

DRYCOTEC DIARIES

MAY 2026 EDITION

Elevating the Drymix Industry to Global Standards

Driving Excellence in Drymix Innovation

Featuring the Visionary
Leadership of R.S. Enterprise



- Industry Insights
- Drymix Technology Trends
- Case Studies & Applications
- Market Collaborations

Recognizing the outstanding contribution of R.S. Enterprise Directors in strengthening the drymix ecosystem through innovation, quality, and customer-centric execution.

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Avebe Starch Ethers help

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- Improve open time
- Reduce slip and sag
- Improve finishing
- Reduce stickiness
- Reduce bounce back

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Prins Hendrikplein 20, 9640 AA Veendam, The Netherlands



*Suitable for gypsum, cement and ready-to-use mortar formulations

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Editor's Page : Traffic Jam, Butter & Cheese

The Traffic Jam

What to do in a real traffic Jam ?, well that depends on position. You could be driver, a passenger, or an none-related passenger. When I say non-related, it means that you are in the taxi.



When you are in the taxi, it is the best time ever. You could settle up your work calls or open your to do list and review. Basically work or have some fun, watch silly videos or even sleep. No problems at all. When are a related passenger, it depends on the relation. If you are with spouse, the discussions could be taxing. With a friend, cool. The idea is to think of a non-arguable topic which is interesting but not very exciting & may cause some road rage situation.

The Traffic Butter

The problem is when you are driving & the worst is when you are all alone in the vehicle. This is the toughest time. The only solution is that you should take up an old memory which should be happy & cheerful. Then push your mind toward making a judgement on why it happened & what can you do to create many more such memories Basically, in a traffic jam, you have to take your mind off, two things, one getting there on time and second, about the traffic. Looking impossible but still worth taking the effort.

The Traffic Cheese

If you ask me, I will only say one thing. Enjoy the problem. What does it mean ?,. I actually start looking at the people around me. See what vehicles they are driving, what are their facial expressions, what are they looking like, are they fat, thin, funny or angry. I try to imagine a story include them, think of them as characters of the story and start getting involved. Think of a guy on a bike, imagine what would be his life, why would he be in a hurry, build a story. Trust me, it is fun.

Wheither in Traffic or real life, I guess the similar fundamentals apply. Keep Happy & Keep Reading Drycotec Dairies.

Dr. Mandar Chitre - Editor & Founder, Drycotec Diaries & Drycotec Drymortar Association

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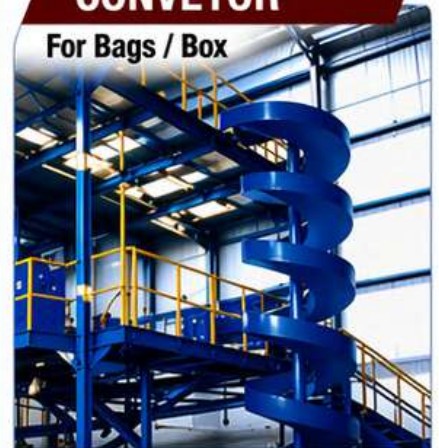
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
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PRECISION PERFORMANCE RMX.

At RMX, precision is engineered into every component of our Dry Mix Mortar and Wall Putty Plants. From raw material feeding to final packing, our systems are crafted for accuracy, consistency, and longevity.

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Mixing Accuracy: Ploughshare mixers ensure homogenous blends with x— critical for consistent wall finishes and mortar performance.

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Modular Designs: Plants range from 5 TPH to 80 TPH, scalable for urban and rural project demands.

Screw Conveyors & Bucket Elevators: Designed with anti-wear components for uninterrupted operations and reduced downtime.

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Custom-built plants for Wall Putty, Tile Adhesive, Grouts, and other specialty formulations.

RMX's **in-house design team** tailors plant layouts to match client site constraints and production targets.



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... and many more.

