

Effects of Zeolite and Used Foundry Sand in Concrete



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Abstract: In Current scenario, the CO₂ concentration is getting increased in the environment which leads to climatic change and greenhouse effect. By using zeolite powder (pozzolanic material), it can reduce the CO₂ emissions in the atmosphere. Using zeolite as partial replacement material of cement could make the concrete high strength, hence it eco-friendly. Used Foundry Sand (UFS) is an industrial by-product which is another material used in this research. The UFS can be used as a replacement for natural sand due to its properties. The present research work is aimed at studying the effect of the physical and chemical properties of Zeolite and UFS in M₂₀ grade concrete. Based on previous literature 10, 15 and 20 % of Zeolite as replacement of cement and 30 % of UFS as replacement of sand are considered for the present study. The main objective is to estimate the test result of using Zeolite and UFS as partial replacement for cement and fine aggregates in fresh and hardened properties of concrete. Compressive strength and split tensile strength were carried out for 7, 14 and 28 days and flexural strength of element will be observed from optimum percentage of test result.

Keywords : Zeolite, Used Foundry Sand(UFS), Compressive Strength, Split Tensile Strength

I. INTRODUCTION

Concrete is an important material which is used for the constructions. Based on its usage, it should be placed second position after water. Concrete is brittle in nature and also it can be molded into any desire shapes. Fundamentally, concrete is strong, durable and economic. The fresh concrete is prepared by mixing the ingredients of cement, river sand and coarse aggregate with water in required ratio. Concrete is most versatile due to its property, workability, strength and durability and also which is widely used as a manmade construction materials. By using the industrial waste, the required properties of concrete can be achieved.

Portland cement is a binding material which is used in a construction industry. During cement production, the CO₂ emissions comes from the construction industry. To controlling the CO₂ emissions, the zeolite can be used as a partial replacement of cement.

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Also nowadays, the demand of natural sand used for construction work had been increased. Due to this critical issues, it has to look for alternatives for sand used in concrete. Used Foundry sand is one of the alternate material which can be used as a partial replacement of sand in a concrete. Used Foundry Sand is an industrial by-product which is comes from ferrous and non-ferrous metal casting industries. Foundry sand can be recycled and reuse many times in a foundry industry. When the foundry sand can be stored in a industry for long period, so that it can be taken out from the industry and it is named as used foundry sand.. There was number of studies have been made to look over the addition of UFS as partial and whole replacement of natural sand in a concrete.

II. MATERIALS

A. Cement

Cement is used to bind the other materials together. In this research, Ordinary Portland cement (53 grade) was used. The cement is stored in closed area when it is not in used during the test period to controlling weathering effect.

B. Aggregates

Aggregates in concrete is a structural filler and is act as a economic space filler. Aggregates includes gravel, crushed stone, sand, etc. Aggregates are of two types,

- **Coarse Aggregate:** In this research, the crushed grained aggregate of 20mm size was used as a coarse aggregate.
- **Fine Aggregate:** In this research, river sand passing through IS 4.75 mm sieve was used as a Fine aggregate.

C. Zeolite

Due to volcanic eruption, emission of volcanic ash takes place. When these ash mixed with sea water, the chemical reaction occurs and the natural mineral formes which is termed as zeolite. The properties of zeolite is used to increase the strength of the concrete and it also to decrease CO₂ emission from atmosphere. The sample of zeolite used for the investigation shown in Fig 1. The physical properties and chemical composition of zeolite are shown in Table-I and Table -II respectively.



Fig. 1. Zeolite Sample

Table- I:Physical Properties of Zeolite

S.No	Physical Properties	Results
1	Appearance	Off –white
2	PH (10% SOLIDS)	4.5-5.5
3	Bulk Density (kg/lit)	0.4-0.5
4	Specific surface area (m ² /g)	19-20
5	Specific gravity	2.6

Table- II: Chemical composition of Zeolite

S.No	Chemical Property	Zeolite %
1	SiO ₂	52.0
2	Al ₂ O ₃	46.0
3	FeO ₂	0.60
4	CaO	0.09
5	K ₂ O	0.03
6	Na ₂ O	0.01
7	TiO ₂	0.65
8	MgO	0.03

D. Used Foundry Sand

Foundry sand is an industrial by-product of ferrous and nonferrous metal casting industry. Foundry sand containing high quality silica and few amounts of impurity of ferrous and nonferrous by-products from metal casting process itself and variety of binders. This sand is economic one and the physical and the chemical properties of foundry sand is based on manufacturing process and the nature of industry from which it came. The sample of UFS used for the investigation is shown in Fig 2.



