

Design of Pervious Pavement by Using Interlocking Cement Concrete Blocks

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ABSTRACT

Permeable pavements typically consist of pervious concrete, porous asphalt, permeable interlocking concrete paving units or grid type systems over an open-graded base/sub base layer(s). Permeable pavements infiltrate storm water, reduce peak flows, filter and clean contaminants and promote groundwater recharge. They have gained substantial popularity in North America and have become an integral part of low impact design and best management practices for storm water management. In order to be effective, permeable pavement must be designed to provide sufficient structural capacity to accommodate the anticipated vehicle loadings, manage storm water flowing into the surface and soil sub grade, as well water draining out of the base/sub base.

While there are many well-designed and constructed permeable pavements, they are a relatively new technology with some projects performing below design expectations. This paper describes some essential best practices for permeable pavement design and construction, and focuses on lessons learned from case studies of permeable pavement construction in North America. Included are driveways, parking areas, roadways, roadways shoulders, walkways and unusual uses of permeable pavements subjected to heavy loadings including buses and even military tanks.

INTRODUCTION

PERVIOUS PAVEMENT:

Any pavement which allows the water through it or which takes and seeps water through it to the bottom is called as pervious pavement.

- Permeable pavements work by controlling the release of surface water to the natural environment. This is achieved by the technique is known as attenuation
- Attenuation means slowing down or braking
- The surface water is collected by the pavement and held in storage and then it is slowly released into atmosphere in a controlled manner to minimizing the risk of flooding or inundation
- Sand filters in that they filter the water by forcing it to pass through different layers which are laid by different sizes of aggregate.
- So in permeable pavement most of the water seeped through mechanical process. As precipitation falls on the pavement water seeps to the storage basin where it slowly releases to the surrounding soil.
- Pervious pavements are constructed with porous asphalt, porous concrete, concrete or brick pavers, open celled pavers etc...
- Depending on the design, paving material, soil type and rainfall, permeable pavements can infiltrate 70% to 80% of annual rain fall.
- Permeable pavements designed for moderately heavy loads.
- Concrete block pavers having the highest load bearing capacities followed by porous asphalt and porous concrete and then plastic grid pavers.

So here we have chosen that the design of pervious pavement by interlocking cement concrete blocks

SCOPE:

Interlocking Concrete Block Pavements have been extensively used in a number of countries for quite some time. Consi

dering their advantages and potential for use, the guidelines have been prepared for the design and construction of such pavements, giving the suggested applications, design catalogues, construction practices and specifications for their use.

APPLICATIONS

Interlocking Concrete Block Pavements have been found to have applications in several situations. Such as:

1. Footpaths and Side-walks
2. Cycle Tracks
3. Residential streets
4. Car Parks
5. Fuel Stations
6. Rural Road through villages
7. Highway Rest Areas
8. Toll Plaza
9. Bus Depots
10. Approaches to Railway Level Crossings
11. Intersections
12. City Streets
13. Truck Parking Areas
14. Industrial floors
15. Urban Sections of Highways
16. Road Repairs during Monsoon
17. Container Depots
18. Port Wharf and Roads
19. Roads in high altitude areas

ADVANTAGES AND LIMITATIONS OF INTERLOCKING CONCRETE BLOCK PAVEMENTS.

ADVANTAGES

- (i) Since the blocks are prepared in the factory, they are of a very high quality, thus avoiding the difficulties encountered in quality control in the field.
- (ii) Concrete block pavements restrict the speed of vehicles to about 60 km per hour, which is an advantage in city streets and intersections.
- (iii) Because of the rough surface, these pavements are skid-resistant.
- (iv) The block pavements are ideal for intersections where speeds have to be restricted and cornering stresses are high.

(v) The digging and reinstatement of trenches for repairs to utilities is easier in the case of Block pavement.

(vi) These pavements are unaffected by the spillage of oil from vehicles, and are ideal for bus stops, bus depots and parking areas.

