Potential of Waste Material Utilization in Subgrade Construction for Sustainable Development- In Indian Context

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Abstract- Sustainable development is the key focus of the development policy of India. There has been an increasing appreciation of the importance on sustainable development by reusing the wastes of the society. India's road infrastructure is an area that presents many opportunities for increased sustainability, by the use and re-use of materials and methods that minimize the impact of construction activities on environment. There are case studies that conclude that the waste materials which are forming environmental loads can be used in subgrade soil to replace the borrowed soil, which will helps in sustainable development, but disposal of unsuitable soils is also causing disturbances to the natural environment. Thus recycling of soil and societies waste is especially important to the countries which are lacking in natural resources. It will be an environmental friendly solution from application to end-result.

Keywords: Environment friendly, Green Solution, Soil Stabilization, Subgrade, Waste Management.

I. INTRODUCTION

Effect of climate change on environment can be differed by adopting sustainable development with singular approach of reducing the consumption of natural resources. As road infrastructure development consumes large amount of natural resources, an emphasis is much needed to be given on new and innovative construction technologies. Development to reduce wastage and reusing of waste materials can be one way for it. For sustainable development wastes are to be converted into a resource. The present model of development is based on human needs and not on sustainable development and thus has to be considered more by those in higher level of need as they consume considerable natural depleting resources. The growing demand of the sustainable development is to look in opportunities to use various blends of locally available waste materials so as the properties of subgrade soil is not varied much with optimum utilization of waste materials. The use of waste material can also enhance the properties of soil to be used as subgrade.

II. IMPORTANCE OF SUBGRADE IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION

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Roadbed portion on which pavement, surfacing, base, subbase is placed is called 'Subgrade'. Pavements are engineered (IRC 37; 2012) to distribute stresses imposed by traffic to the subgrade and the subgrade conditions have a significant influence on the choice and thickness of upper pavement structure. The main function of the subgrade is to give adequate support to the pavement and for this the subgrade should process sufficient stability under adverse climate and loading conditions. Sub base material mainly contain soil, sand, moorum, gravel, laterite, kankar, brick metal, crushed stone, crushed slag, etc.

The nearby existing soil at site, with requisite properties of the subgrade (as per MORTH specifications) provides platform for the construction of subsequent layers and also provide adequate support for the pavement over it. Much research have been conducted on the subject of poor/marginal soils and their base modification during the past several decades.

The present paper is emphasizing on "use of societies waste materials", which cannot be reused or are currently environmental burden. The use of use of society waste will be reducing loads on traditional conventional construction materials. Utilization of these waste materials is not only an economical alternative but also an ecofriendly alternative of waste management. It will reduce load and pressure from landfills and hence reduce energy consumption and green house gas emissions, and thereby technique is suitable for sustainable development.

Major environmental challenges associated with waste are, its collection, transport, treatment and disposal. Its impacts on the environment and public health are very significant, but so are the opportunities to use them as alternatives, specifically to be used in road bed portion i.e., specifically in "Subgrade". There is increasing pressure to keep all potentially reusable and recyclable materials from landfills

which are taking up valuable space in the mid of urban population.

The authors have shown by their field experiments that societies waste can be used is subgrade successfully, mentioned in references.

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

Soil stabilization for road construction is now a matter of much concern in developing and developed countries. J. James and P. K. Pandian in 2016 used industrial wastes as auxiliary additives to cement & lime to stabilization of soils. They further used expansive soil amended with bagasse ash and coconut shell powder. Alemu Diribsa Gudeta, et. al. (2017), reviewed various industrial wastes as admixies and G.V. L. N. Murthy, et.al.(2017), conducted a study on partial replacement of clayey soil with an industrial effluent in 2018, E. Soyonar, et. al. used steel slag and fly ash with Soil as subbase materials. Deng-Fong Lin, et.al. in 2016, studied behavior of subgrade soil when mixed with a sewage sludge ash/cement mixture and nano-silicon dioxide, whereas Srinivasa Reddy N, et. al. (2017), used burnt municipal solid waste and Lime as admixture in local subgrade soil for stabilization.

Many researchers found the potential of use of agricultural waste as admix for subgrade soil. H. Hasan, et. al. (2016) used bagasse ash as admixture to Expansive Soils and A.K. Yadav, et. al. (2017), worked with agricultural wastes for soil stabilization. A. Busari, et. al. (2018), used bamboo straw ash to improve the index properties of soil for sustainable development. D. Gupta and A. Kumar (2017), conducted performance evaluation of cement-stabilized pond ash-rice husk ash clay mixture as a highway construction material.

In 2017, B. Ajmera, et. al., compared soil characteristics soils mixed with crumb-rubber tyre Mohammed Ali Mohammed Al-Bared, et. al.in 2018, utilized recycled tiles and tyres in Soils.

N. C. Consoli, et. al. (2016), emphasized on strategies for developing more sustainable dosages for soil–coal fly ashlime blends.

Shrivastava S. K., et. al. .(2018), did experimental analysis on in-house soil to be used as sub grade with lime, cement, silt, fly ash for stabilization. They further emphasized on selection of locally available waste material to be used as admixture in subgrade for sustainable development. They also did a case study on innovative measures to reduce road construction time.

Surya Mani Kantha. A, et. al. .(2016), applied RHA and lime in black cotton soil for improving strength and swelling characteristics.