Fig. 2. Used Foundry Sand Sample

III. EXPERIMENTAL INVESTIGATION

A. Material Properties

The cement was used as a Ordinary Portland Cement of 53 grade. A study was undertaken to find out the various important aspects such as percentage of consistency, specific gravity, fineness, initial and final setting time.

The test was carried out as per IS 4031-1968. The cement specific gravity was determined as 3.12 and its consistency is 32%.Initial and Final setting time of cement is 40 minutes and 6 hours. Fineness of cement was obtained as 0.2%.Fine

aggregates having specific gravity of 2.61 with fineness modulus 3.20 which conforming Zone III. The specific gravity of coarse aggregate was determined as 2.7 with fineness modulus 5.28. UFS was collected from industry(metal casting) near Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, India. The fineness modulus and specific gravity and of UFS 2.76 and 2.21 respectively. Zeolite is a pozzolan which is collected from Astrra Chemicals, Chennai. It is available in dry densified form. The specific gravity were found to be 2.6 for zeolite.

B. Mix Proportion

Concrete mix design were done by BIS: 10262-2009 and its mix proportion was 1:1.6:2.9 which is expressed as 1 part cement, 1.6 part fine aggregates, and 2.9 part coarse aggregates with a water cement ratio of 0.48.

Three different concrete mixes of (10, 15 and 20%) are made for replacement of cement and natural sand with zeolite and UFS respectively.

A constant water-cement ratio of 0.48 was used in the preparation of all concrete mix and super plasticizer were used as 0.3 of cement . Design Mix are shown in Table- III.

Table- III: Concrete design mix

Cement Kg/m ³	Fine Aggregate Kg/m ³	Coarse Aggregate Kg/m ³	w/c Ratio Kg/m ³
393	652.81	1149.876	0.48

C. For arriving optimum percentage

Three concrete mixes were prepared for compressive strength ie., M1,M2 and M3 are shown in Table II from that optimum percentage are arrived for those mechanical properties. Concrete different mix ratio are shown in Table- IV and mix proportions are shown in Table- V.

Table- IV: Concrete different mix proportion

Mix ratio	Concrete mix
Zeolite 10 % - UFS 30%	M1
Zeolite 15 % - UFS 30%	M2
Zeolite 20 % - UFS 30%	M3

Table -V: Concrete mix proportions

Mix designation	CC	M1	M2	M3
Cement kg/m ³	393	353.7	334.05	314.4
Sand kg/m ³	652.87	457	457	457
Coarse aggregate kg/m ³	1149.8	1149.8	1149.8	1149.8
	8	8	8	8
Zeolite kg/m ³	-	39.3	58.95	78.6
Foundry sand kg/m ³	-	195.86	195.86	195.86
w/c	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48

D. Specimen preparation and casting

Specimens were prepared as per code. After casting, specimens were stored a room for 24 h at a temperature of about 27 ± 1 °C. After 24 h, they were demolded and it were put into a water-curing chamber until the time of test period. Three specimens were casted for each proportion and tested and then average value of proportions were taken.

E. Fresh Concrete Properties

Fresh concrete properties like slump flow were obtained. Moreover while preparing concrete for different mixes, workability of concrete does not affect the replacement of Zeolite and UFS for cement and fine aggregate respectively in the concrete.

F. Hardened Concrete Properties

- *Compressive Strength Test:* The compressive strength were tested at the period of 7,14 and 28 days in accordance with the provisions of IS Specifications BIS: 516-1959.
- *Split Tensile Test:* The splitting tensile Strength were tested at the period of 7,14 and 28 days according to the provisions of IS Specifications BIS: 516-1959.
- *Flexural Strength Test:* Structural beam of size 100 x 150 mm will be casted for flexural strength will be obtained for 28 days only.
- *Modulus of Elasticity Test:* The modulus of elasticity were tested at the period of 28 days according to the provisions of IS Specifications BIS: 516-1959.

