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Jawaharlal Nehru

Indian Standard

METHODS OF TEST FOR STABILIZED SOILS

PART X  TEST FOR SOIL-BITUMINOUS MIXTURES

(Incorporating Amendment No. 1)

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MANAK BHAVAN, 9 BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG
NEW DELHI 110002

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Indian Standard

METHODS OF TEST FOR STABILIZED SOILS

PART X  TEST FOR SOIL-BITUMINOUS MIXTURES

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METHODS OF TEST FOR STABILIZED SOILS

PART X TEST FOR SOIL-BITUMINOUS MIXTURES

FOREWORD

0.1 This Indian Standard (Part X) was adopted by the Indian Standards Institution on 2 December 1969, after the draft finalized by the Soil Engineering Sectional Committee had been approved by the Civil Engineering Division Council.

0.2 Soil stabilization is the alteration of any property of a soil to improve its engineering performance. There are several methods of stabilization and these may be broadly on the basis of treatment given to the soil (for example, dewatering and compaction), process involved (for example, thermal and electrical), and on additives employed (for example, asphalt and cement). The choice of a particular method depends on the characteristics of the problem on hand. For studying in the laboratory, the methods and effects of stabilization, certain standard methods of test for the evaluation of properties of stabilized soils and their analysis are required. The required standards on methods of test for stabilized soils are to be published in parts and this part [IS: 4332 (Part X) - 1969] lays down the method for the determination of water absorption, expansion, and extrusion characteristics of compacted soil or soil aggregate moistures containing liquid bituminous material.

0.3 In the formulation of this standard due weightage has been given to international co-ordination among the standards and practices prevailing in different countries in addition to relating it to the practices in the field in this country. This has been met by basing the standard on ASTM D915-61 'Standard method of testing soil bituminous mixtures', published by the American Society for Testing and Materials, USA.

0.4 This edition 1.1 incorporates Amendment No. 1 (August 1983). Side bar indicates modification of the text as the result of incorporation of the amendment.

0.5 In reporting the result of a test or analysis made in accordance with this standard, if the final value, observed or calculated, is to be rounded off, it shall be done in accordance with IS : 2-1960*.

*Rules for rounding off numerical values (revised).
IS : 4332 (Part X) - 1969

1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard (Part X) covers the determination of water absorption, expansion, and extrusion characteristics of compacted soil or soil-aggregate mixtures containing liquid bituminous material. The method is intended for determining the effects of water on these mixtures. It may also be employed to determine the same characteristics for untreated soil or soil-aggregate mixtures. The results are not intended for use in formulas to determine pavement thickness, nor to predict relative-field performance of different bituminous materials as stabilization admixtures.

2. APPARATUS

2.1 Mechanical Mixer — capable of producing intimate mixtures of soil, water and bituminous material.

2.2 Compaction Apparatus — as shown in Fig. 1 and 2 consisting of the parts given in 2.2.1 to 2.2.3 (see Note).

Noter — The inside diameters of all compaction and extrusion test apparatus and the diameter of the testing end of the test plunger shall be checked periodically to assure adherence to the specified tolerances on dimensions.

![Diagram of Testing Assembly and Moulding Assembly](image)

**FIG. 1 TESTING ASSEMBLY AND MOULDING ASSEMBLY**

2.2.1 Compaction Mould (Fig. 2A) — A cylindrical hardened steel mould having an inside diameter of 50.00 ± 0.02 mm, a length of 135 mm and an outside diameter of 65 mm or greater. The mould shall be equipped with a suitable device to control the specified drop and to protect the top of the mould during precompaction with the tamper (see Note under 2.2).
2.2.2 Compaction Plungers (Fig. 2B) — One hardened steel plunger having a circular face, 49.92 ± 0.02 mm in diameter and a length of 140 mm and one hardened steel plunger having a diameter of 49.92 ± 0.02 mm and a length of 65 mm (see Note under 2.2).

