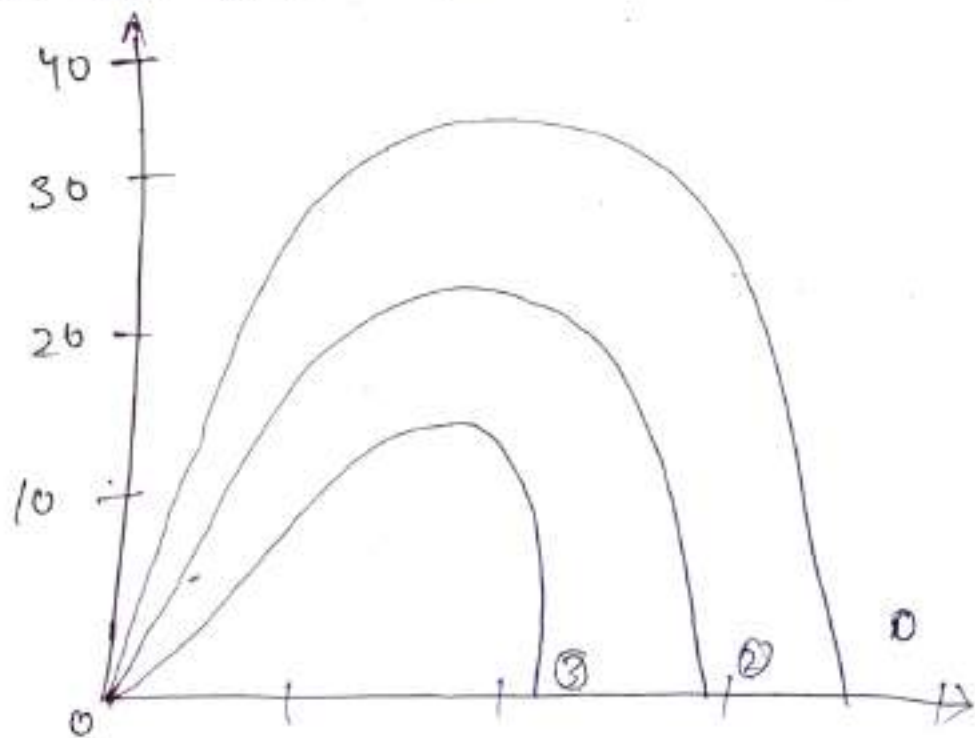
void ratio =  $1 - \frac{\text{bulk density}}{\text{apparent specific gravity}}$

## Bulking of sand:-

The increase in volume of a given mass of fine aggregate caused by the presence of water is known as bulking.

The bulking of fine aggregate is caused by the presence of water which the particles of sand extend or bulking depend on the moisture present in sand.

If the sand contains moisture content up to 12-20% then it occupies the same volume when it dries with moisture content of 5% the sand may bulk up to 20-40% upon the fineness sand.



- ① fine sand
- ② medium sand
- ③ coarse sand



$$\% \text{ bulking} = \frac{h - h_1}{h_1} \times 100$$

$h$  = height of sand

$h_1$  = height of water

- concrete is a chemical combined mass which is manufactured from binding materials & inert materials mixed with water
- water is an important constituent
- It chemically reacts with cement
- strength & durability of concrete is control to a large extent by its water-cement ratio
- The minimum water-cement required is 0.30 but the concrete containing water this proportion will be very hard & difficult to place but too much water reduces the strength of concrete
- the more water added to concrete the more water along with cement

Quality of mixing water:-

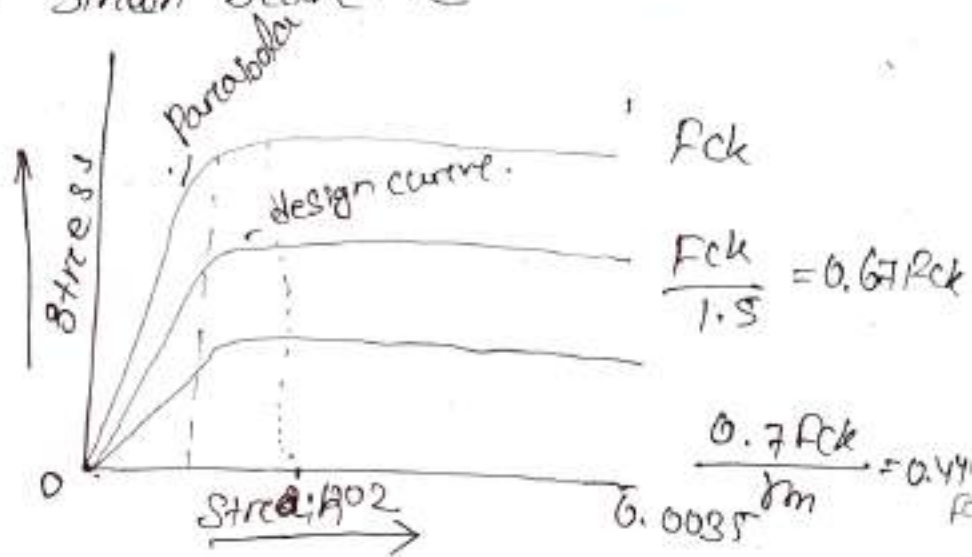
The water used for mixing & curing of concrete should be free from amount of deleterious material the unwanted situation leading to the distress of concrete which is caused due to the mixing curing water being of inappropriate quality.

- Effects of Impurities of water on Properties of concrete.
- The strength & durability of concrete is reduce due to the % of impurities of mixing water.
- The effects are mainly expressed in terms of difference in the setting of the portland cement.
- A difference in 28 days compressive strength of 10% of control test generally considered to be satisfactory measured the quality of mixing water.
- Desulphated reduces compressive strength by 10-30% of that of test using portable water, water containing longer quality of chloride containing longer quantity

## Stress-strain characteristics of concrete

- The relation is fairly linear in the initial stages but subsequently becomes non linear reaching a maximum value & then a decreasing portion is often before concrete finally fails.

The curve is usually obtained by testing a cylinder with a height lateral dimension ratio of at least 2 to under uniform rate of strain, if a uniform rate of stress adopted, it is not possible to get distinct portion of stress & strain bearing the maximum stress.



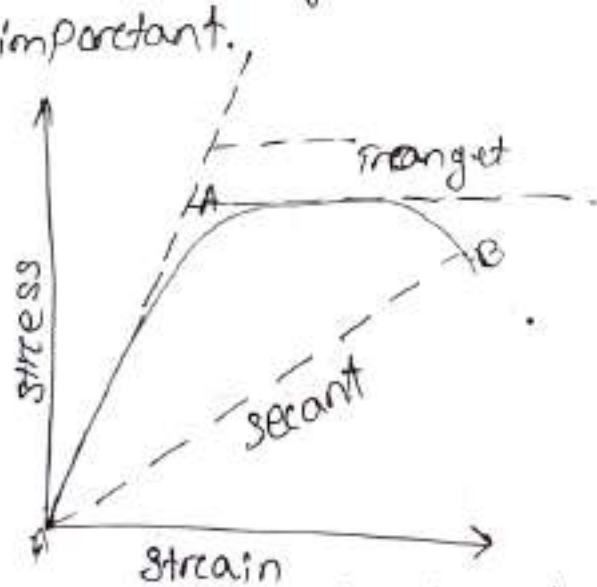
Concrete is not strictly elastic in the sense that if it is unloaded after being stressed to  $0.446 f_{ck}$  or  $0.5 f_{ck}$  or less a permanent set is noticed. The magnitude of permanent set gradually decreases with more cycles of loading & unloading. At  $0.446 f_{ck}$  & the stress-strain comes to become a straight line; the creep deformation of concrete also varies linearly with the substance stress.

or  $0.446 f_{ck} \approx 0.5 f_{ck}$

## • modulus of elasticity

The young modulus is defined as stress to strain. The stress-strain behavior of an elastic material is a straight line up to the elastic limit.

• concrete is not an elastic material, the stress-strain behavior concrete is a straight line of its ultimate strength. If a tangent to the initial point is drawn the slope of line is called initial tangent modulus of concrete stress-strain behavior as concrete is not a straight line the modulus is little important.



Suppose at any other point a tangent is drawn & the slope is find out, this is known as tangent modulus. the value of this modulus measure the increment stress can be. For an increment small value of stress, the strain calculate using this modulus the will not give the stress.

to obtain a satisfactory stress solution for the design a straight line drawn from the origin to the point on the stress strain called out which the deformation are to be calculated. the slope of this known as second modulus  $E_s$  is of a practicable value! the term elastic modulus of elasticity of second modulus only.

## shrinkage:-

The dimension stability of a construction material refers to its dimension change over a long period in time. If the change is so small that it will cause not only cause any structural problems, for concrete during shrinkage & creep are to phenomena additional to the deformation due to loads which compromise its dimensional stability.

It is the contraction suffered by concrete even in the absence of load.

The two types of shrinkage strains are  
(1) plastic (2) drying class

## Plastic shrinkage:-

The hydration of cement causes a reduction in the volume of the system of cement. The water to an extent  $\approx 1\%$  of the volume of dry cement. This contraction is plastic strain & is due to loss of water by evaporation surface of concrete, particularly under hot climate & high wind. This can result in surface cracking.

### \* Drying shrinkage:-

- The shrinkage takes place after the concrete has set & hardened is called drying shrinkage & it takes place in the 1st few months.
- Withdrawal of water from concrete stored in saturated air causes drying shrinkage.
- A part of this shrinkage is recovered on immersion of concrete in water. It is termed as moisture movement.
- The shrinkage is affected by water-cement ratio, cement content, ambient humidity, Type of aggregate, size & shape of specimen, Type of cement, admixture, other factors.

### \* Permeability of concrete:-

When free water in concrete evaporates it leaves voids in the concrete element creating capillaries which are directly related to the concrete porosity & permeability. The volume of moisture pass through depends on its permeability. Permeability is governed by porosity, which in turn is a direct result on the water-cement ratio on the concrete mix by proper selection of ingredients & mix proportioning & following the good construction practices almost impervious concrete can be obtained.

The well packed aggregate has reduce the amount of free water & cement paste.



### \* chloride attacks :-

when considering durability of concrete attack enemy, it responsible at least 50% of the failure of concrete structures.

In the presence of oxygen & water chloride the attack corrode the steel reducing the strength of structure drastically.

- chloride-ion is formed on the element chlorine gains 8 electron ore when a compound such as hydrogen chloride is dissolved in water.
- corrosion take place as the chloride ions meet with the steel & the surrounding passive material to produce a chemical process, which form hydrochloric acid.
- Two main source of chloride ions are from the chloride mix component & from the surrounding environment.

### \* Acid attack on concrete :-

Concrete structure used for storing liquids, some of which are harmful of concrete!

- In industrial plant concrete floor concrete come in contact liquids which damage the floor.
- In damp condition  $SO_2$  &  $CO_2$  & other acid fumes present in atmosphere affect concrete by dissolving & removing part of the set cement.



