

# A Study on Utilization of Rice Husk Ash and Waste Paper Sludge Ash as Partial Replacement of Cement in Concrete

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**ABSTRACT**– Building with concrete doesn't need any special skills. Proper proportioning, mixing, and compacting of the ingredients are essential to concrete's strength. The rising cost of building supplies is a direct consequence of factors including rising wages, the scarcity of essential materials, and the skyrocketing cost of electricity. Consolidating these useful solidifying elements has several advantages, such as reducing energy consumption (during cement production), spending less money, improving design qualities, and protecting the environment by reducing waste. The physical, synthetic, and mineralogical qualities of materials, as well as their piercing power, are all linked to strength. Strength is likely to benefit from any increase in these qualities. The addition of a pozzolanic ingredient to a concrete mixture might significantly enhance the concrete's nature and durability. There is a common conception of a pozzolanic material, also known as a pozzolan, as a siliceous and aluminous substance. In the presence of water and at room temperature, it undergoes a chemical reaction with lime to produce compounds with cementitious characteristics. This happens when the cement mixture is exposed to water (C-S-H). Several aspects of concrete qualities may be positively affected by the use of these pozzolanic materials. The real influences connected to the molecule size and shape of pozzolans cause the blend extent of concrete and the rheological behaviour of plastic concrete. Both the pozzolanic and cementitious processes have a significant effect on the hardened cement's strength and its penetrability. Rapid development has ushered in an era of excessive garbage. Most wastes are never put to good use, and thus contribute to environmental and natural disasters that don't need the utilisation of extensive fields. There is evidence that certain of these wastes have great potential and might be utilised lucratively as a crude blend/mixing element in cement production. It will help save precious, rapidly depleting natural resources like limestone. Benefits to the cement industry include a decrease in the price of cement production as well as a decrease in the amount of ozone-depleting substances released per tonne of cement. As a result, this may also make it easier for cement businesses to reap the benefits of carbon trading.

**KEYWORDS**– Rice Husk Ash (RHA), Waste Paper Sludge Ash (WPSA), Compressive Strength.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The byproduct of the combustion of rice husk is known as rice husk ash (RHA). Considering the abundance of rice produced in the region, East and Southeast Asia boast an exceptional abundance of rice husk. These Asian countries take use of the favourable conditions—including the plentiful land, plentiful water, and damp climate—for growing rice. Before the rice is sold and eaten, the husk is removed using a manufacturing method. People have found that by using this rice husk in the oven, they may manufacture a variety of various items, which is a benefit. Afterwards, the waste rice husks are used as a replacement or additive in concrete. In this way, we can use the entire rice thing in a way that is both compelling and safe for the environment. Since rice husk waste is produced in such high volumes on a regular basis, and given the difficulties associated with disposing of it, it has the potential to make RHA a well-known threat in rice-exporting countries, furthering environmental degradation. The byproduct of rice milling, known as rice husk ash, is a pozzolan, a brand name for a substance that, when combined with lime, exhibits cementitious qualities. The considerable quantity of amorphous silica in rice husk has been shown in a few studies to make it a viable cementitious material when combined with cement for the production of substantial objects[9]. It is possible for RHA to be carbon neutral, to include almost little glassy SiO<sub>2</sub>, or to contain no damaging components, such the greyish rice husk ash that is recommended for use as a result of good sense. Overabundant husks are returned to the field and often removed by open field consumption. Consuming rice husk is the only way to get RHA. RH may be used as an additive in mortar and concrete because to its high silica concentration when it has been properly burnt. A more eco-friendly environment and maintaining the planet's ecological harmony have become major global priorities in recent years[5]. Annually, India generates more than 300 million tonnes of contemporary waste via its compound and agricultural cycles. Problems with disposal, possible health hazards, and aesthetic appeal are all prompted by the use of such materials. This means that the torn, low-quality paper fibres are being collected for their final destination as waste slime. Since paper sludge contains silica and magnesium, it may be used in place of cement during the setting process. There is a strong correlation between the kind of equipment used and the final product produced by a recycled paper facility and the amount of waste

