

STUDY OF FLEXURAL STRENGTH OF BEAM- SECTION REPLACING LIGHT WEIGHT MATERIAL BELOW NEUTRAL AXIS

Gorde Ajay Jagannath¹, More Nitin Rajendra², Raundale Vivek
Hemant³, Sharma Shubham Sunil⁴, Shewale Ganesh Sanjay⁵

^{1,2,3,4,5}Student, Civil Engg. Dept., Sanghavi College of Engg., Nashik,
Savitribai Phule Pune University, (India)

ABSTRACT

This project mainly aims at reducing the total dead load or self weight of beam to increase the efficiency of the beam. In RC (reinforced concrete) beams strength of concrete lying near the neutral axis is not fully utilized. The concrete just above the neutral axis less stressed whereas the concrete below the neutral axis serves as a shear transmitting media. Partially utilized concrete of RC beam has been replaced by light weight material. In this way, the economy of reinforced light weight material beams and strength of RC beams are tried to be combined in light weight material filled beams. There are few research papers related to replacing the concrete by materials like CLC blocks, PVC, Wood etc.

This Paper includes behavior of light weight material infilled reinforced concrete beams under cyclic loading is find out experimentally and compared the results with the conventional reinforced concrete beam. It is observed that the load carrying capacity of an infilled beam was about 80% of the conventional reinforced concrete beams. Experimental study of light weight material filled reinforced concrete beam is done and it is observed that saving of about 30% concrete is achieved.

Keywords: *Light Weight Materials, Neutral Axis.*

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Nature of the problem-

This concept is not related to cure any major problems during construction, but this paper is about to bring an improvement and to increase efficiency of the beam structure. Now-a-days concrete with varieties of strength are available as per requirements. Cost of concrete too varies with strength. In this study, therefore an attempt has been to study the effect on conventional sections when the portion below neutral axis is replaced by any infill material such as bricks, CLC blocks etc. As the stresses at top is compressive and at bottom is tensile so a cheap material can be used near neutral axis.

1.2 Previous work-

There are few research papers related to replacing the concrete by materials like CLC blocks, PVC, Wood etc. The result and conclusions of these researches differ according to type and strength of concrete, size of specimen used, volume replaced by light weight material.

1.3 Purpose-

- 1.3.1 To reduce volume of concrete.
- 1.3.2 To replace concrete volume by cheap lightweight material.
- 1.3.3 To achieve required or sufficient strength considering factor of safety.
- 1.3.4 To reduce expenditure in total volume of construction.
- 1.3.5 To get efficient structure due to the achieved strength and reduced cost of structure.
- 1.3.6 To control rate of hydration.

1.4 Contribution of this Paper-

This Paper includes behavior of light weight material infilled reinforced concrete beams under cyclic loading is find out experimentally and compared the results with the conventional reinforced concrete beam. It is observed that the load carrying capacity of an infilled beam was about 80% of the conventional reinforced concrete beams. Experimental study of light weight material filled reinforced concrete beam is done and it is observed that saving of about 30% of concrete volume is achieved.

1.5 Stepwise Procedure to Place the light weight material at specific correct location in beam before concreting-

A) Find out the depth of neutral axis (X_u) from top using formula,

$$X_u = (0.87f_y A_{st}) / (0.36f_{ck} B)$$

B) Subtract the depth of neutral axis (X_u) from the whole depth of beam ($D+d'$)

$$\text{i.e. } D - (X_u + d')$$

C) This will be the depth for placing the light weight material below the neutral axis.

D) Place the material at the location as shown in fig.