## Efflorescences :-

The water leaking through crack or faulty joint or through the area of compacted, porous concrete. Dissolves some of the readily soluble soluble calcium hydroxide & other solids & after evaporation leave calcium carbonate as white deposits on surface.

This deposits on surface of concrete from the leaching of calcium hydroxide & subsequent carbonation & evaporation are termed as efflorescences.

# concrete mix design

## Introduction :-

- Concrete mix design involves a process of preparation in which a mix of ingredients meet the required & durability for the concrete structures.

→ Concrete of different quality can be obtained using its constituents mainly cement, water, fine aggregate, coarse aggregate & mineral additives in different proportions. The ingredients' varying characteristics can be used to produce concrete of a suitable quality.

The common method of expressing the proportion of the material in a concrete mix in the form of parts in the ratio of cement, the fine & coarse aggregate being taken as unit.

→ The proportion should indicate it by volume or mass.

→ water cement ratio is generally expressed by mass.

- Data or input required for mix design :-  
For the mix design of concrete following data is required.

(i) Characteristic (target) compressive strength at 28 days.

(ii) Degree of workability (selection of water cement ratio)

- (ii) Estimation of entrapped air.
- (vi) Selection of water/cement & fine to total aggregate ratio,
- vii) calculation of cement content.
- viii) calculation of aggregate content.

characteristic compressive strength of 28 days.

→ The target mean compressive strength ( $f_t$ ), at 28 days each  $f_t = f_c + k \times s$

where  $f_t$  = target mean strength of 28 days  
 $f_c$  = characteristic strength of 28 days  
 $k$  = statistical coefficient known as tolerance factor or risk factor = 1.65  
 $s$  = Standard deviation for the initial value of mix design, 's' may be taken adopted from the table

Grade of concrete	assume standard deviation (5 MPa)	Remarks
M10	3.5	These values related to the site controls as below. (i) proper storage (ii) watch batching of all material
M15	3.5	
M20	4.0	(iii) control addition of water
M25	4.0	
M30	5.0	(iv) regular checking of all material (v) Periodical checking of workability & strength.
M35	5.0	
M40	5.0	
M45	5.0	
M50	5.0	

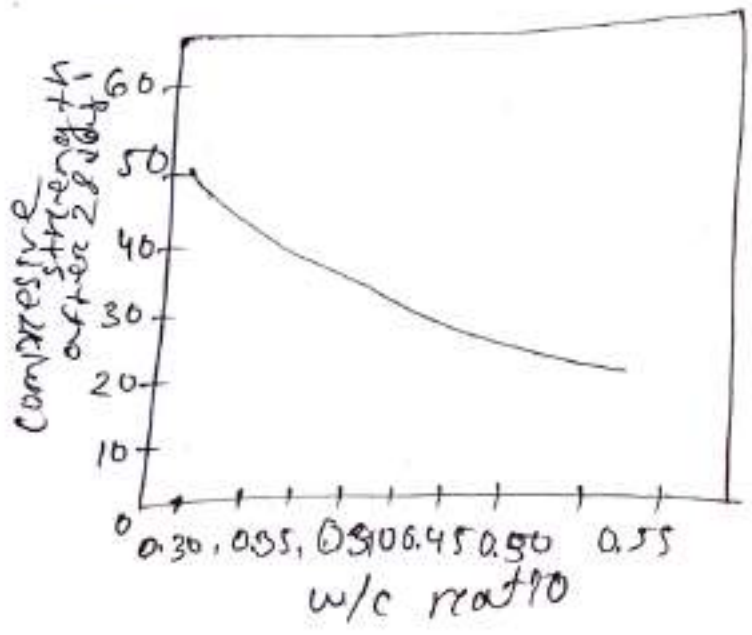
$$f_t = f_c + 1.65 \times S \quad - (iv)$$

Ex - For  $m_{10} = 10 + 1.65 \times 3.5$

(iv) Selection of water cement ratio:-

even when the water cement ratio is the compressive strength of concrete is influenced by cement, aggregate, maximum size aggregate, surface ~~size~~ texture.

→ The series degradable to establish relation between strength & free water cement, for the material to be used & site conditions.



i) Estimate of Entrapped air :-

The air content is estimated for the nominal aggregate used.

Approximate amount of entrapped air

max <sup>m</sup> size of aggregate mm	Entrapped air as % of volume of concrete
10	3.0
20	2.0
40	1.0

Selection of water content & Fine to total aggregate ratio :-

- For medium strength concrete i.e. M<sub>35</sub> grade concrete & high concrete i.e. higher than M<sub>35</sub> concrete.
- The water content & % of sand in total aggregate by absolute volume basis can be determined.
- The following conditions are followed (i) crushed coarse aggregate (ii) fine aggregate consisting of natural sand conforms to grading of zone 2
- cohesivity corresponding to 30mm (compression factor equal to 0.80)

• Calculation of the cement content :-

→ The cement content per unit volume concrete may be calculated from water/cement ratio & the quantity of water per unit volume concrete as cement by mass equal to water content / water/cement ratio. (IS-456-2000 P-20)

SL. NO.	EXPOSURE	Plain concrete			Reinforced concrete		
		Minimum cement content kg/m <sup>3</sup>	Maximum free-water-cement ratio	Minimum grade of concrete	Minimum cement content kg/m <sup>3</sup>	Maximum free-water-cement ratio	Minimum grade of concrete
1	Mild	220	0.60	—	300	0.55	M20
2	Moderate	240	0.60	M15	300	0.50	M25
3	Severe	250	0.50	M20	320	0.45	M30
4	Very severe	260	0.45	M20	340	0.45	M35
5	Extreme	280	0.40	M25	360	0.40	M40

• calculation for ~~fine~~ aggregate content: →

→ Aggregate content calculated may be relative:

$$V = (w + c/s_c + 1/p \times f_a/s_{fa}) \times A/1000$$

$$\text{Coarse aggregate} = C_a = \frac{1-p}{p \times} \times f_a \times \frac{s_{ca}}{s_{fa}}$$

where  $V$  = absolute volume of fresh concrete,  
which is equal to volume in concrete  
in  $m^3$  - the volume of entrapped air.

$w$  = mass of water ( $kg/m^3$  of concrete)

$c$  = " " cement ( $kg/m^3$  of concrete)

$s_c$  = specific gravity of cement

$p$  = ratio of fine aggregate to total aggregate  
by absolute volume.

$f_a$  = total mass of fine-aggregate in  
 $kg/m^3$  in concrete



$C_a$  = total mass of coarse aggregate in kg,  
 $m^3$  for concrete.

$S_{fa}$  &  $S_{ca}$  = specific gravity of fine aggregate  
& coarse aggregate respectively.

Actual quantity for the mix: -

The mix proportion calculate by the above noted method are based on the assumption that aggregates are saturated <sup>surface</sup> dry.

- Calculated mix should be checked by trial batch for each trial. The mix should be sufficient to prepare at list 3,  $150\text{ mm}$  cubes & workability any change is required to be done.

Nominal mix concrete: -

The wide use of concrete of construction material has led to the use of mixes of fixed proportion which ensure, adequate strength. This mixes are known as nominal mixes.

→ Nominal mix concrete use for concrete of grade  $M_{20}$  or lower. This mixes called standard mixes are by definition conservative but are useful as of the set of proportion that allow the designed concrete to be produced to minimum proportion work. For ordinary concrete from which quite on demanding performance is expected the nominal or standard are used.

## DESIGN MIX CONCRETE :-

The concrete making materials being essentially variable result in the production of concrete of variable quality. In such a situation, for high performance concrete, the most rational approach of mix proportioning is to select proportions with specific materials in which which possess more or less unique characteristics, this will ensure the concrete with the appropriate properties to be produced, most economically.

→ Other factors like workability, durability, compaction, equipment available, curing methods adopted, etc. also influence the choice of the mix proportions. The mix proportion so arrived at is called the "designed mix".

→ The method doesn't guarantee the correct mix for the desired strength, thereby necessitating the use of trial mixes.

→ In the process of mix proportioning, a number of subjective decisions are required on which hinge the important ramifications for the concrete. The designed mix serves only as guide.

## BASIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR CONCRETE MIX DESIGN

The concrete mix design is a process of selecting suitable ingredients for concrete & determining their proportions which would produce, as economically as possible, a concrete that satisfies the job requirements, i.e. concrete having a certain minimum compressive strength, workability & durability. The proportioning of the ingredients of concrete

an important phase of concrete technology  
it ensures quality & economy.

The proportioning of concrete mixes is accomplished by the use of certain empirical relationships. It offers a reasonably accurate guide to select the best combination of the ingredients so as to achieve the desired properties. The design of plastic concrete of medium strength can be based on the following assumptions.

- 1) The compressive strength of concrete is governed by its water-cement ratio
- 2) For the given aggregate characteristics, the workability of concrete is governed by its water content.

For high-strength or high-performance concrete mixes of low workability, considerable interaction occurs between the two criteria & the validity of such assumptions may become limited.

There are various factors which affect the properties of concrete, e.g. the quality & quantity of cement, water & aggregates, techniques used for batching, mixing, placing, compaction & curing, etc.

### MIX-DESIGN PROCEDURE :- (IS 10262 - 2009)

Concrete mix proportioning - Guidelines has allowed the format of ACI mix proportioning method; the European nations do not have a common concrete-mix design method because it considers mix design a part of concrete.

Production,

1.) Determination of basic characteristics of available fine & coarse aggregates:-

The properties required are:-

- The maximum nominal size of coarse aggregate.
  - The gradings fine & coarse aggregate.
  - The gradings zone of the fine aggregate.
  - The unit weight, specific gravities, & absorption capacities of both the coarse & fine aggregate.
- \* It necessary, two or more different size coarse aggregate fractions may be combined so that the overall grading of coarse aggregate conforms to table-2 of IS-383 For the Particular nominal maximum size of aggregate.

2.) Selection of free-water-cement ratio:-

- The mean target strength " $f_t$ " is determined from the specified characteristic compressive strength at 28-days " $f_{ck}$ " & the level of quality control using the equation.

$$f_t = f_{ck} + k \cdot S$$

$$f_t = f_{ck} + 1.65S$$

where  $S$  is the standard deviation &  $k$  is the statistical coefficient depending upon the accepted proportion of low result

$$k = 1.65 \text{ (from IS 456-2000)}$$

The standard deviation which represents the degree of control to be estimated statistically from the variations in results of test conducted on trial mixes in the field or laboratory. It shall be based on at least 30 test strength samples.