generated. For every tonne of recycled paper, around 300 kilogrammes of slime are created. Since paper factory muck is so heavy and bulky, the daily production of a landfill from it is prohibitively expensive. Silica, calcium oxide, alumina, and magnesium oxide are the most abundant elements in the crude dry paper ooze. The annual volume of paper mill waste sent to local landfills is quite high. It is highly desired to cultivate productive elements from these contemporary wastes in order to lessen removal and contamination concerns emanating from them. With this goal in mind, experiments were conducted to develop low-cost cement by combining various cement components with hypo ooze. The amount of industrial wastewater-treatment residuals (on stove dry premise) generated by the U.S. mash and paper industry in 1995 was about equivalent to the amount of dewatered cement (sodden) residuals, or around 15 million metric tonnes. The cellulose fibres, water, and papermaking fillers that make up mash and paper factory residual solids (sometimes called slime) are what give these materials their characteristic texture (generally kaolinitic earth as well as calcium carbonate) Common construction practises that make use of widely available contemporary wastes have been proposed as a means to significantly reduce climate pollution caused manufacturing wastes and to noticeably reduce the cost of conventional building projects. As an alternative to sending paper mill byproducts to a landfill, researchers looked at using them in concrete structures[7].

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

As the concentration of RHA in the blend rises, the mixture dries up and becomes unusable until Super plasticizer (Sp) is added. The rut was increased and the concrete's cohesiveness was improved by taking into account the Sp in RHA cement while maintaining the w/b percentage. When compared to OPC, RHA is preferable when substituted at a 28-day strength of 30% for Grades 30 and 40 and 20% for Grade 50. When RHA was used in place of OPC, the concrete became more impermeable to water. The benefits of water assimilation in RHA cement are less than in the OPC control cement. Incorporating RHA has been shown to have a positive effect on increasing cement's durability and making a wider range of concrete grades suitable for use in construction. All of the classes had water retention levels that are within the range of what is considered healthy for human consumption, between 3% and 5%[8].

Satish Kumar et al [1] Six 150mm x 150mm 3D concrete squares were created using a variety of alternative building materials, water cement ratios, and mix intensities. Their dimensions are not fixed in stone; instead, a comparative analysis of their real-world qualities and additional financial reserves was performed. Based on the findings: At a cement-to-rice husk debris ratio of up to 20%, the compressive strength of rice husk debris cement was estimated to be in the range of 70–80% of conventional concrete. The volume of rice husk waste concrete is higher than that of cement of the same weight. Because rice husk waste concrete has a higher overall volume per load than regular concrete, it is more cost-effective. Thinner RHA cement results in less work for the individual builder, which frees up cash. Recycled aggregate concrete was predicted to have a compressive strength of 70–80% of that

of conventional concrete. Saw dust cement was estimated to have a compressive strength of around 10–15% that of regular concrete. As a result, the concrete produced using alternative building materials like as block bats and saw waste may be used for segment and infill purposes and nailing when the strength is not the rules. Concrete built using alternative building materials is often well-liked in situations when compressive strength is not needed.

F S Umrigar [2] Analyzed the potential of hypo muck and fly detritus as a cheap yet effective concrete additive. As an alternative to regular concrete, an itious substance was tested. Modulus of elasticity comparisons between the delivered concrete mixes and the standard concrete were investigated and tested. After 56 days, a test was administered to measure modulus of flexibility. Because that's what the data revealed. The flexibility modulus decreases when the percentage of fly debris and hypo muck is increased. Construction cement that incorporates fly detritus and hypo slime reduces waste and the associated costs of disposal while also being more environmentally friendly. When replacing normal M40 concrete with 10% fly debris and hypo slime, the resulting modulus of flexibility is identical to that of standard M40 concrete. Based on the results of this analysis, fly detritus and hypo slime may be used as Building Materials in situations when more structural integrity is not necessary.

Rushabh A. Shah[10] There are several practical, technical, and environmental benefits to using Hypo Sludge in place of cement in mortar or as an additive to cement. The results of adding several percentages of Hypo Sludge to cement mortar (0%, 10%, 30%, and 50% by weight of cement) are shown below. The blend extent was 1:3. There are four different mix configurations. Halfway replacing Hypo Sludge with cement has brought the compressive strength up to spec. The findings of the tests show that the strength qualities of the mortar decrease at 7 and 28 days when 1:3 of the cement is replaced with Hypo Sludge. Therefore, it may be used in non-underlying components with low reach compressive strength, in cases when strength isn't required and a minimally expensive, quickly designed prototype is already available. The results show that a mixture of 50% Portland cement and 50% Hypo Sludge does not improve the bond strength of brickwork after 7 days. Low-reach compressive strength steel is often used in non-underlying components, where strength isn't essential. When properly organised, anaerobic sludge may be used to create low-cost, rapid building. Results demonstrate that with a 50% replacement of Hypo Sludge, costs may be reduced by a maximum of - 34.59 %.

