A REVIEW ON GEOSYNTHETIC MATERIALS USED IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION

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Abstract: The majority of plastic bags are made of biodegradable polymers, which breakdown only after bacterial or fungal growth has taken place in them. While the vast majority of compounds are usually non-reactive, certain petrochemicals may be harmful to some people, and the vast majority of substances are adversely impacted by ultraviolet light. In order to build the largest number of transportation facilities at the lowest possible cost in India’s current condition, it is essential that this be done in the shortest amount of time and with the least amount of money spent on it. According to the findings of the investigation, the vast majority of the collapsed roads were constructed on foundation soil that did not satisfy the design requirements. Jute fibres, which are abundant on the Indian subcontinent, may be used to stabilise barren or poor subgrades in a practical and cost-effective way, particularly in developing countries. Despite the fact that the use of jute geo-textile for the construction of roads over soft soils has only been attempted in India, it is still deemed impracticable to use them on a larger scale. Perhaps the geotechnical community might take use of this ability and promote applications that improve highway efficiency while also offering the most competitive price.

Keywords: Geotextile, distress of pavement, filtration, separations and reinforcement geosynthetics, pavement, subgrades, pavement, separation, embedment soil.

I. INTRODUCTION

A broad range of functions has enabled geosynthetics to be extensively employed for all types of highways. These serve to isolate, filter, stabilize, drain, keep out pollutants, and ensure safety. At least six major highway applications have one or more of these distinct qualities. As part of these applications, we can help you with the movement of reflective cracks on asphalt overlays, the isolation of the road, the stability of the ground subgrade, and the drainage of the lateral earthworks. ASTM Committee D35 on geosynthetics describes geosynthetics as planar products that are formed of polymeric materials and are utilized in projects such as buildings, bridges, dams, and tunneling as part of an integrated system of soil, rock, earth, or other geotechnical engineering. A range of polymeric materials are known as geosynthetics. It is usual to think that the idea includes eight primary classifications of items. Geocell liners, geofoam, geocells, and geocomposite are also included. The most often used geosynthetics are the geotextiles and geomembrane. Geotextiles are textile fabrics that are utilized in a project, construction, or equipment in contact with soil, rock, earth, or any other geotechnical substance. In the form of a sheet that is typically employed as cut-offs and liners, Geomembrane is an intrinsically impermeable membrane. In addition, these liners are employed to line waste sites. In applications that come into contact with soil, rock, earth, or any other connected geotechnical material, permeable textile materials, called geotextiles, are employed as an important element of a civil engineering project, structure, or system.

A geogrid is a polymer structure that is bidirectional (both directions of flow) or unidirectional (only one direction of flow) in the form of a produced surface, with parts joined by extrusion, bonding, and whose apertures are bigger than the component parts. A geonet is a polymeric structure composed of interlocking overlapping ribs that are bigger than their component apertures. A geocomposite is a polymeric material used in geotechnical engineering applications that is made up of a combination of produced sheets or bars and at least one geosynthetic part. A geomat is a polymer structure in the form of a produced sheet, whose gaps are bigger than its contents, consisting of non-regular networks of fibres, yarns, filaments, tapes, or other materials. A geocell is a network of polymeric cells joined by extrusion, adhesion, or some other technique. Ground-modifying materials such as geotextiles have shown to be particularly cost-effective and adaptable. Nearly every civil, geotechnical, marine, maritime, and hydraulic engineering sector now uses 3D models to make design and construction faster, cheaper, and more accurate.

In highway applications, geosynthetics include woven and non-woven geotextiles, biaxial and multiaxial geogrids, and erosion control products such as geocells, geonets, and geomembranes have all been employed. Depending on the highway application, a variety of geosynthetics may be employed to serve many related duties. A good example of geosynthetics is its usage to increase the output of unpaved roads in subgrade soils with weak adhesion. Asphalt overlays as well as the effectiveness of base aggregate layers are enhanced with the use of geosynthetics from the 1980s on. Geosynthetics in highway systems and the geosynthetic functions applied in highway design lacked clarity because of the many ways these concepts were employed in the scientific literature. This makes sense, as intricate and intertwined as the applications procedures might be. To ensure that consistency while constructing geosynthetic highways, a new structure was presented in this research. While firmly dedicated to the usage of geosynthetic design frameworks, the suggested simple framework emphasizes two major tenets:

To meet the various design goals, numerous geosynthetic functions contribute to the various geosynthetic features. To develop mechanical or hydraulic mechanisms meant to enhance road performance, a single geosynthetic application may need a single geosynthetic function or a mixture of such functions.
image Places the location of the prospective geosynthetic layers and different tasks these geosynthetics may perform on the surface of the paved road. There are characteristics such as:

**Separation:** The geosynthetic, which is situated between two different materials, ensures the quality and usefulness of the components. In certain cases, provision of long-term stress alleviation is also required. Geosynthetic survival is an important design feature of this function.