Group No.	Grade of concrete	Assumed standard deviation, mpa	Quality Control
1	M <sub>10</sub> , M <sub>15</sub>	3.5	The values correspond to the site control having proper storage of cement, weigh batching of all materials, controlled addition of water, regular checking of all materials, aggregate grading & moisture content, & periodical checking of workability & strength where is deviation from the above, values given in the above
2	M <sub>20</sub> , M <sub>25</sub>	4.0	
3	M <sub>30</sub> , M <sub>35</sub> , M <sub>40</sub> , M <sub>45</sub> , M <sub>50</sub> , M <sub>55</sub>	5.0	
From IS-456-2000 pg-23, Table-8			Table shall be increased by "1.0 mpa"

- 1) The free water-cement ratio for the mean target strength obtained in the step (a) is selected from the figure representing the relationship between the characteristic compressive strength & free w/c ratio established, for the materials to be used in the job.
- 2) The free w/c ratio so chosen is checked against the limiting the maximum w/c ratio for the requirement of durability given in the table, the lower of the two values is adopted.

\* minimum cement content & maximum water-cement ratio of concrete with normal-weight aggregate of 20 mm nominal maximum size subjected to different exposures / Adapted from IS-456-2000 pg-20, table

\* Adjustments to minimum cement contents for aggregates other than 20mm nominal maximum size.

Sl. No.	Nominal maximum size, mm	Adjustments to minimum cement contents, kg/m <sup>3</sup>
1	10	+40
2	20	0
3	40	-30

### 3) Selection of free water content:-

The water content per unit volume of concrete (for aggregate in saturated surface dry condition) is selected from the table for the standard conditions of type of aggregate & workability.

maximum water content for nominal maximum size of agg.

Sl. No	Nominal maximum size of agg., 'mm'	max. water content, kg	validity or reference conditions
1	10	208	applicable to angular crushed coarse agg.
2	20	186	water content corrected to saturated surface dry aggregate.
3	40	165	applicable to slump range of 25 to 50 mm.

Adjustments in the water content before the change in type of agg. & workability.

Change in conditions stipulated above	Adjustment required in water content
1) shape of aggregate. 1) sub-angular aggregate. 2) Gravel with same crushed particles. 3) Rounded gravel.	-10 kg -20 kg -25 kg
1) workability 1) for each additional 25 mm slump alternatively, 2) Required water content may be established by trial. 3) use of chemical admixtures conforming to IS 9103	+3 % water reducing admixtures & superplasticizers usually decrease water content by 5 to 10 % & 20 % & above respectively at appropriate dosages

selection of cement content :-

- The minimum cement content & supplementary cementitious material content per unit volume of concrete calculated by dividing free water content received after adjustments in the step (3) by the free w/c ratio obtained in the step 2 (b).
- The cementitious material content so obtained is compared with minimum value based on the requirements of the durability, & greater of the two values adopted.

### 5) Estimation of volume proportion of coarse agg. in total aggregate:-

The volume proportion ( $p$ ) of coarse agg. of given nominal maximum size is estimated from the table for the reference water-cement ratio of 0.5 & grading zone of fine aggregate used; it is adjusted suitably for the selected water-cement ratio.

- Proportion of coarse aggregate to total aggregate for different zones of fine agg. (IS-10262-2009)

Sl. No.	Nominal maximum size of agg. (mm)	Volume fraction of coarse agg. to total agg. ( $p$ ) for different zones of fine agg.			
		Zone IV	III	II	I
1	10	0.50	0.48	0.46	0.44
2	20	0.66	0.64	0.62	0.60
3	40	0.75	0.73	0.71	0.69

### 6) Computation of total absolute volume of aggregate:-

The total absolute volume of coarse & fine agg. (Saturated surface dry condition) is computed by subtracting the sum of absolute volumes of constituents materials & water already determined in steps 2 & 3, the chemical admixture & entrained air, from the total volume of concrete.



Thus, total absolute volume of agg. ( $v_a$ ) ( $m^3$ ) is given by

$$v_a = 1.0 - \left[ v - \frac{c}{s_c \times 1000} + \frac{w}{1000} \right]$$

where,  $w$ ,  $c$ ,  $v$  &  $s_c$  are the mass of water ( $m$ ), mass of cement ( $kg$ ), air content ( $m^3$ ) per  $m^3$  & the specific gravity of cement, respectively.

4) Determination of absolute volumes of fine & coarse agg. :-

The volume of agg. obtained in step 6 is divided into coarse & fine aggregate fractions by volume in accordance with coarse agg. proportion "P" already determined in step 5. The absolute volumes of coarse agg. ( $v_{ca}$ ) & fine agg. ( $v_{fa}$ ) per unit volume of concrete are determined as

$$v_{ca} = P \cdot v_a \quad \& \quad v_{fa} = (1-P) v_a$$

where, ( $P$ ) represents the ratio of coarse agg. in the total absolute volume of agg. Therefore, contents of fine & coarse agg. by mass are,

$$C_{fa} = (s_{fa} \times 1000) v_{fa} \quad \&$$

$$C_{ca} = (s_{ca} \times 1000) v_{ca}$$

where,  $s_{fa}$  &  $s_{ca}$  are the specific gravity of saturated surface dry fine & coarse agg. respectively, in  $kg/liters$ .

Thus the concrete mix proportions for the dry mix total mix by mass ( $kg$ ) are :-

Cement : water : fine agg. : coarse agg.  
 $c : w : v_{fa} \cdot S_{fa}(1000) : v_{ca} \cdot S_{ca}(1000)$

- The above concrete mix proportions can be expressed by volume ( $m^3$ ) as where,  $v_c$  & the bulk densities, respectively.

Cement water fine agg. coarse agg.  
 $\frac{c}{v_c} : \frac{w}{1000} : \frac{v_{fa} \cdot S_{fa}(1000)}{v_{fa}} : \frac{v_{ca} \cdot S_{ca}(1000)}{v_{ca}}$

where,  $v_c$ ,  $v_{fa}$  &  $v_{ca}$  are the bulk densities ( $kg/m^3$ ) of cement, fine & coarse agg. respectively.

- Adjustments for agg. moisture & determination of final proportions:-

Since agg. are batched on actual weight basis, the amount of mixing water to be added is adjusted to take into account the absorption & the current moisture content to generate equivalent of saturated surface dry condition of the agg.

- Preparation of trial batches & testing

(a) The concrete mix proportions for the first trial mix or trial mix no.1 are determined & the workability of the trial mix is measured in the terms of slump, the mix is carefully observed for freedom from segregation & bleeding & its finishing properties. If the slump of trial mix is different from the stipulated value, the water &/or admixture content is suitably adjusted to obtain the correct slump.

1) The mix proportions are recalculated keeping the free w/c ratio at the pre-selected volume; this compromises trial mix no. 2. In addition two more trial mix no. 3 & no. 4 are formulated with the water content same as trial mix no. 2 & varying the free cement ratio by  $\pm 10\%$  of the pre-selected value.

2) The fresh concrete of each trial batch obtained above is tested for unit weight, yield & air content & three 150 mm cubes are cast. The wet cubes are tested after 28-days moist curing & checked for the strength.

### 1) Final mix proportions:-

The total mix nos 2-4 are analyzed for relevant information, including the relationship between compressive strength & w/c ratio. The w/c ratio required for the mean target strength using the relationship is computed. The mix proportions for the changed w/c ratio are recalculated keeping water content at the same level as that determined in trial mix no. 2.

For field trials, produce the concrete by actual concrete production method to be used in the field.

• maximum cement content (IS-1343-1980) = 450 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

R. Swain  
02/06/2022.

# PRODUCTION OF CONCRETE

The design of a satisfactory mix proportion is by itself no guarantee of having achieved the objective of quality concrete work. The batching, mixing, transportation, placing, compaction, finishing & curing are very complementary operations to obtain desired good quality concrete.

→ Good quality concrete is a homogeneous mixture of water, cement, aggregates & other admixtures

→ The aim of quality control is to ensure the production of concrete of uniform strength in such a way that there is a continuous supply of concrete delivered to the place of deposition each batch of which is nearly like the other batches as possible.

→ The production of concrete of uniform quality involves the following five definable phases:

- 1) Batching or measurement of materials.
- 2) mixing of concrete.
- 3) Transportation.
- 4) placing, compaction & finishing of concrete.
- 5) curing.

## BATCHING OF MATERIALS :-

A proper & accurate measurement of all the materials used in the production of concrete is essential to ensure uniformity of properties of concrete is & aggregate grading in

uniformity successive batches.

→ For most of the large & important jobs the batching of materials is usually done by weighing.

→ The factors affecting the choice of proper batching system are:

(i) Size of job

(ii) Required production rate.

(iii) Required standards of batching performance.

The batching equipment falls into three general categories, namely, manual, semi-automatic, & fully automatic systems.

1) manual Batching :-

In this sort of batching all operations of weighing & batching of concrete ingredients are done manually. manual batching is acceptable for small jobs having low batching rates.

2) Semi-automatic :-

This batching is one in which the aggregate bin gates for changing batches are opened by manually operated switches gates are closed automatically when the designated weight of material has been delivered. The system contains interlocks which prevent batcher charging & discharging occurring simultaneously.

3) Automatic Batching :-

It is one in which all scales for the materials are electrically activated by a single ~~open~~ switch & complete automatic records are made of ~~the~~ the weight of each material in

each batch. The batching cycle when preset weighing tolerances are exceeded.

→ The batching plant generally comprises two or three, four or six compartment bins of several capacities together with a supporting system. Below the bins are provided the weight batchers discharging over the conveyor belts.

→ For most of the small jobs, volume batching is adopted. i.e. the amount of each solid ingredient is measured by loose volume using measuring boxes, wheel barrows, etc.

### MIXING OF CONCRETE MATERIALS:-

The object of mixing is to coat the surface of all aggregate particles with cement paste & to blend all the ingredients of concrete into a uniform mass. The mixing action of concrete thus involves two operations:-

- (i) A general blending of different particle sizes of the ingredients to be uniformly distributed throughout the concrete mass.
- (ii) A vigorous rubbing action of cement paste on to the surface of the inert aggregate particles.

→ Concrete mixing is normally done by mechanical means called mixers, but sometimes the mixing of concrete is done by hand, machine mixing is more efficient & economical compared to hand mixing.

→ In the mixing process, the cement paste is formed first with simultaneous absorption of water in the agg. In second stage, the cement paste coats the aggregate particles.

→ The classification of the mixers is based on the technique of ~~agg.~~ discharging the mixed concrete as follows:-

- 1) Tilting type mixer.
- 2) Non-tilting type
- 3) Pan or stirring mixer.

The size of a mixer is designated by a number representing its nominal mix batch capacity in liters, i.e. the total volume of mixed concrete in liters which can be obtained from the mixer per batch.

Mixing time :-

It is the time required to produce uniform concrete. The mixing time is reckoned from the time when all the solid materials have been put in the mixer, & it is usual to specify that all water has to be added not later than after one quarter of mixing time. The ~~size~~ time varies with the type of mixer & depends on its size. It is not the mixing time but the number of revolutions of the mixer that are to be considered, because there is an optimum speed of rotation for the mixture. In high-speed pan mixers, the mixing time can be 35 sec, when light weight aggregate is used, the mixing time should not be less than five minutes, sometimes divided into 2 min.

making the egg: with water followed by three minutes with cement added.

