Flexural behaviour of hybrid fiber reinforced concrete beam using BFRP bars

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Abstract. The corrosion of rebar is one of the main problem in the construction industry. A lot of amount is spent on the repair work every year but none of them is that effective. Therefore, the recent studies are being conducted on the FRP rebar due to the brittle nature and the bonding performance. We have also used PVA fiber in concrete to increase the strength of the concrete. we are using Hybrid beams in which we have replaced the corner rebar with BFRP bars because of their superior corrosion effect and the strength to weight ratio. We used four point loading test on these hybrid reinforced beams to find the flexural behaviour by which we can predict the performance. 0.25% PVA fiber reinforced concrete showed the optimum results.

1 Introduction

Fiber-reinforced polymer is an alternative construction material and has been used as a substitute for steel in the construction industry for several decades. However, there are several weaknesses of FRP rebars, which are needed to be enhanced because of which the usage of the material is limited in civil infrastructures to reduce these disadvantages of using FRP, the concept of hybridization is introduced. The introduction of a hybrid structure includes cost-effectiveness. As there are some of the disadvantages in Fiber Reinforced concrete structures, so to improve these properties, a new model has been introduced and are being studied. The researchers have explained that the hybrid rebars are composed of many different fibers, the behaviour are mostly similar to that of steel rebars. The ductility of RC beams reinforced with 2 steel and 2 FRP rebars was also similar to that of steel RC beams. In all reinforced concrete structures, the corner steel bars that get corroded in the structure are mentioned (Qu and Zhang): 1 exposure of oxygen & water, 2) resistance is less towards spalling than in other Cross sectional parts and 3) high carbonation rates. Then the corrosion from the outer side of steel bars spreads to the inner side of the reinforcement. The most commonly used FRP bar along with Steel is a Glass Fiber-reinforced polymer rebar it has a good and successful alternative that has various advantages than that of the traditional reinforcement method, which gives a longer service life. The BFRP rebar is a structural ribbed reinforcing bar product of excessive power and corrosion-resistant glass fiber which are impregnated and sure by an exceptionally long-lasting polymeric epoxy resin. In- feature houses are ideal for any harsh and corrosive environments. BFRP rebar is much lighter in weight than the same strength of steel rebar. It is very much less complicated to handle and in maximum cases, only one truck of steel is enough to bear the load for a whole project. Many researchers have tested the flexural conduct of hybrid BFRP/steel R C beams. The maximum load carrying capacity, crack width, and deflections were predicted in many research papers by experimental, numerical, etc methods. The use of steel reinforcement with FRP reinforcement in combinations increases the flexural strength of the beams. The ratio of reinforcement is the main factor that explains the ultimate moment of the beams, however, axial stiffness value between the BFRP & Steel bars have some effect on the flexural ability. The load deflection reaction of hybrid BFRP/steel RC beams may be classified into 3 parts. In the 2nd & 3rd part, flexural stiffness will increase with change in reinforcement ratio. The steel reinforcements enhance the ductility of the hybrid RC beams. The researchers have not only replaced the steel rebars in reinforced concrete structures with FRP rebars to improve the properties of the members of a structure. There were many experiments conducted on hybrid reinforced beams in recent times. Tan tested the many RC beams with Aramid FRP & steel rebars are found that once the usage from Aramid FRP bars becomes not extra than one-1/2 of whole reinforcement, the hybrid Aramid
FRP-metal strengthened RC beams have average serviceability. The Researchers have tested many Reinforced beams with BFRP and steel rebars. Silarbi has tested beams reinforced with Carbon FRP and steel bars and many other researchers have conducted various tests on hybrid reinforced beams. All these experiments lead to a conclusion that the tensile strength factor of the steel reinforcement reaches the maximum yield strength while the stress in FRP RC beam reaches a minute percentage of its ultimate value.