## III. METHODOLOGY

### A. Ordinary Portland Cement

Throughout the duration of the test, 53 Grade Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) was used (Bhangar concrete).

### B. Aggregates

Aggregates are what make up the bulk of a concrete mixture and provide a multi-layered dependability to the material. In all, the sums amount to around 75.3% of the concrete's mass, making an enormous contribution.

**C. Fine Aggregates**

The sand used in the project was sourced locally and modified to meet the requirements of Indian Standard Specifications IS: 383-1970. The accrued fine was related to ranking Area III.

**D. Water**

Using drinking water in concrete production is highly recommended. According to consumption, water is replenished. Concrete's usefulness comes from water's role in establishing a plastic mixture of the numerous fixes.

**E. Rice Husk Ash (RHA)**

Husk is a byproduct of the rice-processing industry. Expanded rice hulls may be used as an attractive pozzolana. It has a positive outlook in cost-effective building due to its low price and great efficiency[6]. Silica, the primary component of rice husk debris, is responsible for controlling the debris's reactivity. The Rice Husk Ash is obtained by burning 50 to 60 kg of rice hulls collected from neighbouring plants[3][4].

**F. Waste Paper Sludge Ash**

For the most part, the production of paper results in the generation of substantial garbage. In order to get that mirrorlike sheen on glossy magazine paper, a fine kaolin earth layer is applied, which thereafter forms a formidable waste product during recycling. Consumption of waste paper slop is how one acquires the waste paper slime detritus[7].

**IV. PROCEDURE FOR MIX DESIGN**

IS 10262 was used in the design of the concrete mix for the M-20 grade and the details are shown in the table no 1 given below.

Table 1: Materials used for concrete mix

Grade designation	M20
Type of cement grade	OPC 53 grade confirming to IS12269:1987
Maximum nominal size of aggregates	20 mm
Minimum cement content kg/m <sup>3</sup>	320 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Maximum water cement ratio	0.55
Workability	76 mm (slump)
Exposure condition	Mild
Degree of supervision	Good
Type of aggregate	Crushed angular aggregate
Maximum cement content	451 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Chemical admixture	Not

The details of the data of materials used for test are shown in table no 2. .

Table 2: Test Data for Materials

Cement used	OPC 52 grade confirming to IS 12269:1987
Specific gravity of cement	3.10
Specific gravity of Coarse aggregate	2.87
Fine aggregate	2.62
Sieve analysis Coarse aggregate	Coarse aggregate : Conforming to Table 2 of IS: 384
Fine aggregate	Fine aggregate : Conforming to Zone III of IS: 382

**Target Strength For Mix Proportioning**

$$f'_{ck} = f_{ck} + 1.66 s$$

Where,

$f'_{ck}$  = Target average compressive strength at 28 days,

$f_{ck}$  = Characteristic compressive strength at 28 days,  $s$  = Standard deviation

Standard deviation ( $s$ ) = 4.6 N/mm<sup>2</sup> (Table 1)

Then before goal strength = 20 + 1.66 x 4.6 = 27.63 N/mm<sup>2</sup>

**Selection of Water Cement Ratio**

The highest water cement ratio allowed is 0.56, according to Table 5 of IS:456-2000 (Mild exposure).

On the basis of your past experiences, you should choose a water-cement ratio of 0.50 0.5 0.56, which is acceptable. The water and sand content are selected from the IS 10262:1982 standard and the details of which are mentioned below in table no 3

Table 3: Water and Sand Content

Maximum Size of Aggregate (mm)	The amount of water, including surface water, that is contained in one cubic metre of concrete (kg)	Sand expressed as a percentage of total aggregate measured in terms of absolute volume
21	186	37

Adaptations based on the International Standard 10262:1982 and the details of which are mentioned in the table no 4 given below

Table 4: Water and Sand Percent Adjustment Required

Change in condition	Percent adjustment required	
	Water Content	Sand in total Aggregate
Altering the water-to-cement ratio by 0.05 either up or down is acceptable.	0	-2.2
By 0.10, either increase or reduce the value of compacting.	0	01
For Sand	0	-1.5

Therefore, the needed amount of sand content expressed as

a percentage of the entire aggregate expressed in absolute volume = 36 minus 3.5, which is 32.5%.  
67.5% of the total volume is equal to 100 minus 32.5.

