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Use of slim columns for cost effective and aesthetic construction

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Day by day cost of construction is increasing rapidly because cost of materials required for construction like bricks, masonry, cement, aggregate, reinforcement, formwork, plastering, etc., is increasing. Generally column width is more than width of brick wall in RCC frame structure, as main load carrying member is column, whereas wall just act as partition media. This results in offsets inside the room. This plastering of uneven faces requires comparatively more time and also requires more quantity of material which ultimately leads to increase in the cost of construction. If we consider the practical aspect, the formwork that is plywood/wood comparatively is at low rates. Hence, if we construct column of same width as that of wall, it will not only reduce the offsets and plastering time, but will also provide uniform surface finishing which will be pleasing aesthetically. It will also be cost effective from shuttering point of view and reducing labour cost.

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Critical success factors of OHS policy implementation in construction project: A case of Indonesia

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Issues of occupational safety and health (OSH) in construction projects in Indonesia has not received serious attention from stakeholders. The construction project still has high risk of accidents. The low implementation of safety in workplace is a cause of accidents. The necessary efforts and strategies to encourage implement of OSH is needed at construction projects. The purpose of this paper is to report the results of survey about OSH policy implementation and identify the critical success factors that drive performance of implementation OSH system. The analysis showed that the level of policy implementation at the corporate level is still very low, as an example in a national private company, OSH implementation is 63%. Foreign private company has better OSH implementation (100%). The application of OSH system depend on some indicators namely: manpower (19.79%), equipment (19.90%), organizations (18.85%), management (20.34%) and environment (21.13%). The results showed that the adoption of OSH system at corporate level in foreign private companies showed good application with percentage 100%. While the application of OSH system on state-owned companies by 70% and last, the national private sector by 63%. The key success factors (critical success factors) significantly increase the application of OSH policies. Some of critical success factors are: (i) an increase in contractor safety culture, (ii) management of OSH system and contract, (iii) an increase of knowledge contractor at OSH aspect, (iv) strict law enforcement by the government about trespass of OSH system, (v) policy of contractor companies, (vi) the willingness of contractor companies, (vii) regulation of OSH, (viii) safety campaign, (ix) advocacy to the experts safety association, (x) safety costing (xi) the skills of experts. Some proposed strategies and policies: (1) development of penalty systems the assertion clauses related to OSH in the Construction Contract, (2) OSH assessment in the tender construction projects, "best of safety" award and incentives will increase the qualification of contractor companies, the institution who established by government to supervise OSH implementation.

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