(vii) They are preferred in heavily loaded areas like container depots and ports as they can be very well designed to withstand the high stresses induced there.

(viii) In India, the laying of concrete block pavements can be achieved at a low cost because of the availability of cheap labor.

(ix) Unlike the concrete blocks are grey in color, they reflect light better than the black Bituminous pavements, thus bringing down the cost of street lighting.

(x) The cost of maintenance is much lower than bituminous surface.

(xi) Block pavement does not need in-situ curing and so can be opened to traffic soon after completion of construction.

(xii) Construction of block pavement is simple and labour-intensive, and can be done using simple compaction equipment.

(xiii) Maintenance of block pavement is simple and easy. Also, the need for frequency of maintenance is low as compared to bituminous pavement.

(xiv) Structurally ground blocks can be recycled many times over.

(xv) Unlike concrete pavements, block pavement does not exhibit a very deterioratory effect due to thermal expansion and contraction, and is free from the cracking phenomenon.

(xvi) Use of permeable block pavement in cities and towns can help replenish depleting underground sources of water, filter pollutants before they reach open water sources, help reduce storm water runoff and decrease the quantum of drainage structures.

LIMITATIONS

(I) Concrete block pavements cannot be used for high speed facilities.

(ii) The riding quality is reasonably good for low-speed traffic, but is inferior to that observed on a machine laid bituminous or concrete pavement.

(iii) The noise generated is high, 5-8 dB, higher than bituminous surfaces.

(iv) A very good attention to pavement drainage is needed because the water can seep through the joints.

TYPES AND SHAPES OF BLOCKS

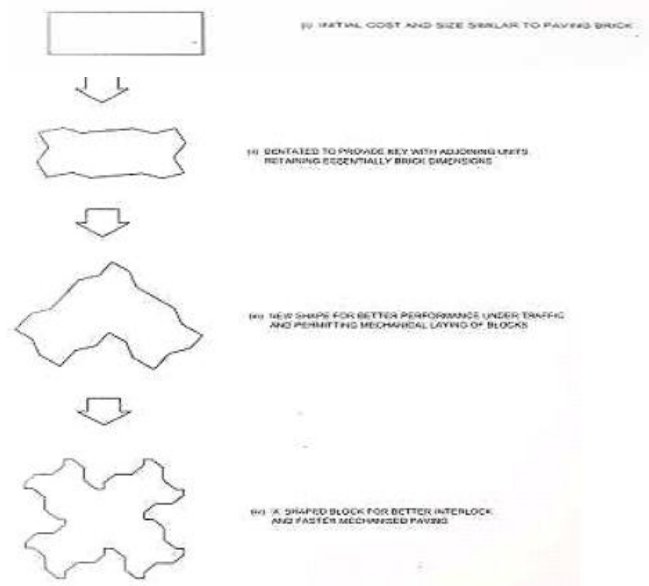
The blocks can interlock horizontally and vertically, (I) is the shape which was intended for imitating the stone set blocks.

(ii) Is unimproved version with many dentated faces for better contact between adjoining blocks thus enhancing the interlocking effect and friction between them. This helps in increasing the shear strength of the block system and thus the load dispersal capacity.

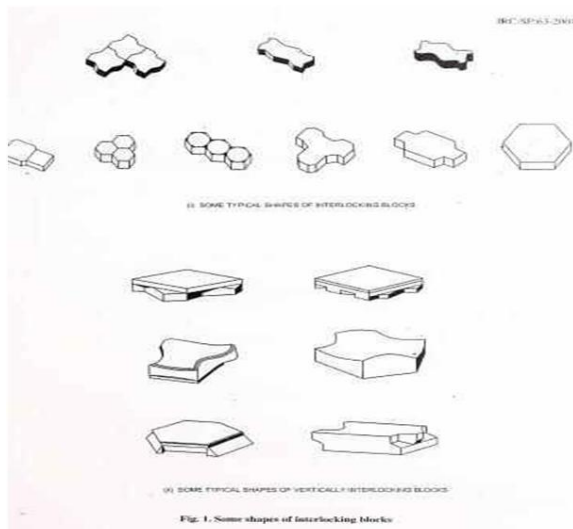
The overall dimension of blocks used in various parts of the world ranges as under:

- (Mean length/mean width) should not be less than 1 and should not be more than 3
- Length/Thickness > 4

In addition to regular blocks described above, supplementary blocks of half size would be required for paving purpose. In the case of rectangular blocks, more number of half blocks would be generally required than other category of blocks.