→ The minimum mixing times for the mixers are

Capacity of mixer, "m <sup>3</sup> "	Mixing time, minutes
0.8	1.00
1.5	1.25
2.3	1.50
3.1	1.75
3.8	2.00
4.6	2.25
7.6	3.25

### Hand mixing :-

There may be occasions when the concrete has to be mixed by hand, & because in this case uniformity is more difficult to achieve. Should be spread in a uniform layer on a hard clean & non-porous base; cement is then spread over the aggregate & the dry materials are mixed by turning over from one end of the heap to another & cutting with a shovel until the mix appears uniform. Turning three times is usually required.

### Transportation of concrete :-

Concrete from the mixer should be transported to the point where it has to be placed as rapidly as possible by a dry method which prevents segregation or loss of ingredients. The concrete has to be placed before setting has commenced.



→ The specification permit a maximum of two hours between the introduction of mixing water to the cement & agg. & the discharge, if the concrete is transported in a truck mixer or agitator.

→ In the absence of an agitator, this figure is reduced to one hour only. All these however presume that the temperature of concrete, when deposited, is not less than  $5^{\circ}\text{C}$  or more than  $32^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

→ The requirements to be fulfilled during transportation are:-

- 1) No segregation or separation of materials in the concrete.
- 2) Concrete delivered at the point of placing should be uniform & of proper consistency.

The prevention of segregation is the most important consideration in handling & transporting concrete.

→ Segregation can be prevented by ensuring that the direction of fall during the dumping or dropping of concrete is vertical.

The principal methods of transporting concrete from the mixer are the following -

- 1) Barrows
  - (i) wheel barrows & handcarts
  - (ii) power barrows or powered buggies or dumpers.
- 2) Tipper & lorries
- 3) Truck mixers & agitator lorries

4) Dump buckets

5) The monorail system or trolley on rails most commonly used method of transporting concrete by the hand pans passing from hand is slow, wasteful & expensive.

### \* Pumped concrete :-

Pumping of concrete through steel pipelines is one of the successful method of transporting concrete. Pumped concrete has largely been used in construction of multi-story buildings, tunnels & bridges.

→ The pump capacity can range from 15 m<sup>3</sup>/h to 150 m<sup>3</sup>/h. The normal distance to which the concrete can be pumped is about 400m horizontally, & 80m vertically.

### Placing of concrete :-

The methods used in placing concrete in its final position have an important effect on its homogeneity, density & behavior in service. The same care which has been used to secure homogeneity in mixing & the avoidance of segregation in transporting must be exercised to preserve homogeneity in placing. To secure good concrete it is necessary to make certain preparations before placing. The forms be examined for correct alignment & adequate rigidity to withstand the weight of concrete impact loads during construction without of concrete, impact load during construction.

The weight of concrete, impact loads during without undue deformation. The form must also be checked for tightness to avoid any loss of moisture which may result in honeycombing. Before placing the concrete, the inside of the forms are cleaned & treated with a release agent to facilitate their removal when concrete is set.

The concrete should be placed in its final position rapidly so that it is not too stiff to work, where fresh concrete is required to be placed on a previously placed & hardened concrete.

In placing the high quality concrete in highways or runway pavement construction, the concrete pavers are extensively used.

\* Effect of Delay in placing :-

It is not generally recognized that there is a gain in compressive strength with delay in placing provided the concrete can still be adequately compacted. The limits imposed by the test requirements varies with the type of mix. Only a short delay can be allowed for a dry mix in hot weather, a delay of several hours is possible with very wet mix in cold weather.

→ The delay between mixing & final placing of concrete is limited to between half an hour & one hour.

During the manufacture of concrete a considerable quantity of air is entrapped and during its transportation there is a possibility of partial segregation taking place. If the entrapped air is not removed & the segregation of coarse agg. not corrected, concrete may be porous, non-homogenous & of reduced strength. The process of removal to form a homogenous dense mass is termed as compaction.

- The density, strength & durability of concrete depend upon the quality of this compaction.
- The interenal friction between the particles forming the concrete, between concrete & reinforcement, & between concrete & form-work, makes it difficult to spread the concrete in the forms. The compaction helps to overcome the frictional forces.
- Friction can also be reduced by adding more water than can combine with cement.

→ Compaction methods: →

The compaction of the concrete can be achieved in four ways: -

- (i) hand rodding
- (ii) mechanical vibrations
- (iii) centrifugation or spinning &
- (iv) high pressure & shock.

(i) Hand Rodding: -

Rodding is the process of ramming the concrete manually with a heavy flat faced tool in an effort to work it around the

reinforcement, the embedded fixtures, & corners of the form work.

→ The rodding action is effective for a depth of concrete equal to five times the maximum size of agg. & hence the depth of each layer has to be restricted to this value.

i) mechanical vibrations:-

vibration is the commonly used method of compaction of concrete, which reduces the internal friction between the different particles & thus consolidates the concrete into a dense, & compact mass. The oscillations are in the form of simple harmonic motion. The mechanical vibrations can be imparted by means of vibrators which are operated with the help of an electric motor or diesel or pneumatic pressure.

Curing periods:-

To develop design strength, the concrete has to be cured up to 28 days. As the rate of hydration, & hence the rate of development of strength, reduces with time. It is not worthwhile to cure for the full period of 28 days.

IS: 456-2000 stipulates a minimum of seven-day moist-curing, while IS: 7861 (P-1) - 1995 stipulates a minimum of 10 days under hot weather conditions. High early strength cements can be cured for half the periods suggested for op. For pozzolana or blast furnace slag cements, the curing period should be increased. There are many opinions on the length of curing.

Period. Periods varying from 15 to 30 days are specified for highway pavements.

1. The method which replenish partially the loss of water by interposing a source of water or prevent the evaporation, viz.

(a) ponding of water over the concrete surface after it has set this is the most common method of curing the concrete slab or pavements & consists of storing the water to a depth of 50mm on the surface by constructing small muddle clay bands all around.

(b) covering the concrete with wet straw or damp earth in this method, the damp earth or sand in layers of 50mm height are spread over the surface of concrete pavements. the material is kept moist by periodical sprinkling of water.

(c) covering the concrete with wet burlap the concrete is covered with burlap placing & the material is kept continuously moist for the curing period. The covering material can be used a number of times & therefore tends to be economical.

(d) sprinkling water: -

This is a useful method for curing vertical or inclined surfaces of concrete wherein the earlier methods cannot be adopted. the method is not very effective as it is difficult to ensure that all parts of concrete is moist all the time. The spraying can be done in fine streams through nozzles fixed to a pipe spaced at set intervals.

2. The methods preventing or minimizing the loss of water by interposing an impermeable medium between the concrete & the surrounding environment are as follows.

(a) covering the surface with waterproof paper. waterproof paper prevents loss of water from concrete & protects the surface from damage. the method is satisfactory for concrete slabs & pavements. A good quality paper can be often reduce. the paper is usefully made of two sheets stuck together by rubber latex composition. plastic sheeting is a comparatively recent innovation as a protective cover for curing concrete.

(b) Leaving the shuttering or formwork on the thick watertight formwork also prevents the loss of moisture in concrete & helps in curing the sides & the base of the concrete.

(c) membrane curing of the concrete the process of applying a membrane forming compound on concrete surface is termed membrane curing. often, the term membrane is used not to refer to liquid membranes but also to a solid sheeting use to cover the concrete surface. The curing membrane serves as a physical barrier to prevent loss of moisture from the concrete to be cured.

Following are the different sealing compounds used: (i) Bituminous & asphaltic emulsion or cutbacks

(ii) Rubber latex emulsions

(iii) Emulsions of resins, varnishes, waxes, drying oils & water-repellent substances.

(iv) Emulsions of paraffin or boiled linseed oil in water with stabilizer.

(d) chemical curing It is accomplished by spraying sodium silicate solution. About 500g of sodium silicate mixed with water can cover  $1m^2$  of surface. It actually acts as a case hardener & curing agent.

3. methods involving the application of artificial heat while the concrete is maintained in a moist condition are used in planetary curing where the curing of concrete is accelerated by raising its temperature. The accelerated process of curing has many advantages in the manufacture of precast concrete products since: (i) The molds can be reused within a shorter time (ii) due to reduced storage space in the factory is reduced.

The Temperature can be raised in practice by

- placing the concrete in steam.
- placing " " in hot water
- passing an electric current through the concrete.

**Steam curing :-**

For concrete mixes with water-cement ratio ranging from 0.3 to 0.7, the increased rate of strength development can be achieved by resorting to steam curing. The mixes with low w/c ratio respond more favourably to steam curing than mixes with higher w/c ratio.

In steam curing, the heating of the concrete products is caused by steam either at low pressure or high pressure.



The method ensures even heating of products all over, even if the space between the stacked precast concrete products is very small.

### Formwork :-

Though formwork generally forms a part of concrete construction practice, but as it influences the performance of hardened concrete appreciably, its salient features are described in brief in the following sections.

The formwork or shuttering may be defined as molds of timber or some other material into which the freshly mixed concrete is poured at the site & which hold the concrete till it set. The formwork includes the total system of support of freshly placed concrete i.e. from lining & sheathing plus all necessary supporting members, bracing, hardware & fasteners.

Concrete construction practices directly affect formwork. It is more than simply making form from the right site. A good formwork should be strong, stiff, smooth & leakproof.

### Requirements of Formwork :-

Quality :- The formwork is designed & built accurately so that the desired shape, size, position & finish of cast concrete is obtained, & thus

1. all lines in the formwork should be true & surface be plane so that the cost of finishing the surface of concrete on removal of shuttering is the least, &

2. The Forework should be built for safety:- The Forework is built substantial so that it is strong enough to support the dead and live loads during construction without collapse, one danger to workmen on the structure.

Economy:-

The Forework should be built efficiently to save time & money for the contractor & owners alike. After the concrete has set the Forework should be easily stripable without so that it can be used repeatedly.

Types of Forework:-

The material used in the Forework largely depends upon the availability & cost

Timber Forework:-

Timber used for Forework should be cheap, easily available & easy to work manually & on machines. A good timber for Forework should be light for easy handling & lifting, stiff for not giving excessive deflections, usually free from knots, knot holes, bad flaws, etc.

Plywood Forework:-

Plywood sheets bound with synthetic resin adhesive are being widely used nowadays.

Thickness of ply varies from 3-18 mm. 9.25 less than 6mm thick are used for lining the timber Forework to get neat & smooth surface smooth finished.

The common size of are  $1200 \times 1200$  &  $3000 \times 3000$  mm. The main advantage is that large panel surfaces are available.

### Steel Formwork:-

Steel Formworks are commonly employed for big projects where the forms are to be repeatedly used. The steel forms can be easily fabricated & not to required many adjustments as the units are standardized. They give smooth surface needing very little finishing.