IV. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

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SELECTION OF WASTE MATERIAL

The most important part is selection of waste material which can be used as admix in subgrade soil without negatively affecting its engineering properties. This procedure considers three major aspects of waste source utilization:

- 1. Technical,
- 2. Economical, and
- 3. Environmental.

1. Technical: Based on Engineering Properties

The basic four desired properties of base and subgrade layers are:

- a. Shear strength (the ability to resist shear stresses developed as a result of traffic loading);
- Modulus or stiffness (the ability to respond elastically and minimize permanent deformation when subjected to traffic loading);
- Resistance to moisture (the ability to resist the absorption of water, thus maintaining shear strength and modulus, and decreasing volumetric swell);
- d. Stability (the ability to maintain its physical volume and mass when subjected to load or moisture), and
- Durability (the ability to maintain material and engineering properties when exposed to environmental).

Suitability/Unsuitability of materials for embankment and subgrade should be in line with MORTH Specifications.

The major tests which shall be carried out for identification of subgrade properties after mixing with wastes are listed in Table-1. These results will help in selection of waste additive in optimum quantities for modified subgrade.

Sr	Engineering Tests	Analysis	
1	Grain-Size Analysis	coefficient of uniformity	
2	Liquid and Plastic Limits	value of PI (Plasticity Index)	
3	Free Swell Index	cracking behavior of plastic soils	
4	Water Content and Dry Density Relation		
A	Maximum Dry Density (MDD)	The highest density obtainable when the compaction is carried out	
В	Optimum Moisture Content (OMC)	The moisture content at MDD.	
5	California Bearing Ratio	The ratio of force per unit area required to penetrate a	

		soil mass, the resistance
		of the soil to deformation
		by shearing
6	Unconfined Compressive Strength	The resistance to
		increasing loads until
		failure
7	Durability	The resistance of
		compacted stabilized soils
		to repeated adverse
		weather conditions

Table-1 Engineering Tests to be conducted for performance assessment of subgrade after mixing with waste materials

2. Economical: Based on Direct Costs

There may be many economical indicators based on which the selection of waste additive can be made. Some of the indicators which can be considered for cost benefit analysis are listed as:

- a. Economic Indicators for waste
- b. Cost of Transportation to the site
- c. Cost of material at Source
- d. Cost of Mixing at Site
- e. Availability of additive
- f. Cost of skilled manpower
- g. Cost of specialized Machinery
- h. Cost of segregation
- 3. Environmental: Based on Indirect costs caused by pollution

The household trash (solid waste comprising of garbage and rubbish, such as bottles, cans, clothing, compost, disposables, food packaging, glass, food scraps, old building materials, newspapers and magazines, etc) and waste disposed by various industries like thermal power plants, chemical, mechanical and agriculture industries are collected in landfills. These materials cause environmental pollution in their locality as most of them are non-biodegradable material or it takes years to decompose. Industrial wastes are hazardous in nature due to presence of toxic substances and may damage human, animal and plant resource. Some of the wastes are detailed below just for explaining its potential.

- a. Fly-ash: Fly-ash (FA) is an industrial waste of thermal power plants and it is available in fine dust form. FA contains traces of toxic metals such as Cr, Th, Pb, Hg, Cd, etc. which hampers the health of humans, animals and plants growth too.
- b. Rice husk: Yearly production of rice in India is about 0.32 million tons resulting huge husk production. Rice husk being agricultural waste dumped near the mills or burnt in open fields. Once it is burnt it produces rice husk ash which is equivalently harmful for humans, animals and plants, in an uncontrolled

environment of village (Yadav A.K, et. al., 2017)

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Some of wastes are classified in Table-2

Sr	Types of solid	Source details	
	wastes		
	Industrial	Coal combustion residues, steel	
2	wastes	slag, bauxite red mud	
	(inorganic)	andConstruction debris	
3		Coal washeries waste, mining	
	Mining/Mineral	overburden waste Tailing from	
	waste	iron, copper, zinc, gold, and	
		aluminium industries	
	Non hazardous other process waste	Waste gypsum, lime sludge,	
4		lime stone waste, marble	
		processing residues, broken	
		glass and ceramics, and kiln dust	
5	Hazardous Waste	Metallurgical residues,	
		galvanising waste, and Tannery	
		waste	

Table-2 Waste Classification

The three major aspects of waste source utilization namely Technical, Economical, and Environmental are having very complex matrix and can be calculated with various mathematical models, keeping in mind that the environment management parameter is paramount.

Life cycle cost also needs to be considered while designing the road infrastructure as capital cost based design considers only initial cost without considering other important parameters like energy efficiency, environmental effect, sustainability, as it becomes difficult to quantify their long term benefits.

V. CONCLUSION

This paper presents details of how utilization of waste materials as stabilizer/modification for subgrade construction. Use of locally available waste materials in soil as admixture is definitely beneficial for the developing countries like India where economy is the prime concern for adopting any new method or technique. Additionally it provides safe disposal mechanism for the wastes, which will help in reducing the hazardous effect on the environment of the region (Jijo James and P. Kasinatha Pandian, 2016). It presents the criterion of selection of waste material to be used, without hampering the engineering properties of the road. Use of non biodegradable waste materials from urban land fill directly in embankment after segregation without blending with soil is also under study by the authors.

VI. FUTURE SCOPES

The future scope of research is identification of more and more locally available waste products which can be mixed

in natural soil for laying it as subgrade. Once the waste is identified, it is important to find the time saving techniques to calculate the proportion of different wastes in different soil in a mixture. Moreover the technique of getting homogeneous mixture at site is an area of research in future.

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