CATEGORY A						
CATEGORY E						
CATEGORY C						
NOTES	(1) SUITABLE FOR A VARIETY OF BONDS INCLUDING HERRINGBONE		(2) SUITABLE ONLY FOR STRETCH BOND		BLOCKS KNOWN TO HAVE LOAD DISTRIBUTION SURFACES OR TRAFFIC TIRERS	



SPECIAL GRASS BLOCKS:

For improving aesthetic look of paved areas, architects have been making use of block pavement extensively. The numerous paving blocks and their joints mellow down the harshness created by large transverse joints formed in conventional concrete pavement.

For improving aesthetics further, grass blocks have been developed. These when constructed in a grid formation allow space in the pavement for growing grasses shown. These are best suited for walkways, driveways, etc. Colored blocks also add to the aesthetic beauty

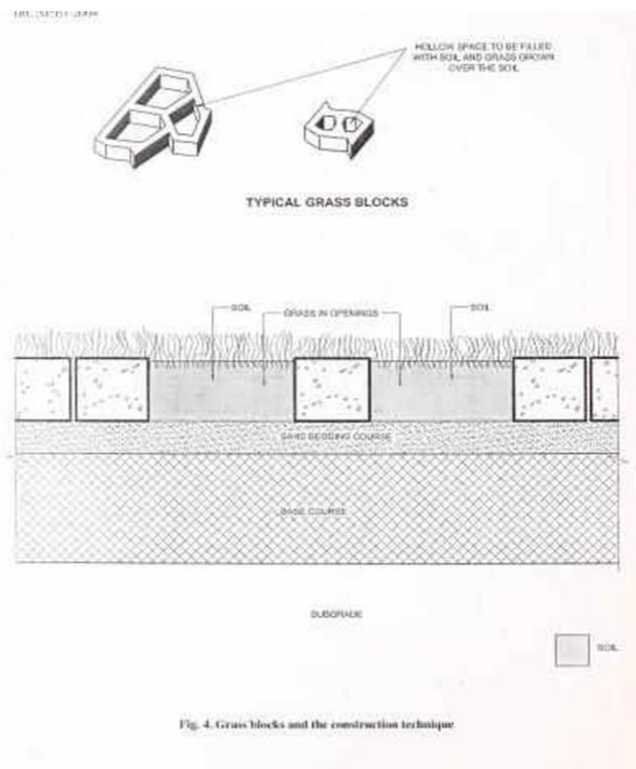


Fig. 4. Grass blocks and the construction technique

LITERATURE REVIEW

The literature review resulted in experiments around the world mainly in the laboratory or on site experimental setups (see a view on an experiment by the University of Abertay. Most of the results had high infiltration rates, higher than what is determined on site. Since specific factors are hard to simulate (e.g. clogging due to atmospheric deposition and leaves) the main focus of this research was on inset monitoring. Permeable pavement by using interlocking cement concrete blocks is laid 3500 years ago in North America. They have no clear knowledge at that time how it works. After that Norway in Hudson valley they have laid and tested the infiltration rates. By these literature reviews we said that doubling infiltration meters are best suited for checking infiltration rates. These are laid and experimentally succeed in many countries like U.K., Netherlands, England etc.... by the all the study of these literature reviews we have said that these are used for low speed roads and where the ground water recharge is required and these are long durable and replacement for other parking areas and walkways is possible when the removal of blocks takes place after the design period of road.

