# SRI LANKA STANDARD 217: 1995

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# SPECIFICATION FOR REINFORCED CONCRETE FENCE POSTS (FIRST REVISION)



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SLS 217: 1995

Gr. 11

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SRI LANKA

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# Sri Lanka Standard SPECIFICATION FOR REINFORCED CONCRETE FENCE POSTS (FIRST REVISION)

#### **FOREWORD**

This Sri Lanka Standard Specification was authorized for adoption and publication as a Sri Lanka Standard by the Council of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution on 1995-05-25 after the draft, finalized by the Sectoral Committee on Building and Construction Materials.

This specification is a revision of SLS 217:1973 and establishes basic requirements in relation to the manufacture and erection of concrete tence posts. Properly made reinforced concrete fence posts have a very long life, require very little or no maintenance and give a neat appearance to the fence. This standard is intended to serve as a guide in the manufacture, selection, testing and use of suitable type of reinforced concrete fence posts.

The original specification which was published as SLS 217:1973 was revised in order to bring it in line with the current practice. Accordingly several changes were effected as follows:

- a) Imperial units were dropped;
- b) Cold worked deformed bar reinforcements were included;
- c) Changes were made to some reinforcement details;
- d) An indirect durability assessment was introduced;
- e) More specific information on erection of fence posts were included; and
- f) Text was expanded where clarification—was found necessary.

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 analysis, shall be rounded off in accordance with CS 102. The number of figures to be retained in the rounded off value shall be the same as that of the specified value in this standard.

In the preparation of this standard, the assistance derived from the publication of the Indian Standards Institution is gratefully acknowledged.

#### 1 SCOPE

This Sri Lanka Standard specification covers the requirements and methods of test for reinforced concrete fence posts for general purposes.

#### 2 REFERENCES

CS 26 : Hot rolled mild steel round bars for concrete

reinforcement

CS 102: Presentation of numerical values.

SLS 107: Ordinary Portland cement

SLS 262: Methods of sampling, analysing and testing of concrete

SLS 375: Cold worked deformed bars for the reinforcement of

concrete

SLS 428: Random sampling methods SLS 522: Water for making concrete

SLS 728: Methods of testing of mineral aggregates for cement

concrete mixes

BS 882 : Aggregate from natural sources for concrete

# 3 CLASSIFICATION

Reinforced concrete fence posts shall be classified into the following categories (see Figure 1).

# 3.1 Line Posts (Intermediate posts)

These posts carry the fencing wire between the strainer posts, in a post and wire system.

# 3.2 Strainer Posts

Posts notched and used with struts or braces as strainers at the ends, or at intermediate positions in a line of fence.

# 3.3 Strut or Brace

Member used in inclined position for supporting the strainer posts .

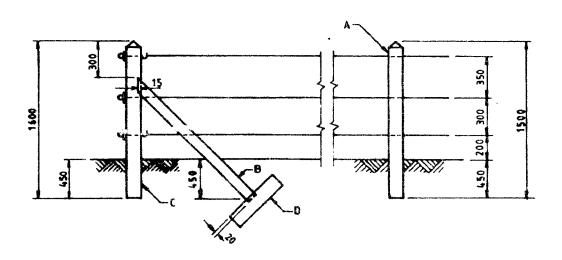
#### 4 MATERIALS

# 4.1 Cement

Cement used shall conform to the requirements of SLS 107.

#### 4.2 Water

Water used, during both mixing and curing, shall conform to the requirements of SLS 522.



A - Line post 100 x 125

C = Strainer post 125 × 125

8 - 100 x 100 strut

D - Concrete base block 500 × 250 × 125 precast or in-situ

Dimensions in millimetres

FIGURE 1-Typical details and dimensions of line post, strainer post and strut for fencing intended for houses and housing estates.

# 4.3 Aggregates

The aggregates used shall consist of clean, coarse and fine aggregates in accordance with BS 882. The nominal maximum size of coarse aggregate shall not exceed ,20 mm.

#### 4.4 Concrete

proportion leaner than mix shall be not 1 cement : 2 sand: 4 coarse aggregates (20 mm) at a water/cement ratio of 0.5. Slump shall be 25 mm to 40 mm if vibrators or 50 to 100 mm if vibrators are not used. If necessary, cement slurry of the same water/cement ratio shall be added to the mix to the specified slump. The crushing strength of concrete cubes at 28 days shall not be less than 20 N/mm<sup>2</sup>. If 7 day tests are done, crushing strength of 150 mm concrete cubes shall not be less than 13.5 N/mm<sup>2</sup>.

# 4.5 Reinforcement

Steel used for reinforcement shall conform to the requirements of CS 26 or SLS 375.