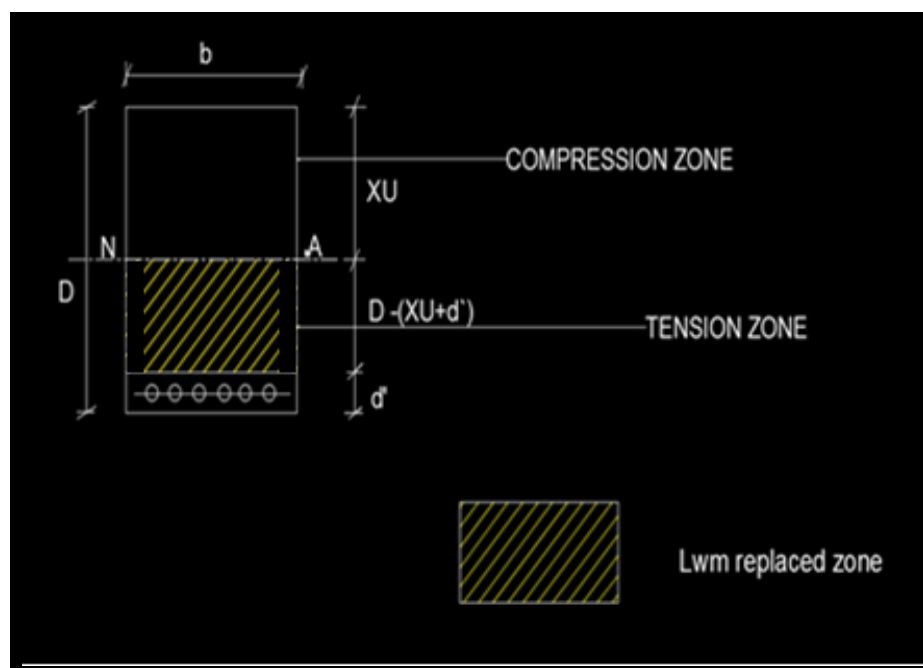


Fig. 1.5.1 Location for LWM in a Beam

- E) Keep sufficient side cover.
- F) Finally go for usual concreting.

II. MATERIALS USED FOR REPLACING CONCRETE-

We have chosen three materials to replace the concrete as light weight material :

2.1 Burnt Red Bricks, 2.2 AAC Blocks, 2.3 Murrum Infilled Plastic Bottles

We will see some important properties of above materials regarding our requirements:

2.1 Burnt Red Bricks

Bricks remain one of the most important building materials in the country. Brick making is a traditional industry in India, generally confined to rural areas. In recent years, with expanding urbanization and increasing demand for construction materials, brick kilns have to grow to meet the demand. So we can say burnt red brick is one of cheap, easily available material, & also we can use broken pieces of bricks which makes this option more cheaper than its prime cost.



Photograph 2.1.1 Burnt Red Bricks

Some important properties of brick are mentioned and simultaneously compared with concrete-

Table 2.1.1 Specifications of bricks

Parameters	Clay Bricks	Concrete
Block Density (kg/m^3)	1900	2400
Compressive Strength (kg/cm^2)	40-75	Differs
Thermal conductivity (W/m.k)	0.184	0.5
Water Absorption (%)	20%	Differs
Drying Shrinkage (mm/m)	No Shrinkage	Differs

2.2 AAC(Autoclaved Aerated Concrete) Blocks-



Photograph 2.2.2 AAC Blocks

Now-a-days widely used in India and also available almost everywhere. It is a better option instead using burnt bricks for construction as it is less dense and eco-friendly material. It is a good insulator of thermal and electrical conductivity having other properties as follow:

Table 2.2.2 Specifications Of AAC Blocks

Parameters	AAC Blocks	Concrete
Block Density (kg/m^3)	600	2400
Compressive Strength (kg/cm^2)	40	Differs
Thermal conductivity (W/m.k)	0.132 – 0.151	0.5
Water Absorption (%)	45%	Differs
Drying Shrinkage (mm/m)	0.011 – 0.058	Differs

3) Murrum Infilled Plastic Bottles -

This is not a Factory made material. Common Murrum is filled in number of plastic bottles and then these bottles are compressed to get required volume while placing in a beams as shown in Photograph.2.3.1



Photograph.2.3.1

It have some dramatic properties as it is a combination of plastic and murrum such as follow:

Table 2.3.1 Specifications Of Murrum Infilled Plastic Bottles

Parameters	Murrum Infilled Plastic Bottles	Concrete
Block Density (kg/m^3)	1400 (for Murrum)	2400
Compressive Strength (kg/cm^2)	Differs	Differs
Thermal conductivity (W/m.k)	No Effect	0.5
Water Absorption (%)	No Water Absorption	Differs
Drying Shrinkage (mm/m)	No Shrinkage	Differs

III. TEST PROGRAMME

The beams were tested for flexural strength after curing for 7 days, 14 days and 28 days on a universal testing machine, the deflection in the beam is noted at regular intervals from the deflection dial gauge and the load at the point of failure is noted. The bearing surfaces of the supporting & loading rollers are wiped clean, and any

loose sand or other material removed from the surfaces of the specimen where, The specimen is then placed in the machine in such a manner that the load is applied to the uppermost surface as cast in the mould, along two lines spaced 20cm apart .The axis of the specimen is carefully aligned with the axis of the loading device.

