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USE OF FLYASH AND RICE HUSK ASH AS PARTIAL REPLACEMENT OF CEMENT IN THE CONCRETE

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ABSTRACT

Concrete is one of the significant materials of the construction industry. These days because of expansion in a population, the demand of infrastructure is expanding day by day. This prompts the increment in production of cement. In the present scenario the overall cement production is about 4.1 billion metric tons worldwide. This huge amount of production prompts utilization of natural resources and it is very unsafe for environment. Enormous amount of waste by-products are delivered from the manufacturing enterprises, for example, mineral slag, fly ash, silica fumes, rice husk ash and so on. the rice husk ash is an agricultural by-product which is obtained from the rice mills, the husk which is obtained from mill is of no use i.e it is not even be used for animals to eat. Hence it is used as a fuel in various big industries the burning temperature is very high hence they are obtained from that the RHA is very lightweight. The project work here deals with the partial replacement of cement with RHA and Fly ash in concrete at various percentage such as 0% - 0%, 5% - 10%, 5% - 15%, 5% - 20%, 7.5% - 10%, 7.5% - 15%, 7.5% - 20%, 10% - 10%, 10% - 15%, 10% - 20% by mass of cement. Various experimental investigations are carried out to find out the compressive strength, split tensile strength and of concrete samples cured for period of 7, 14 and 28 days. The results obtained from the experiments with satisfactory replacement of cement with rice husk ash and fly ash are presented in this project report.

Keywords: RHA (rice husk ash), Fly ash, compressive strength, split tensile strength.

1. INTRODUCTION

Today concrete has become an unavoidable construction material in the construction industry. Cement is the main ingredient in concrete and its production increases global warming by releasing huge amount of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere which is one of the main threats to the environment. To address this problem, Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCMs) are used in concrete to reduce the use of high amount of cement content. SCMs such as Fly Ash, Rice Husk Ash, Ground Granulated Blast Furnace Slag, Silica Fume and Metakaolin play a vital role in concrete industry. It has not only economic and environmental benefits but also enhanced concrete properties. Since most of the SCMs are by-product materials of industrial and agricultural sectors, their utilization in concrete has become an efficient alternative to disposal of the same.

Construction industry is connected either logically or collaterally with the cement industry. The industry appears to be bright from projections based on current trends in population growth, and increasing urbanization and industrialization. However, this optimism must be tempered with changing attitudes in the society on ecological issues for example, the preservation and careful management of the environment and of natural resources, concerned with the ecological effects of altering the environment and the disposal of their by-products and the economy which has been

always area of interest to all. Now a days, the material which is mostly used in the building construction is cement and it construct every structure in the world including highways, mansions, bridge works, and other structures. Globally, the largest segment of the concrete market is proposed to exceed \$200 billion in revenue by 2017. In concrete mix, it plays the role of most significant, versatile and energy consuming material. Hence, the substitute of the cement with some secondary cementitious or cheaper material SCM can directly impact the cost of concrete. So, among SCM, the fly ash, which is the burnt residue, has been replaced with cement in various percentages.

During the hydration of Portland cement, Calcium Silicate Hydrate (C-S-H) and Calcium Hydroxide (Ca (OH)₂) are produced. The C-S-H gives strength to concrete whereas Ca (OH)₂ in hydrated cement paste gives a negative effect to concrete quality. It is an undesirable material which reduces the strength of concrete. When SCMs are added to the Portland cement concrete, the amorphous silica present in SCMs reacts with more of Ca(OH)₂ and converts them into C-S-H. This gives strength and reduces the permeability of concrete as well as improves the durability of the concrete. The addition of SCMs enhances the concrete properties due to pozzolanic effect and filler effect. Blending of SCMs in Portland cement concrete enhances the resultant concrete by making it stronger and more durable. Mineral admixtures have been incorporated into binary, ternary and quaternary concrete mixes (Shi et al. 2012). Many researchers prove that these materials improve the properties of blended cement concrete.

