

## **Experimental program on hardened properties of geo polymer concrete by using red soil**

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**Abstract**—The manufacturing of Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) imparts 5-7 % of Greenhouse emissions. It manducates gargantuan quantum of energy. Ergo it betides indispensable to perceive surrogate to OPC. Ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBS) is a cementitious stuff, upshot of Iron procured from Blast furnaces. In this thesis, Red soil & GGBS are used to churn out Geo Polymer concrete.

Geo polymer concrete is a modish and climate friendly building stuff and a surrogate to OPC. Use of Geo polymer concrete truncates the demand of OPC which is accountable for high Carbon-di-oxide emission. Geo polymer is a stuff repercussioned from the reaction of a provenance stuff that is prosperous in silica & alumina. GPC is utterly cement free concrete. In GPC, Red soil & GGBS portrays as an activator. GGBS & alkaline activator go through Geopolymerisation action to churn out alumina silicate gel. Alkaline solution utilized in current interpretation is amalgamation of sodium hydroxide & sodium silicate with a proportion 1:1 and the molarity of sodium hydroxide is kept as 6M, 8M & 10M.

**Keywords**—Geopolymer, Ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBS), Red soil, Alkaline Activated solutions, Ambient curing.

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### **I. INTRODUCTION**

The effect of globalization has been very evident within the discipline of infrastructure development. In up-to-date research carried out on world demand within the concrete and cement market, a steeping 990 billion is the expected demand forecasted by the end of 2020. In view of the above inference, concrete is regarded to be essentially the most broadly used Cementitious material and it stands second in the market for construction across the world. The principal application of concrete within the construction subject comparable to infrastructure, habitation and transportation has influenced the economic progress and the standard of living of developed as well as developing nations vastly. Nevertheless, extreme industrialization and developmental activities have resulted in huge quantity of production of concrete which is ideally made up of clay and limestone which are geologically irrecoverable and produces carbon dioxide, which majorly contributes toward global warming and environmental degradation. Among the greenhouse gases, it's estimated that CO<sub>2</sub> contributes about 65% of global warming. The cement producing industries are contributors of CO<sub>2</sub> to the environment. It is real that exposure of ordinary concrete to severe environmental conditions, leads to deterioration of its force over an interval of time. Any construction with ordinary cement substances is borne to cracks and corrosion. Concrete also reacts to acid assault, forming calcium salts, which makes it to corrode fully. Thus, discovering an alternative strategy to this obstacle is to identify alternative binding substances.

### **II. MATERIALS USED**

#### **1) Red Soil**

Red soil is a type of soil that develops in a warm, temperate, moist climate under deciduous or mixed forest, having thin organic and organic-mineral layers black brown leached layer resting on an illuvium red layer. Red soils are generally derived from the weathering of ancient crystalline and metamorphic rock. They are named after their rich red colour, which is due to their high iron content. It can also vary from reddish brown to reddish yellow. They are usually poor growing soils, low in nutrients and humus and difficult to be cultivated because of its slow water holding capacity.



Red Soil

2) **Ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBS)**

Ground-granulated blast-furnace slag (GGBS or GGBFS) is obtained quenching molten iron slag (a by-product of iron and steel-making) from a blast furnace in water or steam, to produce a glassy, granular product that is then dried and ground into a fine powder.



Ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBS)

3) **Fine Aggregate (Natural sand)**

Available sand, free from silt and organic matters was used. The particle size of the sand used in this study was such a way that it passed through 4.75 mm sieve conforming to zone II of IS: 383-1970. The specific gravity of FA used was 2.55, loose Locally density was 15.7 KN/m<sup>3</sup>, compacted density was 17.1 KN/m<sup>3</sup> and fineness modulus was 2.6.

4) **Coarse Aggregate**

Crushed stone of 20 mm maximum size and retained on IS: 480 sieves have been used as coarse aggregate. It was obtained by nearby quarry.

In Geopolymerization system, alkaline options play a fundamental role. There are two forms of alkaline resolution that getting used on this study. A combination of sodium hydroxide (NaOH) and sodium silicate (Na<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>3</sub>) solution is being chosen as the alkaline solution.