**Geosynthetic filtration** with liquid flowing through it but yet retaining tiny particles on the upstream side, the model has wide applicability. This goal would be fulfilled if geosynthetic permittivity (cross-plane hydraulic conductivity per unit thickness) and pore-size distribution data were included as design features (e.g. apparent opening size).

**Strengthening:** Tensile pressures are applied to the geosynthetic composite soil in order to preserve or increase its stability. Tensile strength is a significant design feature for this project.

**Stiffening:** Tensile stresses are generated on the geosynthetic composite so that it may manage soil-geosynthetic composite deformation. Measuring the soil-geosynthetic composite's stiffness are a major design property for achieving this goal.

**Drainage:** A geosynthetic uses a structure as a pathway for the movement of liquid (or gas). This attribute is quantified using the geosynthetic transmissivity (which is included on-plan).

**Functions of Geo synthetics in road construction**

![Multiple functions of geosynthetics in roadway applications.](image)

Other geosynthetic functionalities in the application of roadways include:

**Hydraulic / Gas Barrier:** Liquid or gaseous containment is achieved by using geosynthetics, which reduces cross-plane leakage. The core design features used to determine the geosynthetic material’s long-term durability include those utilized to define the geosynthetic material.

**Protection:** To protect underlying materials, the geosynthesis produces a barrier above or below other materials (e.g. a geomembrane). Geosynthetic materials utilized to assess this function have puncture resistance as one of their core design features.

**Geosindics:** An alternative to cement as a construction material that's often employed in structural applications, but which is often employed in geotechnical applications as well.

For a number of reasons, including their versatility, practicality, and low cost, geosynthetics have shown to be among the most adaptable, practical, and economical materials for ground modification, adaptation. Many aspects of geotechnical, marine, coastal, and hydraulic engineering are being used more and more often in many major cities all over the world. Geosynthetics are a category of geo-materials widely employed in civil engineering for a variety of purposes. Plastic polymers are seen in significant numbers in geosynthetics. As a result, many types of geosynthetics may be possible.

### II. LITERATURE REVIEWS

[1] Mounes et al. (2011) A guide to the main uses of geosynthetics in pavements. More often than not, pavement systems fell into two broad categories: flexible and solid pavements. Just like other frameworks, these systems are susceptible to suffering of many kinds. In order to minimize pavement erosion, several techniques, such as geosynthetic reinforcement, are applied. In the next analyses, a significant number of papers discuss the use of certain geosynthetics on pavement constructions. The study is designed to share and evaluate the findings from various research on the use of geosynthetics in flexible pavements. Additionally, this research focuses on three important ways geosynthetics are used in the pavement structure: they are referred to as a fluid barrier, strain absorption, and strengthening agent. This research has described the advantages of infusing roadways with geosynthetics. The methods in which geosynthetic materials are employed in pavements to meet many goals, including waterproofing, strain absorption, and reinforcing, were found to be widespread. The waterproofing aspect is affected significantly by the adhesive in the bitumen and seal coat, which impregnate the geosynthetic material. As a strain-absorbing agent, the stiffness of the geosynthetic is less than the stiffness of the surrounding materials, but in the reinforcing function, the stiffness is greater than the stiffness of the surrounding materials. In general, geosynthetics may be employed in AC layer to affect the stiffness, durability, reflective cracking, fatigue, and rutting resistance as well as surface deformation and the application of subgrade stress. It was also said that the properties that impact the behavior of the geosynthetics include the stiffness of the geosynthetics, the area the geosynthetics is applied in, the structural composition of the pavement, and the layer thickness of the pavement structure.
[2] Benmebarek et al. (2015). A numerical technique was used on the embankment in order to enhance its effectiveness in strengthening the locally weakened zones. This article gives a numerical simulation of embankments reinforced with geosynthetics across locally weak zones using PLAXIS algorithm. The case study focuses on restoring the embankment that runs 11 km over Chott El Hodna sabkha soil in Algeria, which traverses an 11 km portion of the road. Throughout the summer, this salt flat is completely dry. However, during the winter, it is covered with water. The soil's characteristics as described in the results and geotechnical investigations include extreme compressibility, low bearing ability, and a modest degree of inclusion. The goal of this document is to analyze how ground strengthening using geosynthetics affects embankment settling in locations with a compromised soil base. The compressibility parameter of the locally weak field, the geosynthetic stiffness, the locally weak morphology of the field, and the angle of friction of embankment fill are all examined to determine their influence on the parameters of interest.

