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Using Crushed Ceramic Insulator as Coarse Aggregate in Concrete

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Abstract: ***The aim of this research work is to investigate the strength of concrete with ceramic waste as coarse aggregate. The ceramic waste of electrical insulators provided from an electric power company has been crushed to produce coarse aggregates for concrete in this study. Workability of the fresh concrete is checked through slump test, and concrete cubes of 150x150x150mm and cylinders of 150x300mm are casted in the laboratory. After 24 h of casting, the concrete specimens are demoulded and are cured under water tank at 27^o± 2^{o}C. The compressive and splitting tensile strengths of the concrete specimens are determined after curing them for 7 and 28days. The experimental results showed that both the compressive and splitting tensile strengths of ceramic waste aggregate concrete increased slightly than the conventional concrete.***
Keywords: Ceramic waste, Coarse aggregate, Compressive strength, Splitting tensile strength

I. INTRODUCTION

Over the last several decades, the significance of sustainability and recycling has been recognized and understood in academia and industry (T.C. Hansen 1992; K. Watson 1993; R.J. Collins and P.T. Sherwood 1995; F. Pacheco et al. 2011). In India, a large amount of ceramic insulator waste has been found in electricity board due to heavy voltage insulator becomes breaks. This ceramic insulator waste has not been reused after breaking (A. Mohd Mustafa et al. 2008; C. Medina et al. 2012; P.O Awoyera et al. 2016) This work investigates the possibility of replacing the conventional coarse aggregate by crushed ceramic insulator in making of concrete.

Some investigations have suggested that ceramic wastes are good materials which could substitute conventional aggregates in concrete. R.M. Senthamarai et al. (2005) substituted conventional crushed stone aggregate with ceramic electrical insulator. Different water cement ratio of 0.35, 0.40, 0.45, 0.50, 0.55 and 0.60 were adopted. Compressive strength, split tensile strength, flexural strength and Modulus of elasticity were found out. It is found that the compressive, split tensile and flexure strength of ceramic coarse aggregate are lower by 3.8%, 18.2% and 6% respectively when compared to conventional concrete. A. Mohd Mustafa et al. (2008) studied on various types of ceramic waste like flower pots, tiles and clay bricks. Different water cement ratios were adopted such as 0.4, 0.5 and 0.7 with concrete of characteristics strength of 20 MPa. Flower pots gave the best results for compressive strength of about 2.50% lesser than that of conventional concrete. R.M.Senthamarai et al. (2011) studied the durability properties of ceramic industry waste as coarse aggregate in concrete. Water cement ratios from 0.35- 0.60 were used and properties such as volume of voids, water absorption, chloride penetration and sorption were studied. Water absorption ranges from 3.74-7.21% whereas that of conventional concrete from 3.1 – 6.52%. Concrete with Ceramic shows higher results in all tests. T. Sekar (2011) studied on strength characteristics of concrete utilizing waste materials viz: ceramic tiles, ceramic insulator waste and broken glass pieces. Ceramic tiles gave the best results when compared to the other two type of waste. The concrete produced by ceramic tile aggregate produced similar strength in compression, split tensile and flexure as conventional concrete. C. Medina et al. (2012) investigated on the reuse of waste as recycled coarse aggregate in partial substitution of 15%, 20% and 25% in the manufacture of structural concrete. Compressive strength is found out 7, 28 and 90 days. There is an increase in strength with increase of percentage replacement, the best results shown is at 25% with increase of 21.12%, 11.04% and 6.70% at 7, 28 and 90 days respectively.

Y. Tabak et al. (2012) studied on the mechanical and physical properties of concrete produced form Floor Tiles Waste Aggregate. Two samples were made, the first one substitution by Floor Tile Waste Dust and the other a combination of Floor Tile Waste Dust and Floor Tile Waste Aggregate .Best result is shown b FTWA substitution. Increase in compression strength is 13.53%, 16.70% and 2.91% for 2, 7 and 28 days. Similarly there is an increase of 23.21%, 0.1% and 19.47% respectively for flexure strength. There is a reduction of specific density and water absorption of 0.284Kg/m^3 and 0.158% respectively when compared to conventional concrete. roof tiles as coarse aggregate with different ratios of 0.40, 0.45 and 0.50, subjected to elevated temperature. There is a decrease in compressive strength and Split Tensile with increase in water cement ratio and temperature. V. Giridhar et al.(2015) experimented on concrete with ceramic waste as natural coarse aggreagate at 0%, 20%, 40%, 60%, 80% and 100%. M20 concrete is

adopted. Maximum compression attained at 20% replacement reached 93.45% and 98.84% to that of conventional concrete. Similarly split tensile strength reaches 97.38% and 93.78% to that of conventional concrete at 7 and 28 days respectively. R. Janarthanan et al. (2015) experimented on ceramic waste as a construction material by replacing it as coarse aggregate for 25%, 50% and 100%. M30 concrete mix is chosen. Best results were found out at 25% replacement with 34.63N/mm^2 compression strength which is close to conventional concrete being 34.23 N/mm^2.

II. EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM

A. *Materials*

1) *Ceramic Insulator Waste Coarse Aggregate:* Ceramic waste aggregate used in this study is obtained from Electric Power Company in Nellore. Ceramic waste pieces are generally too large in size (Fig.1), so they were broken by a hammer into smaller pieces. These small pieces were crushed using a jaw crusher to get the required 20 mm maximum size (specific gravity 2.48, fineness modulus 6.92) coarse aggregate. The photograph of crushing and sieving of ceramic waste is shown in Fig.2.

Fig.1 Ceramic Electric Insulator Waste

Fig.2 Crushing and Sieving of Ceramic Waste

2) *Other Concrete mix Components:* Ordinary Portland Cement 53 Grade conforming to IS 12269-1987 , locally available river sand (specific gravity 2.63,fineness modulus 2.37) conforming to IS 383-1970 and natural crushed stone aggregate of maximum size 20 mm (specific gravity 2.72, fineness modulus 6.96) conforming to IS 383-1970 were used in the conventional concrete.
3) *Mix Proportion:* The detailed mix ratio of cement- water- fine aggregate- coarse aggregate- superplasticizer is 1:0.38:1.56:2.72:0.005.This mix ratio is used to cast both ceramic waste coarse aggregate concrete and the conventional concrete.

III. TEST PROCEDURE

A. *Compressive Test*

The Compressive test is carried out in accordance with IS 516-1959. For the tests, 150x150x150 mm size cube specimens are used. The cubes are casted using M40 grade of concrete. During casting the cubes are manually compacted using tamping rods. After 24 hours, the moulds are removed and the specimen is placed in a curing tank at temperature $27^{o}\pm 2^{o}$C. These specimens are tested by compression testing machine after 7 and 28 days curing (Fig.3). The load is applied continuously at the rate of 140 kg/cm^2 per minute till the specimens fails. Finally, the maximum load applied to the specimen is recorded and type of failure is observed.
The compressive strength of the specimen was calculated by using the formula

$$f_c = \frac{P}{A}$$

Where,
P = Load at which the specimen fails in Newton
A = Area over which the load is applied in mm
f_c = Compressive stress in N/mm^2

Fig.3 Compression test on concrete cubes

B. *Splitting tensile test*

The splitting tensile test is carried out in accordance with IS 516-1959 standards conducted on concrete cylinders of 150 mm diameter and 300 mm length. The specimen should be cast and cured in the same manner as for casting of cubes. After 7 and 28 days curing, the specimen is placed longitudinally in the universal testing machine (Fig.4a). Fig.4b shows the specimen with the compressometer setup is placed over the machine platform for calculating elastic modulus of concrete. The load is applied continuously at the rate within, the range of 689 to 1380 KPa/min until failure of the specimen. The Splitting tensile strength is determined by using the formula.

$$f_{ct} = \frac{2P}{\pi dl}$$

Where,

P = Maximum load applied to the specimen (mm)

d = diameter of the specimen (mm)

l = length of the specimen (mm)

f_{ct} = Splitting tensile strength (N/mm^2)

Fig.4 (a) Test setup for splitting tensile test (b) Test setup of E for concrete

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. *Compressive test*

The compressive strength of concrete with different coarse aggregates is given in Table 3.The compressive strength varied from 25 MPa to 28 MPa for 7 days strength. Also, it varied from 52 MPa to 55 MPa for 28 days. The compressive strength of concrete cubes made with ceramic waste coarse aggregate concrete is 8.3% greater than that of conventional concrete. It is found that, there is not much variation in the compressive strength of conventional concrete and ceramic waste coarse aggregate concrete.

Fig.5 Failure of cube specimen

Table 1 Compressive strength of ceramic waste coarse aggregate concrete and conventional concrete at 7 and 28 days

SPECIMEN-ID	CERAMIC WASTE COARSE AGGREGATE CONCRETE		CONVENTIONAL CONCRETE	
	COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (N/mm^2)			
	7 DAYS	28 DAYS	7 DAYS	28 DAYS
M40	26.5	54	24	51
M40	25	52	22	49
M40	28	55	22.5	48.5

B. Splitting tensile test

The splitting tensile strength of concrete with different coarse aggregates is given in Table 2.The splitting tensile strength varied from 0.9 MPa to 0.96 MPa at 7 days and 4.2 to 4.5 MPa at 28 days. The modulus of elasticity of concrete varied from 23.4 to 26.1 GPa. This is 14.1% to 21.4% lower compared to conventional concrete. It is observed that the splitting strength of ceramic coarse aggregate concrete gave values nearer to that of conventional aggregate concrete.

