

# Comparative Study on Properties of High Strength Hybrid FRC with Conventional Concrete

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**ABSTRACT:** Concrete is the most common materials used in the construction industries. In the past few years, many modification has been done to produce concrete which has the desired characteristics. There is always a search for concrete with higher strength and durability. Plain concrete has good compressive strength but has low tensile strength, low ductility and low fire resistance. The aim is to study characteristics and comparison of the mechanical properties of steel and glass fiber reinforced concrete with conventional concrete. In order to achieve and verify that 0%, 1%, 2% of steel fiber to the volume of concrete and 0%, 0.06%, 0.09% of glass fiber to the volume of concrete with the concrete mix M40 grade. 3, 7, 14 & 28 days compressive strength, split tensile strength, flexural strength, test should be performed in the hardened state. In this project the behavior of cube, cylinder & beam structures strength by using FRC is to be experimentally tested. The fiber used are steel and glass fibers in various volume fraction. The main reason for adding steel fiber to concrete matrix is to improve the post-cracking response of the concrete i.e. to improve its energy absorption capacity and apparent ductility and to provide a crack resistance and crack control and addition of glass fiber for bridging the micro-cracks is suggested as the reason for the enhancement in flexural strength.

**KEYWORD:** Concrete, Ductility, FRC, Strength, micro-crack, steel fiber, glass fiber.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Fiber reinforced concrete (FRC) is a composite material consisting of cement, sand, coarse aggregate, water and fibers. In this composite material, short discrete fibers are randomly distributed throughout the concrete mass. The behavior efficiency of this composite material is far superior to that of plain concrete and many other construction materials of equal cost. Due to this benefit, the use of FRC has steadily increased during the last two decades and its

current field of application includes: airport and highway pavements, earthquake-resistant and explosive-resistant structures, mine and tunnel linings, bridge deck overlays, hydraulic structures, rock-slope stabilization, etc.

Extensive research work on FRC has established that addition of various types of fibers such as metallic and non-metallic fibers like steel, glass, synthetic, and carbon, in plain concrete improves strength, toughness, ductility, post-cracking resistance, etc. These hooked end steel fibers and Alkali resistance glass fiber can effectively be used for making high-strength FRC after exploring their suitability. In this investigation, therefore, an attempt has been made to study the feasibility of using two kinds of fibers for making FRC. Cementitious materials are generally quite brittle, with relatively low strength and strain capacity under tension. Hence a hand-laid steel bar reinforcement is usually necessary to increase tensile strength. For low reinforcement levels, the partial or even complete replacement of this conventional reinforcement by fibers is an advantageous alternative.

The orientation and distribution of fibers affect the properties of FRC such as toughness, strength, ductility and crack width.

It is important to have a combination of low and high modulus fibers to arrest the micro and macro cracks, respectively. Another beneficial combination of fibers is that of long and short fibers. Once again, different lengths of fibers would control different scales of cracking. The objective of this study was to evaluate the mechanical properties of various fiber reinforced concrete systems. For conventional concrete and hybrid fiber reinforced concrete with combination of steel fiber and alkali resistance glass fiber. The total dosage of fibers was maintained at 0%, 1%, & 2% primarily from the point of view of providing good workability. A comparative evaluation of

various hybrid fibre concretes was made based on hardened concrete properties compressive, split and flexural strength. Concrete is a brittle material with a low strain capacity. Fibers provide mechanisms that abate their propagation, provide effective bridging, and impart sources of strength gain, toughness and ductility.

#### The fibres can be divided into two groups:

1. Fibres that have a modulus value lesser than the cement matrix. Examples are: Glass, Nylon, cellulose and polypropylene
2. Fibres that have a greater modulus value than cement. Examples are the steel, asbestos fibers etc.

Type-

1 fibers are said to increase the strain performance of the concrete

Type-2 fiber has greater modulus than cement and provides greater strength performance for the concrete.

The addition of more fibers into the concrete mixtures makes it more homogeneous and isotropic in nature. This brings a conversion of concrete nature from brittle to the ductile condition. This enhances the ductility behavior of the concrete under critical loads.