Fly ash is generated due to the combustion of pulverized coal which deliberately cause or initiates a major problem to the environment because of its dumping. It is a burnt and a powdery form of inorganic mineral. Utilization of Fly ash by replacing with the cement will definitely solve the problem of its dumping and on the other way it will decrease the costing of concrete. Probably, it the most commonly used SCM in the field of concrete industry. SCMs are the secondary cementitious material, which is used in the concrete by replacing cement. It impart strength to the concrete as well as it makes the concrete more compact and durable. The use of Fly-ash has great beneficial effect on the concrete because it works as 2 filler. Fly-ash, is the totally fundamental element of the blend like aggregate (CA+FA), cement(C), water and expansion of FA blend in this present reality of ebb and flow concrete like FRC. It is significant among the used reproduced pozzolans like Metakaoline, Rice Husk, Blast Furnace Slag and surkhi etc. It is the mostly used pozzolanic material all through the world and vigourously added substance in the present use of cement in current world. The absolute necessary ingredient of the mixture are coarse aggregate (CA), fine aggregate (FA), cement(C), water and chemical mixture. It is utilized pozzolans such as Metakaoline, Rice Husk, Blast Furnace Slag and surkhi and so forth. It is the most generally utilized pozzolanic material all through the world. Addition of chemical is in practice in the real world of modern concrete.

In this modern world aerated concrete is used as an innovative construction material. This aerated concrete is lightweight as compared to conventional concrete because of large number of voids present in it. The volume of pores present in concrete is 50% to 60% of the total volume of concrete. Size of these pores will affect the properties such as strength, durability, density, and water absorption etc. in concrete. Due to the pore space in concrete, it also provides good thermal insulation and acoustic insulation.

Effective use of Rice Husk Ash (RHA) a local additive which has been investigated to be super pozzolanic in a good proportion to reduce the high cost of structural concrete. Rice Husk Ash (RHA) is an agricultural waste product, and how to dispose of it is a problem to waste mangers. While Concrete today has assumed the position of the most widely used building material globally. The most

expensive concrete material is the binder (cement) and if such important expensive material is partially replaced with more natural, local and affordable material like RHA will not only take care of waste management but will also reduce the problem of high cost of concrete and housing. There is an increasing importance to preserve the environment in the present-day world. RHA from the parboiling plants is posing serious environmental threat and ways are being thought of to dispose them. This material is actually a super pozzolan since it is rich in silica and has about 85% to 90% silica content. A "pozzolan" is therefore defined as "a siliceous or aluminium material, which itself possess little or no cementing property but will in a finely divided form and in the presence of moisture chemically react with calcium hydroxide at ordinary temperatures to form compounds possessing Cementitious properties. A good way of utilizing this material is to use it for making "high performance concrete" which means high workability and very high early strengths, or consider high workability and long-term durability of the concrete. Recycling of waste components contribute for energy savings in cement production, for conservation of natural resources and for protection of the environment. Furthermore, the use of certain components with potentially pozzolanic reactivity can significantly improve the properties of concrete. One of the most suitable sources of pozzolanic material among agricultural waste components is rice husk, as it is available in larger quantities and contains a relatively large amount of silica. When rice husk is burnt, about 20% by weight of the husk is recovered as ash in which more than 75% by weight is silica. Unlike natural pozzolan, the ash is an annually renewable source of silica. It is worth to mention that the use of RHA in concrete may lead to the improved workability, the reduced heat evolution, the reduced permeability, and the increased strength at longer ages. In Iran, rice production has increased during these years, becoming the most important crop. Rice husk are residue produced in significant quantities.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Saand et.al., (2019) studied the effect of partial replacement of cement with rice husk ash at different percentage i.e., 0%,2.5%,5%,7.5%,10%,12.5% and 15%. It was found that up to 10% replacement of cement with rice husk ash the compressive strength and split tensile strength will get increased but further increase in the percentage of rice husk ash beyond 10% the strength starts decreasing. The maximum value of compressive strength and split tensile strength for 10% of cement replacement with RHA obtained is 4.4MPa and 0.53MPa respectively. He et.al., (2019) used recycled wood fibre and rubber powder in AAC. Researchers used the different percentage of recycled wood fibre and rubber powder in AAC to improve its performance and reduce the negative environmental impact. It is found that 0.4% is optimal wood fibre content for the strength of AAC blocks. No effect is seen at 0.5% and 1% of rubber powder content. At 1% of rubber powder content and 0.4% of wood fibre, high-performance AAC can be obtained. Sukmana et.al., (2019) used the phosphogypsum in NAAC to study the effect on compressive strength. Taguchi method is used for experimental design. The result shows that the best composition for NAAC is Portland cement with a content of 34%, phosphogypsum 35% and quicklime 10% to achieve the best strength value 20.93 kg/cm² having density 806 kg/m³.