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Sodium silicate



Sodium hydroxide

### III. DESIGN OF GEOPOLYMER CONCRETE

1) **MIX1**

**Design parameter for Mortar Cube:**

**Mixing and specimen preparation:**

Red soil and mixture of alkaline activators namely sodium silicate hydroxide (NaOH) solution with a alkaline activator/soil ratio 0.4 were used to prepare a red soil-based geopolymer with a various sodium hydroxide concentration such as 8M, 10M. red soil to fine aggregates ratio was maintained at 1:3. The ratio of sodium silicate and sodium hydroxide taken as 1:1. The sodium silicate and the sodium hydroxide solution were mixed together at least 24 hours prior to casting of the specimen.

The fresh Geopolymer mortar was used to cast cubes of size (70.6x70.6 x 70.6) mm to determine its compressive strength. Each cube specimen was cast in three layers by manual compaction as well as by using vibrating table. Each layer received 25-30 strokes of compaction by rod, followed by further compaction by using Vibrating.

**Curing of Test Specimens:**

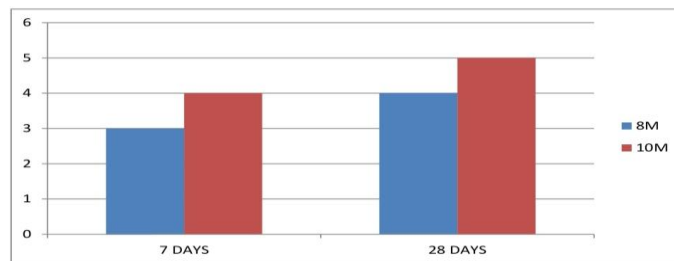
After casting the specimens were allowed to set for 24 hours in moulds. then, the specimens were removed from the moulds and the specimens were cured in room temperature until they reached the 7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> days of age. Test Carried Out

**Compressive Strength:** The compressive strength test of concrete is one of the most important and useful properties of concrete. In most structural applications concrete is employed primarily to resist the compressive stresses. The compressive strength is frequently used as a measure of these properties. Mortar cube specimen (70.6x70.6x70.6) mm were cast with a different percentage and concentration of binder. After as specified

period, specimens are subjected to compression test by using universal testing machine of 100T capacity at a loading rate of 140kN/min.

The result of Compressive strength at 7 and 28 days obtained for mortar cubes are reported in Table 1.

Alkaline liquid to red soil ratio	8M		10M	
	7 days (kn/mm <sup>2</sup> )	28 days (kn/mm <sup>2</sup> )	7 days (kn/mm <sup>2</sup> )	2 days (kn/mm <sup>2</sup> )
0.5	3.76	4.82	3.85	5.39



The Compressive strength at 7 and 28 days obtained for mortar cube

2) **MIX2**

**Design of geopolymer concrete mix design.**

There is no standard mix design available for geopolymer concrete. While the strength of cement concrete is known to be well related to its water cement ratio, such as simplistic formulation may not hold good for geopolymer concrete. So mix design for this geopolymer mix is done by trial and error method.

It showed that geopolymer paste binds the coarse aggregates, fine aggregates and other unreacted material together to form the GPC (Geo Polymer Concrete), and as usual concrete technology method to produce GPC mix can be often employed. As in the Portland cement concrete, the aggregates occupy the largest volume (about 75-80% by mass) in GPCs are a new class of construction materials and there is no standard mix design approaches available for GPCs.

While GPCs involve more constituents in its binder (GGBS, NaOH, Na<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>3</sub> and water) whose interaction and final structure and chemical composition are under intense research where as the chemistry of Portland cement and its structure and chemical composition (before and after hydration) are well established due to extensive research carried out over more than the century, while strength of cement concrete is known to be well related to its water cement ratio. So for this geopolymer concrete mix trial and error method was done.

