

ABSTRACT

Self-weight of building units, construction time and sound workmanship are key factors affecting the quality and cost effectiveness of masonry construction. Amongst the loads a structure should resist, self-weight is a major component thus the reduction of self-weight by introducing lightweight material would effectively reduce the load as well as the cost of construction. Furthermore, large individual units would help speedy construction and results in cost reduction. Yet, it is difficult to achieve sound workmanship in construction of masonry works without skilled workers. By having blocks, requirement of skilled workers can be reduced. Hence, a study was carried out to develop lightweight cement blocks, contrary to those existing, to address the above mentioned requirements.