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Supporting Association

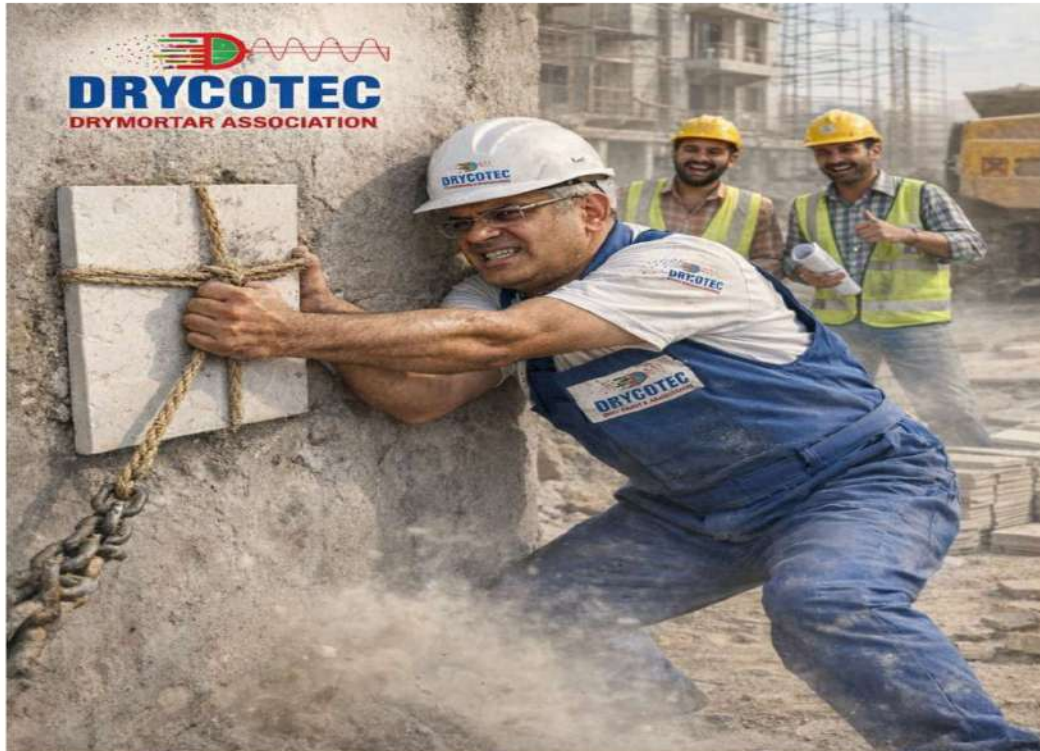


My Technical Diaries

Why select higher grade ?



The Indian Standard and the European Standard both are not saying the same thing. We must understand that the Indian standard is slightly more buffered to take care of the site application mistakes and the mixing of cement or sand when it is not required.



It takes more than **4 tons** of pull out Kg Force to remove a tile which has adhesive of T1 (as per IS15477) or C1 (as per EN 12004), do we need it?

MPa (N/mm ²)	kgf/cm ²	psi	kgf/ft ²	tonf/ft ²
0.5	5.10	72.5	4,737	4.74
1.0	10.20	145	9,473	9.47
1.5	15.30	218	14,210	14.21
2.0	20.40	290	18,946	18.95

The market of Tile Adhesives is distributed in various areas, used by various professionals at different knowledge levels. Let us try to list down the typical buyer of the market

1. Buyer “Low Knowledge” : Listens to the retailer, buys what is cheapest & still relies on the traditional sand cement ratio
2. Buyer “Limited Knowledge” : Will definitely buy tile adhesives but call it as “Chemical” and is mixing cement in it during the preparation.
3. Buyer “Understands Product” : Wants the higher range always. They will look for the T2 for floor or T3 for internal wall small tile or T4 S1 or T4 S2 where technically a lower product would suffice.

So before you are selecting or recommending a particular grade of tile adhesive think if you really need this kind of grade. Just look at the comparison of both standards together.

C1T	Tensile Adhesion Greater/Equal 0.5 N/mm ² (Dry, Wet, Heat & Freeze Thaw) Low sag of max. 0.5 mm
C1TE	Tensile Adhesion Greater/Equal 0.5 N/mm ² (Dry, Wet, Heat & Freeze Thaw) Low sag of max. 0.5 mm Extended open time, 30 mins
C2TE	Tensile Adhesion Greater/Equal 1 N/mm ² (Dry, Wet, Heat & Freeze Thaw) Low sag of max. 0.5 mm Extended open time, 30 mins
C2TES1	Tensile Adhesion Greater/Equal 1 N/mm ² (Dry, Wet, Heat & Freeze Thaw) Low sag of max. 0.5 mm Extended open time, 30 mins Deformability ≥ 2.5 mm
C2TES2	Tensile Adhesion Greater/Equal 1 N/mm ² (Dry, Wet, Heat & Freeze Thaw) Low sag of max. 0.5 mm Extended open time, 30 mins Deformability ≥ 5 mm