### Stripping of Form:-

The removal of forms after the concrete has set is termed stripping of forms. The stripping or striking of forms should proceed in a defined order. The formwork should be so designed & constructed as to allow them to be stripped in the desired order. The period up to which the forms must be left in place before they are stripped is called stripping time. The factors affecting the stripping time are the position of the forms, the loads coming on the elements immediately after stripping, temperature of the atmosphere, the subsequent loads coming on the element, etc. using ordinary portland cement with temperatures above  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the stripping times normally required.

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\* Quality control of concrete AS per IS: 456 →

→ Concrete is generally produced in batches at the site with the locally available materials of variable characteristic. It is therefore, likely to vary from one batch to another, the magnitude of this variation depends upon several factors, such as variation in the quality of constituent materials, variation in mix proportions due to batching process; variation in the quality of batching & mixing equipment available; the quality of overall workmanship & supervision at the site.

→ concrete undergoes a number of operations such as transportation, placing, compacting & curing. During this operations, considerable variations occur partly due to quality of plant available & partly due to differences in the efficiency of techniques used. Under such a situation concrete is generally referred to as being of good, fair or poor quality.

→ concrete has mainly to serve the dual needs of safety (under ultimate loads) & serviceability (under working loads) including durability.

→ Therefore the aim of quality control is to reduce the variations & produce uniform material providing the characteristics desirable for the job envisaged.

→ Quality control is thus conformity to the specifications, no more no less. The most practical method of effective quality control is to check what is done in totality to conform to the specifications. An owner will have no right to expect anything more than what is in the specifications. The builder, knows that anything less than what is in the specification will not be acceptable to the owner.

### \* FACTORS CAUSING VARIATIONS IN THE QUALITY OF CONCRETE

The main factors causing variation in concrete quality are as follows :-

#### 1. Personnel :-

The basic requirement for the success of any quality control plan is the availability of experienced, knowledgeable & trained personnel at all levels. The designer & the specification - writer should have the knowledge of construction operations as well. The site engineer should be able to comprehend the specification stipulations.

In fact, quality must be a discipline imbibed in the mind and there should be strong motivation to do every thing right in the first time.

## 2. material, equipment & workmanship:

For uniform quality of concrete, the ingredients (particularly the cement) should be preferably be used from a single source. When ingredients from different sources are used, the strength & other characteristics of the materials are likely to change, & therefore they should only be used after proper evaluation & testing. The cement should be tested initially once every two months. Set cement with hard lumps is to be rejected.

- Grading, maximum size, shape, & moisture content of the agg. are the major source of variability.
- The aggregate should be free from impurities & deleterious materials.
- The water used for mixing concrete should be free from silt, organic matter, alkali & suspended impurities.
- The equipment used for batching, mixing & vibrating should be of the right capacity.
- The green concrete should be handled, transported & placed in such a manner that it does not get segregated the time interval between mixing & placing the concrete should be reduced to the minimum possible.

\* mixing, Transportation, placing & curing Requirements of concrete AS Per IS:456

→ Mixing:-

concrete shall be mixed in a mechanical mixer. The mixer should comply with IS 1791 & IS 12119. The mixers shall be fitted with water measuring devices. The mixers shall be continued until there is a uniform distribution of the material & the mass is uniform in colour & consistency. If there is segregation after unloading from the mixer, the concrete should be removed.

→ The mixing time shall be at least 2 min.

→ For other types of more efficient mixers, manufacturers recommendations shall be followed; for hydrophobic cement it may be decided by the engineer-in-charge.

→ workability should be checked at frequent intervals.

→ Dosages of retarders, Plasticisers & Superplasticisers shall be restricted to 0.5, 1.0 & 2.0 Percent respectively by weight of cementitious materials & unless a higher value is agreed upon between the manufacturer & the constructor based on performance test.

maintaining & handling.  
After mixing, concrete shall be transported to the formwork as rapidly as possible by methods which will prevent the segregation or loss of any of the ingredients or ingress of foreign matter or water & maintaining the required workability.

During hot or cold weather, concrete shall be transported in deep containers. Other suitable methods to reduce the loss of water by evaporation in hot weather & heat loss in cold weather may also be adopted.

### Placing :-

The concrete shall be deposited as nearly as practicable in its final position to avoid rehandling. The concrete shall be placed & compacted before initial setting of concrete commences & should not be subsequently disturbed. Method of placing should be taken to avoid displacement of reinforcement or movement of formwork. As a general guidance, the maximum permissible free fall of concrete may be taken as 1.5m.



## Compaction :-

Concrete should be thoroughly compacted and fully worked around the reinforcement around embedded fixtures & into corners of the formwork.

Concrete shall be compacted using mechanical vibrators complying with IS:2505, IS:2506, IS:2514 & IS:4656. Over vibration & under vibration of concrete are harmful & should be avoided. Vibration of very wet mixes should also be avoided.

Whenever vibration has to be applied external to the design of formwork & the disposition of vibrators should receive special construction to ensure efficient compaction & to avoid surface blemishes.

## INSPECTION AND TESTING OF STRUCTURES

### 1. Inspection :-

To ensure that the construction complies with the design an inspection procedure should be set up covering materials, records workmanship & construction.

Tests should be made on reinforcement & the constituent materials of concrete in accordance with the relevant standards where applicable, use should be made of suitable quality assurance schemes.

care should be taken to see that:

(a) design & detail are capable of being executed to a suitable standard with due allowance for dimensional tolerances;

(b) There are clear instructions on inspection standards;

(c) There are clear instructions on permissible deviations;

(d) elements critical to workmanship, structural performance, durability & appearance are identified &

(e) there is a system to verify that the quality is satisfactory in individual parts of the structure, especially the critical ones.

\*2. Immediately after stripping the formwork all concrete shall be carefully inspected and any defective work or small defects either removed or made good before concrete has thoroughly hardened.

Testing :-

In case of doubt regarding the grade of concrete used either due to poor workmanship or based on results of cube strength tests. compressive strength tests of concrete. &/or load test may be carried out.

## Core Test :-

1. The points from which cores are to be taken & the number of cores required shall be at the discretion of the engineer-in-charge & shall be representative of the whole of concrete concerned. In no case, however, shall fewer than three cores be tested.

Concrete in the member represented by a core test shall be considered acceptable if the average equivalent cube strength of the cores is equal to at least 85% of the cube strength of the grade of concrete specified for the corresponding age & no individual core has a strength less than 75%.

## Load Tests For Flexural members :-

Load tests should be carried out as soon as possible after expiry of 28 days from the time of placing of concrete.

The structure should be subjected to a load equal to full dead load of the structure plus 1.25 times the imposed load for a period of 24h & then the imposed load shall be removed.

Note:- Dead load includes self weight of the structural members plus weight of finished walls or partitions, if any, as considered in the design.

The deflection due to imposed load only shall be recorded. If within 24 h of removal of the imposed load, the structure does not recover at least 75% of the deflection under superimposed load, the test may be repeated after a lapse of 72 h. If the recovery is less than 80%, the structure shall be deemed to be unacceptable.

If the maximum deflection in mm, shown during 24 h under load is less than  $40L^2/g$  where  $L$  is the effective span in m;  $g$  is the overall depth of the section in mm, it is not necessary for the recovery to be measured.

- \* Members other than flexural members: members other than flexural members should be preferably investigated by non-destructive tests.
- \* Non-destructive Tests :-

Non-destructive tests are used to obtain estimation of the properties of concrete in the structure. The methods adopted include ultrasonic pulse velocity & rebound hammer probe penetration, pullout & maturity. Non-destructive tests provide alternatives to core tests for estimating the strength of concrete in a structure, or can supplement the data obtained from a limited

number of cores. These methods are based on measuring a concrete property that bears some relationship to strength. The accuracy of these methods, in part, is determined by the degree of correlation between strength & the physical quality measured by the non-destructive tests.

Any of these methods may be adopted, in which case the acceptance criteria shall be agreed upon prior to testing.

### DURABILITY OF CONCRETE :-

A durable concrete is one that performs satisfactorily in the working environment during its anticipated exposure conditions during service. The materials & mix proportions specified & used should be such as to maintain its integrity & if applicable, to protect embedded metal from corrosion.

One of the main characteristics influencing the durability of concrete is its permeability to the ingress of water, oxygen, carbon dioxide, chloride, sulphate & other potentially deleterious substances. Impermeability is governed by the constituents & workmanship used in making the concrete. A suitably low permeability is achieved by having an adequate cement content, sufficiently low free water/cement ratio, by ensuring complete compaction of the concrete, & adequate curing.

The factors influencing durability include

- a) The environment;
- b) The cover to embedded steel;
- c) The type & quality of constituent materials;
- d) The cement content & w/c ratio of the concrete.
- e) Workmanship, to obtain full compaction & efficient curing; &
- f) The shape & size of the members.

The degree of exposure anticipated for the concrete during its service life together with other relevant factors relating to mix composition, workmanship & detailing should be considered. The concrete mix to provide adequate durability under these conditions should be chosen taking account of the accuracy of current testing regimes for control & compliance as described in its standards.

\* Requirements for durability :-

1. Shape & size of members :-

The shape or design details of exposed structures should be such as to promote good drainage of water. Care should also be taken to minimize any cracks that may collect or transmit water. Adequate curing is essential to avoid the

harmful effects of early loss of moisture. member profiles & their intersections with other members shall be designed & detailing.

### General environment:-

The general environment to which the concrete will be exposed during its working life is classified into five levels of severity.

that is mild, moderate, severe, very severe & extreme.

Table 3 Environmental Exposure conditions  
(clauses 8.2.2.1 & 35.3.2)

Sl. No.	Environment	Exposure conditions
1	mild	concrete surfaces protected against weather or aggressive conditions, except those situated in coastal area
2	moderate	concrete surfaces sheltered from severe rain or freezing whilst wet concrete exposed to condensation & rain concrete continuously underwater concrete in contact or buried under non-aggressive soil/ground water, concrete surfaces sheltered from saturated salt air in coastal area
3	severe	concrete surface exposed to severe rain alternate wetting & drying or occasional freezing whilst wet or severe condition.
4	very severe	concrete surfaces exposed to sea water spray, corrosive fumes or severe freezing conditions whilst wet concrete in contact with or buried under aggressive soil/ground water
5	Extreme	surface of members in tidal zone members in direct contact with liquid/solid aggressive chemicals.

## 2. Abrasive:—

Specialist literatures may be referred to for durability requirements of concrete surfaces exposed to abrasive action, for example, in case of machinery & metal type.

## 3. Freezing & Thawing:—

where freezing & thawing actions under such conditions exist, enhanced durability can be obtained by the use of suitable air entraining admixtures. when concrete for then grade M50 is used under these conditions, the mean total air content by volume of the fresh concrete at the time of delivery into the construction should be

Nominal maximum size Aggregate (mm)	Entrained Air %
20	$5 \pm 1$
40	$4 \pm 1$

Since air entrainment reduces the strength, suitable adjustments may be made in the mix design for achieving required strength.

