

Manufacturing of bricks using sewage sludge

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Abstract—Sludge resulting from wastewater treatment plants creates problems of disposal. Generally, dewatered sludge's are disposed of by spreading on the land or by land filling. However, for highly urbanized cities, sludge disposal by land filling might not be appropriate due to land limitation. Incineration might be an alternative solution. However, a substantial amount of ash will be produced after the burning process and must be disposed of by other means. This project presents the results of the utilization of dry sludge as brick-making materials. The disposal of sewage wastes comprises one of the major worldwide environmental problems as these wastes render the environment unfriendly. The growing demand for waste utilization has made solid wastes like sludge an essential composition of this study. The possibility of reduction in the production costs provides a strong logic for use of this sludge.

Generally sludge, bio degradable materials are dumped in the land, and they decompose over the period of time. This study involves the usage of sludge as an ingredient. The disposal of sewage waste is the major problem in urban cities as it causes many harmful effects to the environment. Sludge is the main product from sewage waste. Conventional brick is mostly prepared by using clay. Chemical composition of sludge is nearly similar to the clay. Hence sludge can be used as a replacement for a clay, soil in manufacturing of bricks.

The percentages of dried sludge within mixed with clay for brick making are 10%, 20%, 30%, 40% and 50%. Dry sludge, soil, water these materials are used for this project.

The sieve analysis test, specific gravity test and liquid limit test these are basic tests conducted on dry sludge and soil. And the compression test and water absorption test these are tests conducted on sludge bricks and conventional bricks.

As the conclusion, brick with 10% utilization of solid waste is acceptable to produce good quality of brick. The sewage bricks will be bigger competitor to the cement brick and clay brick type in the market.

Keywords—Dry Sludge, Water, Soil.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The most basic building material for construction of houses is the conventional brick. The rapid growth in today's construction industry has obliged the Civil engineers in searching for more efficient and durable alternatives far beyond the limitations of the conventional brick production. A number of studies had taken serious steps in manufacturing bricks from several of waste materials. However, the traditional mean of bricks production which has brought hazardous impacts to the context has not yet been changed or replaced by more efficient and sustainable one. If the utilization of the waste like sludge in clay bricks usually has positive effects on the properties such as lightweight bricks with improved shrinkage, porosity, thermal properties, and strength. The lightweight bricks will reduce the transportation and manufacturing cost. Moreover, with this waste incorporation it will reduce clay content in the fired clay brick, and then reduce the manufacturing cost and become economical for construction.

Brick is one of the most important construction elements. The history of brick manufacturing goes back 8000 years when the fabrication of the earliest sun-dried clay bricks was discovered. Sludge generated at sludge treatment plants should be treated and handled in an environmentally sound manner. Coagulant sludge is generated by sludge treatment plants, which use metal salts such as aluminium sulphate (alum) or ferric chloride as a coagulant to remove turbidity. The traditional practice of discharging the sludge directly into a nearby stream is becoming less acceptable because these discharges can violate the allowable stream standards. The discharging of sludge into water body leads to accumulative rise of aluminium concentrations in water, aquatic organisms, and consequently, in human bodies. Some researchers have linked contributory influence to occurrence of Alzheimer's disease, children mental retardation, and the common effects of heavy metals accumulation. It is recognized that the disposal of aluminium-laden solids from water treatment plants will receive a closer scrutiny in the coming years.

II. MATERIALS USED

1) Dry Sludge

Nowaday, disposal of sewage has become a necessity for societies. The construction of treatment plants has caused problems with huge content of dry sludge. It has been found that each person produce 35 to 85 grams of solid sludge per day. In recent years, waste production has increased dramatically in developing nations such as India. There are two methods to solve the problem such as disposal of solid waste (dry sludge) including land filling and using dry sludge as fertilizers. But by both these methods some harmful material remains in sludge which causes harm to environment including land, air and water as a whole.



Figure 1: Dry Sludge

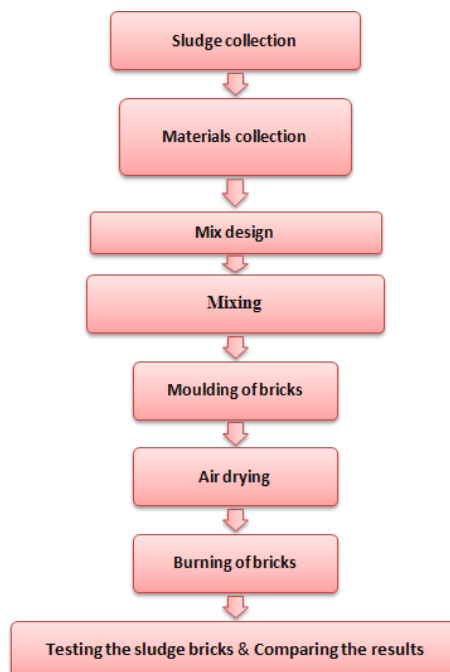
2) Soil

Soil sample test for project is obtained from local brick manufacturing unit.