Fabien et.al., (2019) have done experimental work on the replacement of sand with recycling waste perlite and pure perlite. Pure perlite sand and waste perlite sand (30% +30%), which is used to replace sand is characterised by low density, which makes the concrete expand under non-autoclaved condition. The presence of these waste products reduces mechanical strength but improve thermal insulation. It is found that increasing the cement by 2%, we can increase the mechanical strength by 21%. A 100% expended material with thermal conductivity of 0.176w/. k was obtained. Therefore, non-autoclaved swelling solutions have promoted the development of thermal insulation material

based on recycled product. Kunchariyakun et.al., (2018) had done an experimental investigation on replacement of sand with two agricultural waste i.e., rice husk ash and bagasse ash in preparation of AAC blocks. These samples are autoclaved at different autoclaving temperature (140oc, 160oc and 180oc) and different time period (4h, 8h and 12h). It was found that the effect of the increase in autoclaving temperature and time is directly related to the increase in strength and microstructural properties. But at 180oc it was found that there is no significant increase in strength with increase in time. The reason for no significant increase in strength is because Si ions from the sand reach its maximum dissolution.

3. OBJECTIVE AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Objective

- Comparative study on the properties of nominal concrete and concrete containing rice husk ash and fly ash.
- Study on the workability of nominal concrete and Fly ash – RHA based concrete.
- Determine its mechanical properties such as compressive strength, tensile strength with the replacement of cement with Fly ash and RHA.

3.2 Methodology

- Collect the RHA and fly ash and sieve with 75microns.
- Physical properties tests on basic materials fly ash, RHA, coarse aggregate, fine aggregate, cement.
- Mix design for M20 and its proportions. Find out the individual proportions for partial replacement of cement with fly ash and rice husk ash.
- Find out the fresh properties of concrete by slump cone test.
- Prepare the Cubes (150 x 150 x 150 mm) and Cylinders (150mm dia & 300mm height).
- Find out the Harden properties of concrete by Cube Compressive strength and Cylinder tensile strength.

4. EXPERIMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS

4.1 Materials used

The materials used for this study are Fine aggregate, Coarse aggregate, Cement, Water, Fly ash and Rice husk ash. The physical properties of concrete mentioned in below:

4.1.1 Cement

Chemical bond is vital primarily in light of the fact that its impacts the rate of advancement of compressive quality of cement. The decision of the sort of bond relies on the necessities of execution. There are different types of cement, but ordinary Portland cement is the most widely used binders. The concrete compressive strength depends upon the variation of the cement quality more than any other single material. An Ordinary Portland Cement of various evaluations OPC-33, OPC-43 and OPC-53 are accessible in the market and are for the most part utilized for delivering fly ash blended cement. The bond utilized as a part of this trial examination is Ordinary Portland Cement Grade 43. All properties of concrete are being tested by utilizing IS 12269 - 1987 for 43 grades Ordinary Portland Cement.

4.1.2 Aggregates

The aggregates suitable for plain concrete can be suitably used in fly ash fiber reinforced concrete. The totals reasonable for plain cement can be appropriately utilized as a part of fly fiery debris fiber strengthened cement. In the concrete, to give great nature of solid total is utilized as a part of two size gatherings i.e. fine and coarse aggregates. Fine aggregate (sand) includes minimal exact or balanced grains of silica. Sand is generally utilized as the fine aggregate in concrete. Fine total ordinarily comprises of normal, squashed, or produced sand. Common fine aggregates have been customarily utilized as a part of cement. It is the typical segment for ordinary weight concrete. Be that as it may, made FA (MFA) then show up as an appealing other option to characteristic FA for bond mortars and cement. Fine total is required for both fly ash cement concrete and mortar. The most extreme grain size and size conveyance relies on upon the kind of matrix being made. By differing the extent of FA, cement can be arranged financially for any required quality. It helps in solidifying of cement by permitting the water through its voids. In this trial work the sand going through 4.75mm IS sifter is utilized.

Coarse aggregates (CA) make strong and hard mass of concrete with cement and sand. CA can be regular weight, light weight, or substantial weight in nature. Typical weight totals are gotten by pulverized stone, rock and broken blocks. Lightweight coarse totals are for the most part made by extended mud, (as pumice, shale).

4.1.3 Fly ash

FA is the most comprehensively used pozzolanic material all through the world. FA blazing garbage is finely isolated store coming to fruition as a result of the consuming of powder coal and changed by the vent gasses and accumulated by electrostatic precipitator. Its structure contrasts with the sort of separator, load on evaporator and kind of fuel devoured, et cetera. FA is considered superior to Portland cement and includes round sparkly particles from 1 to 150 micron in estimation. Flyash is the best known, and a super material among the most conventionally used pozzolans available. Dependent upon the source and expending of the coal, the section of fly searing flotsam and jetsam change altogether, yet all the fly ash fuses impressive measure of silicon dioxide (SiO_2), (both amorphous and crystalline) and calcium oxide and iron (CaO and Fe_2O_3). Flyash material solidifies while suspended in the vapour gasses and is accumulated by electrostatic precipitators. The flyash has been set up and is extensively used as mineral admixture or supplementary setting material in bond to import specific properties to concrete for field applications. Flyash can be used in three ways with the cement as shown below:

- Partial replacement of cement with fly ash
- Partial replacement of fine aggregate with fly ash
- Replacement simultaneously as fine aggregate and cement replacement with fly ash.