So from all these I have been taken as a design of pervious pavement by using interlocking cement concrete blocks in rural areas as connected roads from a small city to village. In these I have just designed the various layers and sizes of the blocks as per codal specifications.

COMPOSITION OF BLOCK PAVEMENT

Except for the top wearing part of the pavement, the base and sub-base layers are similar to the conventional flexible or rigid pavement. Depending upon the load coming on them, the composition of the pavement differs.

Block Thickness

Interlocking concrete blocks come in different thicknesses. These blocks serve as wearing surface but at the same time help in reducing the stresses imposed on subgrade and also help in resisting pavement deformation and elastic deflections similar to the base course of a flexible pavement.

For Category 'A' blocks used for light traffic, such as pedestrians, motor cars, cycles, etc., a block thickness of 60mm is adequate; for medium traffic, a thickness of 80mm is generally used; for heavily trafficked roads, Category 'B' blocks of the thickness 100-120mm are used. Thick blocks are best suited where high volumes of turning movements are involved.

Non-uniformity in thickness of blocks affects the evenness of the surface. A block pavement which is initially paved to a level surface will settle unevenly with the movement of vehicles. In view of this, all blocks should be of the same thickness, with maximum allowable tolerances of ± 3 mm. Similarly, variations in length and width of blocks should be limited to ± 2 to 3 mm for ensuring uniform joint width and avoiding staggering effect.

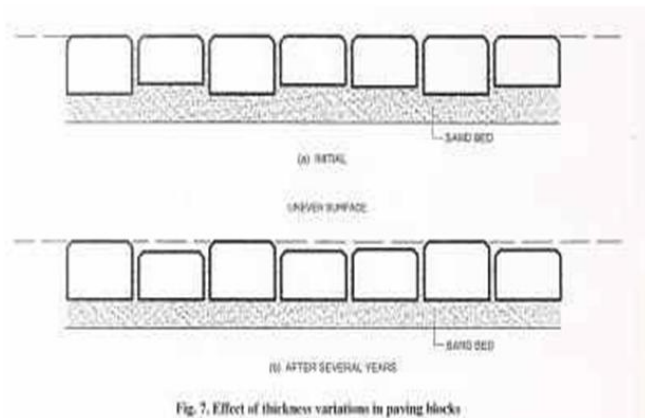
SAND BEDDING AND JOINTING

A layer of sand bedding is provided between block pavement and base/sub-base for the following

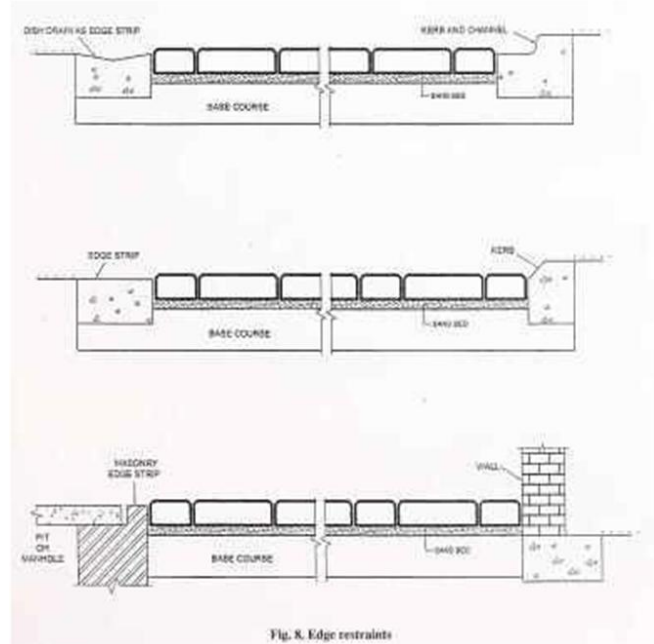
Reasons:

(I) to provide a cushion between the hard base and the paving blocks

- (ii) The base or sub-base will have some permitted surface unevenness. By providing a layer of sand bed, the paved block can be levelled perfectly.
- (iii) The sand bed acts as a barrier and does not allow propagation of cracks formed in base/sub-base.
- (iv) The sand also helps to keep lower part of the joint filled with sand and provides added interlocking effect.



length to withstand the traffic wheel loading without getting damaged. These members should be manufactured or constructed in-situ to have at least a 28-day compressive strength of 30 MPa or flexural strength of 3.8 MPa. As far as possible, the edge blocks should have vertical face towards the inside blocks.



