IJARSCT



International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, Communication and Technology (IJARSCT)

International Open-Access, Double-Blind, Peer-Reviewed, Refereed, Multidisciplinary Online Journal

Volume 3, Issue 11, May 2023

Use Rice Husk Ash as Partial Replacement of Cement in Concrete

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Abstract: In India rice milling produces a by-product which is known as Husk. This husk is used as fuel in rice mills to produced steam for boiling process. This husk contains near about 75 % organic matter and the remaining 25% of this husk is modified into Ash during the firing process which know n as rice husk ash (RHA). The rice husk ash (RHA) contains near about 85 % to 90 % amorphous silica. By using rice husk ash in concrete, we can improve the properties of concrete. The current study and experimental investigation were taken to study the properties of concrete made with Rice husk ash. the replacement is done partially in the proportion of 0%, 20% and its effect on workability of concrete made with rice husk ash were investigated for the 20% rice husk ash replacement, the hardened properties such as compressive strength observed were good as compare to 0 % RHA. The compressive strength test was conducted at 0 % and 20 % rice husk ash replacement and the highest compressive strength at 20 % RHA replacement as compared to 0% RHA replacement at 14,21 and 28 days. Rapid increase in construction activities has resulted in shortage of conventional construction materials. In the present scenario, the high cost of conventional building materials is a major factor affecting housing delivery in the world. This has necessitated research into alternative materials of construction. The effective housing techniques deal with reduction in cost of construction as well as providing strength to buildings. Mainly gravel, sand and cement are used in the preparation of conventional concrete. While the use of agricultural by-product i.e., rice husk as a partial replacement with the conventional fine aggregates is expected to serve the purpose of encouraging housing developers in building construction. Rice husk is produced in about 100 million tons per annum in India. Twenty kg of rice husk are obtained from 100 kg of rice. It contains organic substances and 20% inorganic material. Ash from rice is obtained as a result of combustion of rice husk at suitable temperature. Proper utilization of it aims to save the environment, encourages the Government to find solutions regarding disposal to landfills of waste materials, and provides new knowledge to the contractors and developers on how to improve the construction industry by using rice husk, to sustain good product performance and to meet recycling goals. The rice husk ash concrete aims to prepare light weight structural concrete which may reduce considerably the self-load of structures and permits large precast units to be handled. The main objective is therefore to encourage the use of these 'seemingly' waste products as construction materials in low-cost housing. The various basic properties of rice husk concrete are reviewed in this paper.

Keywords: Concrete, Rice Husk Ash, Compressive Strength, Split Tensile Strength, etc.

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DOI: 10.48175/IJARSCT-10551



IJARSCT



International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, Communication and Technology (IJARSCT)

International Open-Access, Double-Blind, Peer-Reviewed, Refereed, Multidisciplinary Online Journal

Impact Factor: 7.301

Volume 3, Issue 11, May 2023

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DOI: 10.48175/IJARSCT-10551