Figure 2: Soil

III. MIX DESIGN



MIX DESIGN FOR BRICKS

Different percentage of Sludge	Soil	Water
10%	90%	12%
20%	80%	12%
30%	70%	12%
40%	60%	12%
50%	50%	12%

IV. TEST CAREE ID OUT ON DRY SLUDGE AND SOIL.

1. Sieve analysis test
2. Specific gravity test
3. Liquid limit test

4.1. SIEVE ANALYSIS TEST: Determination of quantitative size distribution of particles of dry sludge to fine grained fraction.

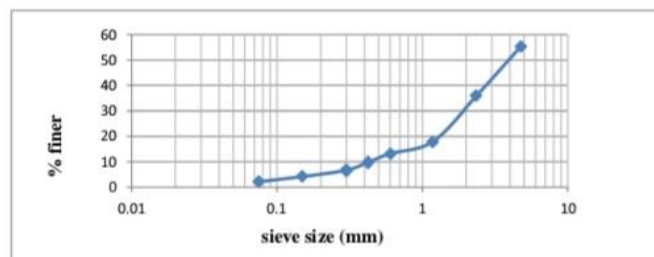


Fig4.1 : sieve analysis test

Table4.1: Sieve analysis test (dry sludge)

Sl. no	Sieve (mm)	Mass retained (g)	% of mass retained	Cumulative % retainer	% of finer
1	4.75	223.4	44.7	44.7	55.3
2	2.36	97.1	19.4	64.1	38.9
3	1.18	90.2	18.0	82.1	17.9
4	0.60	23.4	4.7	86.8	13.2
5	0.425	17.2	3.4	90.2	9.8
6	0.30	15.8	3.16	93.36	6.64
7	0.15	12.6	2.52	95.88	4.12
8	0.075	10.2	2.0	97.70	2.1
9	Pan	10.1	2.1	100	0

GRAPH



Result: Fineness modulus of dry sludge is 7.5%.

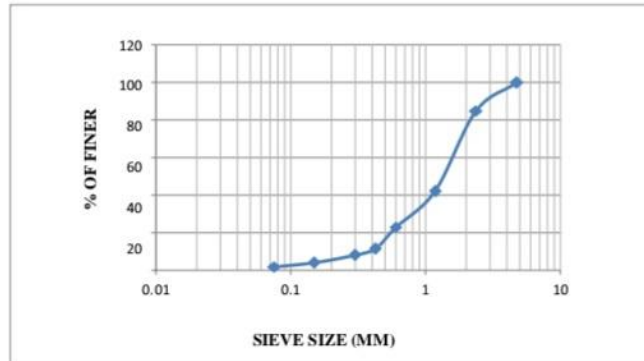
4.1.1 SIEVE ANALYSIS TEST: (SOIL)

Table4.2: sieve analysis test (soil)

Sl. no	Sieve (mm)	Mass retained (g)	% of mass retained	Cumulative % mass retained (g)	% of finer
1	4.75	12	12	1.2	55.3
2	2.36	142	14.2	15.4	38.91
3	1.18	424	42.4	57.8	17.9
4	0.60	195	19.15	77.3	13.2

5	0.425	113	11.3	88.6	9.8
6	0.30	34	3.4	92.0	6.64
7	0.15	40	4	96.0	4.12
8	0.075	23	2.3	98.3	2.1
9	Pan	17	1.7	100	0

GRAPH



Result : Fineness modulus of soil is 6.26%

4.2 SPECIFIC GRAVITY TEST:



TABLE 4.3: SPECIFIC GRAVITY TEST: (DRY SLUDGE)

Particulars	1	2	3
Empty weight of the pycnometer (M1)g	612	612	612
Weight of the pycnometer + dry soil (M2)g	886	894	953
Weight of the pycnometer + soil + water (M3)g	1650	1654	1684
Weight of the pycnometer + water (M4)g	1504	1504	1504
Specific gravity (G)	214	213	214
Average (G)	= 2.12		

Result: Specific gravity of dry sludge = 2.12

TABLE 4.4: SPECIFIC GRAVITY TEST: (SOIL)

PARTICULARS	1	2	3
Empty weight of the pycnometer (M1)g	457	457	457
Weight of the pycnometer + dry soil (M2)g	680	696	678
Weight of the pycnometer + soil + water (M3)g	1184	1188	1183
Weight of the pycnometer + water (M4)g	1048	1050	1048
Specific gravity (G)	2.56	2.34	2.55
Average (G)	2.50		