The sand bed should not be too thick lest it would be difficult to control the surface level of the blocks. A layer thickness of 20 to 40 mm is found to be satisfactory. For block pavement to perform satisfactorily, it is necessary that the lower layers are profiled to proper level and finish and that the bedding sand layer is of uniform thickness. Varying thickness of sand bed ultimately results in uneven surface of the pavement. The grading and quality of sand is very important for the block pavement to perform satisfactorily. The sand used should be free from plastic clay and should be angular type. It should not be of degradable type, e.g., sand produced from limestone, etc. is likely to get powdered under the loading. Joints between blocks are filled by fine sand. Normally, the bottom 20 to 30 mm of the joint gets filled with bedding sand, whereas, the remainder space has to be filled with jointing sand by brooming it from the top. The joints are normally 2 to 4 mm wide.

EDGE RESTRAINT BLOCKS AND KERBS

Concrete blocks on trafficked pavement tend to move sideways and forward due to braking and manoeuvring of vehicles. The tendency to move sideways has to be counteracted at the edges by special edge blocks and kerbs. The edge blocks should be designed such that the rotation or displacement of blocks is resisted. These are to be made of concrete of high str

STRUCTURAL DESIGN OF CONCRETE BLOCK PAVEMENT THICKNESS TABLE FOR ICBP

Traffic and road type	Subgrade C.B.R	Above 10%	5%-10%
• Cycle tracks and pedestrian footpaths	Blocks	60	60
	Sand bed	20-30	20-30
	Base	200	200
• Commercial traffic axle load repetitions less than 10 msa	Blocks	60-80	60-80
	Sand bed	20-40	20-40
	Base course	250	250
• Residential streets	Sub base course	200	250
• Commercial traffic axle load repetitions 10-20 msa	Blocks	80-100	80-100
	Sand bed	20-40	20-40
	Base course	250	250
• Collector streets, industrial streets, bus and truck parking areas	Sub base course	200	250
• Commercial traffic axle load repetitions 20-50 msa	Blocks	80-100	80-100
	Sand bed	20-40	20-40
	WBM/WMM base or	250	250
• Arterial streets	WBM/WMM base	150	150
	And DLC cover it	75	75
	Granular sub base	200	250

- 1 Thickness of layers given above is in mm.
 - 2 Granular sub-bases should have at least 150 mm layer at the bottom which is drainable.
 3. If the subgrade soil has a CBR of less than 5, it should be improved by suitable Stabilisation technique to bring the CBR value to 5.
 4. Mesa denotes repetitions in million standard axles
- *In case of roads having inadequate drainage or heavy rainfall areas (above 1500 mm per annum)

MANUFACTURE OF PAVING BLOCKS

The method of manufacture of paving blocks has an important bearing on the quality, durability and level of finish - dimensional tolerance, etc. all of which reflect on the ultimate performance of the block pavement during service. At the very outset, therefore, it is to be emphasized that hand-casted concrete blocks are unacceptable for use and that an appropriate plant should be used which would make it possible to apply high pressure together with controlled vibration.

