

EXPERIMENTAL STUDY ON POZZOLOANIC ACTIVITY OF SUGARCANE BAGASSE ASH IN CONCRETE

Arjun T¹, Sandeep Kumar D S², Yashwanth M K³

¹P G student, PES College of Engineering, Mandya, Karnataka, India

²Assistant professor, PES College of Engineering, Mandya, Karnataka, India

³Associate professor, Maharaja Institute of technology Mysore, Mandya, Karnataka, India

Abstract - Ordinary Portland cement is recognized as a major construction material throughout the world. Researchers all over the world today are focusing on ways of utilizing either industrial or agricultural waste, as a source of raw materials for industry. This waste utilization would not only be economical, but may also result in foreign exchange earnings and environmental pollution control as industrial waste, such as blast furnace slag, fly ash silica fume are being used as supplementary cementing materials. Currently, there has been an attempt to utilize the large amount of bagasse ash, the residue from the sugar industry and the bagasse biomass fuel in electric generation industry. The utilization of industrial and agricultural waste produced by industrial process has been the focus of waste reduction research for economical, environmental and technical reasons. Sugarcane bagasse ash is a fiber waste product of the sugar refining industry, along with ethanol vapor. Bagasse ash mainly contains aluminium ion and silica. The present study is aimed at utilizing sugarcane bagasse ash in concrete, with partial replacement of cement. The replacement is at various percentages 0%, 10%, 15% and 20% and its effect on property of concrete was investigated. Fresh and hardened property was exercised with various replacement levels. The study indicated that sugarcane bagasse ash can effectively be used as cement replacement (up to 10%). Concrete of grade M25 was considered and control mix is designed using IS 10262-2009. Slump cone test result were considered to know the workability of the fresh concrete and mechanical strength properties at the age of 7 and 28 days for hardened concrete was considered for the study and compared, with control mix. Along with compressive strength split tensile strength test was also carried out for 28 days. The results are quite promising to use bagasse ash as partial replacement to cement.

Key Words: Portland cement, bagasse ash, concrete, compressive strength, split tensile test, slump, water cement ratio, LOI(Loss on ignition)

1. INTRODUCTION

Cement is the third most energy intensive material after steel and aluminum produced in tones. Cement industry consumes raw materials rich in silica, alumina, iron and calcium. Therefore this industry has been actively involved in finding ways to use waste products in the manufacturing

of cement both as secondary fuel and raw material. Sugar manufacturing is the

Major agro industry in India. Initiatives are emerging worldwide to control and regulate the management of sub-products, residuals, and industrial waste in order to preserve the environment from the point of view of environmental contamination as well as the preservation and care of natural areas. Recently the use of recycled materials as concrete ingredients has been gaining popularity because of increasingly stringent environmental legislation. The most conspicuous of these is sugarcane bagasse ash, a finely ground waste product from the sugarcane industry. In this study, sugarcane bagasse ash (SBA) was replaced for cement in various proportions of 0%, 10%, 15%, 20%, and for water cement ratio such 0.45 and its compressive strength and tensile strength were studied.

2. OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

- To characterize the pozzolanic activity of bagasse ash to be used as partial replacement for cement in concrete.
- To ascertain the effect of Bagasse Ash as alternative cementitious material with variable percentages by weight of cement in fresh properties of bagasse ash based concrete to be compared with controlled (normal) concrete.
- To ascertain the effect of Bagasse Ash as alternative cementitious material with variable percentages by weight of cement in hardened properties like compressive strength and tensile strength of bagasse ash based concrete to be compared with controlled (normal) concrete.

3. TEST PROCEDURE.

- The mix design is done for M25 grade concrete as per IS 10262:2009.
- Materials required for casting 12 cubes, 18 cylinders is calculated.
- The ingredients are mixed as per IS 516:1959 in the order of one half of coarse aggregate, fine aggregate, cement or cementitious material and

finally remaining coarse aggregate and then water for not less than 2 minutes using pan mixer in order to obtain homogeneity.

