

# A Laboratory Investigation on The Efficacy of Portland Slag Cement And Lime on Improving Properties of Expansive Soil As Foundation Bed Under Static Pressure

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**Abstract-** India has large tracts of expansive soils commonly known as black cotton soils which covers approximately 20% of the total land area of our country. These soils experience large volume changes on exposure to climates with alternate wetting and drying. Several innovative foundation techniques have been suggested to overcome the problem of expansive soils. Those techniques include sand cushion technique, cohesive non-swelling (CNS) layer technique and under reamed piles. Stabilization of expansive soil with various types of additives is the most commonly used technique. Stabilization is process of fundamentally changing the chemical properties of soft soils by adding stabilizers or binders, either in wet or dry conditions to increase the strength and stiffness of the naturally weak soils. In present investigation, the aim is to reduce swelling and shrinkage behaviour of expansive soil by improving strength and engineering properties of soil. Also, the industrial Material Port Land Slag Cement is utilised for stabilisation so as to solve the problem of indiscriminate disposal. The other additive used in this study is Lime. Various tests are conducted with varying proportions and results are reported.

**Keywords-** Expansivesoil (ES), lime, Portland Slag Cement (PSC),CBR.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Due to land limitations and increase in population, people are utilizing every land available for construction. The behavior of soil at any location is not same due to anisotropic nature. When a project is to be carried out in difficult foundation condition, the possible alternate solutions are, avoid the particular sites, design the plan structure accordingly, use pile foundation which transmits the total load to hard strata, remove and replace the foundation soil and attempt to modify the existing ground i.e. Soil stabilization which is commonly used. Soil stabilization is a process of improving the engineering properties of soil. It is extremely

cost-effective method of converting poor quality soil into hard impermeable medium.

In present study, Portland Slag Cement and Lime are added to expansive soil to evaluate the performance through laboratory tests such as consistency limits, modified proctor test and California bearing ratio strength test.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

**Dr. D. Koteswara Rao et al., (2012)** studied the properties of expansive soil before and after treated with rice husk ash and potassium chloride.

**Geethu Saji (2016)** has studied the effect of Egg Shell Powder (ESP) and Quarry Dust (QD) on the properties of clayey soil.

**Butt et al., (2016)** conducted extensive experimental demonstrate the soil improvement prospective of saw dust ash (SDA) by performing California bearing ratio (CBR) and unconfined compression strength tests.

**Dharmend rasahu** has investigated the effects of NaoH on mixing with the black cotton soil as a stabilizing material.C. Neeladharan (2017) studied about the stabilization of expansive soil using tile waste with sodium hydroxide as a binder.

**M. Vignesh (2019)** studied about the stabilisation of clay soil using polypropylene and sawdust ash.

## III. METHODOLOGY, EXPERIMENTAL STUDY AND RESULT

The study is carried out on Expansive soil, Expansive soil blended with Portland Slag Cement and Expansive Soil with optimum percentage of Portland Slag Cement with Lime

in the following percentages. Portland Slag Cement was varied in percentages of 5%,10%, and 15% by weight of Expansive soil throughout the experiments. To increase the CBR of Portland Slag Cement treated Expansive soil, Lime was added in percentages of .2%, 4%, 6%, 8% and 10%.

**3.1 Soil properties:** The soil used for current study has been taken from Turpulanka village near Amalapuram area of East Godavari district, AP, India. It is collected from a depth of 1.50 m. Tests are conducted to determine the Index properties, Engineering properties as per Indian standard (IS 2720). The Soil properties are given in Table 1:

S.No	Property	Symbol	Untreated Expansive soil
1	LiquidLimit(%)	$W_L$	75
2	PlasticLimit (%)	$W_P$	35.5
3	PlasticityIndex(%)	$I_P$	39.5
4	SoilClassification	--	CH
5	SpecificGravity	G	2.66
6	FreeSwell(%)	FS	130
7	OptimumMoisture Content(%)	OMC	27.20
8	Maximum Dry Density(g/cc)	MDD	1.54
9	CBR (%)	--	1.12

**3.2 Portland Slag Cement:** Cement is an oldest binding agent since the invention of soil stabilization technology in 1960's. It may be considered as primary stabilizing agent or hydraulic binder because it can be used alone to bring about the stabilizing action required. Cement is used to stabilize a wide range of soil. Numerous types of cements are available in the market such as ordinary Portland cement, blast furnace cement, sulfate resistant cement and high alumina cement. Usually, the choice of cement depends on type of soil to be treated and desired final strength. Cement can be used to modify and improve the quality of the soil or to transform the soil into a cemented mass with increased strength and durability and improve engineering properties of soil and further improved cation exchange of clay

Table 2:Chemical composition of Portland Slag Cement

Chemical composition	Percentage (%)
SiO <sub>2</sub>	12
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	26
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	12
CaO	43
MgO	7

(Source: data collected from <https://www.civilgiant.com/portland-slag-cement>)

**3.3 Quick Lime:** Main constituent of lime is calcium carbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>), It is available in nature in the form of limestone. Limestone from stone hills is main source of lime and Shells of sea animals are its purest form.