2.2.3 Tamper (Blade Type) (Fig. 2C) — The tamper shall be made of steel and shall have an overall length of 365 mm. For the upper 150 mm it shall be turned to a steel shank 10 mm in diameter and shall be fitted with a wooden handle 35 mm in outside diameter. The flat blade shall be 215 mm in length and shall be 35 mm in width next to the handle and 48 mm in width at the tamping end. The thickness of the flat blade shall be 15 mm at the handle and for a distance of 165 mm below the handle (see Note under 2.2).
2.2.3.1 The lower 50 mm of the blade shall be 6 mm in thickness, and the tamping edge shall be finished to a rounded edge. The total weight of the tamper shall be approximately 1200 g.

2.3 Water Absorption Apparatus — A corrosion-resistant-flat-bottom pan approximately 5 cm in depth and a cabinet or moist-room maintained at a temperature between 18°C and 27°C and relative humidity of at least 90 percent.

2.4 Extrusion Test Assembly — The extrusion test assembly shall be as shown in Fig. 3 and shall consist of the parts given in 2.4.1 to 2.4.5 (see Note under 2.2).

2.4.1 Testing Mould (Fig. 3A) — A cylindrical hardened steel mould having an inside diameter of 51.8 ± 0.2 mm at the large end, tapered to an inside diameter of 50.50 ± 0.02 mm at a point 57.5 mm from the bottom continuing at a diameter of 50.50 ± 0.02 mm to the bottom for a total length of 115 mm and having an outside diameter of 75 mm (see Note under 2.2).

2.4.2 Testing Plunger (Fig. 3B) — A cylindrical hardened steel plunger having a diameter of 28.60 ± 0.02 mm on the testing end for a distance of 50 mm and then a diameter of 32.0 ± 0.1 mm for a distance of 100 mm for an overall length of 150 mm (see Note under 2.2).

2.4.3 Plunger Guide (Fig. 3C) — A cylindrical steel guide or sleeve having an outside diameter of 32.4 ± 0.1 mm, an inside diameter of 50.2 ± 0.1 mm and a length of 100 mm (see Note under 2.2).

2.4.4 Testing Ring (Fig. 3D) — A hardened tool steel annular plate, 6.5 mm in thickness having a circular opening with a diameter of 28.60 ± 0.02 mm. The cutting edges of the aperture shall be 1.6 mm in thickness and the aperture shall be tapered outward from the cutting edge at an angle of approximately 30° with the vertical. It shall be fitted with a seat 50.45 ± 0.02 mm in diameter and 1.3 mm in height (see Note under 2.2).

2.4.5 Testing Ring Support (Fig. 3E) — A testing ring support of the type shown in Fig. 3E, or equivalent, adequate to support other parts of the extrusion test assembly.

2.5 Testing Machine — A loading device of at least 4500 kg capacity, capable of applying load through a uniform motion of the testing head at a rate of 25 mm/min. It shall be fitted with a device for continuously measuring the applied load. It may be equipped with a maximum load indicator.

2.6 Drying Oven — capable of maintaining a temperature of 60 ± 3°C.

2.7 Measuring Device — accurately calibrated and equipped to determine heights and diameters of test specimens to the nearest 0.2 mm.
FIG. 3  EXTRUSION TEST APPARATUS

2.8 Moisture Content Determination Apparatus — conforming to the requirements of IS: 4332 (Part II)-1967*.

*Methods of test for stabilized soils Part II Determination of moisture content of stabilized soil mixtures
2.9 Balances — Two, one having a capacity of 2 000 g or more and sensitive to 0.5 g or less, the other having a capacity of 500 g or more and sensitive to 0.05 g or less.

2.10 Sieves — 4.75-mm IS Sieve and 2.00-mm IS Sieve as prescribed in IS: 460 (Part I)-1978.

2.11 Containers — metal containers with tight fitting lids for storing and "aging" mixtures.

2.12 Miscellaneous Equipment — mixing pans, thermometers, etc.

3. MATERIALS

3.1 Bituminous Material — The bituminous material shall be emulsified asphalt, cut back or other liquid asphalt or tar, the type and grade to be as specified in accordance with relevant Indian Standards.