# 5 REQUIREMENTS

# 5.1 Dimensions and reinforcement details

The fence posts shall generally be rectangular in section and they may be of uniform section throughout their length or tapering along their length on all four faces. The cross- sectional dimensions and the adequate to conform to the be reinforcement shall The larger cross-sectional dimension shall requirements given in 8. be that perpendicular to the line of the fence. Unless otherwise specified by the purchaser and provided the strength requirements are fulfilled, the dimensions and reinforcement given in Table 1 may be The design, length and area of cross-section of concrete fence posts vary depending on the use for which they are intended. Some of the common sizes and shapes are given in Table 1 for general guidance.

Details of the bent type posts LP-1 and LP-6 (see Table 1) are shown in Figure 2.

## NOTE

High yield reinforcement 8 mm diameter is not widely available.

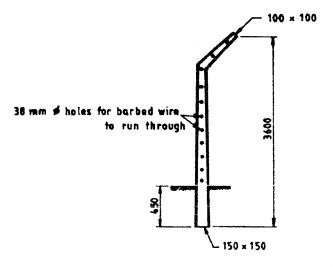
TABLE 1 - Dimensions and reinforcement details

,	TYPE OF POST	CROSS-SECTION   LENGTH		TH .	REINFORCEMENT			REMARKS	
1	1	Bottom	Тор	Total	Below Grou- nd	Main	n	Stirrups	i
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	mario:		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			High yeild steel	Mild steel	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
LP1	Line post Strainer post or corner		/	1.5	0.45	6 mm 4 No.		at 100 mm	Suitable as barbed or plain wire fencing residential homes and housing estates (see Figure 1 for typical details)
S1	Strut or  brace	110x100	110x100	1.6	• • • •	! ! !	1		
LP2	Line	125x125	110x100	1.85	0.45	t } ! !	; ; ; ;	} \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	Suitable as barbed or plain wire fencing for farms and gardens
SP2	Strainer post or Corner	150x150	125x125	2.15	0.60	6mm 4 No.	-	at 100 mm	(see Figure 4 for typical details)
s2	post Strut or brace	110x110	110x110	2.15	i i i i i i	1 1 1 1 1	; ; ; ;	centres	
LP3	Line post	110x100	110x100	1.85	0.45	10 mm	8 mm	6 mm at 150 mm centres	Suitable as permanent barbed or plain wire cattle fencing. Vertical
SP3	Strainer post or Corner post	125x125	110x100	2.15	0.60	4 No.	4 No.	 	or diagonal wires in between the fence posts may also be used depending upon the
<b>S</b> 3	Strut or	or	110Xt* or 125xt*	: ! ! !	-	1 1 2 1	 	 	security required (see Figure 5 for typical details

\*\* High yield steel can be used in place of mild steel, where specified. Contd...

TABLE 1 (Contd..)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
LP4	Line	3	150x125	:		i		150 mm	Suitable as barbed or plain wire fencing for heavy stock and
SP4	Strainer post or	150x150	150x150	2.30	0.60	4 No.	4 No.	į	estate work (see Figure 5 for
  S4	corner post Strut or brace	110x110	110x110	2.30	-			1 1 1	typical details)
LP5	Line	 150x150	110x100	2.0	0.45	10 mm	8 mm	6 mm at	Suitable as barbed or plain wire fencing
SP5	post strainer post or	150x150	125x125	2.30	0.60	4 No.	4 No.	centres	for heavy stock and estate work (see Figure 5 for
	Corner post Strut or brace	110x110	110x110	2.30		i i i	t 1 t 1		details)
LP6	Line	150x150	110x100	3.60	0.45	10 mm	8 mm	6 mm at	Goose neck posts. Suitable as security
SPE	post  Strainer	150x150	110x100	3.60	0.6	4 No.	4 No.	centres	plain wire. Vertical
S6	post or Corner post Sturt or brace	r 150x150	150x150	3.60	-		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 4 5	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	and diagonal wire may be introduced in between the fencing posts (see Figure 6 for typical details)



Dimensions in millimetres

FIGURE 2(a) - Line post

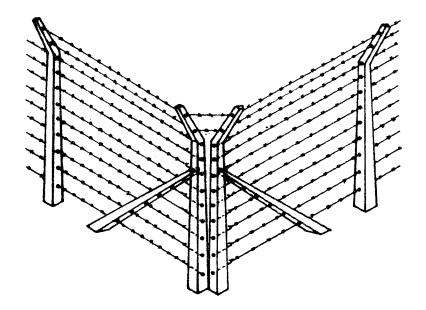


FIGURE 2(b) - Arrangement at a corner

#### 5.2 Tolerance

The tolerance on the overall length of the fence posts shall be  $\pm 15$  mm. The tolerance on cross sectional dimensions shall be  $\pm 6$  mm and  $\pm 4$  mm.