4.1.4 Rice husk ash

Rice husk can be burnt into ash that fulfills the physical characteristics and chemical composition of mineral admixtures. Pozzolanic activity of rice husk ash (RHA) depends on (i) silica content, (ii) silica crystallization phase, and (iii) size and surface area of ash particles. In addition, ash must contain only a small amount of carbon. The optimized RHA, by controlled burn and/or grinding, has been used as a pozzolanic material in cement and concrete. Using it provides several advantages, such as improved strength and durability properties, and environmental benefits related to the disposal of waste materials and to reduced carbon dioxide emissions.

4.1.5 Water

The water utilized as a part of cement has an imperative impact in the blending, laying compaction setting and solidifying of cement. It is required for hydration of bond. Water works as a binder for the ingredients and makes the mix workable. The quality of cement specifically relies on the amount and nature of water that is utilized as a part of the blend. An increase in water cement proportion prompts a decrease in compressive strength. Water utilized for blending and curing should be spotless and free from damaging sum if oils, acids, soluble bases, salts, sugar and natural materials. Versatile water is for the most part viewed as acceptable for blending concrete. Here the potable water used for the experiment work.

4.2 Mix design

In this project we are adopted M20 (1:1.5:3) grade of concrete

- Density of cement = 1440 kg/m^3
Density of aggregates = 1800 kg/m^3
Density of sand = 1600 kg/m^3
- Dry volume = $(1.54 \text{ to } 1.57) \times \text{wet volume}$
- Sum of the ratio for M20 grade concrete = $1 + 1.5 + 3 = 5.5$
- Assume volume = 1 m^3 , No. of samples = 1, Wastage = 10% ($10/100 = 0.1$), Dry volume = $1.54 \times \text{wet volume} = 1.54 \times 1 = 1.54$

$$\text{Final Volume of the cube} = 1.54 \times [1 + 0.1] = 1.694 \text{ m}^3$$

$$\text{Weight of cement} = [(1/5.5) \times 1440 \times 1.694] = 443.52 \text{ kg}$$

$$\text{Weight of sand} = [(1.5/5.5) \times 1600 \times 1.694] = 739.2 \text{ kg}$$

$$\text{Weight of aggregates} = [(3/5.5) \times 1800 \times 1.694] = 1663.2 \text{ kg}$$

Weight of water:

$$\text{Assume } w/c = 0.5$$

$$\text{Weight water} = 0.5 \times 443.52 = 221.76 \text{ kg} = 221.76 \text{ lit}$$

- **For cube** ($150 \text{ mm} \times 150 \text{ mm} \times 150 \text{ mm} = 0.003375 \text{ m}^3$)
Weight of cement = $443.52 \times 0.003375 = 1.49688 \text{ kg} = 1496.88 \text{ gm}$
Weight of sand = $739.2 \times 0.003375 = 2.4948 \text{ kg} = 2494.8 \text{ gm}$
Weight of aggregates = $1663.2 \times 0.003375 = 5.6133 \text{ kg} = 5613.3 \text{ gm}$
Weight water = $0.5 \times 1496.88 = 748.44 \text{ gm} = 748.44 \text{ ml}$
- **For Cylinder** ($100 \text{ mm diameter} \times 300 \text{ mm height} = 5.3014 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$)
Weight of cement = $443.52 \times 5.3014 \times 10^{-3} = 2351 \text{ gm}$
Weight of sand = $739.2 \times 5.3014 \times 10^{-3} = 3918 \text{ gm}$