#### 1.1 HYBRID FIBER REINFORCED CONCRETE

A hybrid fiber reinforced concrete is a composite of two or more fibers in concrete. The concept of using fibers as a reinforcement in the concrete mixture is not a new study. The use of fibers has been carried out from ancient times.

There are different types of fiber reinforced concrete that are categorized based on the fiber that is employed. If steel fiber is used we get steel fiber reinforced concrete. Similarly, nylon reinforced concrete, glass fiber reinforced concrete, carbon fiber reinforced concrete etc. are some of the types.

A composite can be stated as a hybrid when two or more types of fibers is used in a combined matrix to produce a composite that will reflect the benefit of each of the individual fibers used. This will finally provide a synergetic response to the whole structure. Such a composite of concrete is termed as the Hybrid Fiber Reinforced Concrete (HFC).

#### 1.2

#### TENSILE BEHAVIOR OF HYBRID FIBER CONCRETE

The main aim regarding the tensile strength of hybrid fiber reinforced concrete is to attain maximum tensile strength at minimum use of fibers. Hence the optimum amount of fibers will be used in the concrete is based on the strength obtained from the concrete. For this, a series of

tensile strength tests is carried out. Initially, to determine the combination of fibers to be employed, flexural tests are carried out. This is followed by Uniaxial tensile tests, which is performed only on the selected HFC. This is to finally evaluate the tensile properties. The test results provide the main basis for HPC utilization.

#### The basic factors of fibers that affect the tensile properties of Hybrid Fiber concrete are:

1. Type of Fiber
2. Quantity of Fiber
3. Orientation of Fiber
4. Number of Each Fiber

#### 1.3

#### ADVANTAGES OF HYBRID FIBER REINFORCED CONCRETE

1. **Crack Bridging at two stages is carried out:** As two types of fibers are used, one will treat the initial micro cracks. Further chances of macro cracks are treated by next type of fibers. This is not achieved by a single type of fiber.
2. **Two or more types of system:** One type provides strength and stiffness. The other type will gain flexibility and ductility.
3. It can use fiber with different durability.

#### 1.2. APPLICATIONS OF HYBRID FIBER REINFORCED CONCRETE

- Hybrid Fiber Reinforcement in Concrete Pavements
- Rehabilitation of Bridge Deck Using Hybrid Fiber Reinforced Concrete
- Construction of machine foundation:
- Tunnel Linings

#### 1.3. SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES OF WORK

1. To study the properties of glass fibers and steel fibers.
2. To study the behaviour of concrete under various % of addition of fibers
3. To compare the strength parameters of hybrid concrete with conventional concrete.
4. The main aim regarding the tensile strength of hybrid fiber reinforced concrete is to attain maximum tensile strength at minimum use of fibers.
5. To find the optimum percentage of hybrid fibers.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 REVIEW ON SFRC

AbdulGhaffar, AmirS Chauhan, Dr. R S Tatwawadi<sup>[1]</sup>

Their research is based on the investigation of steel fiber in structural concrete to enhance the mechanical properties of concrete. They have conducted compression and flexural strength test on the concrete. An eleven mix batches of concrete containing 0% to 5% with interval of 0.5% by weight of cement. The type of steel fiber used is Hooked steel fiber and the grade of concrete is M35. The compressive strength for addition of 3% gives the maximum value and 4% of fiber gives maximum flexural strength.

Milind V Mohod<sup>[6]</sup>

In this paper the effect of fibers on the strength of concrete for M30 grade have been studied by varying percentage of fibers by 0.25%, 0.50%, 0.75%, 1%, 1.5% and 2% by volume of concrete. The type of fiber used is Hooked steel fiber. Addition of 1% of steel fiber gives maximum compressive strength and 0.75% fiber gives maximum flexural strength.

Vasudev R, Dr. B G Vishuram<sup>[7]</sup>

The investigation is done on M20 and M30 grade of SFRC by varying the percentage of steel fibers from 0.25%, 0.5%, 0.75% and 1% to the volume of concrete. For M20 grade, the maximum strength is obtained at 0.5% of fiber added to the volume of concrete. For M30 grade, the maximum strength is obtained at 1% of fiber added to the volume of concrete.