T1	Tensile Adhesion min 0.5 N/mm ² (Dry) Shear Adhesion min 1 N/mm ² (Dry)
T2	Tensile Adhesion min 1 N/mm ² (Dry & Wet) Shear Adhesion min 1.25 N/mm ² (Dry), 1 N/mm ² (Heat & Wet)
T3	Tensile Adhesion min 1.5 N/mm ² (Dry) 1 N/mm ² (Wet) Shear Adhesion min 1.5 N/mm ² (Dry), 1 N/mm ² (Heat & Wet)
T4 S1	Tensile Adhesion min 1.5 N/mm ² (Dry) 1 N/mm ² (Wet) Shear Adhesion min 1.5 N/mm ² (Dry), 1 N/mm ² (Heat & Wet) Deformability ≥ 2.5 mm
T4 S2	Tensile Adhesion min 1.5 N/mm ² (Dry) 1 N/mm ² (Wet) Shear Adhesion min 1.5 N/mm ² (Dry), 1 N/mm ² (Heat & Wet) Deformability ≥ 5 mm
T5	Tensile Adhesion 2.0 N/mm ² (Dry) Shear Adhesion 6.0 N/mm ² (Dry) 3.0 N/mm ² (Heat)

Products which are available in the Indian market have mixed features which happen to be meeting either or both standards. But buyers have to understand that there is no T3 in the EN12004 because it only speaks about a pull out force of 1 N/mm². T3 will demand 1.5 N/mm². Which according to my calculations is a pull out force of 14 tons per square feet. Now why would you apply 14 tons of pull out force to a 1 square foot tile which is applied on the floor or the wall ?, seems over designed ?, Yes, I think so too.

Conclusion : Take a chill pill, take only what is right, don't over design, don't spend more. It is a tile after all, not a tug of war match happening out there....

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Advancing Water-Resistant Packaging for the Dry Mix Industry

In the dry mix sector, even minimal exposure to moisture can significantly impact product quality. Materials such as dry mix mortar, construction powders, and specialty blends are highly sensitive to moisture. When moisture seeps into packaging, it can lead to lump formation, loss of flow ability, compromised performance, and unnecessary product rejections.

Traditional packing systems often struggle to create a completely sealed and stabilized package. This leaves room for moisture infiltration, which results in:

Product degradation

Reduced shelf life

Higher rejection rates

Inconsistent application performance

To meet these critical industry needs, **VT Corp introduces its upgraded water-resistant packing technology**, engineered to offers:

Superior Protection

Increases Shelf Life

Maintain Material Integrity

Moisture Resistance



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ESP and Retrofitting Solutions | Bag Filter | Forced Draft Cooler
| Packing Machine | Weigh Feeder | Truck Loader

VT Corp's Water-Resistant Packaging Technology

The VIP 3.1 VACUUM ULTRA is designed to deliver an advanced level of protection for dry mix materials through precision engineering and improved sealing performance.

Core Features

- **Laminated high-barrier** packaging designed to minimize moisture absorption and preserve product characteristics
- **Ultra-VACUUM** air removal mechanism that eliminates trapped air, ensuring compact, stable, and moisture-safe valve bags
- **Enhanced sealing** strength for consistent, tamper-proof protection
- **Spill-free filling** system supported by an accurate clamp mechanism
- **Extended product stability** through better moisture resistance and consistent material retention

These improvements help manufacturers maintain product uniformity and reduce handling and storage concerns.



Delivering Consistent Quality, Every Time

With its upgraded capabilities, VT Corp's solution sets a new benchmark in water-resistant packaging for the dry mix industry. It offers superior protection, improved process accuracy, and long-lasting material quality - ensuring that every bag reaches the end user with its properties intact.

This technology enables manufacturers to achieve:

Better pack integrity

Reduced product loss

Higher customer satisfaction

Smooth logistics and better storage efficiency

Secure Your Dry Mix Products with Advanced Water Protection

VT Corp remains committed to delivering smart solutions that enhance reliability across the dry mix packaging chain. To discover how our upgraded system can improve your packing efficiency and product quality, get in touch with our team.



