## Geopolymers: Wonder Material for Next Decade

### Materials for Radiation Shielding and Cement free Concrete

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# Geopolymers



An environmental alternative to CO<sub>2</sub>-producing Portland Cement

Amorphous (gel like), partially amorphous Network configurated of SiO<sub>4</sub> and AlO<sub>4</sub> tet together by oxygen bridges.

or crystalline tetrahedrons united



Davidovits model of geopolymer structure



Barbosa model of geopolymer structure

#### Characteristics of Geopolymers Compared with Conventional Concrete

Energy Saving , Environmental Protection and Production Cost : Synthesis of geopolymers occurs at very low temperature. Resulting in 3/5th less energy consumption than Cement. 80% less  $CO_2$  emission. Due to this reason they are called GREEN MATERIALS. Low production cost as they are based on alumino-silicate raw materials naturally occurring on earth crust or derived from industrial waste





### Why Advanced Cement Free Matrix ?

Properties	Conventional Cement Concrete	Fly Ash based Geopolymer Concrete
Curing	Water Curing	No Water Curing (Ambient Thermal Curing)
Fire Resistance*	Looses Strength (about 550 ° C )	Fire Resistant (Retains Strength up to about 900 °C)
Chemical Resistance	Susceptible to Sulphate / Acid	Resistant to Sulphate / Acid
Shrinkage	Inherent Shrinkage	Low Shrinkage ( About ¼ <sup>th</sup> of Conventional Cement Concrete )
Thermal Expansion	Inherent Thermal Expansion	Low Thermal Expansion ( About 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> of Conventional Cement Concrete )
Creep	Inherent	Low Creep ( About ¼ <sup>th</sup> of Conventional Cement Concrete )
Ice Melting	Very Slow	Very Fast
Durability	Very Good	Excellent
* Fire Resistant can n	ot be achieved by conventional	Cement Concrete