

## Comparative Study of Natural and Recycled Aggregate Concrete

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**Abstract:** India is presently generating construction and demolition (C & D) waste around 23.75 million tons annually and these figures are likely to double fold in the next 7 years. C & D waste and specifically concrete has been seen as a resource in developed countries. Works on recycling have emphasized that if old concrete has to be used in second generation concrete, the product should adhere to the required compressive strength. The project done on recycled aggregate from demolished concrete. Our aim is to investigate the characteristics of recycled aggregate concrete, with respect to various parameters. After analysis of results of various tests done on recycled aggregate and natural aggregate it found that the recycled aggregate shows different result values, which implies that RA and NA are very different regarding various properties. But the Control mix showed better results with recycled aggregate. Results show that compressive strength of recycled aggregate concrete depends upon grade of concrete which demolished to obtain recycled aggregate and the age of demolished concrete.

**Keywords:** Recycled aggregate concrete (RAC), Natural aggregate concrete (NAC), Compressive strength

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Demolition of old and deteriorated buildings and traffic infrastructure, and their substitution with new ones, is a frequent phenomenon today in a large part of the world. Rapid infrastructure development requires a large quantity of construction materials, land requirements & the site. This results in production of more waste. Out of the total construction demolition waste, 40% is of concrete, 30% ceramic's, 5% plastics, 10% wood, 5% metal, & 10% other mixtures. Worldwide, infrastructure spending will grow from \$4 trillion per year in 2012 to more than \$9 trillion per year by 2025. Overall, close to \$78 trillion is expected to spend globally between 2014 and 2025. These figures indicate a tremendous growth in the construction sector, almost 1.5 times in 5 Years. For production of concrete, 70-75% aggregates are required. Out of this 60-67% is of coarse aggregate & 33-40% is of fine aggregate. The main objective was to explore the feasibility of incorporating recycled coarse aggregate in new concretes of similar or higher strength grades and mitigate the effect of the reduction in strength of Recycled aggregate concrete by designing a proper mix.

The main reasons for this situation are changes of purpose, structural deterioration, rearrangement of a city, expansion of traffic directions and increasing traffic load, natural disasters (earthquake, fire and flood), etc.

The most common method of managing this material has been through its disposal in landfills. In this way, huge deposits of construction waste are created, consequently becoming a special problem of human environmental pollution. Recycled aggregate is generally produced by two-stage crushing of demolished concrete, and screening and removal of contaminants such as reinforcement, paper, wood, plastics and gypsum. Concrete made with such recycled aggregate is called recycled aggregate concrete (RAC). The main purpose of this work is to determine the basic properties of Recycled aggregate depending on the coarse recycled aggregate content, and to compare them to the properties of concrete made with natural aggregate (NAC).

### II. MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY

The materials for casting of concrete are collected from various sources according to suitability of quantity of materials. Sample materials of natural coarse aggregate, Recycled Coarse Aggregate and Natural Fine Aggregate are tested on various required parameters. In this project Pozzolana Portland Cement of 53 grade used, having compressive strength after 28 days immersed curing 53 N/mm<sup>2</sup> and specific gravity 3.15. Angular

shaped natural sand having fineness modulus 3.2 and specific gravity 2.8 used as fine aggregate in concrete. The aggregates from crushing of natural stones in crushing plant of maximum aggregate size 20 mm used for casting concrete cubes. The demolished sections of concrete crushed mechanically and sieved to separate the various size of aggregate, here also the maximum aggregate size was 20 mm. Potable water free from salts used for casting the concrete cubes and for immersed curing as per IS: 456-2000 recommendations.

### III MIX DESIGN BY INDIAN STANDARD METHOD (IS 10262-1982)

Concrete mix-design is a step by step design procedure to determine the percentage of various ingredients of concrete to achieve maximum strength. Mix designed with the consideration natural aggregate and the concrete with recycled aggregate casted with the same design to check the feasibility of recycled aggregate with respect to natural aggregate. To design, the compressive strength of concrete after 28 days of curing considered, the water content and proportion of fine aggregate corresponding to maximum size of aggregate are first determined for reference value of workability water cement ratio and grading of fine aggregates are then adjusted for any difference in workability.

TESTS ON COARSE AGGREGATE			
Sr.No	Test	Natural	Recycled
1	Shape	Angular	Angular
2	Specific gravity-	2.96	2.49
3	Surface Texture	Rough	Rough
4	Water absorption	1.02%	6.84%
5	Dry loose bulk density (DLBD)	1.61kg/lit	1.49kg/lit
6	Impact Value	3.62%	12.98%
7	Abrasion value-	13.54%	38.24%

Table 1. Various Tests on Natural and Recycled Aggregate

### IV COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH

The compressive strength of any material is defined as the resistance to failure under the action of compressive forces. Especially for concrete, compressive strength is an important parameter to determine the performance of the material during service conditions. The testing machine may be of any reliable type of sufficient capacity for the tests and capable of applying the load at the specified rate. The permissible error shall not be greater than 2 percent of the maximum load. The testing machine shall be equipped with two steel bearing platens with hardened faces. One of the platens shall be fitted with a ball seating in the form the portion of a sphere. The centre of which coincides with the central point of the face of the platen.

#### COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH OF CONCRETE CUBES AS CURING PROGRESSED

Cube Days	Load kN	Comp. Strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>		Avg N/mm <sup>2</sup>
		NAC	RAC	
3	243	10.8		10.79
	245	10.89		
	240	10.67		
	241		10.71	10.62
	245		10.89	
	231		10.26	

Table 2. Compressive strength after 3 Days curing

Cube Days	Load kN	Comp. Strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>		Avg. N/mm <sup>2</sup>
		NAC	RAC	
7	379	16.84		16.74
	384	17.06		
	367	16.31		
	356		15.78	15.91
	362		16.08	
	357		15.86	

Table 3. Compressive strength after 7 Days curing

Cube Days	Load kN	Comp. Strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>		Avg N/mm <sup>2</sup>
		NAC	RAC	
14	511	22.71		23.09
	521	23.16		
	518	23.02		
	481		21.38	21.75
	498		22.13	
	489		21.73	

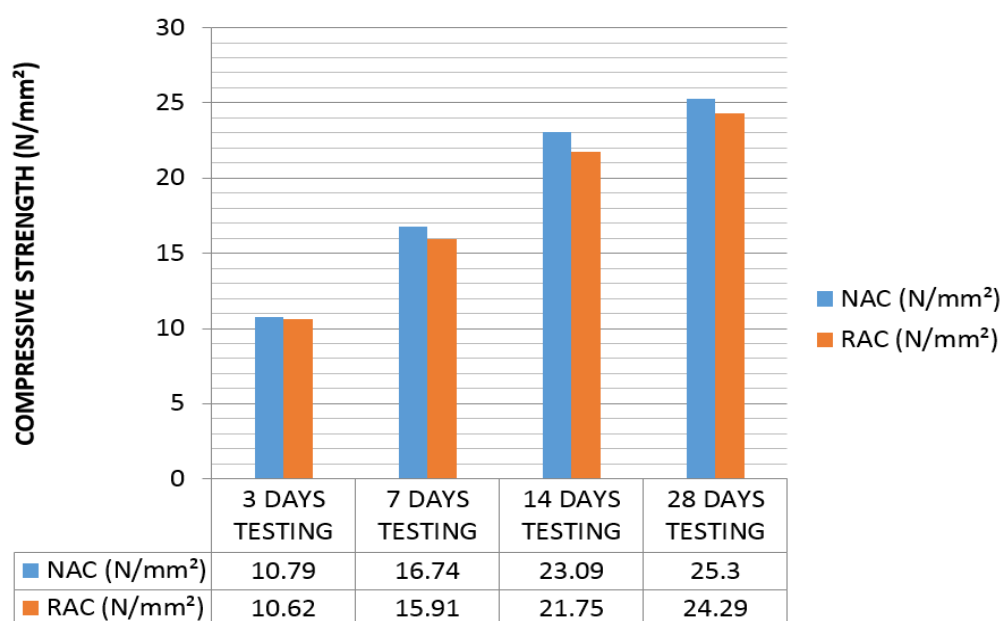
Table 4. Compressive strength after 14 Days curing

Cube Days	Load kN	Comp. Strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>		Avg N/mm <sup>2</sup>
		NAC	RAC	
28	567	25.20		25.30
	577	25.64		
	560	24.92		
	541		24.04	24.29
	542		24.53	
	547		24.31	

Table 5. Compressive strength after 28 Days curing

## V RESULT

The Natural aggregate concrete attains more strength than required and the recycled aggregate attains quite less strength than it designed for. It shows that the recycled aggregate concrete can be used for various concreting operations by adopting some basic quality control measures.



**Table 6 Comparative graphic representation of compressive strength of Natural and Recycled Aggregate Concrete.**

## VI. CONCLUSION

Due to use of recycled aggregate in construction, energy, cost & natural resources saved to a very large extend. Use of recycled aggregate directly reduces the impact of waste material on environment. Quality controlled Recycled aggregate concrete can give a satisfactory performance. Compressive strength of concrete mainly depends on the quality of recycled aggregate and the quality of aggregate depends upon the grade of concrete crushed to obtain the recycled aggregate and age of the parent concrete along with recycling method as well as the knowledge of all the specificities related to mix design and preparation of these types of concrete. According to the test results, the performance of recycled aggregate concrete, even with the total replacement of coarse natural with coarse recycled aggregate, is satisfactory and shows that there is enormous scope of this aggregate in at present and in future, not only in terms of the mechanical properties, but also the other requirements related to mixture proportion design and production.

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