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My Tile Adhesives Diaries: Ceramic Tile Adhesives from the Producer's Perspective

Part of a Literature Review, by Jacek Michalak from the Research and Development Centre, Atlas sp. z o.o., 2, Killinskiego St., 91-421 Lodz, Poland, has been produced to benefit our readers.

Cellulose Derivatives (Influence on Ceramic Tile Adhesives - CTA)

Among the various cellulose derivatives (CDs), the following are mostly used in CTA app-

- Methyl hydroxyethyl cellulose (MHEC),
- Methyl hydroxypropyl cellulose (MHPC),
- Hydroxyethyl cellulose (HEC).

The most desirable effect of using cellulose ethers in mortars is their strong affinity for water & its retention. The water stored by the cellulose ether provides the appropriate conditions for the setting and hardening of the cementitious binders.

Their addition to any construction mortar, including CTA, causes the retardation of the cement hydration. It creates changes in the microstructure of the adhesive. It increases plasticity, affects the viscosity and workability, and ensures higher water retention in the mortar. The presence of CD influences the properties of both fresh and hardened adhesive.

This is due to the complexity of the cement hydration process, during which the reactions of different clinker phases with water overlap. The poly-mineral composition of cement grains additionally complicates the whole process. From the CTA formulator's point of view, research concerned with CDs' influence on various selected properties of building mortars is more important.

Cellulose ethers allow the increase of the adhesion of fresh mortar to the substrate, which also positively affects the adhesion of the mortar after it has hardened. CDs (MHEC and MHPC) also stabilize the air pores in the mortar.

CDs stabilize the air bubbles introduced into the mortar during mixing, which in most cases is a desired phenomenon and affects the application parameters of the mortar, including its workability. On the other hand, too much air affects the mechanical properties: adhesion, compressive and flexural strength depend on the density exponentially.




Moreover, the ability to stabilize the introduced air affects the efficiency of the mortar's application, which depends on the maximum water-to-binder ratio and the total air volume. Cellulose ether, due to the specific function of the water storage, has a positive effect on the strength parameters of the mortars, including their adhesion to the substrate.

Cellulose ethers are often not the only rheology modifiers/thickeners in formulations of the CTA. Today, they are commonly mixed in the CTA with other water-retention agents, such as starch ethers, polyacrylamide, or inorganic (bentonite, sepiolite) modifiers.

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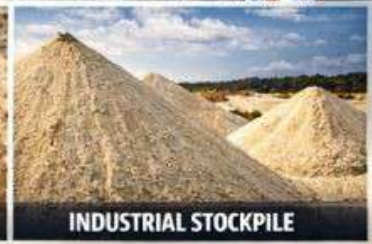
Industrial Front
EMPOWER THE INDIAN INDUSTRIES

SILICA SAND - COMPLETE GUIDE

Sudam Behera
MINING EXPERT



1. FUNDAMENTALS OF SILICA SAND



- Mainly SiO₂ (Quartz)
- Purity: 90~99.9%+ SiO₂
- Impurities: Fe₂O₃, Al₂O₃, Clays

	Glass Grade	99~99.8%	Foundry Sand	Frac Sand
• SiO ₃ -%	90~99%	Costing molds	• Oil & gas	
• Foundry Sand	95~98%	Concrete	• Ceramic	
• Construction	90~95%	Oil & gas	• Tips Samanyware	

2. SILICA SAND PROCESSING FLOW



3. COST & ECONOMICS (INDIA)

- Mining: ₹ 150~400/Ton
- Processing: ₹ 300~800/Ton
- Total Cost: ₹ 800~2500/Ton

4. SALES STRATEGY (B2B)



5. MARKETING STRATEGY

- High Purity Silica
- Low Iron Premium Sand

- ☰ Direct Contracts
- 🚚 Distributors
- 🌐 Export Markets

🚚 KEY RISKS & TIPS 🚚

QUALITY REJECTION	HIGH LOGISTICS COST	DISTRIBUTORS	MARKET VOLATILITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strict QC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Rail Transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IndiaMART / Flasking • Alibaba 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversify Buyers

Sudam Behera - Mining Expert



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POWDER - WHITENING
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YELLOW OXIDE
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What is Fly Ash?