Quick lime: When limestone is burnt CO<sub>2</sub> is given out and quick lime is obtained.

Slaked lime: Water should be added on quick lime to turn it into calcium

Hydroxide, the process is known as slaked lime.

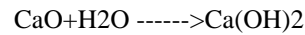
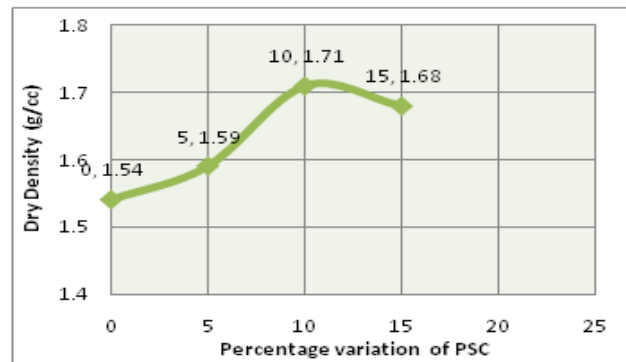


Table: 3 Compaction Characteristics of Expansive soil treated with percentage of Portland Slag Cement (PSC)

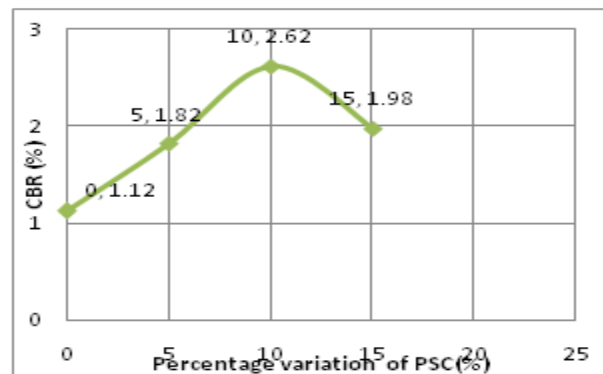
MixProportion	Water Content(%)	DryDensity(g/cc)
ES+0%PSC	27.20	1.54
ES+5%PSC	25.63	1.591
ES+10%PSC	25.82	1.71
ES+15%PSC	25.18	1.68



Graph 1: Shows the Variation of MDD (g/cc) w.r.t various percentage of PSC

Table 4 CBR Values of Expansive soil treated with Percentage Variations of PSC

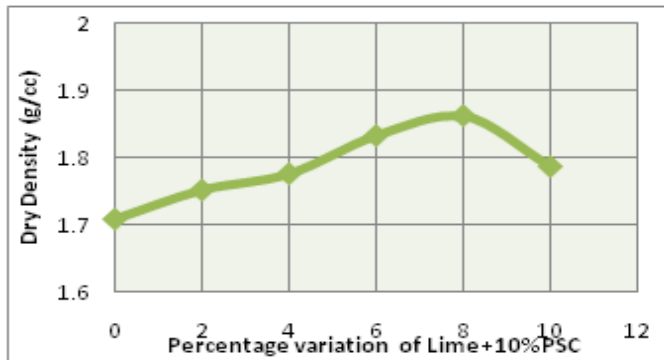
MixProportions	CBR(%)
ES+0% PSC	1.12
ES+5% PSC	1.82
ES+10%PSC	2.62
ES+15%PSC	1.98



Graph.2: Shows the variation of CBR w.r.t Different percentages of PSC.

Table 5 OMC and MDD Values of the Expansive soil with 10% of Portland Slag Cement and different percentages of Lime

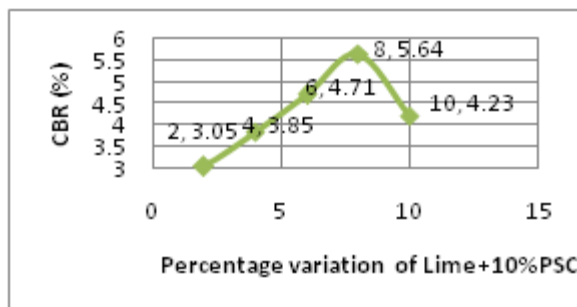
S.No	Mixproportion	Optimum Moisture Content (%)	Maximum Dry Density (g/cc)
1	ES+10% PSC+0%Lime	25.82	1.71
2	ES+10% PSC+2%Lime	25.35	1.75
3	ES+10% PSC+4%Lime	24.89	1.776
4	ES+10% PSC+6%Lime	24.05	1.833
5	ES+10% PSC+8%Lime	23.24	1.862
4	ES+10% PSC+10%Lime	23.18	1.788