Weight of aggregates = $1663.2 \times 5.3014 \times 10^{-3} = 8817 \text{ gm}$

Weight water = $0.50 \times 2217.6 = 1175 \text{ gm} = 1175 \text{ ml}$

Table 4.1: Individual weight of materials M20 grade fly ash – RHA based concrete

For Cubes						
RHA % - FLYASH %	Cement	RHA	Fly ash	FA	CA	Water
0 - 0	1496.88	0	0	2494.8	5613.3	748.44
5 - 10	1272.34	74.84	149.7	2494.8	5613.3	748.44
5 - 15	1197.508		224.532			
5 - 20	1122.04		300			
7.5 - 10	1234.92	112.26	149.7			
7.5 - 15	1160.08		224.532			
7.5 - 20	1084.62		300			
10 - 10	1197.48	149.7	149.7			
10 - 15	1122.648		224.532			
10 - 20	1047.18		300			
For Cylinders						
0 - 0	2351	0	0	3918	8817	1175
5 - 10	2010.11	117.55	223.34	3918	8817	1175
5 - 15	1898.43		335.017			
5 - 20	1786.75		446.7			
7.5 - 10	1957.22	176.32	217.46			
7.5 - 15	1848.48		326.2			
7.5 - 20	1739.78		434.9			
10 - 10	1904.4	235.1	211.6			
10 - 15	1798.6		317.4			
10 - 20	1692.8		423.2			

4.3 Preparation of Fly ash – RHA based concrete

All the required quantities of cement, fine aggregate and coarse aggregates weighed separately and mixed in dry condition. The obtained proportion of water is added to the composite mixture and mix thoroughly until a uniform mixture is formed. The same procedure is repeated for different mixes which includes the replacement of cement with RHA and Fly ash. The complete mixing is done by

hand mixing. After the concrete is mixed, the fresh concrete tests are to be carried out to measure the workability. The detailed explanation of the slump test is reported below.

4.3.1 Slump test

Slump cone test is most simple and common test conducted to determine the workability of concrete mix. According to the IS 1199-1959, Slump test is carried out for every batch of mix. The apparatus is shown in the Table 4.2 and Fig.4.7.

Table 4.2 Apparatus for slump test

S.No	Name of the apparatus	Size of the apparatus
1	Slump cone – Frustum	h = 30 cm, Bottom dia = 20 cm and top dia= 10 cm.
2	Tamping rod with one end round	16 mm dia and 60cm long

A sample of prepared concrete mix is taken for the test. The internal surface of the frustum of cone is cleaned and greased to avoid the adhesion of concrete. A non-porous base plate is placed on a uniform surface and the slump cone mould is fixed on it. Concrete mix is filled in three equal layers in the mould. The excess concrete is removed and levelled. Now, the cone is lifted in upward direction and the concrete slumps down. The slump (Vertical settlement) is measured in mm.

4.3.2 Casting and Curing

In the present work cubes and disc specimens were cast to conduct various tests.

4.3.2.1 Casting of cubes

Totally 90 cubes were cast for conducting various tests. For the preparation of cube specimens, the mixed concrete is poured into the cube moulds made of steel of dimensions of 150 X 150 X 150 mm. The moulds are cleaned and greased to avoid sticking of concrete to the moulds and tighten the bolts to prevent leakage of concrete. The concrete is put in 3 layers (each layer more than 35 blows) into the moulds till the surface and levelled. The specimens are allowed to dry up for 24hrs.

4.3.2.2 Casting of cylinders

Totally 90 cylinders were cast for conducting various tests. For the preparation of cube specimens, the mixed concrete is poured into the cylinder moulds made of steel of dimensions of 150mm diameter and 300mm height. The moulds are cleaned and greased to avoid sticking of concrete to the moulds and tighten the bolts to prevent leakage of concrete. The concrete is put in 3 layers (each layer 35 blows) into the moulds till the surface and levelled. The specimens are allowed to dry up for 24hrs.

4.3.3 Curing

The next stage is curing of the specimens. It is an important phase as the water for hydration is to be maintained in the specimens. Proper curing gives good strength to the concrete. So, after removing from the moulds the specimens are transferred to the curing tank containing water free from impurities and cured for 28 days.

4.3.4 Experimental Procedure

In this section, the test setup and experimental procedure for conducting various tests are discussed.

4.3.4.1 Compressive strength test (IS 516-1989)

Compressive strength of concrete is the most important characteristic and it is an indexing property as concrete is designed to carry compressive loads. For this experimental study, 90 no. of cube specimens were cast in which 9 specimens. This test is conducted to determine the variation of strength of the specimens with varying ratios of coarse aggregate and reduction in fine aggregate content. Compressive strength test machine (CTM) with 2000KN capacity is used to conduct the test on cubes. After placing the cube between the plates in the CTM, load is applied until the crack is observed on the specimen. The load at the point of cracking is considered as failure load and it is noted. The compressive strength is calculated by

Compressive Strength (σ) = Failure load / Cross sectional area of specimen

4.3.4.2 Split tensile strength test (IS 516-1989)

Tensile strength of concrete is the most important characteristic and it is an indexing property as concrete is designed to carry compressive loads. For this experimental study, 30 no. of cube specimens were cast in which 3 specimens. The cylinder specimens were tested on compression testing machine to create a tensile cracking. Align the specimen so that the lines marked on the ends are vertical and centered over the bottom plate. Apply the load continuously without shock at a rate of approximately 14-21 kg/cm²/minute (Which corresponds to a total load of 9.9 ton/minute to 14.85 ton/minute). The Tensile strength was computed by using:

Tensile strength = $2P / \pi L D$

Here; P = peak load

L = length of cylinder = 300mm

D = diameter of cylinder = 150mm

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As per experimental programme results for different experiments were obtained. They are shown in table format and graph format, which is to be presented in this chapter.

