

### Performance of Fly ASH Based Concrete with Fiber under Elevated Temperature

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### ABSTRACT

Concrete when exposed to elevated temperature, mechanical properties gets reduced which results in structural failure. The strength of concrete is improved by means of addition of pozzolonic material. Pozzolonic material reduces the pores in the concrete structure and hence improves durability. Here, flyash is added as it facilitates the replacement of cement with flyash to a greater extent. In addition to that fibers like as steel and carbon fibres are added in concrete to achieve better workability, tensile strength, compressive strength, Thermal resistance. The aim of this paper is to experimentally investigate the behaviour of fiber reinforced concrete subjected to elevated temperature at 250oC, 500oC sustained for a period of 2 and 3 hours. The cement is replaced by 10, 20 and 30% of flyash by weight of cement. The cubes and cylinders were cast and cured under normal conditions for a period 28, 58 and 90 days and it is tested for their compressive and split tensile strength respectively. The test result shows that the maximum strength was attained at 20% of replacement of cement. The cube specimens after curing subjected to a temperature of 250oC and 500oC for duration of 2 to 3 hours were also tested for its compressive strength. Analytical model was also developed using ANSYS. The results obtained from finite element analysis shows good agreement with that of experimental results.

Keywords : Fly Ash, Steel Fiber, Carbon Fiber

### I. INTRODUCTION

Ordinary Portland cement possesses great demand in construction industry. Production of one ton cement leads to the emission of one ton of carbon-di-oxide which pollutes the air and also results in global warming. To overcome this, several steps are being taken by the technologist and environmentalist to reduce air pollution and global warming which is caused by production of cement. In recent years, replacement of cement with pozzolonic material was found to be the ecofriendly method for reducing the emission of carbon-di-oxide. In thermal power plants, coals are pulverized in the combustion chamber to produce a by product called flyash. This is an industrial waste produced when coal is used for burning in the thermal power plants which affects environment. Which leads to serious problems in surrounding? Even though is used as supplement of flyash based concrete production this gives various economical and technological benefits. Concrete structures such as chimneys in manufacturing plants,

reactive chamber in nuclear thermal power plants, pressure vessels, storage tank used for hot crude oil and hot water coal gasification are subjected to the temperature range between 100 to 200°C. Concrete properties get changed between the temperature ranges of 100- 200°C. Above 200°C, there is decrease in physical and chemical properties so that the structure may fail permanently. In order to overcome this problem fibers like as steel, carbon fibres and mineral admixture such as fly ash are added in concrete. This mix would help to overcome the problem of workability, tensile strength, compressive strength, thermal resistance and achieving higher strength.

### **II. METHODS AND MATERIAL**

### A. Objective And Scope of the Project

The main objective of the project is to study the performance of fiber reinforced fly ash based concrete subjected to elevated temperature and ultimately fixes the optimum percentage of fly ash and the fibers. The scope of the project is to improve the performance of the concrete used in the structures such as chimneys, power plant etc. which are subjected to elevated temperature and this results in long life of the structures.

### **B.** Materials Used

53 grade cement confirming to IS: 12269 was used in the study. Crushed aggregate of size having water absorption and specific gravity of 1.8%, 2.65 respectively. Locally available river sand falling under Zone II, having Specific gravity and water absorption of 2.68,0.68% respectively was used. Fly ash used in this project was taken from Mettur Thermal Power Plant in Tamilnadu. Mix proportion was carried out as per IS 10262-2010. Fly ash was added as a replacement by mass of cement obtained from the proportion. A concrete mix of compressive strength 30 MPa at the age of 28 days is proportioned. Steel fibers of 0.5mm diameter with aspect ratio of 80 and carbon fiber of 0.010mm diameter are used.

	cement	Fine	Coarse	w/c
		aggregate	aggregate	
mix				
ratio	1	1.82	2.28	0.45

### C. Experimental Programme

The main objective of testing was to know the behaviour of concrete with replacement of cement with flyash and fibers at elevated temperatures. The specimens were tested for its compressive strength and split tensile strength.