**The Determination of the Amount of Cement**

0.51 is the water-to-cement ratio.  
Cement content =  $185/0.51 = 363 \text{ kg/m}^3 > 320 \text{ kg/m}^3$  (given)  
According to Table 5 of the standard IS: 456, the minimum cement concentration for conditions of moderate exposure is  $300 \text{ kg/m}^3$ .  
This is acceptable.

**The determination of the proportions of coarse and fine aggregates**

According to Table 3 of the IS 10262:1982 standard, the percentage of entrained air in wet cement amounts to 2 percent for a set maximum size of a total of 20 millimetres. Taking all of this into consideration and use the formula  
 $V = (W + C/SC + 1/P \text{ fa}/S\text{fa}) / 1000$   
 $C_a = 1 - P/P \times \text{fa} \times S\text{ca}/S\text{fa}$

Where,  
V is the absolute volume of newly mixed concrete, which is equal to the net volume ( $\text{m}^3$ ) minus the amount of air that was mixed in.

W = the amount of water mass in kilogrammes per cubic metre of cement

C = the mass of concrete, in kilogrammes, per cubic metre of cement

Concrete's explicit gravity is denoted by the symbol "Sc."  
P equals the ratio of FA to the sum total expressed in absolute volume.

The absolute masses of FA and CA (in kilogrammes) per cubic metre of cement are denoted by "Fa" and "Ca" respectively.

Sfa and Sca are abbreviations for the explicit gravity of soaked, surface-dry fine total and coarse total respectively.  
 $0.98 = 185 + 363/3.10 + 1.317 \times \text{fa}/2.63 \times 1/1000$   
 $980 = 305 + 1.20 \text{ fa}$

$\text{fa} = 562.66 \text{ Kg/m}^3$   
 $C_a = 1217.10 \text{ Kg/m}^3$

At that moment, the blend extent is afterwards transformed into:

Water: Cement: FineAggregate: Coarse Aggregate  
185:363:562.66:1217.10  
0.5:1:1.5:3.2

**A. Casting**

The whole mould was cleaned and lubricated properly before casting as shown in figure no 1 . These were repaired properly before casting began. It all started with a careful weighing of the aggregates (both coarse and fine), followed by the concrete, and finally the various fasteners (RHA and WPSA). Hand mixing completed, the concrete mix was prepared at a boring stage. The process begins with the completion of the dry mix . After carving out a well in the dry blend's centre, water at a concentration of between 69 and 81% was added, followed by a thorough blending and the liberal application of lay as shown in figure no 2 . A total of 156 specimens were produced, including 77 solid forms and 77 hollow ones by filling the above mentioned mix in the moulds as shown in the figure no 3.



Figure 1: Oiling of Cubes & Cylinder



Figure 2: Dry mixing



Figure 3: Filling of Moulds

**B. Compaction**

The tamping bar was used to manually accomplish the compacting. Each of the four layers of concrete used to fill the moulds was about a quarter of the total height of the mould. After much effort, the concrete's outermost layer was levelled, smoothed, and shaped with a metal scoop as shown in figure no. 4.



Figure 4: Compaction

### C. Curing of Concrete

In order to lessen the concrete's porosity and increase its solidness by increasing the cement's hydration, particularly in the concrete's surface zone, proper and appropriate curing methods must be used. Also, curing protects concrete from the damaging effects of heat and drying winds, both of which may cause the concrete to dry out too quickly, exposing it to contraction pressures at a time when it is not yet strong enough to withstand them. Despite its dual role, water is the go-to curative for concrete. It improves the concrete's stability, strength, impermeability, and frost resistance. The curing process is complete after a light rain or a layer of wet hessian is spread over the surface. When the concrete has reached the proper hardness, curing may commence. Usually, regular concrete has to cure for at least 14 days before it can be used again. However, when ambient temperature drops, the rate at which concrete sets slows considerably. Curing time will be at least 10 days. After removing the samples from the casting moulds, they were submerged in the curing tank to finish the curing process. After 7 and 28 days of curing, the samples are removed from the water at a particularly challenging time as shown in figure no 5.



Figure 5: Curing Tank

### V. OBJECTIVES

- Determine the strength and utility limitations associated with the cement reaction for varying degrees of RHA, WPSA, and RHA+WPSA..
- To analyse the potential of employing paper ooze rubbish and ordinary rice husk garbage to lessen the concrete's composition.