4. PREPARATION OF SOIL

4.1 Pulverize the air dry soil in such a manner as to separate the soil particles without reducing the particle size and screen through a 4.75-mm IS Sieve. Record the percentage retained on the 4.75-mm IS Sieve. Screen the soil passing the 4.75 mm IS Sieve through the 2.00-mm IS Sieve and if soil binder aggregations are retained on the 2.00-mm IS Sieve, further pulverize them to pass the 2.00-mm IS Sieve. Combine and intimately mix the material passing the 4.75-mm IS Sieve and retained on the 2.00-mm IS Sieve with the material passing the 2.00-mm IS Sieve. Store the soil thus prepared in tightly dosed containers. Conduct the water absorption, expansion and extrusion tests on the total material passing the 4.75-mm IS Sieve.

5. MOISTURE CONTENT AND DRY WEIGHT OF SOIL

5.1 Determine the moisture content $w$, of the air-dried soil by testing 100 g of the prepared soil in the moisture content determination apparatus in accordance with IS: 4332 (Part II)-1967.

5.2 Determine the calculated weight of dry soil in the air-dry soil to be used in the water-absorption, expansion and extrusion tests as follows:

$$W_d = \frac{100 \cdot W}{100 + w}$$

where

$W_d$ = Calculated weight of dry soil in g,
$W$ = weight of air-dry soil in g, and
$w$ = determined moisture content in percent (see 5.1).
6. PREPARATION OF SOIL-STABILIZER MIXTURE

6.1 Tar and Liquid Asphalt

6.1.1 If the addition of water is required, weigh out the air-dried soil, prepared as prescribed in 4.1, in 1000 g portions (calculated on the dry soil basis) to provide sufficient mix material for the required number of test specimens. Place the weighed quantity of soil in the bowl of the mechanical mixer and add the specified amount of water, based upon the calculated dry weight of the soil and with due allowance for the determined moisture present, and roughly distribute it by cutting and stirring the mixture with a stiff knife. Start the mixer and continue mixing for a total mixing period of 5 min stopping when necessary to clean the sides of the mixing bowl and blade. Time spent in scraping the blade and sides of mixing bowl shall not be included in the mixing time. Place the soil-water mixture in a tightly closed metal container and allow to stand for a period of 16 to 24 hours.

6.1.2 Place the aged soil-water mixture or air-dried soil in 1000 g portions (calculated on the dry soil basis) in the bowl of the mechanical mixer. Add the specified amount of bituminous materials into a depression previously made in the prepared soil-water mixture and roughly stir into the mixture by means of a stiff knife. Attach the bowl containing the mixture to the mixer, start the mixer, and continue mixing for a total mixing period of 5 min, stopping when necessary to clean the sides of the mixing bowl and blade. Extra mixing may be performed by hand, if necessary for an additional 5 min per period, using a rubber-tipped pestle. Place the soil bituminous mixture in a tightly closed container and allow to stand for a period of 4 hours. Form the mixture into specimens the same day the mix is prepared.

6.2 Emulsified Asphalt — Weigh out the air-dried soil prepared as described in 4.1 in 1000 g portions (calculated on the dry soil basis) to provide sufficient mix material for the required number of test specimens. Place the weighed quantity of soil in the bowl of the mechanical mixer, start the machine at slow speed and add the specified amount of water to the moving mass. Continue mixing for a total elapsed period of 5 min, stopping when necessary to clean the sides of the mixing bowl and blade. Time spent in scraping the blade and sides of mixing bowl shall not be included in the mixing time. Add the specified amount of emulsified asphalt to the wetted soil and continue mixing for a minimum of 5 min or a maximum of 10 min so as to produce a mixture having a visual homogeneity. Place the completed mixture in the tared shallow pans and allow it to air dry to the specified moisture content, with frequent stirring so as to prevent crusting (see Note).