### **Casting of Specimen:**

In this study, a flyash based concrete of M30 grade was considered. This mix design for the above grade of concrete was done using IS method. The mix proportion obtained was 1:1.82:2.28:0.45 (cement: fine aggregate: coarse aggregate: water). The quantity of materials arrived from the mix proportion is about 440kg/m<sup>3</sup> of cement content and 197 litres/m<sup>3</sup> of water content. In this study the percentage of replacement of cement by flyash was taken as 10 %, 20% and 30%. In this experimental investigation a total of 136 (99 numbers of flyash based concrete and 36 numbers flyash based concrete with fibers) cube specimens of size

150\*150\*150mm were cast and 27cylindrical specimens were cast for flyash based concrete and 6 cylindrical Specimens were cast for flyash based concrete with fibers using the above design mix proportion. For casting fiber reinforced concrete specimens, steel fibers of 0.5mm diameter with aspect ratio 80 was used and also carbon fiber of 0.010mm diameter was used. The cubes & cylinders were cured for 28, 56&90 days. After curing they were air dried for surface moisture by visual inspection. The cubes were exposed to heating, for duration of 2&3 hours at temperature level of 250°C and 500°C respectively. After heating, the cubes were brought to room temperature and then tested for compressive strength. The percentage of steel fiber and carbon fiber in the ratio of (1.15&0.4) were used.

### **III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Temperature is one of the main factor that influence the strength. High temperature induces a loss of strength (both in compression and tension) and At high temperatures, chemical transformation of the gel weakened the matrix bonding, which brought about a loss of strength of fly ash concrete.

Compressive Strength In this study, the compressive strength of concrete with different fly ash contents (0%,10%, 20% and 30%) incorporating different temperature (250oC,500oC,) at the end of different curing periods (28, 56 and 90days) are given. The results have also been plotted which shows the variation of compressive strength with cement replacements at different curing ages respectively and also the variation of compressive strength for different fly ash replaced incorporating different degrees of temperature. The compressive strength was calculated based on the average value of three cube tests. It is evident that compressive strength of concrete mixtures with 10% and 30% of flyash as cement replacement was lower than that of the control mixture (M-30) at all ages whereas the compressive strength of concrete mixture with 20% flyash replacement was higher than the control mixture and that the strength of all mixtures continued to increase with the age. With the increase in temperature, compressive strength of concrete mixes with 10%, 20% and 30% of flyash as cement replacement decreased. Compressive strength decreased much lesser for 10% and 30% comparing to 20% flyash replacement at

different temperature. There was increase in compressive strength after adding fibers in both normal and elevated temperature.

# **Table1.**Compressive strength of cube specimen withand without flyash replacement for different curingperiods at normal temperature

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Compressive strength of concrete (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )					
28days 56 days 90day					
Conventional cube	28.73	30.04	31.58		
10% Replacement of flyash	28.39	31.10	31.69		
20% Replacement of flyash	31.32	32.56	32.72		
30% Replacement of flyash	23.32	25.12	25.48		

## **Table 2.** Compressive strength of cube specimen with and without flyash replacement for 28 days at under

elevated temperature.								
	MEAN VALUES							
	AGE -28 DAYS							
Temperature	Temperature Duration of Conventional Strength Strength							
Exposed	Exposure	Strength	with 10%	with 20%				
_	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> ) (N/mm <sup>2</sup> ) (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )							
250°C	2	28.26	27.04	29.61				
	3	28.12	27.56	29.02				
500°C	2	28.16	26.42	29.82				
	3	27.46	25.01	28.12				

**Table 3.** Compressive strength of cube specimen withand without flyash replacement for 58 days at under

elevated temperature.							
MEAN VALUES							
	AGE -56 DAYS						
Temperature         Duration of         Conventional         Strength         Strength           Exposed         Exposure         Strength         with         with         with           (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )         10%         (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )         10%         (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )							
250°C	2 3	28.48 27.34	28.82 28.03	29.42 29.00			
500°C	2 3	27.56 27.18	27.23 26.21	28.38 28.32			

**Table 4.** Compressive strength of cube specimen with and without flyash replacement for 90 days at under elevated temperature.