5.1 Fresh properties of concrete (Workability Test)

5.1.1 Slump Test

The Slump test was performed on the Rice husk ash – Fly ash concrete to check the workability of it at different replacements viz. 0 % - 0%, 5% - 10%, 5% - 15%, 5% - 20%, 7.5% - 10%, 7.5% - 15%, 7.5% - 20%, 10% - 10%, 10% - 15%, 10% - 20% and the following results were obtained, according to which it can be concluded that with the increase in % of Rice husk ash – Fly ash from M1 to M10 , workability increases.

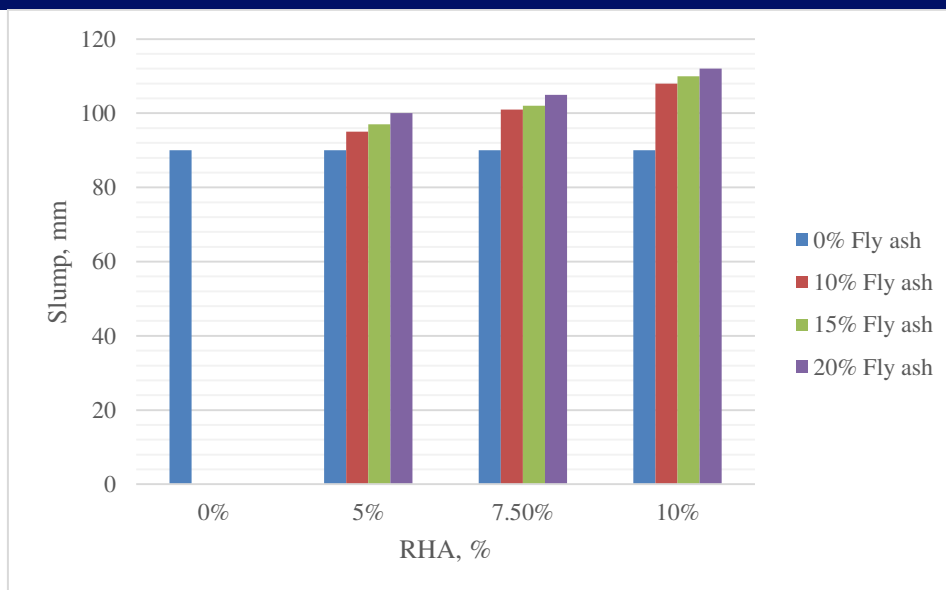


Fig. 5.1: Slump test results

The above figure 5.1 shows the slump results. It was observed that, the slumps increased from M1 to M10 mix with increased RHA – Fly ash in the mix. It was varied from Medium Workability to High workability.

5.2 Harden properties of concrete

5.2.1 Compressive Strength Test

The compressive strength test was performed on the cubes of size 15 cm x 15 cm x 15 cm to check the compressive strength of RHA -Fly ash-based concrete.