- After mixing, slump test is carried out
- Concrete is poured in to slump cone in 4 layers and each layer is tamped for about 25 times.
- Concrete is poured in to cube moulds in 2 layers and each layer is tamped for about 35 times.
- Concrete is poured in to cylindrical moulds in 4 layers and each layer is tamped for about 35 times.
- The controlled concrete and bagasse ash based concrete cubes, cylinders are allowed to harden before demoulding it.
- The cubes, cylinders are then immersed in water for the process of curing.
- The cubes and cylinders are removed from water and then allowed to dry in air for half an hour then air dried densities are calculated prior to the test.
- The cubes are tested for 7days and 28days compression test.
- The cylinders are tested for 28days split tensile strength test.

5. TESTS ON CEMENT

Table 1 Chemical properties of ordinary cement

Chemical Composition	OPC
SiO ₂	18.4
Al ₂ O ₃	5.6
Fe ₂ O ₃	3.00
CaO	66.8
MgO	1.4
SO ₃	2.8
K ₂ O	0.5
LOI	2

Table 2 Physical Properties of ordinary Portland cement

Sl no.	Tests	Results	Requirements as per IS: 12269-2013	Test code
1.	Normal Consistency	28%		IS: 4031(Part 4)-1988
2.	Setting time Initial setting time Final setting time	35min 520min	Min 30 mins Max 600 mins	IS: 4031(Part 5)-1988
3.	Soundness	1mm	10mm	IS: 4031(Part 3)-1988
4.	Specific gravity	3.15	3 to 4	IS: 4031
5.	Fineness of cement (by sieve analysis)	2%	10%	IS: 4031
6.	Compressive Strength Test on cement 7days 28days	33 Mpa 43.2 Mpa	Min 37 Mpa Min43 Mpa	

6. TESTS ON BAGASSE ASH

Sugarcane bagasse (SCB) which is a voluminous by-product in the sugar mills when juice is extracted from the cane. It is, however, generally used as a fuel to fire furnaces in the same sugar mill that yields about 8-10% ashes containing high amounts of un-burnt matter, silicon, aluminum, iron and calcium oxides. But the ashes obtained directly from the mill are not reactive because of these are burnt under uncontrolled conditions. The ash, therefore, becomes an industrial waste and poses disposal problems. The sample of sugarcane bagasse ash was found to have completely burnt silica-rich fine particles and two different types of carbon-rich fibrous unburnt particles named coarse fibrous particles and fine fibrous particles as shown in fig 1. Therefore, it becomes necessary to recondition the sample for use as pozzolanic material by grinding to a fineness of less than 90 microns and the resulting ash was chemically analyzed and physically characterized.

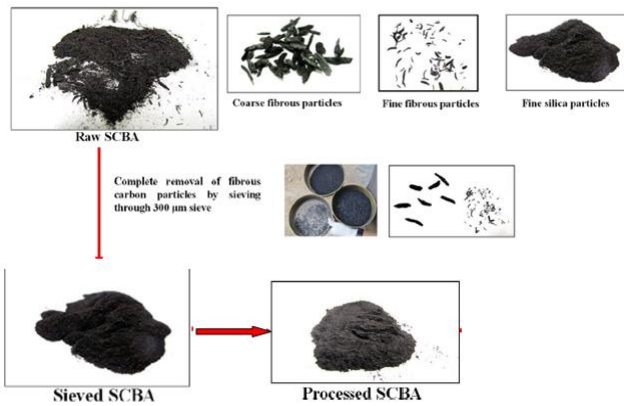


Fig 1: Production of Sugarcane bagasse ash (SCBA)

Table 3 Chemical properties of bagasse ash

Chemical Composition	SiO ₂ %	Al ₂ O ₃ %	Fe ₂ O ₃ %	CaO%	LOI%
Bagasse Ash	59.93	0.22	3.88	2.13	26.93

Table 4 Physical Composition of bagasse ash

Sl no	Tests	Results	Recommended Values
1.	Specific Gravity	2.08	
2.	Bulk Density Kg/m ³ Loose Compacted	396.5 462.32	
3	SiO ₂ +Al ₂ O ₃ +Fe ₂ O ₃	64.03	< 70% or < 60%
4	Loss on Ignition (LOI)	26.93	< 7%

7. TESTS ON FINE AGGREGATE

Table 5 Physical Properties of Fine Aggregates

TESTS	RESULTS	REQUIREMENTS AS PER IS: 383- 1970	IS CODE
Specific gravity	2.68	2.3 to 3	IS: 2386(Part 3)
Fineness modulus	3.01	2.3 - 3.5	IS: 2386(Part 1)
Silt content	1%	<3%	IS: 2386

