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An experimental study on strength property of concrete by partial replacement of coarse aggregate with seashell and cement with fly ASH

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ABSTRACT

The growing concern of resource depletion and global pollution has lead to the development of new materials relying on renewable resources. Many by- products are used as aggregate for concrete. Seashell waste which is a major financial and operational burden on the shellfish industry is used as an ingredient in concrete thus offering alternatives to preserve natural coarse aggregate for future generation. Seashell is mainly composed of calcium and the rough texture make it suitable to be used as partial coarse aggregate replacement which provides an economic alternative to the conventional materials such as gravel. Experimental studies were performed on conventional concrete and mixtures of seashell with concrete. The percentage of seashell is varied from 10%, 20% and 30%. Also the cement is replaced for 15% of flyash. The mechanical properties of concrete such as compressive strength, tensile strength, flexural strength, and workability are evaluated. This research helps to access the behavior of concrete mixed with seashell and determination of optimum percentage of combined mixture which can be recommended as suitable alternative construction material in low cost housing delivery especially in coastal areas and near fresh water where they are found as waste.

Keywords: *Seashell, Fly Ash, Compressive strength, Tensile strength, Flexural strength, Workability.*

INTRODUCTION

Civil engineering practice and construction works in India depend to a very large extent on concrete. Concrete is one of the major building materials that can be delivered to the job site in a plastic state and can be moulded insitu or precast to virtually any form or shape. Concrete basic constituents are cement, fine aggregate (sand), coarse aggregate (granite chippings) and water. Hence, the overall cost of concrete production depends largely on the availability of the constituents (and selected additives). Water reacts chemically with cement to form the cement paste, acts as binder holding the aggregate together which is an exothermic hydration reaction. Aggregates are usually described as inert "filler" material of either the fine (sand) or coarse (gravel) variety. It tends to represent a relatively high volume

percentage of concrete, to minimize costs of the material. In present generation as the population is increasing rapidly along with the increase in construction work, to replace the old process, the new bricks like fly ash bricks came into field replacing the old lime bricks, whereas the cementing material like mud, lime paste and gums is replaced by the cement of different kinds in different construction. The continuously growing construction industry has posed the possibility on depletion of natural aggregates in the future that would increase the cost of concrete material. So the need for replacement of present aggregates is a growing concern to meet the demand for aggregates in the structures. Thus alternative options are adopted for non-load bearing walls and non-structural floors in buildings. Recent studies focuses on the locally available waste to be used as

aggregates. One such waste is the seashells obtained from coastal areas, freshwater lakes, and riverine areas. Seashell is a hard, protective layer, a calcareous exoskeleton which encloses, supports and protects the soft parts of an animal (molluscs). As they grow, the shells increases in size which becomes a strong compact casing for the mollusc inside. The major molluscan seashell includes, bivalves such as clams, scallops, and cockle. The hard shells are regarded as waste, which are accumulated in many parts of the country, when dumped and left untreated may cause unpleasant odour and disturbing view to the surrounding. Also the aggregate surface texture influences the bond between aggregate and cement paste in hardened concrete. Thus it opens an investigation into its

potential as a partial replacement of coarse aggregate. [1-5]

PROJECT WORK

Materials used and its Properties

Cement

The Cement used in this study was Ordinary Portland cement (OPC) which is the most important type of cement. OPC cement of 53grade of cement use in this experimental work. Conforming weight of each cement bag was 50kg. The property of cement is shown in Table 1 [6-10]

Table 1: Properties of Cement

<i>Physical Properties</i>	<i>Value observed in investigation</i>	<i>Standard value for OPC</i>
<i>Specific gravity</i>	2.85	-
<i>Initial setting time (minutes)</i>	112	> 30
<i>Final setting time (minutes)</i>	540	< 600

Fine aggregate

M-sand was used as Fine aggregate with fineness modulus of 2.85 and it should passing through IS Sieve 4.75mm. It should have fineness

modulus 2.50- 3.50 and silt content should not be more than 4. The properties of Fine aggregate are shown below in Table 2.

Table 2: Properties of Fine Aggregate

S.NO.	PROPERTY	VALUE
1	Specific gravity	2.62
2	Grading Zone	II (IS 383- 1970)
3	Fineness modulus	2.50 (2.50-3.50)
4	Sieve analysis	4.75 mm

Coarse aggregate

The coarse aggregate are the blue granite stone of which particles greater than 4.75mm they should be hard, strong, dense, durable and clean.