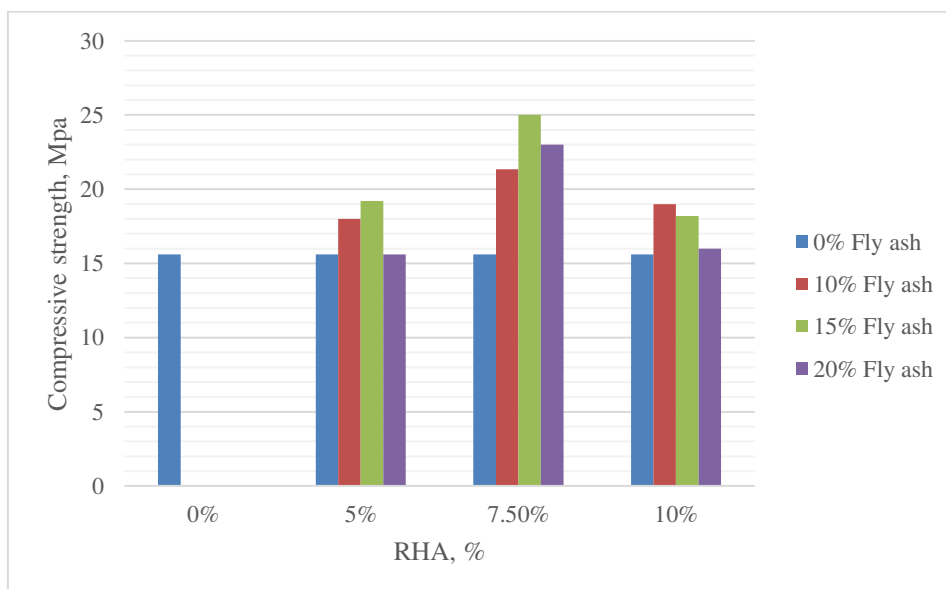


Fig 5.2: 7 days Compressive strength test result graph

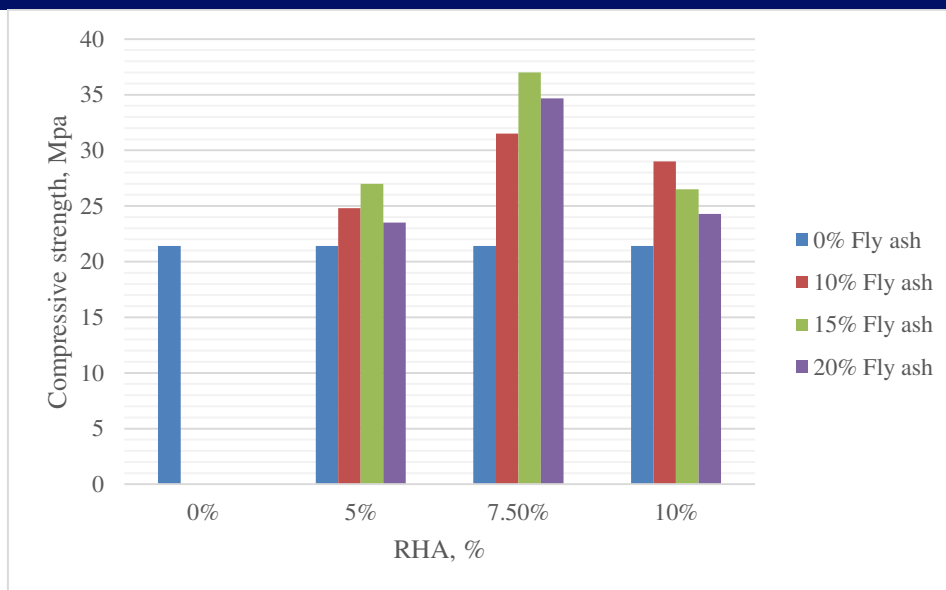


Fig 5.3: 14days Compressive strength test result graph.

From the above results it was observed that with the increase in percentage of RHA – fly ash from M2 to M10 in concrete the compressive strength more than control mix M1. The highest compressive strength gained for 7.5% RHA – 15% Fly ash replacing with cement in the preparation of concrete. The optimum dosage suggested from this study was 7.5% RHA – 15% Fly ash.

5.2.2 Tensile Strength Test

The Tensile test was performed on the beams of size 300mm height x 150 diameter mm to check the Tensile strength of the concrete and the results obtained while performing the Tensile test on CTM.