[3] Cantré et al. (2013). Dredged materials and geosynthetics combined in the test dike plant for German Dredgdikes. Researchers are exploring different dredged materials in the South Baltic Sea area in connection to their possible use in constructing dikes with collaborators from Poland and Germany. In Germany, a pair of massive experimental dikes were constructed, while in Poland, two others were created. In reality, an exhaustive research system has been devised, and a rigorous tracking procedure will be put in place. This study describes installation techniques for dredged materials, and details geotechnical characteristics that will be evaluated and controlled in order to manage material quality. Natural water content of the organic soils, their homogenous structure, and the values of the proctor make it difficult to anticipate the compact potential. There were no obvious variations between the three various compaction methods during the installation, and hence on-site efficiency was selected to compress using a caterpillar. The review shows that the roller compactors generally have worse compaction outcomes, however there are a few exceptions. On the whole, the compactness of the soil was fairly minor. Also, other methods to enhance compaction, such as simple in situ mixing procedures, would need to be studied further in order to verify their efficacy.

[4] Moayed, et al. (2011). This work seeks to investigate the effects of using geosynthetics on developing the two-layered soil load-settlement characteristics. While on unpaved roads, the thickness of the subbase sheet has to be determined alongside the function of the geogrid and geotextile. Since bearing ratio tests are employed in so many road construction projects, this test is in current usage. The bearing ratio of two layers of soil was checked: a granular layer (as the subbase layer) at the top, and a thin clayey layer (as the foundation) at the bottom (as the subgrade layer). Three-layer soil was tested under varied conditions, such as nonreinforced and reinforced with geogrid and geotextile, and the results were assessed under varying conditions as well (subbase). To assess the geosynthetic separation effect, the reinforcing factor was placed on the interface between the top granular layer and the clayey layer. The soils were compacted to achieve maximum water quality in both studies (both granular and clayey soil layers). In other words, the graphs were placed on top, and then compared. In fact, this research acknowledges the need of classifying the differences between geogrids and geotextiles in two different layers of soil. Based on the results, the reinforced soil sample exhibited a stronger compressive strength than the unreinforced soil sample. As the thickness of the subbase increases, the geosynthetic inclusion's influence on the foundation reduces. We also noticed, that owing to interlocking with aggregates of the subbase sheet, geogrids had more activity than geotextiles.

[5] Brandon et al. (2014). Planning and Construction of Depositories for Secondary Road Monitoring by Means of Geosynthetic Reinforcement. Three instrumented flexible pavement test pieces were placed along a distant, minor route in southwest Virginia. To evaluate the impacts of geogrid and geotextile stabilization, the nine test sections were created to measure 15 m (50 ft) each. There were four different prototype components that were built using a geogrid, four with a geotextile, and three that were not stabilized. Average study segment base course thicknesses ranged from 4 in (10.2 cm) to 8 in (20.3 cm) and was about 3.5 in (8.9 cm) (HMA). Above the subgrade layer, geosynthetic stabilization has been placed. The two pressure cell types employed were soil-based strain gauges and HMA strain gauges, together with thermocouples and soil moisture sensors. Pressure gauges were installed on the geogrid and geotextile, in other words. In order to properly locate all the instrumentation, cable, and data retrieval locations underground, a sophisticated instrumentation system was built. For strain gauges put on the geotextile, instruments survival was around 6%. After 8 months of duty, instruments had a survival rate of 100%. The most instrument mistakes usually occurs when the instrument is built, or when it has been in use for just a short time. The traffic flows across piezoelectric sensors to activate and operate the data gathering equipment remotely. Processing is performed at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, where the data is sent by modem. Pavement test component performance is anticipated to be monitored for at least three years.