Note — With certain soils that have a tendency toward formation of hard clods during drying special precautions are at times necessary to improve the handling characteristics and uniformity of the mixture during compaction. In such cases as
soon as the consistency of the mixture will permit, it shall be cut with a spatula into dice-like sections having approximately 12 to 15 mm edges. These diced cubes shall be stirred occasionally during drying. When the cubes shall have dried to just below the plastic limit consistency of the soil they shall be placed in the bowl of the mechanical mixer and mixed until a discrete, uniform, granular mass is obtained. This worked mass shall be placed in tared shallow pans and allowed to continue to air dry while stirring with a spatula at intervals to the specified moisture content.

6.3 Moisture Content of Mixture — Determine the moisture content \( w \) of the aged soil-bituminous mixture as a percentage of the dry soil weight in accordance with IS: 4332 (Part II)-1967*.

6.3.1 If the percentage of moisture does not vary from the specified moisture content by more than 0.15, form the soil-bituminous mixture into specimens as described in 7. If the moisture content does not fall within this allowable tolerance, discard the mixture and prepare a new mixture.

7. PREPARATION OF SPECIMENS

7.1 Three specimens shall be prepared for each test result desired, making each test result the average of three readings. Each of the three readings shall be recorded.

7.2 Portions of the soil-bituminous mixture, each sufficient to form specimen 50 mm diameter by 50 ± 1.2 mm in height shall be weighed and formed into specimens as described in 7.2.1 to 7.2.3.

7.2.1 Insert the short compaction plunger approximately 25 mm into the bottom of the compaction mould suitably supported to maintain its position during initial compaction. Place the weighed mixture in the compaction mould.

7.2.2 Obtain initial compaction by 25 blows with the tamper. Allow the tamper to fall freely from a height of 150 mm above the bottom of the specimen being formed and rotate it between application of the blows. Then insert the long compaction plunger into the top of the compaction mould, remove the support for the mould and place the entire assembly (see Fig. 1) in the testing machine.

7.2.3 Obtain final compaction by compressing the specimen at a constant rate of 25 mm/min until a total load of about 2 725 (± 25) kg is indicated. Maintain this load for 2 min. Remove the specimen from the mould, mark the top of the specimen as tamped and weigh and measure the specimen for average height and diameter. The average height of the specimen shall be 50 ± 1.2 mm. Any specimens not conforming to the specified tolerance shall be discarded.

*Methods of test for stabilized soils: Part II Determination of moisture content of stabilized soil mixtures.
7.3 Calculate the density as follows, expressed on the basis of the calculated weight of dry soil in the specimen, and assuming that no change has occurred in the composition of the mixture during compaction:

\[
W_d = \frac{100 \ W_s}{100 + w + B} \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma_d = \frac{W_d}{V}
\]

where

\[
\begin{align*}
W_d & = \text{calculated weight of dry soil in specimen in g}, \\
W_s & = \text{weight of specimen in g}, \\
w & = \text{percentage by weight of moisture in mixture moulded into specimens (6.3)}, \\
B & = \text{percentage by weight of bituminous material in mixture expressed as a percentage of dry soil weight}, \\
\gamma_d & = \text{density of dry soil in g/cm}^3, \text{and} \\
V & = \text{volume of specimen in cm}^3.
\end{align*}
\]

8. CURING OF SPECIMENS

8.1 Unless otherwise specified, specimens containing emulsified asphalt shall be tested in the cured state. Prior to testing for moisture absorption, expansion and extrusion value, the specimen shall be cured as specified in 8.1.1 to 8.1.3.

8.1.1 Cure the soil-emulsified asphalt specimens in an oven maintained at 60 ± 3°C until 80 to 90 percent (unless otherwise specified) of the moisture at the time of moulding has been removed. This point shall be determined on a control specimen chosen from each group of three specimens. At the completion of the curing period, record the weight, average height and diameter of each specimen.

8.1.2 Place the control specimen, after removal from the curing oven in a desiccator for at least 30 min (to reach laboratory temperature) and then weigh. Remove all other specimens at the same time and place in a desiccator arrangement similar to that used for the control specimen, to insure the same degree of drying.

