

Mechanical Stabilisation of Lateritic Soil for Improving Subgrade*

by

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Author's Reply

The authors thank Venkatappa Rao for the interest he has taken to study the paper thoroughly and for the pains he has taken to interpret the results from a different angle.

The investigations were taken up primarily with a view to find out the various ways in which the very common material of the region, could be utilised for engineering purposes. The complete picture would be available only after making a cost analysis as suggested by the discussor.

Though the O.M.C. values tabulated in Table 3 do not follow a regular trend, it can be observed that the O.M.C. changes do follow the changes in maximum dry density. That is to say that an increase in maximum dry density is always associated with a decrease in O.M.C. and vice versa. The O.M.C.—Dry density curves obtained for the soil combinations showed a single definite peak as in the ideal standard Proctor's compaction curves.

The direct shear tests were conducted on partially saturated samples extracted from the Proctor's mould in which the soil were compacted at their respective O.M.C. values. The very idea of using the direct shear tests on modified soil was to confirm the increase in strength indicated by the increase in dry density. As rightly suggested by the discussor the total strength depends upon ϕ as well as c ; the increases in ϕ values confirmed the results.

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