## 4. Exposure to Sulphate attack:—

Table 4 gives recommendations for the type cement maximum free w/c ratio & minimum cement content, which are required at different sulphate concentrations in near-neutral ground waters having pH of 6



For the very high sulphate concentrations conditions, some form of lining such as polyethylene or polychloroprene sheet; or surface coating based on asphalt, chlorinated rubber or epoxy; or polyurethane materials should also be used to prevent access by the sulphate solution.

Requirement of concrete cover :-

The protection of the steel in concrete against corrosion depends upon an adequate thickness of good quality concrete.

4. Concrete mix proportions :-

The free w/c ratio is an important factor in governing the durability of concrete & should always be the lowest value. The minimum cement content & maximum w/c ratio apply to 20 mm nominal maximum size aggregate.

Maximum Cement Content :-

Cement content not including fly ash & ground granulated blast furnace slag in excess of  $450 \text{ kg/m}^3$  should not be used unless special consideration has been given in design to the increased risk of cracking due to drying shrinkage in thin sections, or to early thermal cracking & to the increased risk of damage due to alkali silica reactions.

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\* Introduction to ready mix concrete:-

A concrete whose constituents are weight based at a central batching plant, mixed either at the plant itself or in truck mixers, & then transported to the construction site & delivered in a condition ready to use, is termed ready mixed concrete (RMC)

- The technique is useful in congested sites, at diverse work places & saves the consumer from the botheration of Procurement, Storage & handling of concrete materials.
- Ready mix concrete are produced under factory conditions & permits a close control of all operations of manufacture & transport of fresh concrete.
- The concrete quality & quantity or volume required for the particular application specified by the consumer.
- RMC is ordered & supplied by volume (or in a freshly mixed & unhardened state, when ordering concrete 5 to 10% more concrete than estimated from a volumetric calculation is ordered. This will account for the wastage or spillage, over-excavation, spreading & forms some loss of entrained air, settling of wet mixture, & change in volume, & concrete volume is one to two% less than that of fresh concrete.

## High - Performance concrete :-

High performance concrete (HPC) is concrete that has been designed to be more durable than it necessary, stronger than conventional concrete, necessary.

→ HPC mixtures are composed of essentially the same materials as conventional concrete mixtures but the proportions are designed, or engineered to provide the strength & durability needed for the structural & environmental requirements of the project

→ - High strength concrete is defined as having a specified compressive strength of 55 MPa or greater, as it represent a strength level at which special care is required for -  
Production & testing of the concrete & at which special structural design requirements may be needed.

## \* Silica - fume concrete :-

Note Silica fume is a byproduct of producing silicon metal or ferrosilicon alloys.

→ Silica fume is a very reactive pozzolana, concrete containing silica fume can have very high strength & can be very durable.

→ Silica fume is available from suppliers of concrete admixtures & when specified, is simply added during concrete production. Placing, finishing & curing silica fume concrete require special attention on the part of concrete contractor.

- It is composed of fine aggregate, coarse agg. & water.
- Fresh & hardened concrete is superior to conventional concrete.
- It requires higher water content than conventional concrete.
- The possibility of bleeding & segregation is low.
- It has high plastic shrinkage.
- It enhances the properties of fresh & hardened concrete, high durability, high early compressive strength.
- It is added up to 15% by weight of cement, although the normal proportion is 7% to 10%.

### \* Shotcrete concrete or Guniting :-

- Shotcrete is mortar or very fine concrete deposited by jetting it with high velocity on to a prepared or different countries.
- It offers advantages over conventional concrete in a variety of new construction & repair works.
- Shotcrete is more economical than conventional concrete because of less formwork requirement, required only a small portable plant for manufacture & placement.

- It is of two types:-

- dry mix process.
- wet mix process.

7 Guniting also known as a dry process shotcrete, uses air pressure to convey dry material from machine through hose to nozzle where water is added. the technique of depositing very thin layers of mortar in each pass of the nozzle that available with the shotcrete, is termed guniting.

- x -

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# Deterioration of concrete & its prevention

## \* Introduction:-

It is the action or process of becoming inferior in quality, functioning, or condition. Though concrete is quite strong mechanically it is highly susceptible to chemical attack & thus concrete structures get damaged & even fail unless some measures are adopted to counteract deterioration of concrete & thereby increasing the durability of the concrete structure.

## \* Type of deterioration:-

Deterioration of concrete is caused not only by acids in the form of water solutions or acidic gases which form acids on dissolving in water, but by salt solution & even by alkalis.

→ Deterioration of concrete due to corrosion caused by the various aggressive chemicals can be classified into three categories:

### 1. Decomposition of concrete:-

In this form the decomposition of concrete is caused by action of liquids which are able to dissolve the ingredients of concrete. Water percolating through the mass of concrete can greatly speed up decomposition by increasing the ionic strength of solution. A common example of this type of destruction is the leaching action.

## 2. chemical reaction :-

In the form of destruction a chemical interaction between hardened cement constituents & a solution takes place. The easily soluble reaction products are removed from the internal structure of concrete by diffusion or percolation. This happens when concrete is attacked by a solution of acids & certain salts.

## 3. crystallization :-

This form of destruction involves accumulation, crystallization, & polymerization of reaction products which increase the volume of solid phase within the pore structure of the concrete.

## Alkali-silica reaction :-

Alkali silica reaction (ASR) takes place when free lime in concrete interacts with reactive silica in many types of agg. The reaction forms a gel that absorbs moisture & expands & creates tensile stresses that can crack concrete.

## Leaching :-

The type of deterioration may be caused by the dissolution of the ingredients of hardened cement by the aqueous solution i.e. by the leaching process. Since calcium hydroxide is a readily soluble ingredient of hardened cement, the destruction of concrete by the leaching action also called lime leaching is greatly dependent upon the permeability of the concrete.

## 5. Chemical Interaction:-

Deterioration may be caused by the chemical reaction between the hardened constituents of concrete & the chemical of a solution. The reaction products may be either water soluble & may get removed from the internal structure of concrete by a diffusion process, or the reaction products if insoluble in water may get deposited on the surface of concrete as an amorphous mass having no binding with the result that it can be easily washed out from the concrete surface.

## 6. Crystallization:-

Concrete may get deteriorated by the accumulation or crystallization of salts in its process, which leads to the development of internal stresses & formation of cracks. These salts in the pores of concrete may be either formed as a result of chemical reaction between the components & the constituents of hardened concrete or may be brought from outside by the penetration of salt solution & released there on the evaporation of water.

Alkaline solutions of low concentration are less harmful to concrete. However, the concrete gets deteriorated on exposure to concentrated solutions of alkalis, as they combine with atmospheric carbon dioxide producing crystallizable carbonates.



## Prevention of concrete Deterioration

A durable structural concrete requires the satisfaction of two criteria, namely that of a suitable binding agent of adequate chemical resistance & that of thorough compaction to a high density. Thus, the making of a denser concrete having the least porosity is a most effective means of reducing the deterioration of concrete. A quantitative information regarding the effects of the range of parameters like water-cement ratio, cement content, curing conditions together with effects of cement admixtures & replacement on the corrosion of concrete helps determine the durability of concrete empirically. The effects of these parameters are described below. Thus from the considerations of permeability the w/c ratio is usually limited to 0.45 - 0.55 except in mild environment. In the concrete for marine environment or in sea water application a minimum cement content of  $350 \text{ kg/m}^3$  or more is required. & nominal maximum size of agg. used, i.e. crushed rock & rounded river gravel of 20 mm nominal size have approximately 27% & 21% of agg. voids. A cement concrete of  $400 \text{ kg/m}^3$  & w/c ratio of 0.45 will produce paste volume of 30% which is sufficient to overfill the voids of crushed rock. The concrete in sea water or exposed directly should be at least of M20 grade in case of plain concrete & M25 in case of reinforced concrete. The use of slag or pozzolana cement is advantageous under such conditions. The ordinary portland cement

having  $C_3A$  content less than 5% has got the maximum resistance against sulfate environment. The supersulfated cement is supposed to provide an acceptable durability against acidic environment. When concrete is dense with a w/c ratio of 0.40 or less.

Durability of concrete can also be increased by impregnating the pores of concrete with a suitable polymer.

As the destructive processes in concrete are complex, a clear understanding of the destructive mechanism may help the selection of an appropriate technique to protect or improve the resistance of structural concrete to the aggressive agents.

### \* Corrosion of Reinforcement :-

Concrete normally provides a high degree of protection against corrosion to embedded steel reinforcement. This is because concrete inherently provides a highly alkaline environment for the steel which protects & passivates the steel against corrosion. In addition, concrete of low w/c ratio & well cured has a permeability which minimizes % of corrosion inducing agents like oxygen, chloride ion, carbon dioxide &  $H_2O$  sometimes. The first evidence of distress is the brown staining of concrete around steel penetrating, by cracking, sometimes concrete cracks appear because the corrosion products of steel, an iron oxide or rust has a volume twice as much as

that of metallic iron from which it is formed

### EFFECTS OF CORROSION & PREVENTION:-

In most case, the corrosion rate is extremely slow & the normal life span of a structure is not largely affected. However if the external & nominal may taken place an increased rate & create serious problem.

The distress due to corrosive action may be in the form of deep pitting & a severe loss of cross section of the reinforcement, this is particularly serious if the reinforcement is subjected to high stress as in the case of structures carrying heavy loads. A combination of high stress & intense corrosion will produce stress concentrations that may result in rupture of the reinforcement. The corrosion of embedded steel can be minimized by using the following recommendations:-

1. For the reinforced-concrete members totally immersed in sea water, the cover should be increased by 40 mm beyond that specified for normal condition. However, for the members periodically immersed in the sea water, this increase in cover should be raised to 50 mm. In the case of high-strength concrete of grade M25 or above, the additional thickness of cover specified above may be reduced to half.

2. The additional cover thickness ranging from 15 - 50mm beyond the values for normal condition may be provided when the concrete members are exposed to the action of harmful chemical, sulphuric atmosphere, acid vapours, sulphurous smoke etc. However, the total cover is limited to 75 mm.

3. To reduce the corrosion of reinforcement the chloride ions in the concrete should be limited to its threshold or critical value IS: 456 - 2000 has prescribed the limit of total amount of chloride in concrete, that total amount of chloride ions in concrete should be limited to 0.06%

4. In the case of an excessively aggressive environment, or where for practical reason it is not possible to meet the requirements of cover & quality of concrete recommended above, special protection system should be considered. Corrosion inhibitors may be added to concrete to prevent the corrosion of embedded steel.

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## 11 Repair technology for concrete structures

Tough concrete is a relatively durable building material. It may suffer damage or distress during its service life due to number of reasons.

Because of the varying conditions under which it is produced at various locations, the quality of concrete suffers occasionally either during production or service condition resulting in distress.