### 2.2 REVIEW ON GFRC

B. Prasanti, N Vidya Sagar<sup>[4]</sup>

In this experimental investigation the glass fiber in addition percentage from 0 to 0.09%, i.e. 0%, 0.03%, 0.06%, and 0.09% is added and studied for the effect on mechanical properties to compressive strength and stress strain behavior of M20 and M40 grade. The type of fiber used is Alkali resistance

glass fiber. 0.09% of fiber gives maximum compressive strength for M20 and M40 grade of concrete.

Md. Abid Alam, Imran Ahmad, Fazlur Reham<sup>[5]</sup>

In this study the alkali resistance glass fiber is used. A total of 8 mixes were prepared by varying percentage of glass fiber for M20 and M30 grade of concrete. The percentage of glass fibers are varied by 0, 0.02%, 0.04%, 0.06% to the volume of concrete. 0.06% gave the maximum compression and tensile strength in both the grade of concrete.

A Upendra Verma, A D Kumar<sup>[3]</sup>

In this experimental study the test is conducted on different grades of concrete i.e. M20, M30, M40 and M60 by addition of 0% to 0.03% of glass fiber to the volume of concrete. The type of fiber used is Cem-fil-anti crack glass fiber. For M20 grade, the compressive strength is increased by 13.52%. Split tensile is increased by 16.23%. For M30 grade, the compressive strength is increased by 17.43% and flexural strength is increased by 17.71%.

## III. MATERIALS AND PROPERTIES

### 3.1. CEMENT

Cement is a material that has cohesive and adhesive properties in the presence of water. Such cements are called hydraulic cements. There are different types of cement; we have made use of Ordinary Portland Cement to carry out this research work. Portland cement is the most common type of cement in general used around the world, used as a basic ingredient of concrete, mortar, and most non-specialty grout. It developed from other types of hydraulic lime in England in the mid-19th century and usually originates from limestone several types of Portland cement are available with the most common being called Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) which is greenish in colour, but a white Portland cement is also available. The type of cement used in this project work is Birla Super Cement (53-grade OPC)

**Table.1 Physical properties of cement**

SL.NO	PROPERTIES	OBTAINED VALUES
1	Fineness	4%
2	Initial setting time	120min
3	Standard consistency	33%
4	Specific gravity	3.12
5	Final setting time	580 min

### 3.2. FINE AGGREGATES

Fine aggregate is material passing through an IS sieve that is less than 4.75mm gauge beyond which they are known as coarse aggregate. The most important function of the fine aggregate is to provide workability and uniformity in the mixture. The fine aggregate also helps the cement paste to hold the coarse aggregate particle in suspension.

According to IS 383:1970 the fine aggregate is being classified into four different zones, that is Zone-I, Zone-II, Zone-III, Zone-IV. Also, in case of coarse aggregate maximum 20 mm coarse aggregate is suitable for concrete work. But where there is no restriction 40mm or larger size may be permitted. In case of close reinforcement 10mm size is also used.

**Table.2 Physical properties of Fine aggregate**

SL NO	PROPERTIES	VALUE
01	Fineness modulus	2.39
02	Specific gravity	2.63

### 3.3. COARSE AGGREGATES:

Coarse aggregates are particles greater than 4.75mm in size. They can either be from Primary, Secondary or Recycled sources. Primary, or 'virgin', aggregates are either Land- or Marine-Won. Gravel

is a coarse marine-won aggregate; land-won coarse aggregates include gravel and crushed rock. Gravels constitute the majority of coarse aggregate used in concrete with crushed stone making up most of the remainder.

**Table. 3 Physical properties of Coarse Aggregate**

SL NO	PROPERTIES	VALUES
01	Fineness modulus	7.35
02	Specific gravity	2.72
03	Water absorption	0.7%

### 3.4. ADMIXTURES

Admixtures are materials other than cement aggregate and water that are added to concrete either before or during its mixing to alter its properties. It is used as an ingredient of concrete or mortar added to the batch immediately before or during mixing.