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. Compressive Strength

The compressive strength for concrete mixes (CC, M1, M2 and M3) was found at the period of 7, 14 and 28 days. The Compressive strength for ratio M1 (Zeolite 10 % - UFS 30%) are marginally increased as compared to conventional concrete and slightly decreases in the compressive strength of concrete mix ratio of M2 (Zeolite 15 % - UFS 30%) and M3 (Zeolite 20 % - UFS 30%). The Compressive strength for concrete mix for the period of 7, 14 and 28 days are investigated. The results of compressive strength for concrete mixtures are tested at 7, 14 and 28 days are represented in Table-VI and the graphical representation for these concrete mixes are given in Fig 3.

Table- VI: Compressive Strength

Mix designation	7 days N/mm ²	14 days N/mm ²	28 days N/mm ²
CC	18.25	21.28	26.60
M1	12.87	17.62	29.50
M2	10.89	14.05	20.91
M3	10.69	13.70	17.29

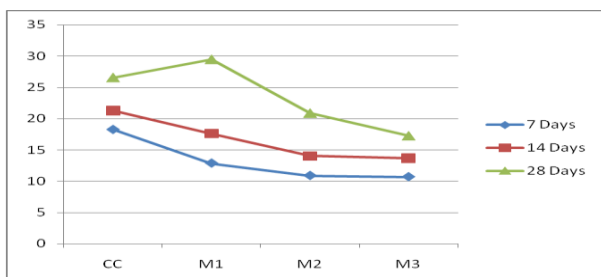


Fig.3. Compressive strength in N/mm2

B. Splitting Tensile Strength

The split tensile strength of concrete mixes (CC, M1, M2 and M3) was found at the period of 7, 14 and 28 days. Split tensile strength of mix ratio M1 (Zeolite 10 % - UFS 30%) are marginally increased as compared to conventional concrete and also slightly decreases of concrete mix ratio of M2 (Zeolite 15 % - UFS 30%) and M3 (Zeolite 20 % - UFS 30%). The test results of split tensile strength for concrete mix are tested at 7,14 and 28 days are represented in Table-VII and the graphical representation for these concrete mixes are given in Fig 4.

Table -VII: Split Tensile Strength

Mix designation	7 days N/mm ²	14 days N/mm ²	28 days N/mm ²
CC	1.70	1.85	2.29
M1	1.56	1.79	2.37
M2	1.60	1.79	2.29
M3	1.58	1.71	2.25

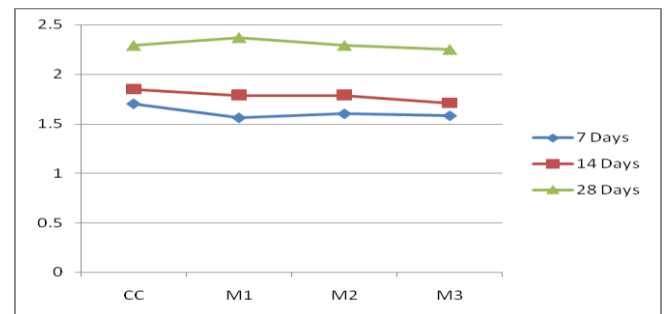


Fig 4. Split Tensile strength in N/mm2

V. CONCLUSION

- In this investigation for M20 grade of concrete it can be calculated that the cement can be replaced at 10%, 15% and 20% of zeolite and along with the sand can be replaced at 30% of Used Foundry Sand.
- In this present research work, it is concluded that the strength of concrete attained only by using zeolite at 10% replacement of cement and UFS at 30% replacement of sand.
- In compressive strength of concrete marginally increases only by using zeolite at 10% replacement of cement and UFS at 30% replacement of sand in a period of 28 days compared with conventional concrete.
- In compressive strength of concrete slightly decreases for zeolite 15%,UFS 30% and zeolite 20%, UFS 30% replaced at cement and sand respectively for the period of 7,14 and 28 days.
- In split tensile strength of concrete increases by using zeolite at 10% replacement of cement for 28days and it slightly decreases by using zeolite at 15% and 20 % of cement.
- The high strength of concrete can be achieved by replacing 10% of cement by zeolite and 30% of sand by UFS.

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