Graph 3: OMC and MDD values of Expansive soil with 10% of PSC with various percentages of Lime

Table 6 CBR Values of 10% PSC Treated Expansive soil with Various Percentages of Lime

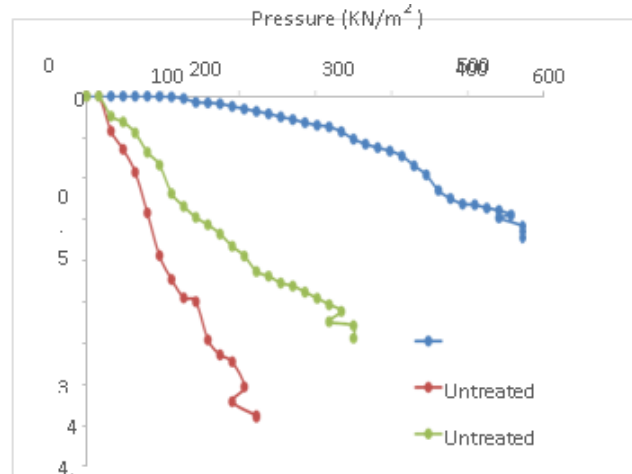
S.No	MixProportions	CBR (%)
1	100%Expansivesoil	1.12
2	ES+10%PSC	2.62
3	ES+10% PSC+2% Lime	3.05
4	ES+10% PSC+4% Lime	3.85
5	ES+10% PSC+6% Lime	4.71
6	ES+10% PSC+8% Lime	5.64
7	ES+10% PSC+10% Lime	4.23



Graph 4: Shows the Graph Variation of Soaked CBR values with Expansive soil+10% PSC+different% Lime

Table 7: Variation of LL, PL, PI for Expansive soil treated with percentage of PSC and Lime

Expansive soil treated with percentage of PSC and Lime	Liquid Limit (%)	Plastic Limit (%)	Plasticity Index (PI)
100% ES	75	35.5	39.5
ES+10%PSC	55.23	24.52	30.71
ES+10%PSC+8% Lime	46.46	21.36	25.1



Graph 5: Laboratory Static Plate Load Test results of Expansive soil treated with 10% PSC + 8% Lime

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

- It is observed from the laboratory test results, that the liquid limit of treated Expansive Soil has been decreased by 26.36% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further decreased by 38.05% on addition of 8% of lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.
- It is observed from the laboratory test results, that the plastic limit of treated Expansive Soil has been decreased by 30.92% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further decreased by 39.83% on addition of 8% of Lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.
- It is observed from the laboratory test results, that the plasticity index of treated Expansive Soil has been decreased by 22.25% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further decreased by 36.45% on addition of 8% of Lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.
- It is observed from the laboratory test results, that the specific gravity of treated Expansive Soil has been increased by 2.63% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further increased by 10.31% on addition of 8% of lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.

- It is observed from the laboratory test results, that the Differential free swell of treated Expansive Soil has been decreased by 53.84% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further decreased by 76.92% on addition of 8% of lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.
- It is found that the Optimum Moisture Content (OMC) of treated Expansive Soil has been decreased by 5.10% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further decreased by 14.59% on addition of 8% of lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.
- It is found that the Maximum Dry Density (MDD) of treated Expansive Soil has been increased by 11.03% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further increased by 20.78% on addition of 8% of lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.
- It is noticed that the CBR value of treated Expansive Soil has been improved by 133.92% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further improved by 403.57% on addition of 8% of Lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.
- It is observed from the laboratory test results, that the cohesion value of treated Expansive Soil has been decreased by 11.52% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further decreased by 35.13% on addition of 8% of Lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.
- It is observed from the laboratory test results, that the angle of internal friction of treated Expansive Soil has been improved by 63.57% on addition of 10% PSC and it has been further improved by 171.78% on addition of 8% of Lime as an optimum compared with the Untreated Expansive Soil.
- It is observed from the laboratory test results, Static Plate Load test results of Expansive Soils treated with optimum of 10PSC and 8% Lime foundation bed treated with gravel cushion which has exhibited the ultimate Static Plate Load of 556.828 KN/m<sup>2</sup> with the deformation of 1.45 mm at OMC.

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