There are two kinds of admixtures:

- Chemical admixtures
- Mineral admixtures

#### 3.4.1. Chemical composition:

The raw material used for the manufacture of cement consists mainly of lime, silica, alumina and iron oxide. These oxides interact with one another in the kiln at high temperature to form more complex compound. The relative proportions of these oxide compositions are responsible for influencing the various properties of cement; in addition to rate of cooling and fineness of grinding.

#### 3.4.2 SUPERPLASTICIZERS

Super plasticizers, also known as high range water reducers, are chemical admixtures used where well dispersed particle suspension is required. These polymers are used as dispersants to avoid particle segregation (gravel, coarse

and fines sands), and to improve the flow characteristics suspensions such as in concrete applications. Their addition to concrete or mortar allows the reduction of the water-cement ratio, not affecting the workability of the mixture, and enables the production of self-consolidating concrete and high-performance concrete. This effect drastically improves the performance of the hardening fresh paste.

The strength of concrete increases when the water-cement ratio decreases. However, their working mechanisms lack a full understanding, revealing in certain cases cement-superplasticizer incompatibilities. The addition of superplasticizer in the truck during transit is a fairly new development within the industry. In the study, Master Glenium Sky 8233 is used as super plasticizer.

#### 3.4.3. BENEFITS OF MASTER GLENIUM SKY 8233

- Elimination of vibration and reduced labour cost in placing.
- Marked increase in early and ultimate strengths.
- Higher E modulus.
- Improved adhesion to reinforcing and stressing steel

- 1
- Better resistancetocarbonationandotheradverseatmosphericconditions
  - Lowerpermeability-increaseddurability
  - Reducedshrinkageandcreep

#### 3.4.4. FIBERS STEEL FIBER

The type of steel fiber used is Hooked end steel fiber. It is manufactured by quality base steelbar, characterized by high tensile strength. Thus, the average tensile strength of the steel fiber is 1100 MPa. Owing to its high strength and uniform distribution of fibers, stresses can be fully dispersed and cracking propagation is effectively controlled.

#### GLASS FIBER

The glass fiber used are of Anti-crack HD referred as Alkali resistance glass fiber. From the micro to the macro fiber range, these fibers control the cracking processes that can take place during the life span of concrete.

### IV. MIX DESIGN

Mix design is done for M40 grade of concrete as per IS standard specification (IS 10262 –2009) and IS 456:2000.

#### 4.1. Objectives of concrete mix design:

- To achieve as specified compressive strength for a specified grade.
- To maintain workability of concrete mix throughout work.
- For achieving durability.
- To achieve economy by selecting appropriate concrete ingredients.
- To obtain maximum possible yield per bag of cement.
- To avoid honeycombing and bleeding.
- To comply with various standards.
- To reduce wastage of concrete by correct proportioning.

#### 4.2. MIX DESIGN

Mix proportioning for a concrete of M40 grade

#### STIPULATIONS FOR PROPORTIONING

- Gradedesignation:M40
- Typeofcement:OPC53Grade conformingIS12269
- Maximum nominal size of aggregate : 20 mm
- Minimum cement content: 320 kg/m<sup>3</sup>(IS456:2000)
- Maximum water-cement ratio: 0.45 (Table 5 of IS456:2000)
- Workability: 100-120mm slump
- Exposure condition: severe (For Reinforced Concrete)
- Method of concrete placing: Hand compaction
- Degree of supervision : Good
- Type of aggregate: Crushed Angular Aggregates
- Maximum cement content: 360 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Chemical admixture type : Superplasticizer Master Glenium SKY8233

#### 4.3. TEST DATA FOR MATERIALS

Cement used: OPC 53 Grade conforming IS 12269

1. Specific gravity of cement: 3.12

2. Specific gravity of coarse aggregate 20 mm: 2.72

3. Specific gravity of Fine aggregate: 2.67

4. Specific gravity of Chemical admixture (Super Plasticizer Master Glenium SKY8233): 1.09

Coarse aggregate: Conforming to all in aggregates of Table 2 of IS 383 Fine aggregate: Conforming to Grading Zone II of Table 4 of IS 383

#### 4.4. MIX PROPORTION

Cement = 350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Water = 140 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Fine aggregate = 753 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Coarse aggregate 20 mm = 1252 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Chemical admixture = 5.25 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Water -content ratio = 0.4

In other words **1:2.15:3.52**, which is in the order of Cement: fine aggregate: coarse aggregate.