8.1.3 The curing of specimens shall be conducted only during times when the laboratory is in operation. At times when control checks cannot be carried out remove all specimens from the oven and place in a sealed container in order to retard further loss in weight.
8.2 Soil-asphalt and soil-tar specimens shall be tested in the uncured state, in the cured state or both, as specified. If tests on cured specimens of soil-asphalt and soil-tar are required, prior to testing for moisture absorption, expansion and extrusion value, the specimens shall be cured as specified in 8.2.1 to 8.2.3.

8.2.1 Cure the specimens to constant weight in an oven maintained at 60 ± 3°C. Constant weight of a specimen for this purpose shall be defined as that weight at which the loss in weight during a 6 h period in the oven is 0.3 g or less. From each set of three specimens choose a control specimen for use in determining when constant weight has been obtained.

8.2.2 Place all specimens in an oven maintained at 60 ± 3°C for an initial curing period of 40 to 42 h after which remove all specimens from the oven, place in a desiccator for at least 30 min to reach laboratory room temperature, and weigh the control specimens. Again place all specimens in the oven and, after an interval of 6 h remove, cool to room temperature in a desiccator and weigh the control specimens. Make further weight readings, after 6 h periods in the oven, until the control specimens have been dried to constant weight as defined in 8.2.1. After initial curing period when the last weight readings to be made on a given day have been made, remove all the specimens from the oven and place in a desiccator until the start to the next working day.

8.2.3 When a control specimen has been dried to constant weight, as defined in 8.2.1, remove all specimens represented by that control specimen from the desiccator and record the weight average height, and diameter of each specimen.

9. PROCEDURE FOR WATER ABSORPTION AND EXPANSION TESTS

9.1 The water absorption test shall be performed in an absorption cabinet or moist room maintained at a temperature between 18°C and 27°C and a relative humidity of at least 90 percent. Place the bottom of the specimen as tamped, downward in the water absorption test.

9.2 Place the specimens directly on the bottom of a flat-bottom pan, and adjust the height of distilled water in the pan to and maintain at a height of 25 mm above the bottom of the specimens. After seven days remove the specimens from the absorption cabinet or moist room and remove the free moisture from the surface by quick blotting. Record the weights and average diameters of the bottom of the specimens.
9.3 Calculation of Water Absorption — Calculate water absorption as follows:

\[
\text{Water absorption, percent} = \frac{W_2 - W_1}{W_d} \times 100
\]

where

- \(W_2\) = weight after absorption,
- \(W_1\) = weight before absorption, and
- \(W_d\) = calculated weight of dry soil in specimen.

9.4 Calculation of Expansion — Calculate expansion during absorption as follows

\[
\text{Expansion percent} = \left[ \frac{D_2^3}{D_1^3} - 1 \right] 100
\]

where

- \(D_2\) = average diameter of bottom of specimen after absorption, and
- \(D_1\) = diameter before absorption.

10. PROCEDURE FOR EXTRUSION TEST
10.1 The extrusion test shall be performed at room temperature on specimens that have been subjected to the water absorption test.

10.2 Assemble the testing cylinder, testing ring and ring support as shown in Fig. 1. After the specimen has been removed from the absorption cabinet, weighed and measured, place it in the testing mould with the face that was down during the absorption test downward. Insert the specimen into the large end of the testing cylinder until seated against the testing ring, gradually forcing it if necessary, by use of the compaction plunger. Insert the testing plunger and guide into the large end of the testing mould until resting on top of the test specimen.

10.3 Centre the entire test assembly on the platform of the testing machine. Apply load to the test specimen through the testing plunger, which shall move at a constant rate of 25 mm/min. The extrusion value shall be taken as the maximum total load required to cause failure of the test specimen.

11. REPORT
11.1 The following data shall be reported:

a) Details of soil sample,
b) Stabilizer used;
c) Quantity of stabilizer as a percentage of the dry soil weight;
d) Water, if any, added to the soil as a percentage of the dry soil weight;
e) Dimensions of each specimen before and after each test; and
f) Density of the specimens.

11.2 The following data shall also be reported as the average of three determinations:

a) Water absorption during the absorption test,
b) Expansion during the absorption test,
c) Extrusion value after the absorption test, and
d) Additional data as may be specified.
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