### VI. DISCUSSION

Cement with a larger percentage of RHA, WPSA, or a combination of the two (RHA+WPSA) reduced SLUMP, Compaction factor for control concrete is 0.94. When RHA covers 20% of the concrete, the compaction factor drops from 0.91 to 0.81. Compaction factor esteem reduces from 0.89 to 0.80 after WPSA exposure. The rate of solidarity addition is highest during the 28-day restoration phase. After 28 days, progress toward your strength goals will be much slower. M20 Grade Control concrete has an obtained flexural strength of 2.72 N/mm<sup>2</sup> after 28 days. Conspicuously, Control concrete's tensile strength

increases with age. At a curing time of 28 days, strength increases at a faster rate than at shorter times. However, after the first 28 days, the pace of strength improvement slows down considerably. Considering that cement substitution up to 12% is comparable to the control blend design in terms of compressive strength. If RHA is used to replace cement at a rate higher than 12%, the resulting drop in compressive strength would be much more pronounced than it would be for a 12% replacement, the split rigidity for a 6% replacement is greater than the split elasticity of the control blend plan, and although this difference narrows with further increases in RHA, it remains significantly larger for replacement levels of 12% and higher. When 6% and 12% of cement are replaced with WPSA, the resulting mixture has a greater compressive strength after 7 days than the Control Mix. However, as the percentage of WPSA used increases, the compressive strength drops. After 28 days, the 6% substitution has a greater compressive strength than the control mix (31.10N/mm<sup>2</sup>), at 31.45 N/mm<sup>2</sup>. Compressive strength is most comparable to the control blend at a level of 12% substitution, and it decreases with increasing levels of substitution, 6% and 12% WPSA replacements increase split tensile strength at 7 and 28 days compared to the Control Mix. Split tensile strength is 16% for the control Mix, but it drops with increased cement replacement. The compressive strength is roughly the same after 12% replacement with Mix(RHA+WPSA) as it is after using the Control Mix, and that it decreases with increasing percentages of substitution. When replacing 6% of the cement with Mix(RHA+WPSA), the resulting S.T.S (Split tensile strength) is greater than that of the control blend, while replacing 12% of the cement yields results that are comparable to those of the control blend. The split tensile strength decreases gradually between the 16% and 20%.

### VII. CONCLUSION

#### A. General

The purpose of this study was to assess the potential for decisive overriding of concrete using RHA, WPSA, and MIX (RHA+WPSA). The following is a summary of the inferences that might be made from the enumerated preliminary results:

28-day split tensile strength of control, RHA, WPSA, and RHA+WPSA concrete.

- The findings above prove that M20-level extensive coordination planning with a 10% RHA component is feasible.
- The Mix (RHA+WPSA) may be utilised interchangeably with cement, as shown by the experiment results.
- The analysis revealed that RHA, WPSA, and Mix (RHA+WPSA) concrete all had weaker early strengths but strengthened with time.
- It has been discovered that the workability of RHA, WPSA, and Mix(RHA+WPSA) concrete decreases with the addition of replacements.
- It is acceptable to explain that RHA, WPSA, and Mix (RHA+WPSA) all contribute significantly to an increase in Tensile Strength, even if the effects of doing so are delayed, as shown by the Split Tensile Strength test.
- Non-critical waste that is no-cost to use, such as waste

paper sludge ash, rice husk ash, and a mix (RHA+WPSA), may reduce the price of cement significantly.

### VIII. FUTURE SCOPE

- Research shows that paper sludge rubbish and rice husk flotsam and jetsam can be utilised in concrete. However, there are still a few spots where more effort may be put in:
- Evaluation of the strength of materials made from Rice husk waste and Waste Paper Sludge Ash is required, including tests for water permeability, protection against chloride particles, use of steel support, resistance to sulphate attack in a marine setting, and so on.
- The audit might also be called to learn whether or not a particularly weighty mode of behaviour is appropriate for a syphoning purpose, given that modern progress is tied to RMC, where massive -quantities of cement are guided.
- It is expected that further research into the durability of cement with mineral admixtures would help expand its use. Further research on cement's microstructure characteristics is anticipated.
- It should be possible to conduct tests to distinguish cement's strength attributes
- RHA and WPSA were appropriately squished and ingested at a constant temperature

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