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MEAN VALUES							
AGE -90 DAYS							
Temperature Duration Conventional Strength Strength w							
Exposed	of	Strength	with	20% (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )			
	Exposure	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	10%				
			(N/mm <sup>2</sup> )				
250°C	2	28.29	28.78	29.13			
	3	28.00	28.42	29.11			
500°C	2	27.12	27.43	28.98			
	3	27.05	26.72	27.01			
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**Table 5.** Compressive strength of fiber reinforced concrete at normal temperature

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Compressive Strength of Fiber Reinforced Concrete (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )				
20% replacement of	28 days	56days		
Hyash based fiber concrete	34.56	35.79		

## **Table 6.** Compressive strength of fiber reinforced concrete under elevated temperature for different curing periods

periods.					
Temperature	Duration of	Strength with 20%	Days		
Exposed	Exposure	$(N/mm^2)$			
250°C	2	32.42			
	3	32.10			
500°C	2	31.53	28days		
	3	31.01			
250°C	2	33.36			
	3	33.23			
500°C	2	33.62	56days		
	3	33.31			



### Figure 1. compressive strength of cubes at normal temperature



Figure 2. Days VS Compressive strength – 250OC-2 hrs duration





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**Figure 4.** Days VS Compressive strength – 500<sup>o</sup>C-2 hrs duration



**Figure 5.** Days VS Compressive strength – 500<sup>o</sup>C-3 hrs duration

### **Split Tensile Strength**

In this study, the values of split tensile strength for different fly ash contents (0%,10%, 20% and 30%) at the end of different curing periods (28, 56 and 90days) are given. The results have also been plotted which shows the variation in split tensile strength with cement replacements at different curing ages respectively. The split tensile strength was calculated based on the average value of three specimens. It is evident that split tensile strength of concrete mixtures with 10% and 30% of flyash as cement replacement was lower than the control mixture (M-30) at all ages whereas the split tensile strength of concrete mixture with 20% flyash replacement was higher than the control mix and that the strength of all mixtures continued to increase with the age. Split tensile strength was much lesser for 10% and 30% while comparing with 20% flyash replacement at different curing periods. There was further increase in split tensile strength after adding fibers in the 20% replacement.

**Table 6.** Split tensile strength of concrete cubes

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Split tensile strength of cylinders (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )						
Conventional	Conventional Strength Strength Strength 20% Curing					
Cylinder	with	with	with	replacement	period	
	10%	20%	30%	of flyash		
	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	with fibers		
2.36	1.53	2.32	1.02	3.41	28	
2.50	2.45	2.51	1.52	3.52	56	
2.62	2.44	2.79	1.15	3.96	90	



Figure 6. split tensile strength of concrete

### Analytical Work Using Ansys Software

The cube was modelled using ANSYS software. In this Thermal analysis was carried out. The two specimens were chosen for analysis and thermal test was done at temperature conditions of one specimen at 250°C and 500°C on other. After that a maximum load 34.5N//mm<sup>2</sup> was applied on the each specimen and results obtained were analysed. The parameters like displacement, deformation, nodal displacement, X component stress and Y component stress for each specimen were checked.



Figure 7. Displacement at 250°C



Figure 8. Nodal temperature at 250°C



Figure 9. X component stress at 250°



Figure 10. Y component stress at 250°C



Figure 11. Deformation at 250°C Temperature



Figure 12. Displacement at 500°C



Figure 13. Nodal temperature at 500°C



Figure 14. X component stress at  $500^{\circ}$ C



Figure 15. Y component stress at 500°C



Figure 16. Deformation at 500°C Temperature

### **IV. CONCLUSION**

These experiments have been performed to investigate the compressive strength, split tensile strength and weight loss. The compressive strength of fibre reinforced concrete cube specimen subjected to elevated temperature ranging from 250oC and 500oC for two heating durations 2 and 3 hours were found. Based on the experiment results the following conclusion may be obtained for this study.

- 1. The compressive strength of fiber reinforced concrete decrease as the exposure temperature increase.
- 2. Increase in heating time decrease the compressive strength of fiber reinforced concrete.
- 3. Increase in the cement content increases the initial compressive strength of fiber reinforced concrete but decreases after heating due to the increase in temperature and heating time.
- 4. Out of the cement replacement with flyash of 10,20 and 30 percentage, the maximum strength was attained at the 20% replacement of flyash
- 5. The extended curing period of 56, and 90 days for the cube specimen with 20% flyash content, only marginal improvement in their final strength was observed.
- 6. The addition of steel and carbon fibers to the concrete with 20% replacement of flyash shows considerable increase in the compressive strength and split tensile strength of concrete.
- 7. An analytical model was developed using ANSYS and the results obtained were in good agreement with the experimental results.

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