

**SRI LANKA STANDARD 855 PART 1: 1989**  
**UDC 693.27:666.94**

**SPECIFICATION FOR  
CEMENT BLOCKS  
PART 1- REQUIREMENTS**

**SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION**

789 1 0

**SPECIFICATION FOR CEMENT BLOCKS**  
**PART 1 : REQUIREMENTS**

**SLS 855 : Part 1 : 1989**  
(Attached AMD 164 and Errata Sheet)

Gr. 10

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SPECIFICATION FOR CEMENT BLOCKS  
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**FOREWORD**

This Standard was authorized for adoption and publication as a Sri Lanka Standard by the Council of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution on 89-07-25, after the draft, finalized by the Drafting Committee on Precast masonry units, had been approved by the Civil Engineering Divisional Committee.

Cement blocks are available as solid blocks, hollow blocks and cellular blocks, and commonly made of cement sand mixes or concrete mixes. Although they are of recent origin compared to other building materials such as stone and brick, the demand in the construction industry for these blocks is significant at present.

Popularity has led to greater use, which in turn has stimulated the use of hand casting and machine casting. Further, more and more manufacturers are taking up production of cement blocks and this trend may continue as these products become popular throughout the country. Production of a great diversity of blocks with varying sizes and tolerances, and varying properties can be harmful in the long term. Use of cement blocks in high strength applications also necessitates the need for careful quality control and regular testing of blocks. Due to more favourable environmental conditions and the common building types prevalent in Sri Lanka, strength and physical requirements can also be altered compared to those specified internationally. Thus a strong need exists for a specification for cement blocks to attain higher performance levels and greater safety, to standardize on size and tolerances of units, and to conduct necessary testing.

This part of the standard deals with requirements of solid blocks, hollow blocks and cellular blocks. Part 2 of this standard specifies test methods related to cement blocks.

For the purpose of deciding whether a particular requirement of this standard is complied with, the final value, observed or calculated, expressing the result of a test or an analysis, shall be rounded off in accordance with CS 102. The number of significant figures to be retained in the rounded off value shall be the same as that of the specified value in this standard.