It should be conical shape. Flaky pieces should be avoided. It creates much better bond between cement paste and the Aggregates. The properties of Coarse aggregate are shown below in Table 3.

Table 3: Properties of Coarse Aggregate

S.NO	PROPERTY	VALUE
1	Sieve analysis	4.75 mm
2	Specific gravity	2.53
3	Water absorption	2.71%

Super plasticizers

Super plasticizers are known as high range water reducers are chemical admixtures used where well dispersed particle suspension is

required. ceraplast300 conforms depending on the dosages used. The properties of Super plasticizers is shown below in Table 4.



Table 4: Physical Properties of Super plasticizer

S.NO	PROPERTIES	DESCRIPTION
1	Colour	Brown
2	Specific gravity	1.220 to 1.225 at 300C
3	Air Entrainment	Approx 1% additional air is entrained

Seashell

Seashell is a waste obtained from Kaveri river at Bhavani formed as the result of disintegration of dead animals. Seashell consists of three layers outer, intermediate and inner layer. Outer layer is made up of calcite material whereas inner layer is

otherwise known as nacre which is made up of calcium carbonate. Since 95% of calcium carbonate present in seashell, it has the strength nearly equal to coarse aggregate. The seashells of 20 mm size were sieved and used in Table 5.



Table 5: Properties of Seashell

S.NO	PROPERTY	VALUE
1	Sieve analysis	2.62
2	Specific gravity	2.34
3	Water absorption	Nil

Table 6: Physical Properties of Fly Ash

S.NO	PROPERIES	Fly Ash
1	Density	2.17 g/cm ³
2	Specific gravity	2.71
3	Color	Grey
4	Bulk density	1.26 g/cm ³
5	Particle shape	Irregular
6	Porosity	45% -55%
7	Water content	2%

Table 7: Quantity of material

S.No	Description	Value	Kg/Lit
1	Total quantity of cement	35	Kg
2	Total quantity of coarse aggregate Total quantity	145	Kg
3	Total quantity of fine aggregate	80	Kg
4	Total quantity of water	15	Lit
5	Total quantity of Seashell	30	Kg
6	Total quantity of Fly ash	6	Kg
7	Total quantity of admixture	480	MI

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Workability of fresh concrete

Influence of seashell content on the workability of fresh concrete. The slump test was used to measure workability as a function of seashell content for constant w/c ratio, the effect of seashell content on the slump. The slump value seems to decrease with higher percentage of limestone filler content, this result is related to the relatively high water absorption capability which is attributed mainly to the large specific surface of seashell.

Compressive strength test

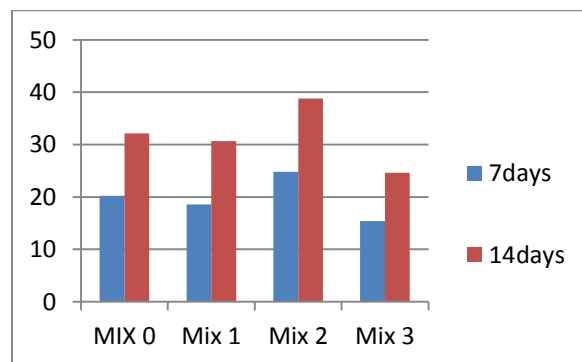
Compressive test is the most common test conducted on hardened concrete, partly because it is an easy test to perform and partly because most of the desirable properties of concrete are qualitatively related to its compressive strength. The strength of concrete is usually defined and determined by the crushing strength of 150mm x 150mmx150mm, at an age of 7 and 14 days. The mould and its base rigidly clamped together so as to reduce leakages during casting. The sides of the mould and base plates were oiled before casting to prevent bonding between the mould and concrete. The cube was then stored for 24 hours undisturbed.

The testing of cube under compression was shown in figure



Table 8: Test results for compression strength

Mix	COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH N/MM ²	
	7DAYS	14DAYS
1. Mix 1 (0%)	20.22	32.132
2. Mix 2 (10%)	18.6	30.7
3. Mix 3 (20%)	24.8	38.8
4. Mix 4 (30%)	15.4	24.6



Graph 1: Compression strength Test

Split tensile strength test

For tensile strength test, cylindrical specimens of dimension 150 mm diameter and 300 mm length were cast. In this test three cylinders were tested and their average value was reported. The split

tension test was conducted by using digital compression machine having 2000 kN capacity.