The tolerance on the straightness of the fence post shall be 0.5 percent.

In the case of bent posts (see Figure 2) strightness shall apply for each straight portion and length shall be that measured along the center line.

# 6 MANUFACTURE

# 6.1 Reinforcement

# 6.1.1 Preparation

Reinforcement shall be clean and free from loose mill scale, loose rust, mud, oil, grease or any other coating which could reduce the bond between the concrete and the steel. A slight film of rust shall not be regarded as harmful, but the steel shall not be visibly pitted by the rust.

# 6.1.2 Positioning

There shall be a minimum of one longitudinal bar in each corner. The longitudinal mild steel bar shall be in one piece for posts 1.5 m long. For fence posts over  $1.5 \, \text{m}$ :

- a) The longitudinal steel bar may be made up of not more than 2 pieces, butt-welded to the same strength as that of the bar; and
- b) Not more than 2 of the longitudinal steel bars shall be lapped. The length of the lap shall not be less that 45 bar diameters for mild steel bars and 40 bar diameters for cold worked deformed bars.

These longitudinal bars shall be fixed firmly by means of 3 mm diameter mild steel stirrups spaced as specified (see Table 2) so that they are not displaced from their correct positions during placing and compaction of concrete.

# 6.1.3 Anchorage

For strainer posts, adequate hooks or other forms of anchorage, shall be provided to the main reinforcement at the base of the posts.

TABLE 2 - Details of erection

	OF POST	FENCING WIRE SPACING FROM GROUND	OF LINE	SPACING OF STRAINER POST	REMARKS
 	1 1 7	mm	m	m	1
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
SP1	Line post Strainer post or corner post Strut or brace	200 500 and 850	3	30	Suitable as barbed or fencing for residential homes and housing estates (see Figure 1 for typical details)
SP2	Line post Strainer post or Corner post Strut or brace	150,300 450,600 900 and 1200		30	Suitable as barbed or plain wire fencing for farms and gardens (see Figure 4 for typical details)
SP3	Line post Strainer post or Corner post Strut or brace	150,300 500,725 950 and 1200	i I	30	Suitable as permanent barbed or plain wire cattle fencing. Vertical or diagonal wires in between the fence posts may also be used depending upon the security required (see Figure 5 for typical details)

Contd..

TABLE 2 (Cond.)

¦(1) ¦	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
SP4	Line post Stainer post or corner post Strut or brace	100,200 300,450 750,950 and 1200		30	Suitable as barbed or plain wire fencing for heavy stock and estate work (see Figure 5 for typical details)
SP5	Corner	100,200 300,450 650,850 1050, 1250 and 1450		30	Suitable as barbed or plain wire fencing for heavy stock and estate work (see Figure 5 for typical details)
SP6	Corner post Sturt or post	1050, 1275, 1500, 1725, 1950, 2175, 2400,	3	30	Goose neck posts. suitable as security fencing with barbed or plain wire vertical and diagonal wire may be introduced in between the fencing posts (see Figure 6 for typical details)

# NOTE

See Table 1 for further details on above types of posts.

#### 6.2 Other details

## 6.2.1 Cover

To ensure durability of the finished fence posts, all reinforcement including stirrups shall have a minimum concrete cover of 20 mm or the diameter of the main reinforcement whichever is greater. This cover shall be maintained at all sections. Where the posts and struts are to be used in coastal areas, the minimum concrete cover over all reinforcement including stirrups shall be increased to 25 mm. The minimum concrete cover specified, shall be maintained by the manufacturer during casting and not applied later.

# 6.2.2 Spacing and holes for fixing fencing wire

Spacing of holes for fixing fencing wire is as shown in Table 2 Actual spacing can be decided by agreement between the purchaser and the manufacturer, provided it is within the values specified in Table 2. Size of holes shall be specified in 7.2.3, 7.2.4 and 7.2.5. When cast in-situ metal projections or clips are used, those attachments should be embedded as given in 7.2.1.

#### 6.2.3 Mould

A mould such as given in Figure 3 may be used.

Holes may be cast in the fencing posts through which the fencing wire could be passed. The holes may be formed by inserting steel rods, slightly greased, horizontally through the holes in the divisions of the mould and withdrawing them before the concrete sets too hard, say 4 or 5 hours after it has been placed. Holes shall have a uniform diameter of not less than 10 mm as specified and shall be along the center line of the post. They shall present a reasonably smooth surface. All arrisses shall be removed from the edges of the holes to prevent chaffing of the fencing wire. Holes shall not be provided in struts unless specified by the purchaser, and, when so specified, the holes shall take the form of long slots so that the fencing wires will not be kinked as they pass through.