Fine powder by-product collected from flue gases of coal-fired power plants.

Pozzolanic material (Reacts with lime + water to form cementitious compounds).



Why we use Fly Ash in Concrete?

- ✓ Improves workability (acts like ball bearings)
- ✓ Reduces cement consumption (cost saving)
- ✓ Controls heat of hydration (important for mass concrete)
- ✓ Improves durability
- ✓ Reduces cracks & permeability

Why Fly Ash is Important?

Pozzolanic Reaction: $\text{Ca(OH)}_2 + \text{SiO}_2 \rightarrow \text{C-S-H gel}$
(extra strength)

- ✓ Converts weak lime into strong binder
- ✓ Increases long-term strength
- ✓ Improves resistance to sulphate & chemical attack



Manufacturing Process of Fly Ash:

- ✓ Coal burning in boiler (1200–1700°C)
- ✓ Non-combustible minerals melt
- ✓ Rapid cooling → Glassy particles
- ✓ Flue gases carry ash
- ✓ Collected by: Electrostatic Precipitators (ESP) ✓ Bag Filters
- ✓ Stored in Silos – Supplied in Dry Form



Types of Fly Ash (As per IS 3812)

Type 1 – Low Calcium Fly Ash (Class F)

- ✓ Bituminous Coal
- ✓ Low CaO (<10%)
- ✓ High Pozzolanic Activity
- ✓ Slow Strength Gain
- ✓ Better Durability



- ✓ Mass Concrete
- ✓ Marine Structures
- ✓ Dams

Type 2 – High Calcium Fly Ash (Class C)

- ✓ Lignite / Sub-bituminous Coal
- ✓ High CaO (>10%)
- ✓ Self-Cementing
- ✓ Faster Strength Gain
- ✓ Use:



- ✓ Precast Concrete
- ✓ Pavements

Chemical Requirements of Fly Ash:

- ✓ Siliceous Fly Ash (Class F):
- ✓ $(\text{SiO}_2 + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3) \geq 70\%$
- ✓ $\text{SiO}_2 \geq 35\%$
- ✓ Reactive Silica $\geq 20\%$
- ✓ $\text{MgO} \leq 5\%$
- ✓ $\text{SO}_3 \leq 3\%$
- ✓ $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \leq 1.5\%$
- ✓ Chloride $\leq 0.05\%$



Physical Requirements of Fly Ash:

- ✓ Fineness (Blaine) $\geq 320 \text{ m}^2/\text{kg}$
- ✓ 45 Micron Sieve: $\leq 34\%$
- ✓ Lime Reactivity: $\geq 4.5 \text{ MPa}$
- ✓ Compressive Strength (28 Days)
- ✓ Soundness (Autoclave) $\leq 0.8\%$
- ✓ LOI $\leq 5\%$



Advantages of Fly Ash:

- ✓ Improves Workability
- ✓ Reduces Heat of Hydration
- ✓ Increases Long-Term Strength
- ✓ Reduces Permeability
- ✓ Improves Durability
- ✓ Economical (Reduces Cement)
- ✓ Waste Utilization

Disadvantages of Fly Ash:

- ✗ Slow Early Strength Gain
- ✗ Requires Proper Curing
- ✗ High Replacement May Reduce Strength Initially



Author : Deepak
Gangwar (AM Quality -
DLF Limited)



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My Interview Diaries : The RDP Challenge by Sameep Shah

Drycotec Diaries interviews Sameep Shah, Director S&A Fine Chemicals, he is not only in the business of RDP but is also technically very sound and has good knowledge about the product, its sourcing and applications.

Drycotec Diaries : How do you see the future of RDP with demand & supply ?

Sameep Shah : RDP is a re-dispersible polymer powder based on polymer dispersions of VAE, VA/Veo, VA which is more or less dependent on availability of petrochemicals derived from naphtha which contributes 15% of entire crude supply globally.

As we are all aware of the international situation in which The Strait of Hormuz, in the main shipping route, is shut down by Iran which contributes almost 80% of supplies to Asia Pacific region. RDP demands will keep rising in India market; though global short supply mainly from China, Taiwan & South Korea is a major concern recently.