Split tensile strength was calculated as follows:

$$\text{Split Tensile strength (MPa)} = \frac{2P}{\pi DL}$$

Where, P = Failure Load (kN)

D = Diameter of Specimen (150 mm)

L = Length of Specimen (300 mm)

Test Results of splitting tensile strength for M60 grade of concrete shown in table 8

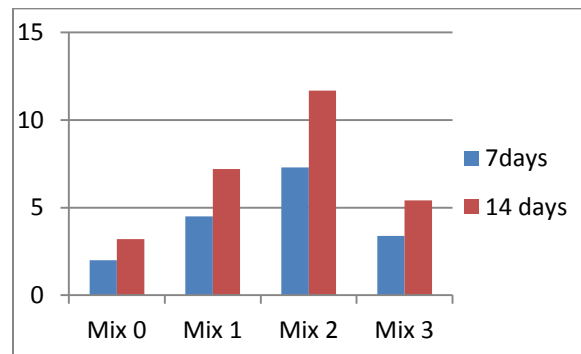
Three cylinder specimens were casted in each percentage, in order to find the average value of

split tensile strength. These cylinder specimens were left for 28days curing in a curing tank. After the course of curing, the specimens were ready for testing. All the cylinders were tested.



Table 9: Test results for Split Tensile strength test

Mix	SPLIT TENSILE STRENGTH TEST	
	N/mm ²	
	7DAYS	14DAYS
5. Mix 1 (0%)	2	3.2
6. Mix 2 (10%)	4.5	7.2
7. Mix 3 (20%)	7.3	11.68
8. Mix 4 (30%)	3.39	5.424



Graph 2: Split Tensile Strength Test

Flexural strength test

For Flexural strength test, specimen of 150 mm X 200 mm X 1500 mm was casted. A beam specimen is placed in the ultimate testing machine of 2000kN capacity for testing. Rollers are placed at a centre to centre distance of the beam

specimen. The load is increased until the specimen fails and the maximum load applied to the specimen during the test is recorded.

The Flexural strength is calculated by using the formula

$$\sigma = P l / b h^2$$

Where,

P = load in Newton shown in dial gauge

b = breadth of rectangular prism i.e. 100 mm

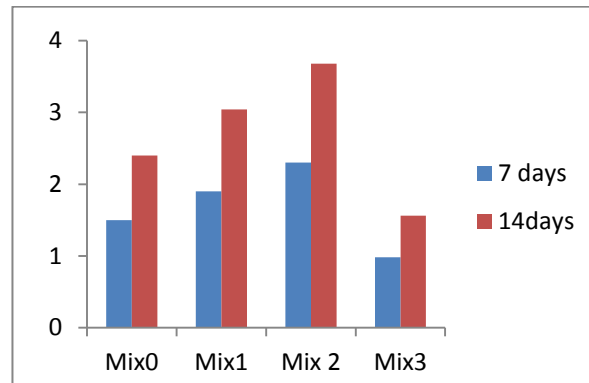
l = length of rectangular prism in mm i.e. 500 mm

h = height of rectangular prism i.e. 100 mm.

Test Results of flexural strength for M40 grade of concrete is shown in table 10.

Table 10: Test results for Flexural strength test

Mix	FLEXURAL STRENGTH TEST N/mm ²	
	7DAYS	14DAYS
9. Mix 1 (0%)	1.5	2.4
10. Mix 2 (10%)	1.9	3.04
11. Mix 3 (20%)	2.3	3.68
12. Mix 4 (30%)	0.98	1.56



Graph 3: Flexural strength test

CONCLUSIONS

In summary of the above investigations, the following conclusions are made from the experimental results indicated following:

- The maximum compressive strength of Cubes are attained at 20% replaced by coarse aggregate

- The Split Tensile strength of Cylinders are attained at 20% replaced by Coarse Aggregate.
- The flexural strength of Prism are attained at 20% replaced by coarse aggregate.
- We found out the optimum percentage for replacement of Seashell with coarse aggregate and it is 20% for all Cubes, Cylinders & Prisms.

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