MIX PROPORTION		
WATER CEMENT RATIO	0.4	0.4
CEMENT	340kg	1
FINE AGGREGATE	753kg	2.15
COARSE AGGREGATE	1252kg	3.57

### V. TESTS ON FRESH CONCRETE

Before casting the cubes and cylinders, the tests on fresh concrete are to be conducted to check more importantly the flow of the concrete that is prepared and to confirm whether it is within the limits as mentioned in the guidelines or not. Also, the other tests are conducted to check the filling and passing ability of concrete. Therefore, the tests that are being conducted in this research work on fresh self-compacting concrete are:

- **THE SLUMP TEST:-** To determine the consistency of concrete where the nominal size of the aggregate is >20mm
- **THE COMPACTING FACTOR TEST** - It is useful for concrete mixes of low and medium workability
- **THE VEE BEE CONSISTENCY TEST** - To determine the time required for transforming

#### RESULT ON SLUMP TEST:

Test	0% & 0%	1% & 0.06%	2% & 0.09%
Slump test	120mm	116mm	110mm

#### RESULT ON COMPACTION FACTOR TEST:

Test	0% & 0%	1% & 0.06%	2% & 0.09%
Compacting factor test	0.93	0.92	0.89

Compaction Factor Value =  $(W1 - W) / (W2 - W)$

#### RESULT ON VEE-BEE CONSISTOMETER TEST:

TEST	0% & 0%	1% & 0.06%	2% & 0.09%
Vee-bee Consistency test	3secs	9secs	12secs

### 5.1. CASTING AND CURING MOULD PREPARATION:

Mould is cleaned properly and greased with mould oil. Concrete is placed in the mould of dimension 150mm x 150mm x 150mm in 3 layers each layer of height approximately 50mm after the placement of first layer of concrete it is compacted by a tamping rod of 16mm diameter, 0.6m long and bullet pointed at the lower end. The strokes of the bar are uniformly distributed over the cross section of the mould. Each layer is compacted with 25 strokes and coconut shells are sprinkled uniformly on each layer, next scoop of concrete is placed followed by same manner of compaction and top layer is finished.

### 5.2. CURING OF SPECIMENS:

The test specimens are stored in place free from vibration, in moist air of at least 90% relative humidity and at a temperature of  $27 \pm 2$  °C for 24 hours from the time of addition of water to the drying ingredients.

### VI. TESTS ON HARDENED CONCRETE

#### 6.1. COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH TEST:

Compression test is the most common test conducted on hardened concrete, partly because it is an easy test to perform, and partly because most of the desirable characteristic properties of concrete are qualitatively related to its compressive strength. The size of the specimen is 150x150x150 mm. Metal moulds, preferably steel or cast iron, thick enough to prevent distortion are required. Compression test develops a rather more complex system of stresses. Due to compression load, the cube undergoes lateral expansion owing to the Poisson's ratio effect. Compressive strength test usually gives an overall picture of the quality of concrete because strength is directly related to the structure of the hydrated cement paste. The compression test is an important concrete test to determine the strength development of the concrete specimens. Compressive strength tests are to be performed on the cube specimens at the ages of 7 and 28 days.  
Compressive strength =  $\text{Load} / \text{Area} \text{ N/mm}^2$

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**TABLE6.1**Compressivestrengthafter 7, 14 and 28 days of curing