Fig.6 Failure of cylindrical specimen

Table 2 Splitting tensile strength of ceramic waste coarse aggregate concrete and conventional concrete at 7 and 28 days

SPECIMEN ID	CERAMIC WASTE COARSE AGGREGATE CONCRETE		MODULUS OF ELASTICITY, E (GPa)	CONVENTIONAL CONCRETE		MODULUS OF ELASTICITY, E (GPa)
	SPLITTING TENSILE STRENGTH (N/mm^2)			SPLITTING TENSILE STRENGTH (N/mm^2)		
	7DAYS	28 DAYS		7 DAYS	28 DAYS	
M40	0.96	4.5	25.2	1.1	4.8	29.6
M40	0.92	4.3	23.4	1.2	4.5	28.4
M40	0.9	4.2	26.1	1.2	4.6	29.8

V. CONCLUSION

From the experimental test results, it is clear that the compressive strength of concrete cubes made with ceramic waste coarse aggregate concrete is 8.3% greater than that of conventional concrete. The splitting tensile strength of ceramic coarse aggregate concrete gave values nearer to that of conventional aggregate concrete. The modulus of elasticity of concrete varied from 23.4 to 26.1 GPa. This is 14.1% to 21.4% lower compared to conventional concrete.

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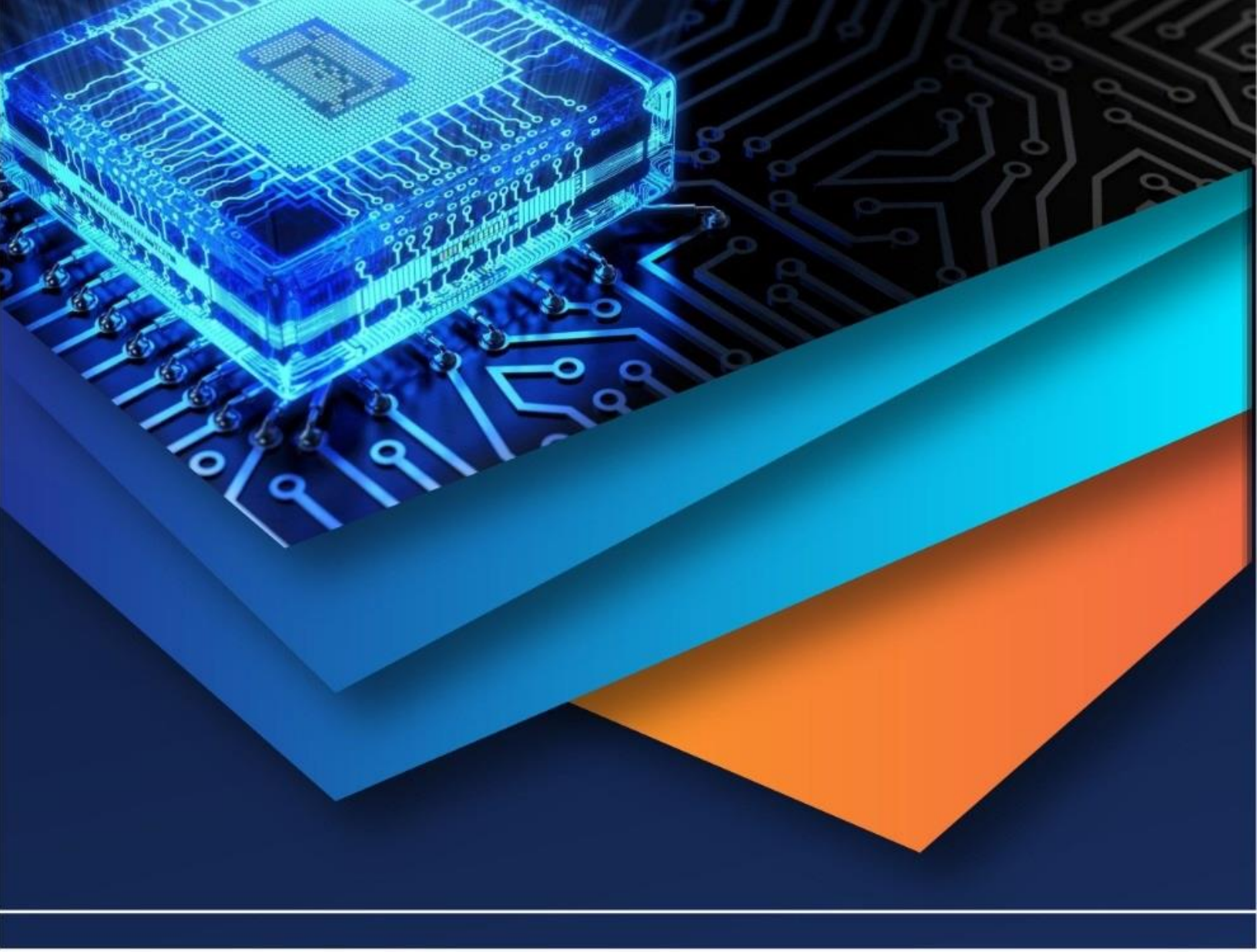

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