# 6.2.4 Insertion of indentations

When concrete is partially set, say 4 to 5 hours after it has been placed, following indentation should be made on the fence post;

- a) Two lines drawn by a trowel to indicate the recommended depth of embedment (see Table 1 : Column 6); and
- b) Date of manufacture and trade mark.

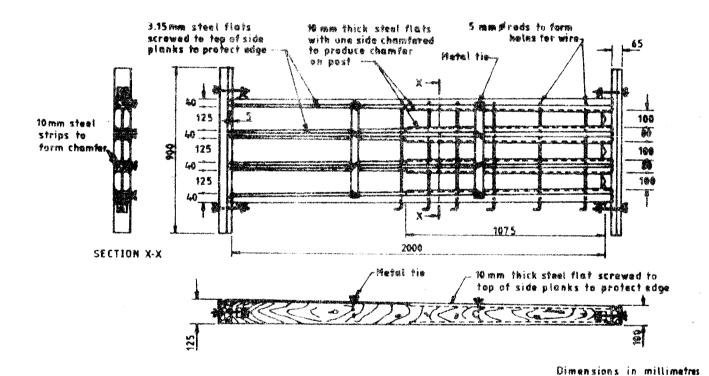


FIGURE 3 - Typical details of a multiple mould for making three fencing posts at a time

# 6.2.5 Curing

After placing, the concrete shall be adequately protected during setting and in the first stages of hardening. The concrete shall be cured by keeping it moist for at least 7 days.

# 6.2.6 Maturing

From the date of casting, the posts shall be matured at least for 28 days including the period of curing before testing or dispatch .

# 6.2.7 Construction and finish

Each post shall be made of concrete proportioned, mixed, placed and compacted to give a dense concrete free from voids.

Each post shall have a dense surface finish showing no coarse aggregate, and shall have no crevices likely to assist in the disintegration of concrete or rusting of the steel by the action of natural agencies.

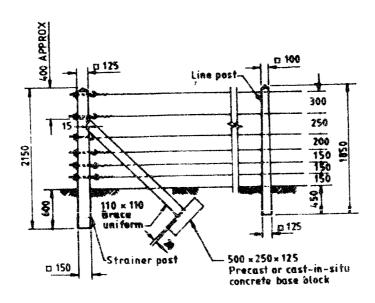
# 7 ERECTION, FIXING AND SPACING OF FENCING WIRES

# 7.1 Erection of fence post

The lower end of the fence post shall be inserted in the hole dug in the ground for the purpose and ground repacked very carefully maintaining the plumbness of the poles. The earth shall be watered and rammed back thoroughly around the foot of the post, layer by layer. Rocks and large stones buried against the face of the post will give it additional support. Where the soil is so poor, that even these precautions do not work, the posts shall be set in lean concrete. Posts with rectangular sections shall be set with their larger face perpendicular to the line of fencing.

Proper functioning and appearance of the post-and-wire fence depends upon the stability of the posts as well as the tightness and tautness of the wires. This, in turn, depends upon the firmness and stability of end, cornered strainer posts. These should be provided with braces and set in a block of concrete unless the posts themselves are made very massive, strongly reinforced and set deep in the ground. The use of braces is generally the most economical. (see Figure 1,4,5 and 6).

The brace shall be placed in line with the fence so that it will bear at a point not more than two thirds of the distance from the ground level to the top of the post. The foot of the brace may bear against the adjacent line post provided this is set at a distance closer than the normal, alternatively it may be set in a block of concrete below ground level.



Dimensions in millimetres

FIGURE 4 — Typical details and dimensions of line post, strainer post and brace for fencing intended for farms and gardens.

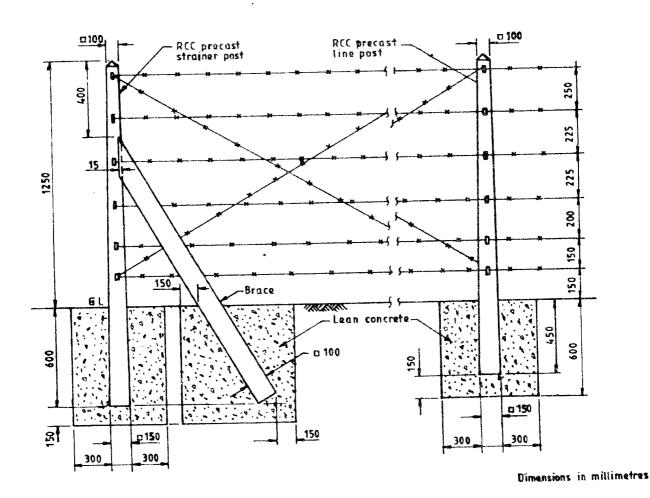


FIGURE 5 - Typical details and dimensions of RCC line post, strainer post with brace for permanent barbed or plain wire cattle fence.

