

8.2.4.2 Maximum cement content

Cement content not including fly ash and ground granulated blast furnace slag in excess of 450 kg/m³ should not be used unless special consideration has

been given in design to the increased risk of cracking due to drying shrinkage in thin sections, or to early thermal cracking and to the increased risk of damage due to alkali silica reactions.

Table 4 Requirements for Concrete Exposed to Sulphate Attack

(Clauses 8.2.2.4 and 9.1.2)

Sl No.	Class	Concentration of Sulphates, Expressed as SO ₃			Type of Cement	Dense, Fully Compacted Concrete. Made with 20 mm Nominal Maximum Size Aggregates Complying with IS 383	
		In Soil		In Ground Water		Minimum Cement Content kg/m ³	Maximum Face Water-Cement Ratio
		Total SO ₃	SO ₃ in 2:1 Water: Soil Extract				
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
i)	1	Traces (< 0.2)	Less than 1.0	Less than 0.3	Ordinary Portland cement or Portland slag cement or Portland pozzolana cement	280	0.55
ii)	2	0.2 to 0.5	1.0 to 1.9	0.3 to 1.2	Ordinary Portland cement or Portland slag cement or Portland pozzolana cement	330	0.50
					Supersulphated cement or sulphate resisting Portland cement	310	0.50
iii)	3	0.5 to 1.0	1.9 to 3.1	1.2 to 2.5	Supersulphated cement or sulphate resisting Portland cement	330	0.50
					Portland pozzolana cement or Portland slag cement	350	0.45
iv)	4	1.0 to 2.0	3.1 to 5.0	2.5 to 5.0	Supersulphated or sulphate resisting Portland cement	370	0.45
v)	5	More than 2.0	More than 5.0	More than 5.0	Sulphate resisting Portland cement or supersulphated cement with protective coatings	400	0.40

NOTES

- 1 Cement content given in this table is irrespective of grades of cement.
- 2 Use of supersulphated cement is generally restricted where the prevailing temperature is above 40 °C.
- 3 Supersulphated cement gives an acceptable life provided that the concrete is dense and prepared with a water-cement ratio of 0.4 or less, in mineral acids, down to pH 3.5.
- 4 The cement contents given in col 6 of this table are the minimum recommended. For SO₃ contents near the upper limit of any class, cement contents above these minimum are advised.
- 5 For severe conditions, such as thin sections under hydrostatic pressure on one side only and sections partly immersed, considerations should be given to a further reduction of water-cement ratio.
- 6 Portland slag cement conforming to IS 455 with slag content more than 50 percent exhibits better sulphate resisting properties.
- 7 Where chloride is encountered along with sulphates in soil or ground water, ordinary Portland cement with C₃A content from 5 to 8 percent shall be desirable to be used in concrete, instead of sulphate resisting cement. Alternatively, Portland slag cement conforming to IS 455 having more than 50 percent slag or a blend of ordinary Portland cement and slag may be used provided sufficient information is available on performance of such blended cements in these conditions.