Adaptation of production facilities designed for high quality hollow masonry blocks, though feasible, is not as economical and as efficient as the use of purpose designed machinery for paving block manufacture. Essentially, the manufacturing process involves compacting concrete, in a steel mould clamped to a vibrating table, by hydraulic pressure. Concrete is fed into the mould from a hopper by a drawer - if a second hopper is added, a block can be made of two kinds of concrete having "backing" and "facing" surfaces. In the "facing" of the block, the top 5 mm has greater amounts of cement and sand to make it more durable and skid resistant, and extra pigment is added for the coloured face - as is the rest of the block. In the first stage of compaction, pre-vibration is effected by running the vibrators attached to the vibratory table, the frequency generally being in the range of 50 to 100 Hz. In the second stage of compaction, compressive pressure is applied to the tamper heads, also fitted with vibrators for a high level of surface finish. Blocks are extruded from the mould by forcing down the tamper heads, after the vibrating table is disengaged from the mould. The blocks thus prepared are stacked either in a single layer or multiple layers for curing, depending on the plant used being single layer or multi-layer.

LAYING OF BLOCKS

Blocks can be laid generally by manual labour but mechanical aids like hand-pushed trolleys can expedite the work. Normally, laying should commence from the edge strip and proceed towards the inner side. When dentate blocks are used, the laying done at two fronts will create a problem for matching joints in the middle. Hence, as far as possible, laying should proceed in one direction only, along the entire width of the area to be paved.

While locating the starting line, the following should be considered:

- On a sloping site, start from the lowest point and proceed uphill on continuous basis, to avoid downhill creep in incomplete areas.
- In case of irregular shaped edge restraints or strip, it is better to start from straight
- Influence of alignment of edge restraints on achieving and maintaining laying bond.

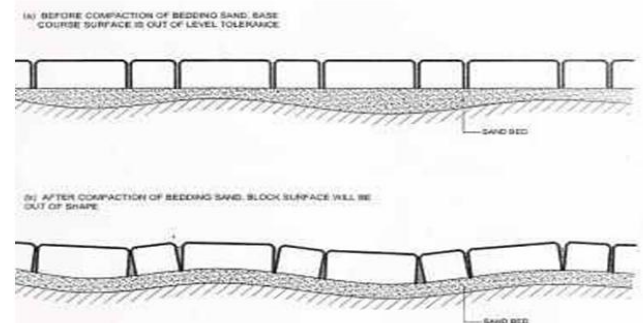


Fig. 12. Effect of base-course surface shape on bedding sand and block surface shape

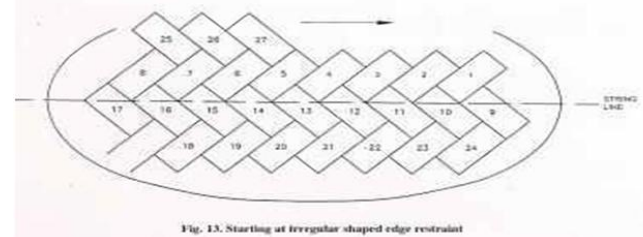


Fig. 13. Starting at irregular shaped edge restraint

MECHANISED METHODS:

Mechanised laying requires the use of specialised equipment for transporting and placing clusters of paving blocks. The size of paving block clusters suitable for paving, is usually 0.3 to 0.5 m in area for hand-

operated equipment; for fully mechanised equipment, the clusters surface area can be up to about 1.2m². These clusters are redesigned to maintain joint space of about 3 mm between blocks, when clamped together. Since the blocks are placed in separate clusters, there exists the possibility of damage if joints between adjacent clusters run uninterrupted through out the pavement. To overcome this problem, clusters may be arranged so that the joints are periodically staggered both along and across the cluster axis or link blocks are installed by hand across these joints. Mechanised laying must be coordinated with the manufacturer, so that the blocks are delivered stacked on pallets in the required pattern; in some cases, spacing grids may be cast on the sides of blocks to preserve the required joint spacing's.