Water Absorption	4%	<3%	IS: 2386(Part 3)
Bulk Density	1612.9 kg/m ³		
Passing 75 micron	1.6%	<3%	



Fig 2 Mixing of Concrete ingredients using Pan Mixer

8. TESTS ON COARSE AGGREGATE

Table 6 Physical Properties of Coarse Aggregate

Sl No.	Tests	Results	Requirements as per IS: 383-1970	Test IS code
1.	Specific gravity	2.7	2.5 to 3	IS: 2386(Part 3)-1963
2.	Water absorption	0.502%		IS: 2386(Part 3)-1963
4.	Shape test Flakiness Index Elongation Index	21.65% 19.56%	< 30%	IS: 2386(Part 4)-1963
5.	Crushing value	20.9%	< 45%	IS: 2386(Part 4)-1963

Table 7 Results of slump values for mix proportions

	SLUMP in mm	CHEMICAL ADMIXTURE	TIME
NC	100	0.5	5
GSBAC 10	140	0.5	4
GSBAC 15	140	1.9	5
GSBAC 20	140	2.2	4

Table 8 Compressive strength of cubes

CYLINDERS	7 Days (MPa)	28 Days (MPa)
NC	23.59	37.11
GSBAC 10	26.84	48.23
GSBAC 15	21.11	32.38
GSBAC 20	18.23	30.23