Now a days the impact of association of Fiber Reinforced Polymer bars and steel bars on the durability of members are studied. The researches have determined that using Fiber Reinforced Polymer rebars close to the corner of the tensile area and steel rebars used in middle or center of the tensile area offer the most advantage for the structure durability. They have also taken the consideration of different types of arrangements. There are many different types of arrangement like single layer in this type of arrangement all rebars are placed at the bottom of member in a single line with a definite distance between each rebar where there is maximum tensile strength that can be exerted. The next type of arrangement of reinforcement is double layer reinforcement in this type the reinforcement bars are arranged in two layers in different ways such as one layer of steel rebars and another with FRP rebars, by alternate steel and FRP rebars the bars can be arranged many possible ways of arrangement. They can also be arranged in a bundle form only a few researchers have conducted the test on this arrangement in this the researchers have tied either 1steel, 1FRP or 2FRP or 2 steel or all bars are tied at one place the placement of bars also plays a very vital role in the strength of the structure. Not only does the arrangement of steel rebars play a major role in the strength of the building but also the stirrups are very important. The angle of the hook also helps to increase the strength. Stirrups are mostly used are steel in the experimental as FRP bars cannot be bent so steel is used as it makes the work easy.

2 Material

In this project, we have used OPC 53 grade Cement as a binder for the fine and coarse aggregates which give strength to the concrete and used PVA fibers in concrete, and partially replaced steel rebars with Basalt fiber rebars for the reinforcement of concrete. The material used is shown in the figure.

2.1 Cement

We have used OPC 53 grade cement in this experiment which is used as the binder.

2.2 Aggregate

We have used Fine aggregate and coarse aggregate which helps to strengthen the concrete.

2.3 Conplast SP 430

It is a plasticizer used to reduce the amount of water and increases the workability when the fiber is added to the concrete.

2.4 PVA Fibers

Polyvinyl alcohol fibers used are manufactured evenly so that they are dispersed uniformly throughout the mix. We have used 12mm length PVA fibers in concrete to increase the strength.

2.5 BFRP rebars

Basalt Fiber Reinforced Polymer (BFRP) rebars manufactured from a single rock from a carefully chosen quarry. They made directly without any additional admixtures as they contain high acidity. Therefore, they melted to liquid form and made into fibers then several fibers are combined using adhesive and made into rebars. The BFRP rebars shown in the Figure.

Table 1. Manufacturing details of BFRP bars.

| Specification       | Result               |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Diameter            | 12mm                 |
| Weight              | 219 gram/meter       |
| Cross-sectional area| 113.03mm²            |
| Tensile Strength    | 1100 MPa             |
| Ultimate Tention    | 124.34 KN            |
| Elastic Modulus     | 50 GPa               |
3 Mix Procedure

In this experiment, we have used M-30 grade concrete

Mix proportions of material mentioned below and the reinforcement detailing is mentioned in the table

Cement: Fly Ash: Fine Aggregate: Coarse Aggregate: Water = 1:0.25:2.29:4.24:0.43

| Beam   | Main Reinforcement | Bar Size (mm) | Fck (N) | Af | As | Af/As | Pf(Af/bd) | Ps(As/bd) |
|--------|--------------------|---------------|---------|----|----|-------|-----------|-----------|
| Pure FRP | 4φ12 -             | 12            | 30      | 452.29 | - | - | 0.010 | - |
| HFRP 0 PVA | 2φ12 2φ12 | 12            | 30      | 226.19 | 226.19 | 1 | 0.005 | 0.005 |
| HFRP 0.125 PVA | 2φ12 2φ12 | 12            | 30      | 226.19 | 226.19 | 1 | 0.005 | 0.005 |
| HFRP 0.25 PVA | 2φ12 2φ12 | 12            | 30      | 226.19 | 226.19 | 1 | 0.005 | 0.005 |
| HFRP 0.375 PVA | 2φ12 2φ12 | 12            | 30      | 226.19 | 226.19 | 1 | 0.005 | 0.005 |
| HFRP 0.50 PVA | 2φ12 2φ12 | 12            | 30      | 226.19 | 226.19 | 1 | 0.005 | 0.005 |

3.1 Mix Design

We have designed an under-reinforced beam with 2 nos of 10mm dia steel as top reinforcement and 4 nos 12mm dia rebars. I have used BFRP rebars also in this experiment. I casted a Pure FRP beam that is I have placed 4 BFRP as the bottom and used it as a control beam. In hybrid FRP beams, I have replaced the corner steel bars with basalt fiber rebars. The design of the beam is as shown in figure 2. The dimensions of the beam are 300mm depth 150mm width and 1.5m length. We have used 8mm steel rebars as stirrups. These are tied using 8gauge binding wire.
3.2 Mixing of Concrete

We have mixed the material with a mixing machine. The material has been mixed thoroughly.