The VA/E (85/15) & VA/VeoVA (90/10) co-polymer emulsions which are famous in India dry mix mortar industry is in acute short supply position. Every manufacturer is facing crisis and is unable to meet the market demand.

Production of RDP through spray drying technology is completely based on availability of crude from gulf countries. Demand & supply of RDP will be balanced only when there is a complete ceasefire in ongoing war between Iran & Israel-USA. (Geopolitical mess)



Drycotec Diaries : How is the industry reacting to the current situation ?

Sameep Shah : Dry mix mortar manufacturers in India have huge demands for RDP recently though prices have been sky rocketed as they consider availability and smooth supplies of cargoes to their respective plants of prime importance over pricing.

Drycotec Diaries : What is your advice for the manufacturing companies ?

Sameep Shah : Dosage of RDP is generally 1~5% in any dry mix formulations of manufacturing companies. Even though price of RDP increase by 100%, dry mix formulation cost will only increase by 5% and manufacturing companies can consider the additional cost in their respective cost sheets and keep profit margins intact.

Drycotec Diaries : What can be the plan B ?

Sameep Shah : Smiles...

There is NO other replacement for RDP in the entire Drymortar formulations, there is hence no plan B.

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MAKE MORE MONEY Unlock real financial value

- Increase your Sales through differentiated packaging that attracts consumers.
- Reduce your Costs via less dust related wear and tear.
- Minimize your Product Loss with clean filling, safe handling and tear-resistant packaging.

BUILD YOUR BRAND Create a premium consumer + team experience

- Attract Attention with your clean, eye-catching and outstanding packaging.
- Clean Your Process from bagging to dispatch for better hygiene and traceability.
- Motivate Your Team through a safer and cleaner work environment.

PROTECT (Y)OUR PLANT Drive sustainability forward

- Recycle Your Package using mono-materials and recyclable films.
- Reduce Your Footprint with harmony in your packing process.
- Save Your Resources by efficient use of material and reducing packaging waste.

OPC vs PPC



Choosing the Right Cement for Construction in India



What is Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC)?

- ✓ High early strength
- ✓ Faster setting time
- ✓ Ideal for RCC, roads, bridges



Made by grinding clinker with gypsum

What is Portland Pozzalana Cement (PPC)?



- ✓ Improved durability
- ✓ Better chemical & moisture resistance
- ✓ Better chemical & moisture resistance
- ✓ Higher CO₂ emissions
- ✓ Lower CO₂ footprint

Key Differences

	OPC	PPC
Strength Gain	Fast (early strength)	Slow but higher long-term strength
Durability	Moderate	High
Heat of Hydration	Higher	Lower
Environmental Impact	Higher CO ₂ emissions	Lower CO ₂ footprint Mass concreting, plastering, sustainable construction

Why PPC is Gaining Popularity:

- Lower Carbon Footprint
- Enhanced Durability
- Utilization of By-products (Fly Ash)