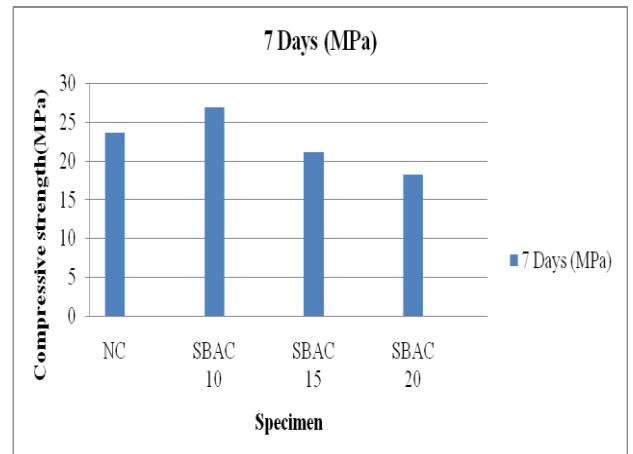


Chart 4 compressive strength of cubes at 7 Days

Table 9 Split Tensile strength of cylinders

CYLINDERS	28 Days (MPa)
NC	2.840
GSBAC 10	2.898
GSBAC 15	2.224
GSBAC 20	2.090

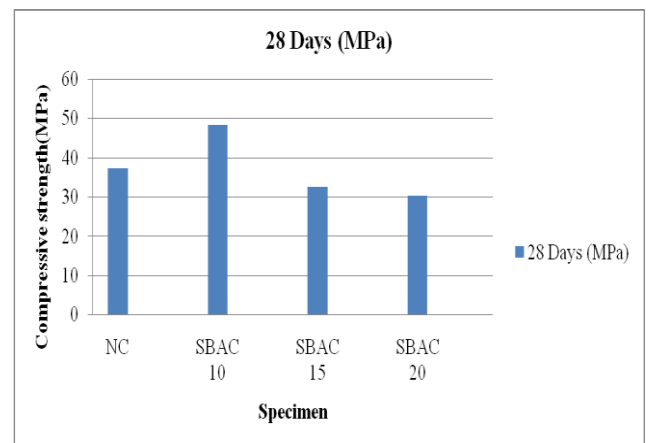


Chart 5 compressive strength of cubes at 28 Days

9. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

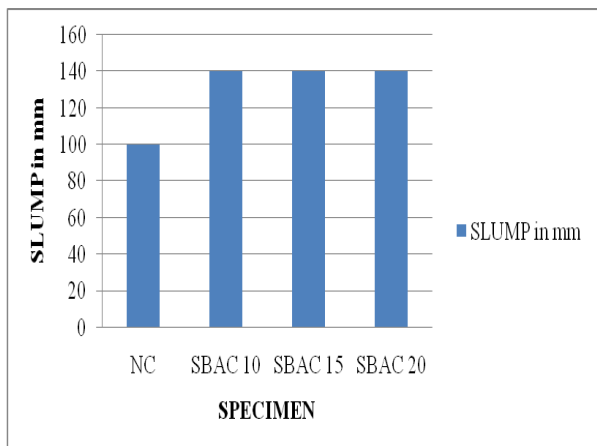


Chart 3 Graph shows the variation of slump with replacement of bagasse ash

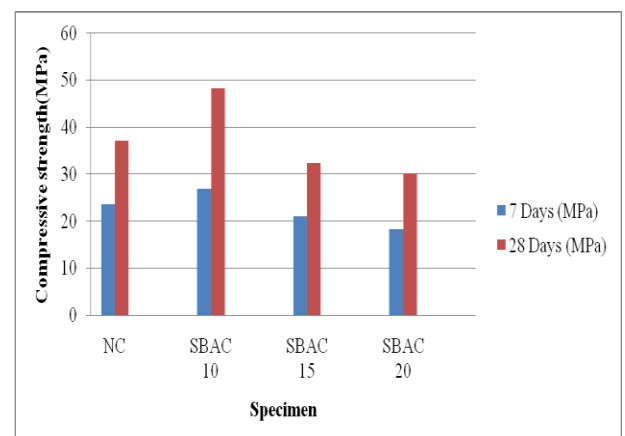


Chart 6 Compressive strength of cubes

From the above graph, it indicates that increase in bagasse ash content there will be increase in compressive strength at 7 days as compared to controlled concrete but after 28 days there will be increase in compressive strength value at 10% as compared controlled concrete beyond that there is a reduction in compressive strength value. There is no gain in

strength at 7 days because since it is a low heat of hydration cement the pozzolonic activity will begin at 28 days and also LOI content is more than the recommended value made concrete decrease in strength.

Decrease in compressive strength values with increase in the substitution ratio indicated that filler effect is predominant only up to 10% ash substitution.

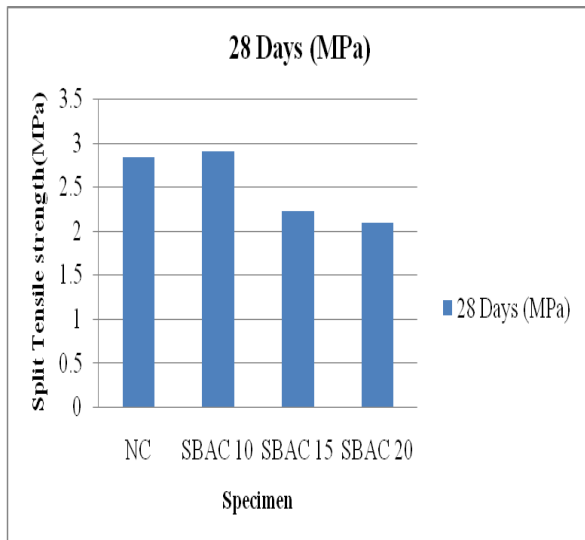


Chart 7 Split tensile strength at 28 Days

From the above graph, it indicates that increase in bagasse ash content up to 10% there is a greater tensile strength value of concrete when compared to controlled concrete, beyond that there is a reduction in split tensile strength

10. CONCLUSION

- Bagasse ash up to 10% is found to be better substitute for cement for improving workability of concrete.
- From the compressive strength results of cubes, it is found that on 10% of bagasse ash replacement with cement will yield better compressive strength as compared to controlled concrete.
- From the split tensile strength results, it is found that on 10% of bagasse ash replacement with cement will yield better tensile strength as compared to controlled concrete.
- Thus, we can conclude that addition of up to 10% of bagasse ash as substitute for cement to produce concrete which can be used for practical structural applications.

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BIOGRAPHIES

Arjun T
M.Tech (CADS)
PES College of Engineering
Mandya, Karnataka



Sandeep Kumar D S
Assistant Professor,
PES College of Engineering
Mandya, Karnataka



Yashwanth M K
Associate Professor
Maharaja Institute of Technology
Mysore, Mandya, Karnataka