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Chemical Stabilization of Black Cotton Soil

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Abstract: This research work presented the efficiency of a nano technology based chemical named Terrasil as a modifier in improving the engineering properties of Black Cotton Soil. It discussed general details, methodology, theory, and experiments etc. involved in the project. In India about 51.8 million hectares of the land area are covered with Expansive soils (Black Cotton Soil). The Black Cotton Soils are very hard when dry, but lose its strength completely when in wet condition. Expansive soils are a worldwide problem that possess several challenges for Civil Engineers. Various methods are adopted to improve the engineering characteristics of expansive soils. The problematic soils are either removed and replaced by good and better quality material or treated using additive. By studying the literature on black cotton soil. The effectiveness of Terrasil is tested by conducting various test like UCS, proctor test etc. on Black Cotton Soil samples treated with different percentages of Terrasil 0.9%, 1.1%&1.3%. It was found that compressive strength of soil treated by Terrasil increased to 40% approximately. Terrasil had a great influence on swelling behaviour of Black Cotton Soil. It reduced the free swell index from 59% to 33%. Terrasil provide to a worthwhile as a versatile stabilizer in case of expansive soil as it enhances almost all important geotechnical properties of Black Cotton Soil.

Keywords: Black Cotton Soil

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