RESULT: Specific gravity of soil = 2.50

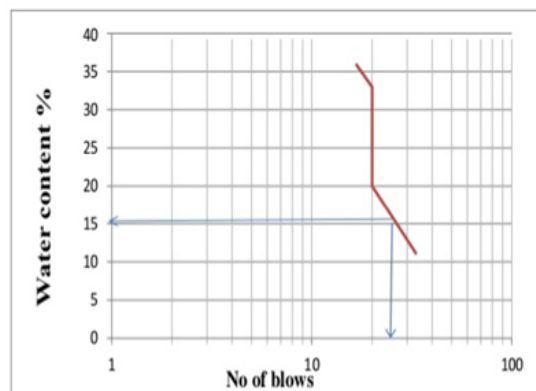
4.3 LIQUID LIMIT TEST



Table 4.5: LIQUID LIMIT TEST: (DRY SLUDGE)

Determination No	1	2	3	4
Number of blows	11	20	33	36
Container number	31	37	32	9
Mass of container (g)	15	15	15	16
Mass of (container + wet soil) g	17	18	18	19.5
Mass of dry soil (g)	16.5	17.5	17.5	19
Mass of water (g)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Water content %	33.33	20	20	16.6

GRAPH:

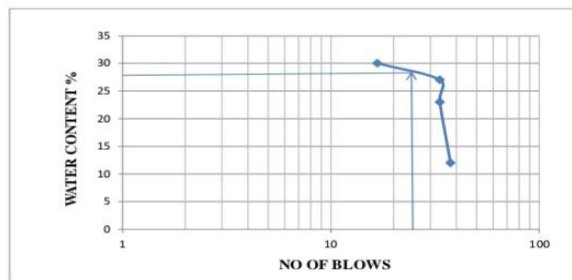


Result:Liquid limitof drysludge WL= 16%

Table4.6:liquidlimittest: soil

DeterminationNo	1	2	3	4
Noofblows	12	23	27	30
Containerno	1	2	3	4
Massofcontainer(g)	16	17	21	19
Massof(container+wetsoil)g	27	25	29	26
Massofdrysoil(g)	24	23	27	25
Massofwater(g)	3	2	2	1
Watercontent %	37.5	33.33	33.33	16.7

GRAPH



Liquidlimit of soliWL= 27.5%

V. TEST CAREED OUT ON: BRICKS

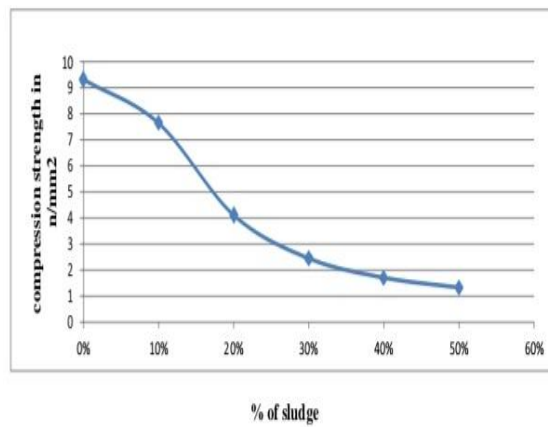
5.1 COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH FOR SLUDGE BRICK AND CONVENTIONAL BRICKS



Table 5.1: Compression strength of brick

Conventional brick		10%		20%		30%		40%		50%	
Load (KN)	Compression strength (N/mm ²)	Load (KN)	Compression Strength (N/mm ²)	Load (KN)	Compression Strength (N/mm ²)	Load (KN)	Compression strength (N/mm ²)	Load (KN)	Compression strength (N/mm ²)	Load (KN)	Compression strength (N/mm ²)
140	8.02	120	6.87	50	2.86	30	1.72	20	1.14	20	1.14
150	8.60	130	7.45	80	4.58	40	2.29	30	1.72	20	1.14
200	11.46	150	8.60	90	5.16	60	3.44	50	2.86	20	1.72

GRAPH



5.2 WATER ABSORPTION TEST



Table5.2: Waterabsorption

Sl.no	% of sludge	Weight before testing 'kg'	Weight after testing in 'kg'	%of water absorption
1	0	3.450	3.754	8.81
2	10	3.310	3.580	8.15
3	20	3.200	3.500	9.30
4	30	3.118	3.480	12.98
5	40	2.890	3.460	19.72
6	50	2.705	3.353	23.95

VI.CONCLUSION

- These sewage bricks will be bigger competitor to the cement brick and clay brick type in the market.
- Dry sludge is available free cost, so we will reduce cost of bricks.
- Environmental effects from waste and disposal problem of waste can be reduced through this research.
- Compressive strength increases when replacement of dry sludge when compared to traditional brick.
- From the project, replacement of soil with this dry sludge material provides good compressive strength at dry sludge 10% replacement.

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