

# LABORATORY STUDY ON SOIL STABILIZATION USING FLY ASH AND RICE HUSK ASH

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## Abstract

The objective of this paper is to upgrade expansive soil as a construction material using rice husk ash (RHA) and fly ash, which are waste materials. Soil is a peculiar material. Some waste materials such Fly Ash, rice husk ash, pond ash may use to make the soil to be stable. Addition of such materials will increase the physical as well as chemical properties of the soil. Some expecting properties to be improved are CBR value, shear strength, liquidity index, plasticity index, unconfined compressive strength and bearing capacity etc. The objective of this study was to evaluate the effect of Fly Ash and Rice husk ash to improve the performance of black cotton soil. In this paper black cotton soil is treated with fly ash (5%,10%,15%,20%,25%) and rice husk ash (10%,15%,20%,25%,30%) and examine after 28 days of curing.

**Keywords:** Black cotton soil, Rice husk ash, Fly ash, and Stabilization

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Generally, lands with Black Cotton soils are fertile and very good for agriculture, horticulture, sericulture and aquaculture. Black cotton soils are expansive clays with potential for shrinking or swelling under changing moisture condition. The soils are formed under conditions of poor drainage from basic rocks or limestone under alternating wet or dry climatic conditions. In India, Most Indian Black Cotton Soils occupy an estimated area of 74 million hectare these soils are commonly observed in Maharashtra, western parts of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and some parts of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, etc. Expansive soils pose problems to civil engineers in general and to geotechnical engineers in particular.

Clay is made up of tiny particles less than 0.002 mm in diameter. By comparison, for this reason, clay soils are considered to be fine textured. Clay soils any type of soil that contains a high percentage of clay particles. When discussing dirt, the term "clay" is basically a catch-all for a family of minerals that are heavy, Sticky, and dense. Clay soil can look different in different places, but it usually acts the same way.

Clay is normally understood to mean a clay soil whose grain is predominantly composed of clay minerals and which has plasticity and cohesion. The presence of water, which relatively unimportant in course grained soils plays a deceive role in engineering behavior of clay soil. On other hand, grain size distribution and grain shape influence the engineering behavior of granular soil and hardly affect the behavior of clay.

Hakari<sup>1</sup>, Udayashankar D<sup>2</sup> has discussed in Indian geotechnical conference. (Dec-2010) has studied a use of fly

ash for improves the property of black cotton soils of Hubli-Dharwar region. The liquid limit decreases from 63% to 46%, plastic limit from 28.9% to 23.1% and the plasticity index from 34.1% to 22.9%; for the corresponding increase in the addition of DFA from 10% to 50% respectively. The shrinkage limit increases from 17.3% to 37% for increasing in the addition of DFA from 10% to 50% respectively the optimum moisture content decreases from 24.3% for M-10 mix to 21.3% for M-50 mix. The CBR value Increases from 0.77% for M-10 mix to 2.64% for M-50 mix.

S. Bhuvaneshwari <sup>1</sup>, R. G. Robinson <sup>2</sup>, S. R. Gandhi<sup>3</sup> (FAUP), TIFAC, DST, New Delhi (2005) has also discussed the stabilization of expansive Soils using fly ash extensive laboratory / field trials have been carried Out by out to check the improvements in the properties of expansive soil with fly ash in varying percentages.

The proper use of fly ash can reduce the cost of stabilization with pure cement or pure lime, as fly ash is a waste material. Lime during stabilization contributes to initial rapid improvement of the untrained soil strength due to cation exchange (Matsuo and Kamon, 1981), whereas fly contributes mainly to the long-term gain in strength and stiffness as a result of its time-dependent pozzolana reactivity (Kuganenthira, 1990).

A small quantity of cement accelerates this process of pozzolana hardening. Quick lime decreases the soil plasticity more than the equivalent amount of hydrated lime (Mateos, 1964). Hydrated lime, although more expensive than quicklime, has the advantage of safety and convenience in handling. Normally, finely pulverized quick lime is used for soil stabilization of clay with reasonably high water content (Broms and Boman, 1977).

## 2. MATARIALS AND METHEODOLOGY

### 2.1 Black Cotton Soil

It is collected from Patan Road District Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh from ground having coordinates 21.2191° N, 81.3065° E. soil sample is collected from location of Sukkha village, Power grid Office and near bypass of Jabalpur Patan road. Soil Sample is collected 1 meter below the original depth then collected into bag and send into the laboratory for examination.