3.3 Casting of Specimen

We have used the moulds and placed the reinforcement in the mould with a cover of 25mm on all the sides. Then the concrete is placed in the mould Figure 5. Then we used an electric needle vibrator to vibrate the concrete in mould figure 6.

3.4 Curing of the Specimen

Once the Specimen is casted, we have waited for one day so that the concrete gets hardened. Then we have used a curing compound for the curing of concrete with a thick coating so that all parts of specimens cover.

4 Experimental Procedure

In this experiment, we have casted 7 Beams in which 2 beams are control beams and the rest 6 beams are hybrid beams with different percentages of PVA fibers. I have tested these beams using 4-point load testing machine.
Then I have connected the Load deflection gauge to the beam. One is placed at the centre and another one is placed at the support. The experiment setup is shown in figure 8.

5 Results and Discussion

5.1 Load-deflection

We have applied 4-point load on the specimen as shown in the experimental setup. When the load is applied then the beam is deflected the deflection is calculated using the LDT which is connected at the bottom. The load-deflection curve is shown below of different Samples.

Figure 8. Test setup for testing the specimen

Figure 9. Load deflection curve of Pure FRP Beam

Figure 10. Load Deflection curve of HFRP 0% PVA
Figure 11. Load Deflection curve of HFRP 0.125% PVA

Figure 12. Load Deflection Curve of HFRP 0.250% PVA

Figure 13. Load Deflection Curve of HFRP 0.375% PVA

Figure 14. Load Deflection Curve of HFRP 0.50% PVA
5.2 Comparative Study

We are studying the comparison of the behaviour of the load-deflection with the help of graphs and the comparison is mentioned in the following graph.

Figure 15. Comparative study of ductility Factor

5.3 Ductility Factor

The ability of a material that can stretch to the maximum before the material failed is known as ductility. The ductility is calculated using the experiment and is tabulated below

\[
\text{Ductility Factor } DI (\mu) = \frac{\text{Yield Deflection } (\Delta y)}{\text{Ultimate deflection } (\Delta u)}
\]

Table 3. Ductility Factor of beam

| S No | Sample          | \(\Delta y\) | \(\Delta u\) | \(\mu\) |
|------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------|
| 1    | Pure FRP        | 2            | 17.03        | 8.515  |
| 2    | HFRP 0% PVA     | 6            | 19.46        | 3.2433 |
| 3    | HFRP 0.125% PVA | 3            | 21.87        | 7.29   |
| 4    | HFRP 0.250% PVA | 3            | 42.21        | 14.07  |
| 5    | HFRP 0.375% PVA | 6            | 71.19        | 11.856 |
| 6    | HFRP 0.50% PVA  | 2.8          | 34.64        | 12.37  |

Figure16. Ductility Factors of the Beams.

5.4 Flexural Behaviour of reinforced concrete beams.

The HFRP beam is placed on the testing machine on which the load is applied. The flexural behaviour is studied using the ultimate load and ultimate moment.

Table 4. Ultimate Load and Moment of Beams

| Sample          | Ultimate Load | Ultimate moment |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Pure FRP        | 115           | 28.75           |

Figure 17. Ultimate moment of the Beams

6 Conclusion

The flexural behaviour of BFRP steel-reinforced concrete beams was tested. To reduce the risk of steel
corrosion in concrete hybrid, a reinforcement method was proposed and used to replace the steel bars with BFRP bars. Based on the experimental results, the following conclusions can be drawn from this study:

- The test results show the Hybrid FRPRC beam with PVA fibers behave in a more ductile manner when compared with the pure FRPRC beam and Hybrid FRP beam without PVA fiber.

- The Provision of PVA fibers exhibits an enhancement in the cracking load and the load-carrying capacity of the tested beams.

- The enhancement of Ultimate moment capacity is 42.99% and 211.2% at a dosage of 0.125% of PVA fibers when compared with Hybrid Reinforced concrete beam without fibers and pure BFRP.

- The ductility Factor is increased by 65% at optimum dosage of 0.25% of PVA fibers in hybrid FRPRC beam.

- The test results show the Hybrid FRPRC beam with PVA fibers behave in a more ductile manner when compared with pure FRPRC members.

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