[6] Al-Qadi et al. (2006). A completely instrumented secondary road pavement was constructed in June of 1994 in Bedford County, Virginia, which was 150 m long. This portion of pavement included nine independent 15 m-long parts, which had to be welded together. Three portions of each group were stabilized with geotextiles and three portions were stabilized using geogrids at the base course-subgrade contact. Three remaining control sections were preserved. Which were then used in the structural study, with integrated temperature adjustment from construction until October 2001. Additionally, over the whole breeding season, metrics such as measures of the rutting were gathered as well. When describing the generation of rutting vs cumulative normal equal axle loads, a nonlinear exponential model was applied (ESALs). To anticipate rutting rates, a mechanistic equation with FWD deflections was used together with a linear elastic program that included constitutive material parameters. The detection of fines migration was proven using a scientific model that tested for several rutting rates, all of which used the geosynthetic separation feature to block the migration of fines from the subgrade into the base course sheet. To examine the effect of the geosynthetically stabilized sections on the performance of the 100 mm base course sections, data was collected on rutting, deflection, and service life.

[7] Laurinavičius et al. (2006). An examination of the rutting of concrete asphalt pavement with geosynthetic material was carried out as part of an experimental study. This article analyzes shear strain production and rutting in asphalt pavement, and explains the ways to minimize strain. Asphalt rheological parameters, including elasticity modulus and asphalt viscosity, describe the influence of geosynthetic materials. In Vilnius, the experimental road was worked on. The bearings used in the calculations were plate type. It is necessary to do the measurements so that the geosynthetic materials maintain their effects and may be directly related to the
rut depth and the asphalt concrete elasticity modulus. Also, the regression equations indicate how elasticity modulus and rutting range interdependently affect rutting. Geosynthetics are only utilized because of theoretical assumptions that aim to reduce shear stress in asphalt concrete layers. The current study shows that some materials should not be used in certain circumstances.

[8] Han et al. (2014), Road building that is sustainable by employing recycled aggregates such as Geosynthetic Recycled Aggregates. After the repair of existing roads, leftover concrete, gravel, and ballast are utilized as road construction aggregates. Recycled aggregate mechanical qualities cannot provide load assistance because asphalt, cement, and particles are present. Even, they could have concerns with their lifespan in the long run. The use of geosynthetics has enabled the aggregates to increase their mechanical qualities and their long-term durability. This study highlights the important results of contemporary research on geosynthetics, including permanent deformation, creep deformation, deterioration, stress distribution, and/or crack propagation.

[9] Keller, et al. (2016), Low volume roads are often used to transport geosynthetics. Although geosynthetics provide several cost-effective solutions for low-volume roads, their usage is often underutilized on these types of roads. For the last 40 years, the USDA Forest Service has been using geosynthetics for a variety of operations on its low-volume roadways, including as stability, irrigation, filtration, and isolation. This report is intended to capture several examples of both conventional and nontraditional applications of forest roads on lower-volume highways, and to outline the many cost-effective advantages of using geosynthetics. In highway construction projects, low volume usage is comparable to those in many road projects, and offer the same advantages and cost savings. Use, however, is inconsistent and poorly tracked. Geosynthetic materials are not well known in many developing nations, and engineers and technicians who construct rural roads there have yet to fully use their benefits. Almost two-thirds of the world's roads, 30 million kilometers in total, are made up of low-volume highways that get inadequate attention and support.

[10] Spencer, J. & Reading,, B. (1991). The use of geosynthetics to strengthen soil. This lecture explains various geosynthetic materials and how they are made, what they do, and how they are designed, selected, and specified. A wealth of information is also provided on geosynthetics for soil stabilization, which include soft base embankments, steep slopes, and retaining wall and abutment backfill applications. Materials qualities necessary for designing and constructing geosynthetics are emphasized. Geosynthetic reinforced walls and abutments are built using construction processes detailed by Christopher and Holtz (1985) and Holtz et al. (1997). Failure with patented segmental precast concrete wall facing systems is surprisingly prevalent. The majority of such faults are likely related to inadequate construction, especially with regards to the wall base and back slope.

[11] Palmeira, et al. (2010), A large-scale field test examined the long-term viability of geosynthetic-reinforced dirt roads exposed to periodic surface upkeep. In paved and unpaved roads, geosynthetic may be efficiently employed as reinforcement. This work explores unpaved roads and their weak subgrade, which is strengthened using geosynthetic. A huge piece of equipment was employed to conduct the tests under cyclic loading, in which a nonwoven geotextile was placed as a reinforcing layer in contact with the fill-grade interface, while a geogrid was positioned at the base-fill interface. Displacements and stresses and strains were measured on the fill surface, as well as those in the subgrade. Until a depth of 25 mm was attained in each test, three cyclic loading phases were conducted in each test. Finally, the filling surface was fixed at the completion of the loading process. Comparative monotonic testing was also done on this kind of data. The study's findings reveal that reinforcement layers help achieve more load cycles, decreasing stresses and strains on the subgrade. This is especially true when geogrid reinforcement is applied. When using monotonic load testing, it was also shown that reinforcement contributed far less than expected. A basic cost-effectiveness study found that the usage of geosynthetic reinforcement may yield to considerable savings when it comes to this sort of issue, which, on a normal basis, doesn't get sufficient consideration when it comes to the economic study of this application.