Dr. Surabhi Singh
CEO, Watair Envisol Group



Smart Choice



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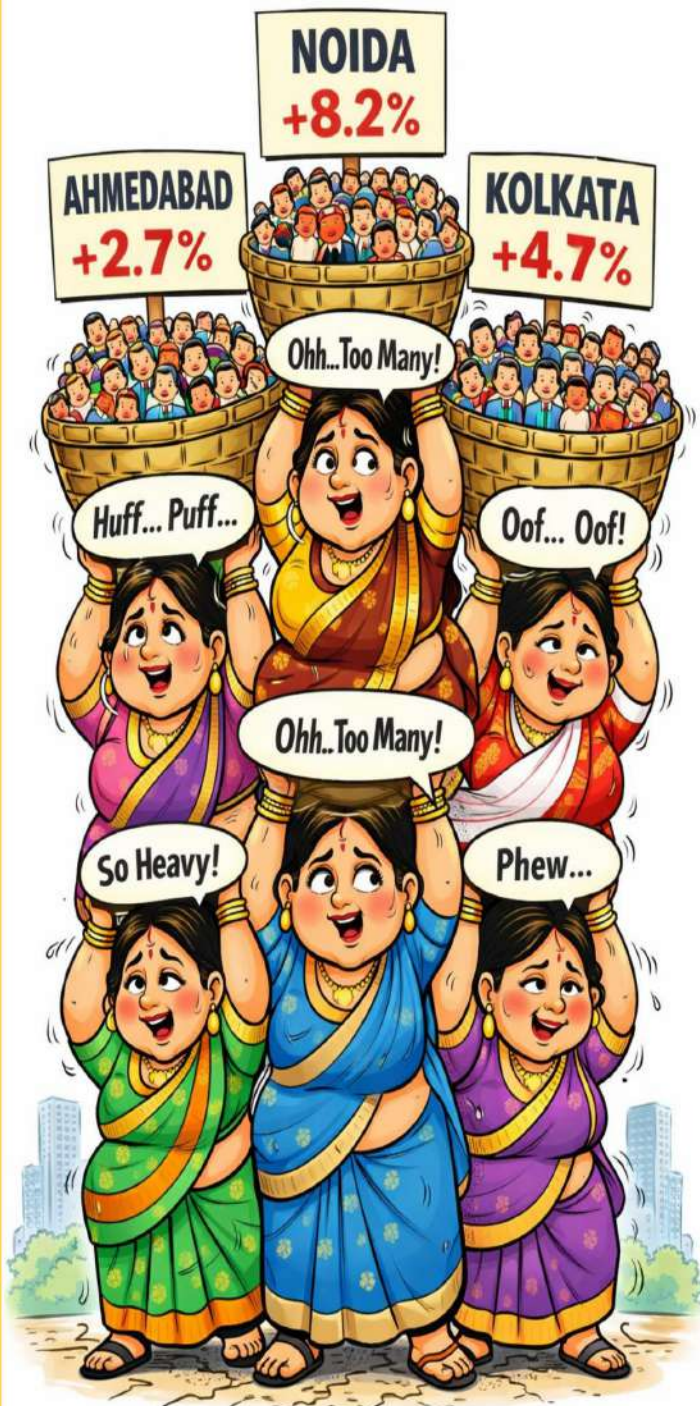
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My News Diaries :

Real Estate Demand & Supply



Property rates rise 14% in 13 major cities

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Average property prices across 13 major cities rose 14% during the March quarter to Rs 14,633 a square feet, while demand was 1.5% higher compared to a year ago to 31.7 lakh units. Magicbricks PropIndex showed that Ahmedabad saw a 2.7% rise in demand even as other major centres saw a decline, including Noida (8.2%), Chennai (5.2%), Kolkata (4.7%), New Delhi (0.7%) and Pune (0.5%).

On the supply side, developers maintained strong momentum, with increases seen in Bengaluru (22.3%), Hyderabad (19.8%), and Kolkata (+12.1%), indicating a strong pipeline of new project launches. "This increase in supply is also accompanied by a clear shift toward premiumisation, with inventory in the Rs 3 crore-plus segment expanding across key cities," the company said.

Two-BHK (42%) and three-BHK (37%) houses accounted for nearly 80% of the demand, with mid-sized homes (750-1,250 sq ft.) dominating the market, it added.

My News Diaries : The Sand Issue



Invoke preventive detention against sand mafia, says SC

AmitAnand.Choudhary
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New Delhi: Supreme Court has expressed concern over powerful sand mafias operating in the country and said states were virtually abdicating their constitutional responsibility to tackle the menace. The apex court said preventive detention could be invoked against the mafia.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta on Friday passed a slew of directions to MP, UP and Rajasthan, including installation of high-resolution, wi-fi enabled CCTV cameras on all routes frequently used for illegal sand mining and monitoring of footage round-the-clock, besides confiscation of vehicles and machinery used for mining.

Court warns states on sand mafia, threatens paramilitary deployment

► From P 1

Pointing to the reluctance of states to act against sand mafia, the court said it would be forced to deploy paramilitary forces in those areas and would also impose a complete ban on sand mining in these states.

"It is indeed a matter of grave and serious concern that state authorities, who are entrusted with the solemn duty of enforcing the rule of law and protecting public resources, appear to have abdicated, if not altogether abandoned, their sta-

tutory and constitutional responsibilities. The circumstances, taken as a whole, may even warrant an inference of tacit connivance. The material placed before us discloses a disturbing pattern of inaction and administrative indifference, despite the issue having been repeatedly highlighted before various fora," the bench said, adding that "the court cannot remain a silent spectator".