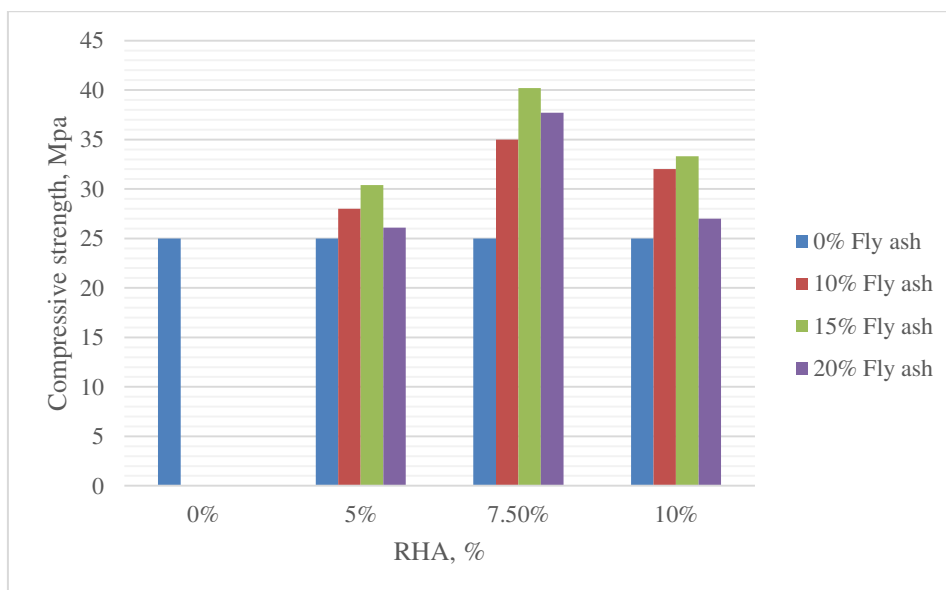


Fig 5.4: 28days Compressive strength test result graph

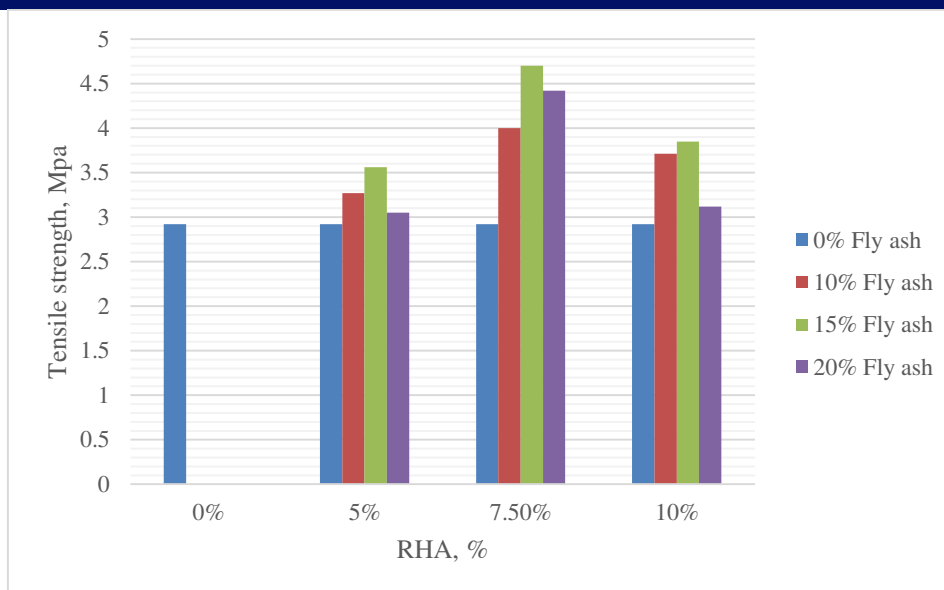


Fig 5.5: Tensile strength graph

From the above results it was observed that with the increase in percentage of RHA – Fly ash from M2 to M10 in concrete the tensile strength more than the control mix M1. The highest tensile strength gained for 7.5% RHA – 15% Fly ash replacing with cement in the preparation of concrete. The optimum dosage suggested from this study was 7.5% RHA – 15% Fly ash.

5.3 Discussions

The workability was increasing with increasing RHA – Fly ash replacement in the cement. The compressive and tensile strengths for RHA – Fly ash replacement in the cement, was more than control mix. The strength increment percentages were mentioned below Table 5.1. The maximum or highest strength was gained for 7.5% RHA – 15% Fly ash replacing with cement.

Table 5.1: Comparison of strengths

Mix	RHA % - FLYASH %	28days compressive strength (Mpa)	Increment (%)	28days Tensile strength (Mpa)	Increment (%)
M1	0 – 0	25	-	2.92	-
M3	5 – 15	30.4	21.6	3.56	21.9
M6	7.5 – 15	40.2	60.8	4.7	60.96
M9	10 - 15	33.3	33.2	3.85	31.85

6. CONCLUSIONS

In this experimental investigation, the effect of rice husk ash and fly ash blended in control concrete with respect to tensile behaviour of the concrete cylinders and compressive behaviour of the concrete cubes have been investigated. The experimental results have been compared with the control mix concrete. The following conclusions are drawn from the present experimental investigation.

1. Workability increases with increasing in the fly ash and rice husk replacement in the concrete.
2. The compressive and tensile strength highest gains for 7.5% rice husk ash with various fly ash contents (10%, 15%, 20%).
3. The maximum strength gained for 7.5% rice husk ash with 15% fly ash replacing with cement in the preparation of concrete. The compressive and tensile strength increased by 60.8% and 60.96% as compare to the conventional concrete.
4. By replacing Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCMs) such as fly ash and rice husk ash, the cost of construction decreases and disposable problem of agricultural and industrial wastes reduces.

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