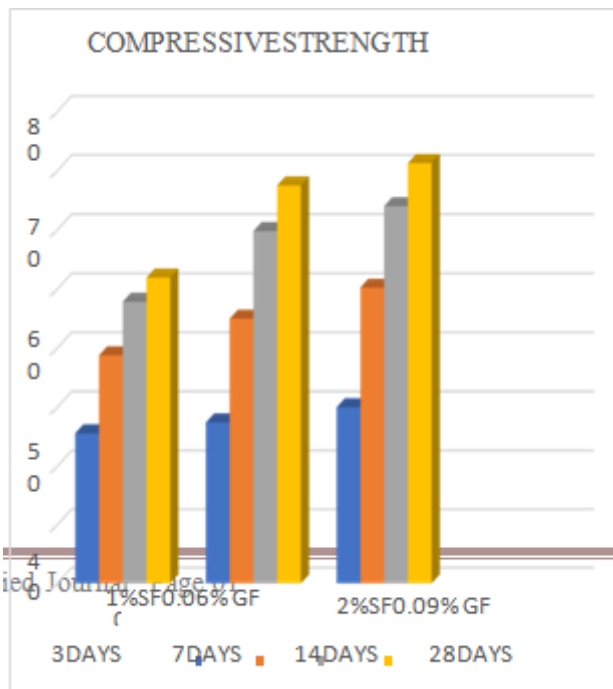
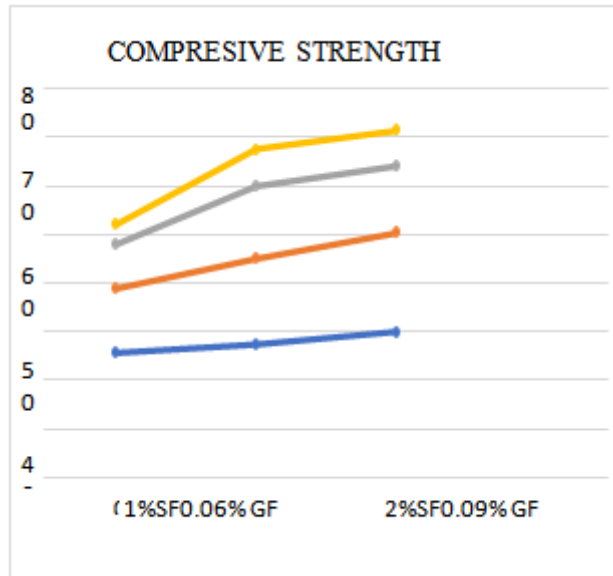
Specimen	% of SF	% of GF	7days strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>	14days strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>	28days strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>
01	0	0	38.773	47.836	51.923
	1	0.66	44.964	59.926	67.527
	2	0.69	50.232	64.010	71.303

**TABLE6.2**FLEXURALSTRENGTHRESULTS

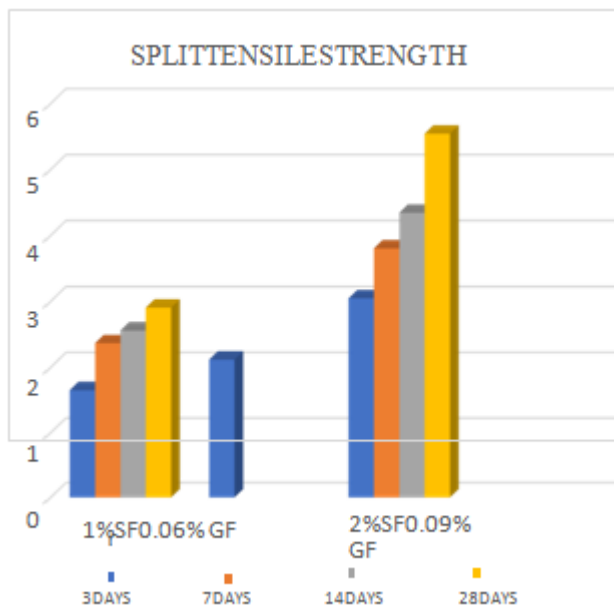
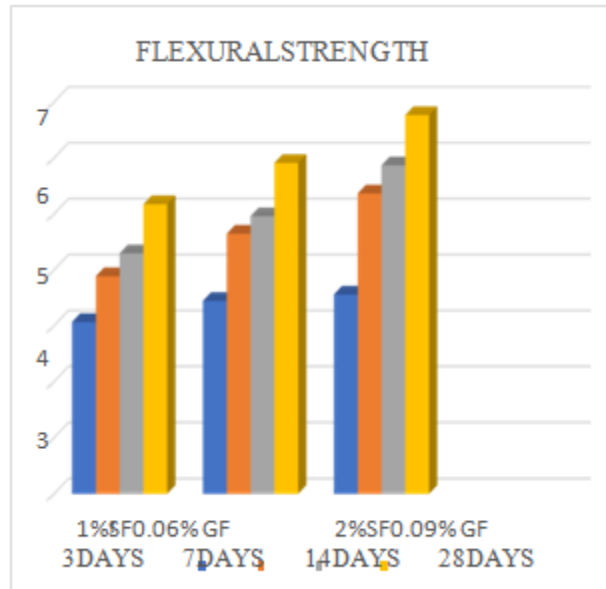
Specimen	% of SF	% of GF	7days strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>	14days strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>	28days strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>
01	0	0	3.884	4.292	5.172
	1	0.66	4.634	4.956	5.910
	2	0.69	5.363	5.866	6.766