[12] Rajagopal et al. (2014), A review of the literature on reinforced geosynthetic road pavement constructions. To explore the effectiveness of geosynthetic materials in a flexible pavement system, field plate load tests and a series of laboratory plate load experiments were conducted. The rise in the modulus of the reinforced section may be seen as an indicator of the pavement's increased strength. This article will document the state of the research, as well as the laboratory and field testing, analysis of the data, and practical use of this data for the design of flexible pavements.

Poor quality building materials, insufficient compaction, insufficient preparation of the subgrade, overloading, and so on contribute to the early failure of pavement constructions. In order to increase the pavement's lifespan, two alternatives are offered. One way to increase the thickness of the pavement layers is to use a thicker base layer, and the other way is to use a more rigid sub-base layer. This lowers the stresses which are passed to the underlying layers. Some studies indicate that improving the pavement layers' strength and stiffness may lead to a more efficient approach for reducing pavement stresses, resulting in increased pavement life.

[13] Laurinavičius et al. (2006), geosynthetics are used to enhance the Lithuanian asphalt concrete road pavements, which is then used in research and assessment of such pavements This work is dedicated to describing the primary roles of geosynthetics in asphalt concrete constructions, and it also presents findings from research into asphalt concrete pavements that are reinforced with geosynthetics. The current study is investigating the influence of geosynthetics as well. The findings of the study have uncovered the rheological parameters (defined in relation to geosynthetics) whose values are directly linked to geosynthetics. Income/expenditure calculations use regressive equations to predict the depth of ruts. These equations use elasticity modulus and asphalt concrete viscosity as input. According to the results of the statistical investigation, the equations are correct. These results apply to the overall quality of the geosynthetics that are employed in asphalt concrete pavement applications. Geosynthetics has been discovered to be closely linked to rutting development throughout the hot season. Two geosynthetic-influenced properties of asphalt concrete have been discovered to exist. During various seasons of the year, this impacts the size of strains.

[14] Zornberg, et al. (2010), North American contributions in pavements. Flexible pavement systems have long been reinforced using geosynthetics. Despite the strong data demonstrating the beneficial role of geosynthetic reinforcements in road construction, it remains unknown how these reinforcements act in various environments and processes. For the most part, it has been challenging to determine the appropriate design parameters for geosynthetics due to the difficulties in determining the respective performance enhancing features. Informed research has been done with the aim of determining the regulating processes and relevant characteristics of geosynthetics.
Identifying pavement performance characteristics, including the various kinds of geosynthetics, so as to provide predictions of how the pavement will behave under different conditions. This report highlights research relevant to these goals that was done in North America.

[15] Wright et al. (2019), This research focuses on large-scale rolling-wheel testing done on challenging subgrade soils found in north Georgia to learn more about geosynthetic-reinforced pavement foundation systems. The twelve reinforced specimens were each made from 16 large-scale examples. During specimen preparation, California Bearing Ratios were produced by compacting the soil either to its optimum moisture content or above that optimal moisture content. To determine the ideal placement sites for varied subgrade conditions, an extruded biaxial geogrid and woven geotextile were used. sensors to monitor the vertical tension inside the pavement system as a result of rolling-wheel load were put at the bottom of the aggregate base layer and near the top of the subgrade layer.

### III. CONCLUSION AND FINDINGS

The geotextiles in the civil engineer's hands are strong tools, and they have demonstrated to be effective in solving a range of geotechnical challenges. With the increasing number of goods available, the design engineer should be aware of the many application options as well as the geotextile's functional features. There was a strong emphasis on sound engineering ideas in the development of geotextiles, and this would be beneficial for both the customer and the company's long-term goal. Geotextiles can only be effective if the fabric is of good quality and properly installed. The low cost of geotextiles (they're a bargain) is advantageous in that they provide adequate irrigation and subgrade stabilization. This paper concluded that cautious deployment, handling, and maintenance of geotextiles in road construction benefits them. A separation should enable moisture to permeate the system. Soil failure may be prevented by keeping the soil below the water table.

### Reference