Some times the distress in concrete structure is brought about by poor construction practice errors in designing & detailing & construction over loads.

The other causes may be drying shrinkage, thermal stress, weathering, chemical reaction & corrosion & reinforcement.

Symptoms, causes & prevention & remedial of defects during construction,

Symptom	CASE	PREVENTION	REMEDY
Cracks in horizontal surface, as concrete stiffens or very soon thereafter.	<p>Plastic shrinkage: rapid drying of surface.</p> <p>Plastic settlement: concrete continues to settle after starting to stiffen.</p>	<p>Shelter during placing, cover as early as possible. use air entrainment.</p> <p>change mix design. use air entrainment.</p>	<p>Seal by brushing in cement or low viscosity polymer.</p>
Cracks form above ties, reinforcement, etc, or at cross-ess. especially in deep lifts.	<p>Restrainted thermal contraction.</p>	<p>minimize restraint to contraction. Delay cooling until concrete has gained strength</p>	<p>Recompact upper part of concrete while still plastic. Seal cracks after concrete has hardened.</p>
Cracks in thick sections occurring as concrete cools.	<p>Air or water trapped against formwork: inadequate compaction</p>	<p>Improve vibration. change mix design. use appropriate release agent, use absorbent</p>	<p>Seal cracks.</p>
Blowholes in form faces of concrete.	<p>design, unsuitable</p>	<p>use absorbent</p>	<p>Fill with polymer modified fine mortar.</p>

voids in concrete.

Erosion of vertical surfaces, in vertical streaky pattern, color variations.

partly formed surface.

Rust stains.

release agent Honeycombing: Inadequate compaction. Grout loss

Scouring: water moving upwards against form face.

variations in mix proportions, curing conditions materials, characteristics of form face, vibration release agent. leakage of water from formwork surface retardation, caused by sugars in certain timbers.

pyrites in aggregates, rain streaking from unprotected steel, rubbish in formwork, ends of wire ties turned out

improve uniformity Reduce maximum size of agg. Prevent leakage of grout.

change mix design, to make more cohesive or reduce water content.

Ensure uniformity of all relevant factors Prevent leakage from formwork.

change form materials, seal surface of formwork stiffen Apply time wash to form face before first few uses.

Avoid contaminated aggregates, protect exposed steel clean formwork thoroughly, turn ends of ties inwards.

cut out & make good. Inject resin

Rub in polymer-modified fine mortar.

Apply surface coating.

Generally none required.

clean with dilute acid or Sodium citrate / Sodium dithionite. Apply surface coating.

Plucked surface.

In sufficient release agent. Careless removal of formwork.

more care in application of release agent & removal of formwork.

Rub in fine mortar, or patch as per spalled concrete.

Lack of cover to reinforcement.

Reinforcement moved during placing of concrete, or badly fixed. Inadequate tolerances in detailing.

Provide better support for reinforcement. more accurate steel fixing. Greater tolerances in detailing.

Apply polymer modified cement & sand rendering. Apply protective coating.



## Cracking of concrete due to different reasons:-

- Cracking is the most common indication of the distress in a concrete structure. A crack may represent the total extent of the damage, or they may point to problems of greater magnitude.
- Cracking of concrete structures can never be totally eliminated, but the practitioners should be aware of the causes, evaluation techniques, & the methods of repair.
- The cracks in a structure are broadly classified in two categories:- Superficial cracks & structural cracks. The structural cracks may be active & dormant. A crack where a movement is observed to continue, is termed active whereas the crack where no movement occurs is termed dormant or static.
- Some of common causes are:-
  - (1) Cracking of plastic concrete
  - (2) Cracking of hardened concrete
  - (3) Thermal cracking
  - (4) Cracking due to chemical reactions.
  - (5) Cracking due to weathering.
  - (6) Cracking due to corrosion of reinforcement
  - (7) Cracking due to poor construction practices
  - (8) Cracking due to construction overloads.
  - (9) Cracks due to externally applied loads.

## 1. Cracking of plastic concrete :-

When the exposed surfaces of freshly placed concrete are subjected to a very rapid loss of moisture caused by low humidity & / or high temperature, the surface shrinks. Due to restraint provided by concrete below the drying surface tensile stresses develop in the weak plastic concrete, resulting in shallow cracks that are usually short, discontinuous & in all directions & very seldom extend to the free edge.

In the presence of reinforcement their pattern may be modified. Plastic shrinkage usually occurs prior to final finishing & curing starts. The cracks are often fairly wide at the surface. They range from a few centimeters to many meters in floors & slabs or other elements with large surface areas. Plastic shrinkage cracks may extend to the full depth of elevated thin structural elements. Plastic shrinkage cracks can be controlled by reducing the relative volume change between the surface & the interior concrete by preventing a rapid moisture loss due to hot weather & dry winds. This can be accomplished by using fog nozzle to saturate the air above the surface & plastic sheeting to cover the surface between the final finishing operation

## 2. Cracking of Hardened Concrete :-

The moisture-induced volume changes are characteristic of concrete. A loss of moisture from cement paste results in a volume shrinkage by as much as one percent, whereas the internal restraint provided by the aggregate reduces the magnitude of this volume change to above 0.05%, on the other hand an increase in moisture in the concrete tends to increase its volume. If these volume changes are restrained, the tensile stress develops when the tensile strength of concrete is exceeded, it will crack. The surface crazing appears in the form of a series of shallow, closely spaced fine cracks.

## 3. Thermal Cracking :-

The temperature difference within a concrete structure result in differential volume change when the tensile strain due to differential volume change exceeds the tensile strain capacity of concrete, it will crack, the temperature differentials associated with the hydration of cement affect the mass concrete such as in large columns, piers, footings dams, etc, whereas the temperature differentials due to changes in the ambient temperature can affect any structure.

#### 4. Cracking due to chemical reactions :-

The most important constituent of concrete is cement. In alkaline, salt will react with it or acidic compounds. In presence of moisture and in consequence the matrix will be weak & its constituents may be leached.

The concrete may crack as a result of reactions between aggregate containing active silica & alkalis derived from cement hydration admixture or external sources. The alkali-silica reaction results in the formation of a swelling gel which tends to draw water from other portions of concrete. This causes local expansion & accompanying tensile stresses. Control measures include proper selection of aggregate, use of low-alkali & use of pozzolana.

#### 5. Cracking due to weathering :-

The environmental factors that can cause cracking include (i) freezing & thawing, (ii) wetting & drying and (iii) heating & cooling. Except in tropical regions, the damage from freezing & thawing is the most common weather related physical deterioration. In the aggregate saturation, the expansion of absorbed water during freezing may crack the surrounding cement paste &/or damage the aggregate itself. The control measures include the use of the lowest practical w/c ratio & total water content, durable concrete

aggregate & adequate air-entrainment. Adequate curing prior to exposure to freezing conditions is also important. Other weathering processes that may cause cracking in concrete are alternate wetting & drying, & heating & cooling.

Cracking due to corrosion of Reinforcement :-

It is the most frequent cause of damage to reinforced concrete structures. This aspect of the cracking problem has been discussed in detail in chapter 15. However, the salient features are outlined for ready reference. The corrosion of steel produces iron oxides & hydroxides, which have a volume much greater than the volume of the original metallic iron. This increase in volume causes high radial bursting stresses around reinforcing bars & results in local radial cracks. These splitting cracks may propagate along the bars resulting in the formation of longitudinal cracks parallel to the bars or spalling of concrete.

Cracking due to poor construction practices :-

Poor construction practices, such as adding water to concrete to improve workability, lack of curing, inadequate form support, inadequate compaction, & arbitrary placement of construction joints, can result in cracking in concrete structure. Adding water to improve workability has the effect of reducing strength increasing settlement & ultimate drying shrinkage. The early termination of curing will allow for increased shrinkage at the time when the concrete has low strength.

but also the durability of the structure. Lack of support for forms or inadequate compaction can result in the settlement & cracking of concrete.

8. Cracking due to construction overloads. The loads induced during construction can be far more severe than those experienced in service. Unfortunately, these conditions may occur at the early ages when the concrete is most susceptible to damage & often result in permanent cracks.

A common error occurs when the precast members are not properly supported during transportation & erection. The use of arches or convenient lifting points may cause severe damage. A big element lowered too & stopped suddenly carries significant momentum which is translated into an impact load that can be several times the dead weight of the element.

9. Cracking due to Errors in Design & Detailing. The design & detailing errors that may result in unacceptable cracking include use of poorly detailed re-entrant corners in walls, precast members & slabs; improper selection & detailing of reinforcement, restraint of members subjected to volume changes caused by variations in temperature & moisture, lack of adequate contraction joints, & improper design

of foundations resulting in differential settlement within the structure. Re-entrant corners provide a location for stress concentration & therefore, are prime locations for initial cracks, as in the case of window & door openings in concrete walls & dapped beams. Additional anchored diagonal reinforcement is required to keep inevitable cracks narrow & prevent from propagating further.

**Cracks due to Externally Applied Loads :-**

Load induced tensile stresses may result in cracks in concrete elements. A design procedure specifying the use of reinforcing steel, not only to carry tensile forces, but also to obtain both an adequate crack distribution & a reasonable limit on crack width is recommended. Flexural & tensile crack widths can be expected to increase with time for members subjected.

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**\*Repair of cracks :-**

Once the cracked structure has been evaluated & the causes of cracking established, a suitable repair procedure may be selected which takes these causes into account. The methods of crack repair including the characteristics of cracks that may be repaired with each procedure & the types of structure that have been repaired are described in the following sections. The repair of concrete structure is carried out in the following stages.

1. Pretreatment of surface & reinforcement i.e removal of damaged concrete. This process is termed as the preparation of surface for repairs.
2. Application of repair material.

### Preparation of Surface :-

Prior to the execution of any repair, one of the essential requirements common to all repair techniques is that all deteriorated or damaged concrete should be removed.

This can be accomplished by using tools & equipment the type of which depends to a large extent on the size, depth, & extent of repair.

Smaller jobs, the removal of concrete can be accomplished by hand tools whereas for larger repairs, the surface can be prepared by using light & medium weight air hammers fitted with spade shaped bits. Care should be taken to avoid any damage to the unaffected concrete.

For cracks & other narrow defects, special bits can be used to obtain sharp edges & undercut cuts. The preparation of a surface for repair involves the following steps:

1. Complete removal of unsound material.
2. Undercutting along with the formation of sharp edges.
3. Removal of the cracks from the surface.
4. Formation of a well-defined cavity geometry with rounded inside corners.
5. Providing rough but uniform surface for



The surface so prepared should be clean, dry, free of laitance & strong. A clean surface means that there should be no foreign matter such as dirt, loose particles, grease or oil, paints, resins, etc, on the surface. Oil, grease & animal fat may be removed by chemical cleaning i.e. scrubbing the surface with detergents, caustic soda solution or trisodium phosphate. A vigorous scrubbing action with a stiff broom should be carried out during the washing procedure. The laitance which can be detected by the presence of fine powder on surface, when it is scrapped with knife blade be removed by acid etching. In case of application of overlays, waterproofing or protective barriers, the surface should be uniform.