"The lackadaisical response of states in the proceedings before National Green Tribunal gives rise to

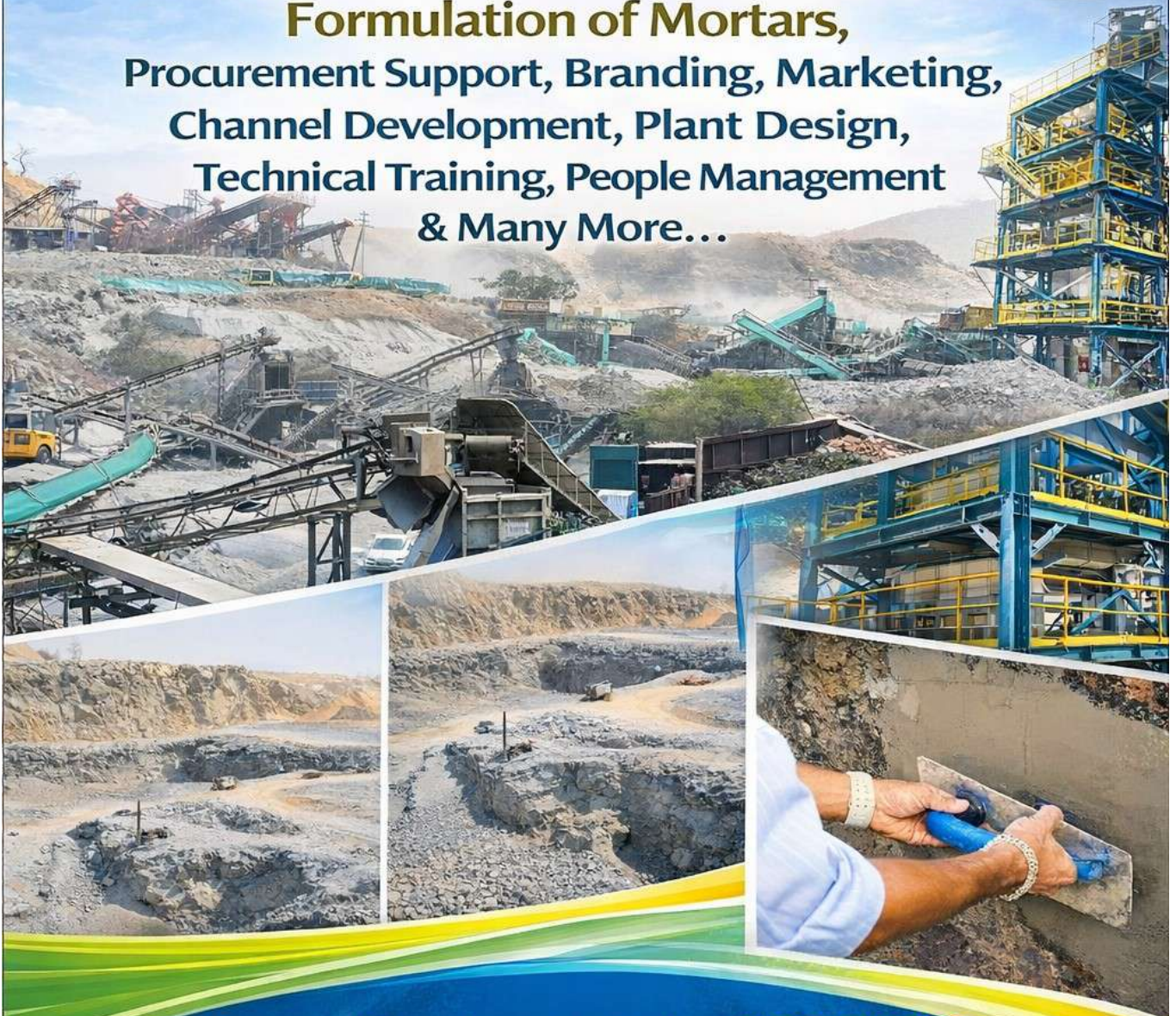
a genuine apprehension in our mind regarding the very intent of state govts to act as the protectors of environment. The statutory framework is well-armed to deal with mining mafias but apparently the administrative authorities are dragging their feet, for reasons which are not difficult to discern," the bench said.

The court noted that there were cases where state govt officials were killed by sand mafia, which reflected a systemic and institutional failure to discharge state's obligations under law.



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