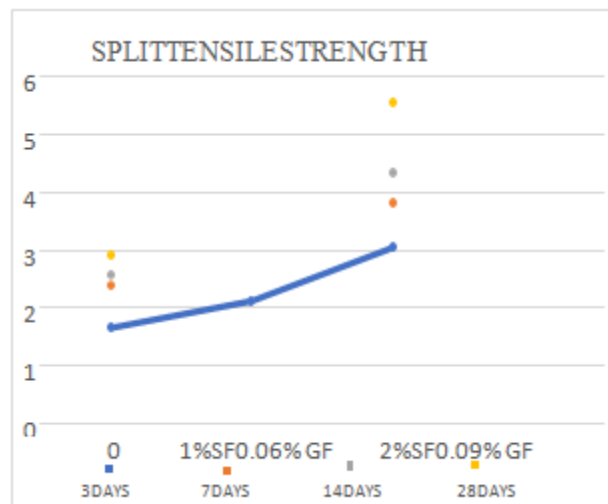
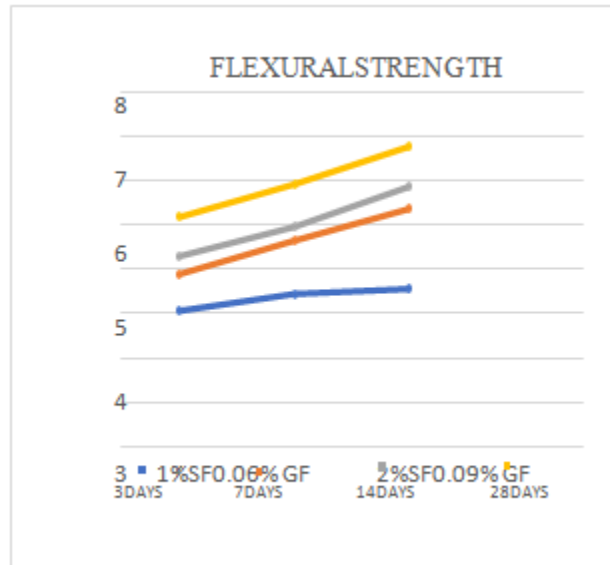
**TABLE6.3**SPLITTENSILESTRENGTHRESULTS

Specimen	% of SF	% of GF	7days strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>	14days strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>	28days strength N/mm <sup>2</sup>
01	0	0	2.366	2.558	2.905
	1	0.66	3.000	3.450	4.260
	2	0.69	3.803	4.343	5.543









## VII. CONCLUSION

- The addition of steel fiber and glass fiber results in increase of 15.73% compressive strength, 13.35% increase in flexural strength and 26.51% increase in split tensile strength.
- Addition of 2% of steel fiber and 0.09% of glass fiber gives maximum compressive strength of 71.303 N/mm<sup>2</sup>, Tensile strength of 5 N/mm<sup>2</sup> and Flexure strength of 6.766 N/mm<sup>2</sup>
- The rate of strength gain for 7 days strength of HFRC is very high as compared to conventional concrete and hence concludes that HFRC has high early strength and continued strength development.
- As the percentage of fibers increases the split tensile strength also increases.
- Workability drastically decreases when the fiber

content is increased in concrete.

- The improved mechanical properties of HFRC would result in reduction of warping stresses, short and long term cracking and reduction of slab thickness.

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