### Repair Techniques :-

The repair of cracked or damaged structures is discussed under two distinct categories, namely, ordinary or conventional procedures & special procedures using the latest techniques & newer materials such as polymers, epoxy resins, etc.

#### Ordinary procedures :-

Superficial or fine cracks are generally removed by treating the surface with whitewash or soft distempers, silicate cement paints, etc.

#### Preparation of surface :-

The cracked & deteriorated areas are cut or chipped out to the solid concrete. Application of a sound patch to an unsound surface is meaningless because patch will eventually come out. Any

Attempt surface is made  
will eventually come out  
to shore cuts over surface preparation  
False economy. The area to be chipped out  
be delineated with a saw cut to a depth  
about 5mm in order to provide neat edges.  
The edges should be cut out as straight  
possible and right angled to the surface  
with corners rounded within the hole.  
The thickness of edges should not be less  
25mm to prevent them from breaking  
load. The sound concrete is removed  
percussive tools. All the loose material  
be cleaned & the surface should preferably  
washed off before actual patching work  
started.

## 2. Selection of materials:-

The repair system should be so selected  
the mechanical properties of the repair  
are similar to those of the structure  
to be repaired. Cement-based repairs confer  
fire resistance while resins soften at  
low temperature.

## 3. Application of material:-

The methods generally used for filling  
material are: (a) dry packing, (b) concrete  
replacement (c) mortar replacement  
(d) grouting (e) large volume prepacking  
concrete (f) shotcreting or guniteing.

1. Drypacking :- The method consists of hand placing of low water content mortar on the prepared surface followed by tamping or ramming of mortar into place, producing an intimate contact between the mortar & the existing concrete. Because of the low water cement ratio of the paste, there is little shrinkage, & the mortar provides a durable, strong & watertight patch.

The repair material usually consists of cement sand mortar in proportions of about 1:2.5 or 1:3 using medium or coarse concreting sand. To minimize the shrinkage in place, the mortar should stand for 30 min. after mixing & be remixed prior to use. The repair material should be filled properly in compacted layers of about 10mm thick & each layer should normally be applied as soon as the preceding one is strong enough to support it, the preceding layer should be scratched before placing the succeeding layer to secure a good bond or key. Each before being the succeeding layer to secure a good bond or key. Each layer is compacted over its entire surface by using a hardwood stick of about 200 - 300 mm length up to 25 mm dia with hammer. The last overflowing layer is struck flush with the surface. There need be no time delays between layers, in case of delay between layers a fresh bonding coat should be applied when work is resumed. The mortar may be finished by laying the flat side of hardwood piece against it and striking it several times.

with a hammer.

(b) concrete replacement:- In general this method is used for large & deep patches those encountered in the repairs of deteriorated portions of concrete when concrete is to be placed to a minimum depth about 150 mm. In the general application this method is used in the repair of walls, piers, parapets, kerbs & for resurfacing wall & channels. The method is particularly suitable where the holes extend throughout concrete section or where the surface of hole is at least  $0.09 \text{ m}^2$  with a depth of 100 mm for plain concrete, or  $0.045 \text{ m}^2$  depth a little more reinforcing steel in case of reinforced concrete. As in case of other types of repairs defective concrete is removed so that the sound surface are exposed reinforcement cleaned.

(c) mortar replacement:-

The method is suitable for the cavities which are too wide for dry pack or too small for concrete replacement. Generally it is used for shallow depressions no deeper than that of the side of the reinforcing bar nearest to the surface. For replacement of deteriorated concrete, this method is suitable for minor restorations. The mortar replacement can be done by hand or can be applied mechanically by using a small pressure gun.

## 1) Grouting :-

The wide & deep cracks may be repaired by filling them with Portland Cement grout. The grout mixtures may contain cement & water or cement, sand & water, depending upon the width of the crack. However, the water-cement ratio should be kept as low as practicable to maximize strength & minimize shrinkage.

Water-reducing admixtures may also be used to improve the properties of the grout. The procedure consists of cleaning the concrete along the crack; providing built-up grout ports at intervals, sealing the crack between the ports with a cement paint or sealant, etc.

## 2) Shotcreting or guniting :-

It is mortar or concrete conveyed through pressure hose & applied pneumatically at high velocity on a surface. This material has found wide applications on vertical, horizontal or overhead surfaces.

The objective of this type of repair may be to replace concrete that has been lost or removed, & to increase effective cover to the steel reinforcement to protect the structure against future damage by adding additional concrete. In the preparation of surface to be repaired, all the affected concrete must be cut back to unaffected material.

Curing of the sprayed concrete is even more important than that of conventional cast concrete because thinner section may make water loss easier & more serious. The curing method may include a fine water spray, wetted hessian & curing compound.

#### 4. Curing of repair work :-

The curing of patch material requires more care than that required for a structure. There is a tendency of old concrete absorbing moisture from the replacement material.

- (a) Horizontal repaired surface can be cured by ponding or by placing wet gunny bags.
- (b) The vertical or inclined repaired surface may be cured using damp hessian or burlap pads.
- (c) Where the above two methods are applicable, membrane curing can be used. Initial curing with water followed by membrane curing is very effective.
- (d) Deliquescent salts which hasten curing by keeping the patch moist may also be used.

#### Polymer-based Repairs :-

The polymer concrete includes composite prepared by one of the following methods.

##### Polymer Impregnated Concrete (PIC) :-

This is a Portland cement concrete impregnated by a monomer system which is subsequently polymerized by radiation or heat in the presence of a catalyst.

Polymer Cement concrete (PCC) :-

This is a concrete in which the monomer is added during the mixing of Portland Cement water & aggregate, followed by polymerization or curing of the replaced material after its placement.

Polymer Concrete (PC) :-

This is a composite material obtained by adding a polymer or its precursor to the agg. & polymerizing or curing the material after its placement.

The concrete polymer materials provide high strength & improved durability under aggressive conditions as compared to conventional concrete. PC has proved to be the most successful concrete polymer material for construction. Liquid & gaseous monomers can fully penetrate concrete by external pressure & can be polymerized.

The polymer systems commonly used are the following:

- methyl-methacrylate (MMA)
- MMA + 10% triethylpropylene trimethacrylate (TMPTA)
- styrene and polyester styrene
- methanol
- vinyl monomers

The sulfur impregnated concrete using initially available (99.9%) pure sulfur is a practical & inexpensive substitute of polymer cement concretes may be obtained by substituting at least 30% of ordinary portland cement in ordinary portland cement mixes. The addition of fly ash to the cement mixes is favorable for strength. The polymer-based crack repair can be affected as described in the following sections.

### 1. Polymer impregnation :-

The technique consists of flooding the dried cracked concrete surface with monomer which is then polymerized. Thus filling & structurally repairing crack. A monomer system is a liquid which consists of small organic molecules which combine to form a solid plastic. Monomer systems used for impregnation contain a catalyst or an initiator & the basic. They also contain a cross linking agent. When heated the monomers join together and become a tough, strong & durable plastic. This greatly enhances a number of concrete properties.

### 2. Drilling & plugging :-

The method is only applicable for the cracks running in reasonably straight lines & accessible at one end. It consists of drilling a hole down the length of crack



grouting it to form a key. A hole 50 - 60 mm in dia should be drilled, centered on & following the crack as its full length & provide sufficient repair material to structurally make the loads exerted on the key. The drilled hole is then cleaned & filled with grout. More problems concerning watertightness.

## Common Types of Repairs :-

### 1. Sealing of Cracks :-

The crack or joint Sealers are very important in concrete structures as every concrete structure has cracks or joints. The Crack Sealers should ensure the structural integrity & serviceability. In addition they provide protection from the ingress of harmful liquids & gases.

The method consists of enlarging the crack along its length on the exposed surface & sealing it with a suitable joint sealant. Commission of routing may affect the permanency of repair.

The routing operation consists of cutting a groove at the surface that is sufficiently large to receive the sealant, using a concrete saw or hand tool. A minimum surface width of routing of 6 mm is desirable, as repairing the narrowest grooves is difficult.

## 2. Flexible Sealing :-

For repairing an active crack, it is a way to provide for its continuing movement. This is to rout chase crack along its length. The prepared crack is filled with a suitable flexible sealant with strain capacity being at least as large as the one to be accommodated. A wide crack spreads over a greater width so that the strain is compatible with sealant to be the sealant must adhere to the sides of chase but debonded from bottom so that movement in the crack spreads over the width of the chase.

## 3. Providing Additional Steel :-

The cracked reinforced elements can successfully repaired using epoxy injection & reinforcing bars. The technique consists sealing the crack, drilling holes of 20mm at  $45^\circ$  to the element surface & crossing the crack plane at approximately  $90^\circ$ . Reinforcing bars are placed in to the drilled holes & the holes & the crack plane is filled with epoxy pumped under low pressure varying from 0.35 to 0.55 mpa. Typically, 12 or 16 mm dia bars extending at least 500 mm on each side of the crack are used. The reinforcing bars can be spaced as per the needs of the repair & design criteria. The epoxy bonds the bars to the sides

of the hole, fill the crack plane & brings the cracked concrete surface back to the monolithic form.

An elastic extensible crack sealant is required for a successful repair. Gel-type epoxy crack sealants are useful. The sealant should be applied in a uniform layer approximately 0.5 - 2.5 mm thick & shall span the crack by least 20mm on each side.

### Stitching of cracks :-

The stitching procedure consists of drilling holes on both sides of the crack, cleaning the holes & anchoring the legs of the stitching dogs that span the crack, with either a non shrink grout or an epoxy resin. Based on the system the stitching dogs should be variable length & orientation or both & should be located such that the tension transmitted across the crack is not applied to a single plane within the section but spread over an area. The spacing of stitching dogs should be reduced at the end of cracks.

### Repair by Jacketing :-

Jacketing is a process of fastening a durable material e.g. fiber glass over the existing concrete & filling the gap with a mortar that provides the needed performance characteristics. The jacketing thus restores & increases the section of an existing member by encasement in new concrete.

The technique is applicable for protecting the member against further deterioration as well as for strengthening.

## 6. Autogenous Healing :-

The natural process of crack repair known as autogenous healing has a practical application in closing dormant cracks in a moist environment. Such a case may

be found in mass concrete structures. Healing occurs through the carbonation of calcium hydroxide in cement paste by carbon dioxide, which is present in surrounding air & water. Calcium carbonate & calcium hydroxide crystals precipitate, accumulate & grow within the cracks. The crystals interlace & twine, producing a mechanical bonding effect which is supplemented by a chemical bond between adjacent crystals, & between the crystals & the surface of the paste & aggregate. As a result, some of the tensile strength of the concrete is restored across the cracked section, & the crack may become sealed.

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