The investigation was done on the proportion 1:1.7:2.6 (GGBS, fine aggregate, coarse aggregates) by partial replacing the GGBS with red soil. The percentages of replacement are 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 %. For all the proportions the alkaline solution to bind taken is 0.5 kept as constant.

### **Casting, Curing and Testing of the Specimens**

#### **Casting of specimens :**

GGBS, Fine aggregates and Coarse aggregates were taken in mix proportion 1:1.7:2.6 which corresponds to M25 grade of concrete. All the ingredients were mixed in dry condition till we get homogeneous mixture. To this dry mix required amount of alkali activated solution of 6M was added and solution to binder ratio is 0.5 and the entire mix is again mixed till we get homogeneous mixture.

This mixed concrete is poured into the moulds at this time the compaction is done in 3 layers by hand compaction and then it kept on the vibrator for compaction. After the compaction the surface is well levelled and given smooth finishes. After 24 hours the specimens were demoulded.

#### **4 Curing of specimens:**

The demoulded specimens were placed for curing the curing is done by placing the demoulded specimens in atmospheric temperature that is sunlight so this type of curing is called as ambient curing. This type of curing eliminates the heat curing of geopolymer. These specimens are cured for 7, 14, days.



**Dry mix of geopolymer concrete**



**Casting a specimen**

#### **Testing of specimens**

The specimens are tested for compressive strength for cubes of size 150mm x 150mm x 150mm cast in steel moulds. For each proportion 3 cubes were tested at the age of 7 days, 14 days.

Compressive strength specimens of dimensions 150mm x 150mm x 150mm which was prepared are tested in 1000KN capacity compression testing machine. The compressive strength is calculated by using the equation,

$$F = P/A$$

Where,

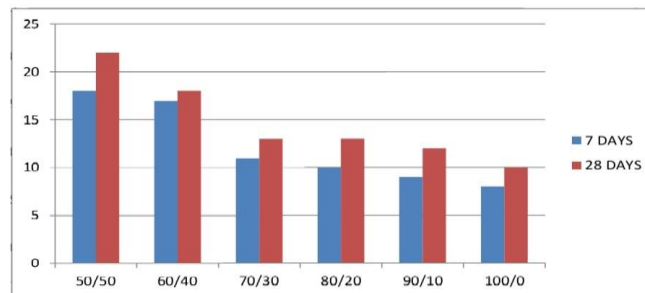
F = Compressive stress

P = Maximum Load in N

A = Cross sectional area in mm.

The average compressive strength of various proportions is given in table 2.

GBS/RED SOIL (%)	7DAYS (kn/mm <sup>2</sup> )	14 DAYS (kn/mm <sup>2</sup> )
50/50	18.51	22.60
60/40	17.88	18.44
70/30	11.01	13.83
80/20	10.24	13.55
90/10	9.86	12.51
100/0	8.95	9.98



The Compressive strength at 7 and 28 days obtained for concrete cube

Compressive strength of concrete

## CONCLUSION

The inference of the present work is represented on this chapter. The following conclusions can also be drawn with the experimental gain of knowledge of on Geopolymer.

- This research has paved the way for the incorporation of promising Geopolymer concrete in structural applications and has led to the total elimination of cement from concrete which ultimately becomes "Green Concrete".
- It was observed that Geopolymer concrete produces a substance that is comparable to or better than traditional concrete with respect to most properties.
- Geopolymer concrete eliminated the conventional way of water curing, as it was cured at ambient temperature.
- It was observed that the compressive strength increased with the increase in the GGBS content of the concrete.
- As the demand and the cost of the sodium silicate is high in the industrial market, we were successfully able to reduce the consumption of the sodium silicate in the geo polymer concrete, without altering the strength characteristics of the Geopolymer concrete.
- As the Geopolymer concrete has less permeability, less porous, and has less void ratio which results in high durability of the Geopolymer concrete, thus Geopolymer concrete has high durability aspect than the conventional concrete.
- As the geo polymer concrete doesn't require water curing, as it requires ambient curing it can easily cure under ambient temperature. The water scarcity faced in this site regarding curing purpose is completely eliminated.

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