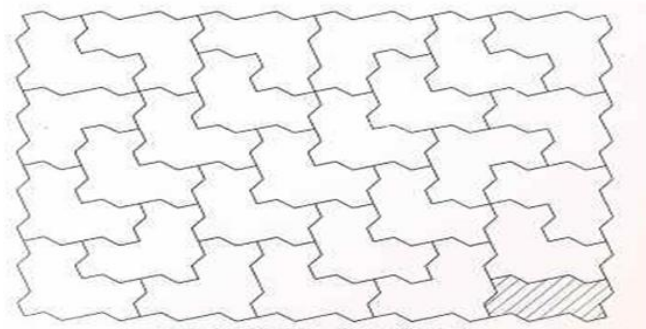


Fig. 16. Typical block cluster in mechanised laying

COMPACTION:

For compaction of the bedding sand and the blocks laid over it, vibratory plate compactors are used over the laid paving units; at least two passes of the vibratory plate compactor are needed. Such vibratory compaction should be continued till the top of each paving block is level with its adjacent blocks. It is not good practice to leave compaction till end of the day, as some blocks may move under construction traffic, resulting in the widening of joints and corner contact of blocks, which may cause spalling or cracking of blocks. There should be minimal delay in compaction after laying of the paving blocks to achieve uniformity of compaction and retention of the pattern; however, compaction should not proceed closer than 1 m from the laying face, except after the pavement. During vibratory compaction of the laid blocks, some amount of bedding sand will work its way into the joints between the

em; the extent of sand getting worked up into the joints will depend on the degree of pre-compaction of sand and the force applied by the block compactor. Standard compactors may have a weight of about 90kg, plate area of about 0.3m² and apply a centrifugal force of about 15kN, while heavy duty compactors may weigh 300-600kg, have a plate area of about 0.5-0.6m² and apply a centrifugal force of 30-65kN. Where the bedding sand has been pre-compacted and for heavily trafficked block pavements, heavy duty compactors should be used. After compaction by vibratory plate compactors, some 2 to 6 passes of a vibratory roller (with rubber coated drums or those of static weight less than 4 tonnes and nominal amplitude of not more than 0.6mm) will further help in compaction of bedding sand and joint filling.

JOINT FILLING:

The importance of complete joint filling cannot be over-emphasised. Unfilled or partially filled joints allow blocks to deflect, leading to loose blocks, possibly spalling the edges and a locally disturbing bedding sand layer. After the compaction of the bedding sand has been completed (and some bedding sand has been forced up in the joints between blocks), the joints should be completely filled with sand meeting the desired specifications, as given in Section 6. The joint filling sand should be stockpiled at suitable locations for convenience. There should be minimum delay in joint filling; the process should in any case, be completed by the end of the day's work. The operation of joint filling comprises of spreading a thin layer of the joint fillings and on the block surface and working the sand into each joint by brooming. Following this, a few passes of heavy plate compactor are applied to facilitate fine sand to fill the joints. The sand should be broomed or spread over the surface with a small surcharge. Dry sand and dry blocks are best for the filling of joint, as damp sand tends to stick at the very top of the joints; also, if the blocks are wet and the sand dry, the sand will again stick at the joint top. Hence, if either the blocks or sand are wet, one may get a false impression of the joints being full, but the next rain will reveal that they are actually hollow. If the

either does not allow sand and block to bedry, the joint fill in sand should be washed in by light sprinkling of water. In this case, several cycles of application of sand, water-sprinkling and plate compaction will be necessary to completely fill the joints

OPENING TO TRAFFIC:

Until all the joints are completely filled, no traffic should be permitted over the block pavement. In case of lime or cement treated layers in the pavement, it must be ensured that these are given at least 14 and 7 days respectively to cure, before traffic is permitted. The block pavements should be inspected frequently, to ensure that any incompletely filled joints, exposed by traffic and/or weather are promptly filled. Such frequent inspections should be continued till dust and detritus from the roadway tighten the surface of the joints

LAYING AND SURFACE TOLERANCES:

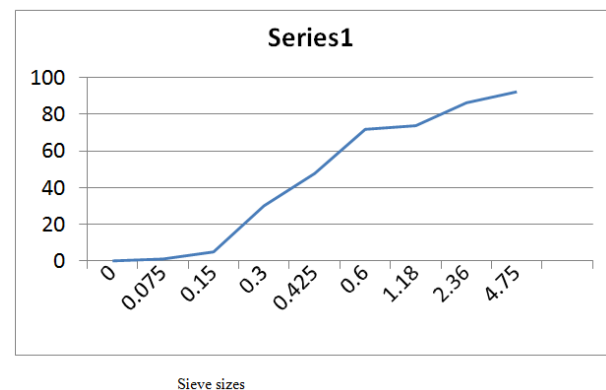
While the laying, the surface tolerances, given below may be observed:

Layer/Item	Tolerance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub grade Select subgrade/subbase Base course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +0,-25mm of nominated level +0,-25mm of nominated level -0,+10mm of nominated level
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan deviation from any 3m line any 10m line 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10mm (maximum) 20mm (maximum)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vertical deviation from 3m line at kerbs Intrusions, channels, edgerestraints elsewhere 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +3mm,-0mm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum difference in surface level between adjacent paving units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +10mm,-15mm +10mm,-15mm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deviation of finished surface level from designated level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2mm to 4mm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint width range Percentage of joints outside range Nominal joint width 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% max along 10m line 3mm

RESULTS OF SIEVE ANALYSIS:

Size of sieve	Weight of retained particles (gm)	% weight retained	Cumulative % weight retained	% finer
4.75 mm	77	7.7	7.7	92.3
2.36 mm	60	6.0	13.7	86.3
1.18 mm	125	12.5	26.2	73.8
600µ	20	2.0	28.2	71.8
425µ	241	24.1	52.3	47.7
300µ	176	17.6	69.9	30.1
150µ	252	25.2	95.1	4.9
75µ	39	3.9	99	1
pan	10	1.0	100	0

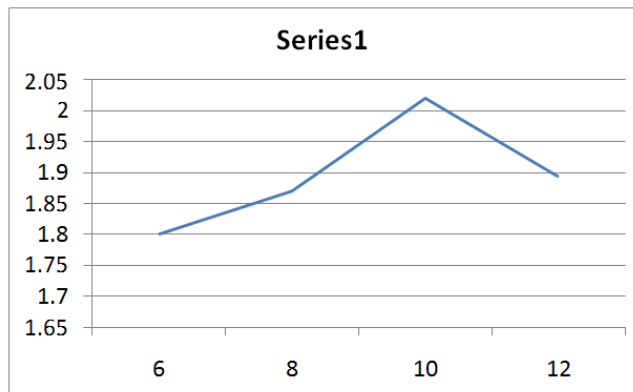
Graph between % passing and sieve sizes



RESULTS OF LIGHT COMPACTION TEST

Observations and calculation	sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4
Amount of soil taken (gm)	3000	3000	3000	3000
Amount of water %	6	8	10	12
Weight of empty mould w ₁ (gm)	4460	4460	4460	4460
Weight of mould + compacted soil w ₂ (gm)	6413	6438	6650	6543
Weight of compacted soil w ₃ = w ₂ - w ₁	1953	1978	2190	2083
Bulk density ρ _s = w ₃ /v	1.989	2.014	2.230	2.121
Dry density ρ _d = ρ _s / (1+w)	1.8	1.87	12.02	1.893

Graph between water content and dry density:



From the graph we can say that the optimum moisture contents 10%.because the maximum drydensityoccurs at that water content.

CONCLUSIONS:

1. Finally we conclude that this aregoodinsteadof c.c.roads in congestedareasbecauseit does not require additional drains
2. Forlowspeedroadsthesearegoodbecauseitisrechargesgroundwaterthenthe surroundinggroundwatertable is rises
3. Theseroadspreventthedustnuisancelikeitcapturesthedust particlesinthatwayindirectlyit is controlling air pollution
4. Reusability is possible because economical
5. Inparkingareasinsteadofimperviouspavementsstheseare preferablebecauseitcangivequickrun offresultinggood when compare to other pavements

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