No packing is used between the bearing surfaces of the specimen and the rollers. The load is applied without shock and increasing continuously at a rate such that the extreme fiber stress increases at a approximately 0.7Kg/cm² /min. Load is increased until the specimen falls, the maximum applied to the specimen during the test is recorded. The appearance of the fractured faces of concrete and any unusual features in the type of failure is noted. The flexural strength of the specimen is expressed as modulus of rupture f_b which if 'a' equals the distance between the line of fracture and the nearer support, measured on the center line of the tensile side of the specimen, in cm, is calculated to the nearest 0.05 MPa as follows:

The flexural strength when $a > 13.3\text{cm}$ for a 10cm specimen, $f_b = Pa/bd^2$

The flexural strength when $a < 13.3\text{cm}$ for 10cm specimen, $f_b = 3Pa/bd^2$

Where,

b = Measure width of specimen in mm

d =Measure depth in mm of the specimen at the point of failure.

a= Distance of crack from the nearer support in mm

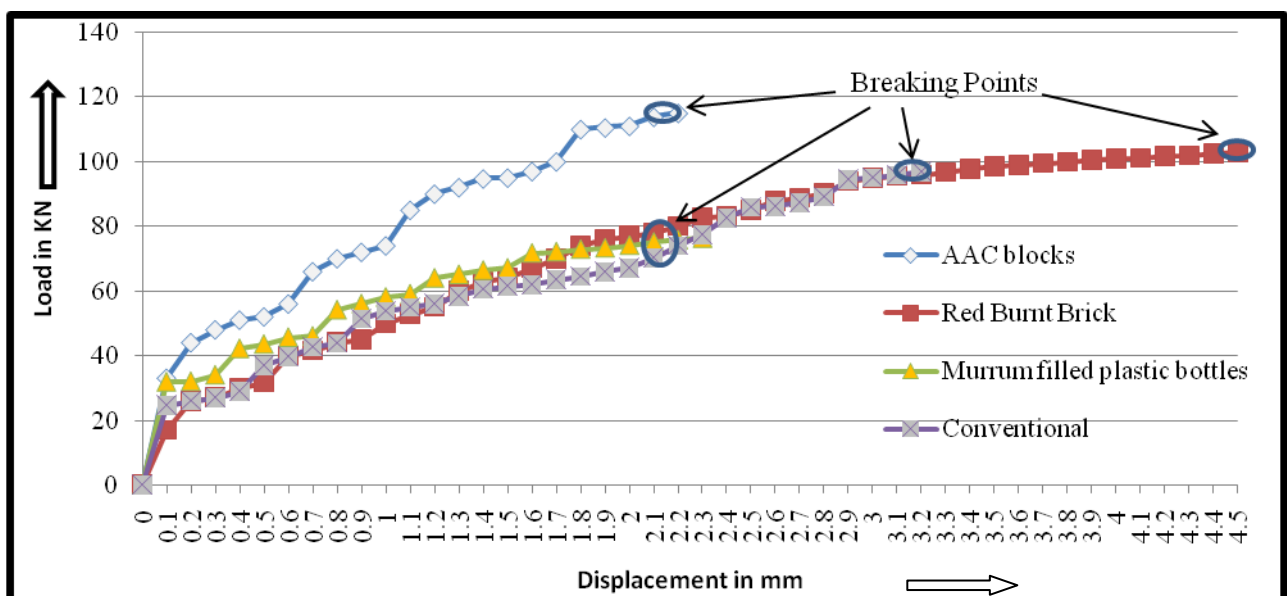
P = Maximum load in N applied to the specimen.

Flexural strength is expressed in N / mm².

IV. TEST RESULT -

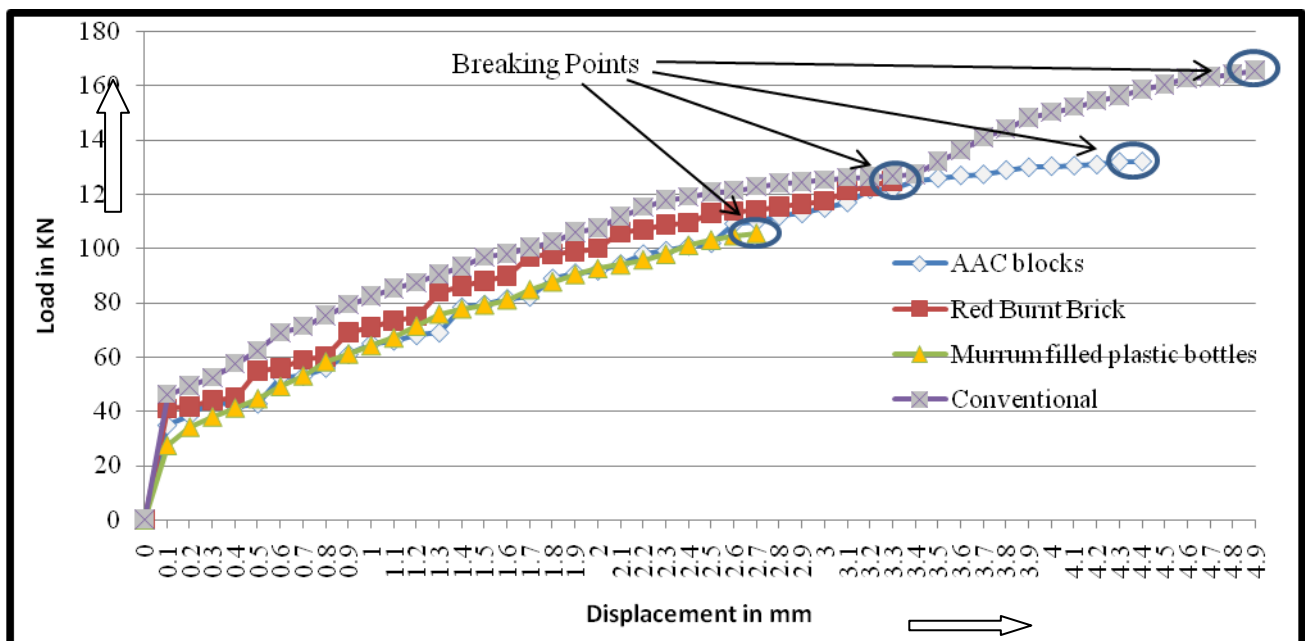
Results From UTM are represented in the form of graphical representation of load against displacement as follow:

4.1 Result of Specimen cured for 7 days-



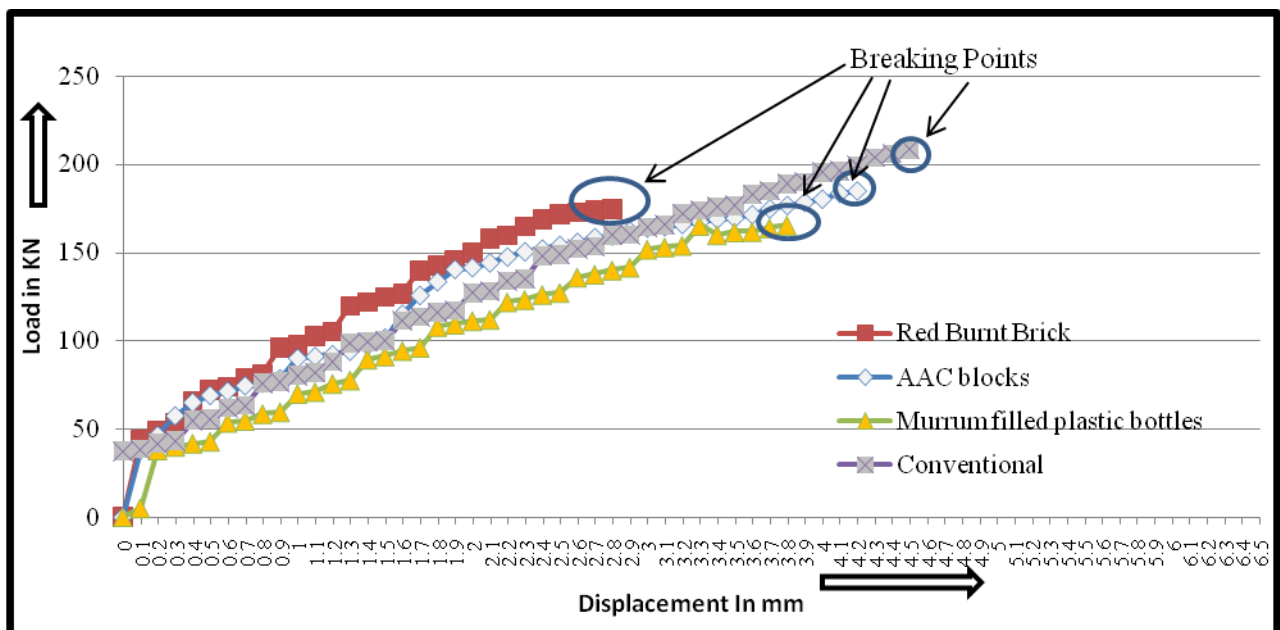
Graph. 4.1.1 Result of specimen cured For 7 Days

4.2 Result of Specimen Cured For 14 Days



Graph.4.2.1 Result Of Specimen For 14Days

4.3 Result of Specimen for 28 Days-



Graph. 4.3.1 Result Of Specimen For 28 Days

V. CONCLUSION

After replacing of light weight material below neutral axis, 30% of volume of concrete get reduced. After experimental investigation it is observed that, after 28 days of curing, conventional concrete has flexural strength 8.05 N/mm², while on the same day AAC block has flexural strength 8.16 N/mm² & that of beam

casted by replacing concrete with murrum in filled bottles has flexural strength 6.65 N/mm^2 & beam casted by replacing concrete with burnt red bricks has flexural strength 6.5 N/mm^2 . From observation, we conclude that, we should prefer AAC block as a replacing material below neutral axis, as it have more flexural strength than the flexural strength of conventionally casted beams.

VI. RESULT

As AAC block has flexural strength 101.36% of flexural strength of conventionally casted concrete beam i.e. 8.16 N/mm^2 , prefer AAC block as light weight material to replace the concrete in concrete beams below the neutral axis.

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