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## 7 Brief synopsis

The quest for finding a light weight Material as a replacement for conventional masonry unit has been there since nearly three decades. In India, over the past two decades a significant time has been utilized for making attempts to promote Aerated Concrete Blocks (ACB) as an alternative to the conventional masonry units. Alongside with this growth of development of manufacture of ACB masonry blocks, concrete industry has seen a small but significant growth in usage of aerated (foamed) concrete. Simultaneously, there has been a very significant change in the replacement of burnt clay bricks by concrete masonry unit. It appears that the usage of ACB masonry may become more common in the coming years.

The broad objectives in this research are outlined here under:

- i) Investigation of the strength and elastic properties of ACB masonry and its constituents.
- ii) Load carrying capacity estimation of ACB masonry walls- studies on the estimation of load bearing wall design parameters (stress reduction factor)
- iii) Studies on the performance of ACB masonry in fill in RC frames with a particular focus on the behavior under in plane loading Experimental and Analytical studies.