### 2.2 Rice Husk Ash

IT is collected from virat vidut limited rice husk ash based Bio-Mass Power Plant at Bilaspur (C.G.),

### 2.3 Fly Ash

IT is collected from satpura thermal power station MPPGCL Sarni betul Madhya Pradesh.

Properties of black cotton soil define as per BIS standards and properties of black cotton soil, Rice husk ash and fly ash are tabulated on table

### 2.4 Methodology

The soil is collected from different location at Jabalpur and collects into bags and sends in laboratory for examination. First Index property of soil is determined after then fly ash and rice husk ash mix in different proportions in soil and put Into 28 days for curing. Total five combinations are formed and atterberg limit are evaluated in laboratory. The process of coal combustion results in fly ash.

The major constituents of most of the fly ashes are Silica (SiO<sub>2</sub>), alumina Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, ferric oxide (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) and calcium oxide (CaO). The other minor constituent of the fly ash are MgO, Na<sub>2</sub>O, K<sub>2</sub>O, SO<sub>3</sub>, MnO, TiO<sub>2</sub> and unburnt carbon. There is wide range of variation in the principal constituents - Silica (25-60%), Alumina (10-30%) and ferric oxide (5-25%). When the sum of these three principal constituents is 70% or more and reactive calcium oxides less than 10% - technically the fly ash is considered as or class F fly ash.

It has a long history of use as an engineering material and has been successfully employed in geotechnical applications. The effect on parameters like free swell index (FSI), swell potential, swelling pressure, plasticity, compaction, strength and hydraulic conductivity of expansive soil was studied.

**Table 1** Index Property of Black Cotton Soil

Sr.No	Description of properties	Value
1.	Particle size distribution Sand (%), Silt + Clay (%)	8% 92%
2.	Liquid limits	40% - 100%.
3.	Plastic Limit	25(%)
4.	CBR	1.5-2(%)
5.	OMC (%)	26%
6.	MDD (Kn/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.52
7.	Free Swell index	> 50%

**Table 2** Geotechnical properties of Rice husk ash

Sr.No	Property	Value
1.	Specific Gravity	1.95
2.	Max. Dry Density	8.5
3.	Optimum Moisture Content	31.8
4.	Angle of Internal Friction	38
5.	Unsoaked CBR (%)	8.75
6.	Soaked CBR (%)	8.15

**Table.3** Geotechnical properties Fly ash

Physical Parameters	Value	Physical Parameter	Value
Silt and Clay (%)	87	Coefficient of uniformity Cu	5.88
Fine Sand (%)	13	Coefficient of Curvature Cv	1.55
Medium Sand (%)	0	Specific gravity	2.55
Coarse Sand (%)	0	Plasticity Index	Non Plastic



**Fig 1** Fly Ash

### 2.5 Results

**Table -4** Atterberg Test Results on Soil Sample

Soil Sample	Liquid Limit	Plastic Limit	Plasticity Index	Difference Free Swell	Specific Gravity
BC SOIL	53	30	27	35	2.61
S1(5%F A+10% RHA)	51	31	17	30	2.35
S2(5%F A+10% RHA)	54	42	12	25	2.40
S3(5%F A+10% RHA)	32	26	6	0	2.20

S4(5%FA+10%RHA)	34	37	3	No Swellin g	2.01
S5(5%FA+10%RHA)	0	0	0	No Swellin g	2.34



Fig 2 Rice Husk ASH

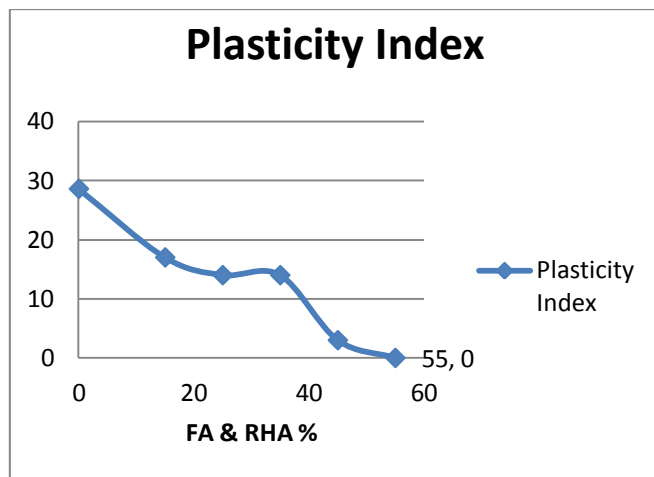


Fig-5 Liquid limit value for RHA, FA mix Soil sample

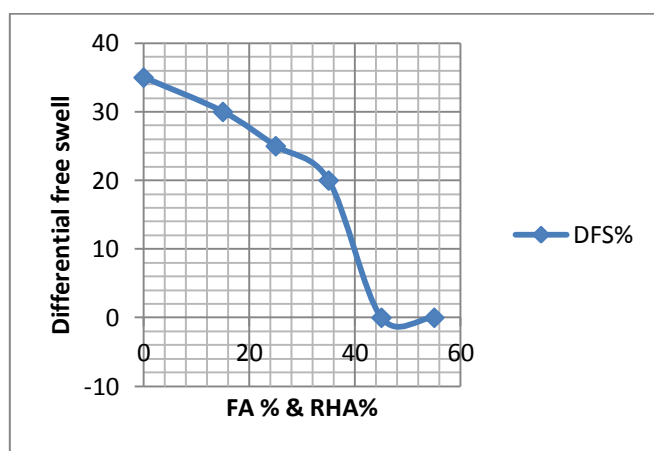


Fig- 6 Differential free swell value for RHA, FA mix Soil sample

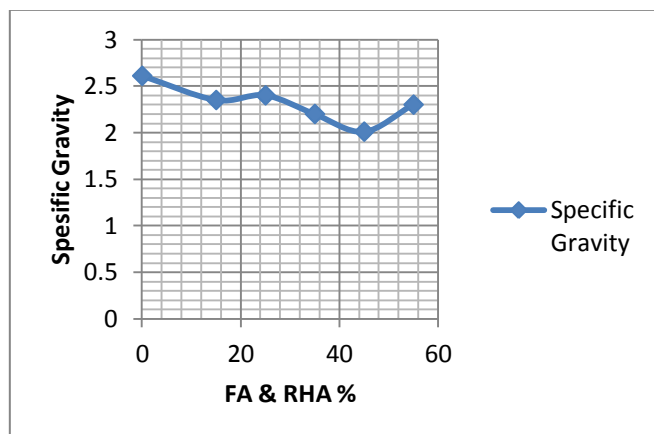


Fig-7 specific gravity for RHA, FA mix Soil sample

### 3. CONCLUSIONS

1. Liquid limit is reduced to 55% for (20% FA and 25% RHA) mix soil sample.
2. Plasticity index is reduces to 86% for (20% FA and 25% RHA) mix soil sample.
3. Differential free swell is reduces to 75% for (15% FA and 20% RHA) mix soil sample.
4. Specific gravity content is reduces.

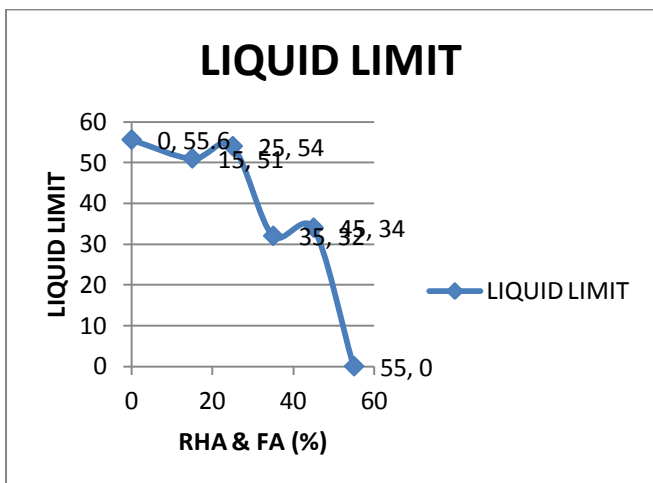


Fig-3 Liquid limit value for RHA, FA mix Soil sample

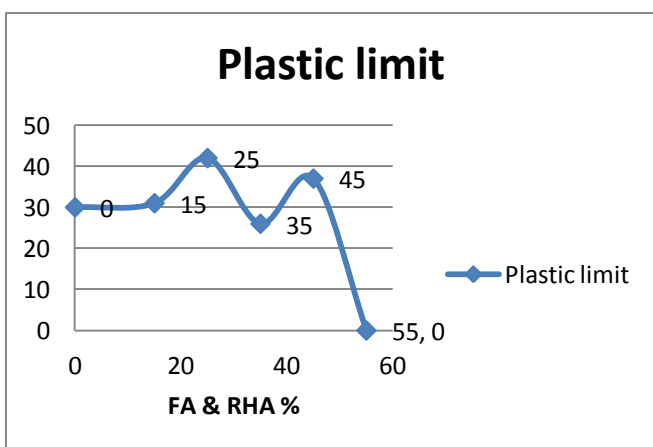


Fig-4 Plastic limit value for RHA, FA mix Soil sample

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