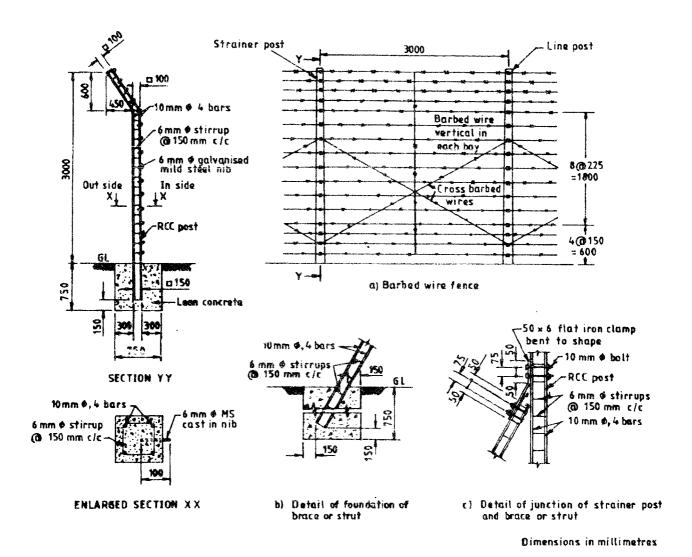


FIGURE 6-Typical details of goose neck fencing post for security fencing

# 7.2 Fixing of fencing wires

This can be done in many ways as described below. However, methods of fixing shall be decided in advance before specifying fence post details.

# 7.2.1 Using cast-in metal projections or clips (see Figure 7)

Metal projections or clips shall be either galvanized or suitably protected against corrosion. The inner ends shall be bent or hooked to prevent extraction. The clips shall be sufficiently robust to withstand service conditions and repeated fixing and unfixing of wires. A single wire clip shall not be used for this purpose as it may be too easily broken. In coastal climates, however, this method is not recommended, because even the galvanized steel staples may be subject to corrosion.

# 7.2.2 Attaching fencing wire with galvanized wire (see Figure 8)

No holes are required in these fence posts. If the edges of the post are chamfered, this will enable the tying wire to be pulled tighter. Shallow notches may also be cast in the two back edges of the post so that these will firmly house the line wire and prevent any possibility of it slipping down the post.

# 7.2.3 Threading fencing wire through holes in fence posts (see Figure 9)

Dimensions of the fence post perpendicular to the fence wire (in a rectangular cross-section this will be the larger dimension) shall be at least 115 mm and the diameter of the hole shall not be greater than 38 mm.

# NOTE

Provision of holes for threading fencing wire leads to a lower cost due to elimination of various fixing attachements. However, it will weaken the post, and may lead to scraping of the galvanized coating, bending of barbed wire spilces, easier loosening of wire with time, and a higher cost due to slower construction time.

# 7.2.4 Using hook and bolt (see Figure 10)

Holes shall be not less than 10 mm in diameter.

# 7.2.5 Using U- clips through holes and anchoring (see Figure 11)

Holes shall be not less than 10 mm in diameter.

# 7.3 Fencing wire spacing

Spacing of fencing wire will vary with the use for which the fencing is required. Unless otherwise specified by the purchaser; the spacing as recommended in Table 2 may be adopted.



FIGURE 7



FIGURE 8

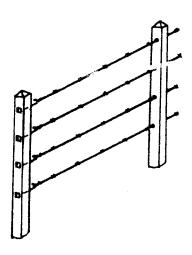
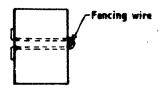


FIGURE 9



FIGURE 10





b)

# 7.4 Tightening of wires

For tightening the fence wire, the device shown in Figure 12 is useful. One end of each wire shall be attached to a length of 5 mm diameter mild steel bar having a hook at one end and threaded at the other. The threaded end shall be passed through the holes in the strainer post, and a washer and nut shall then be put on. The nut shall be turned on with a spanner until the wire is sufficiently taut.

# 8 TESTS

# 8.1 Impact test

The specimen shall be laid horizontally on two round bar supports not less than 25 mm in diameter, so arranged as to be at right angles to the length of the specimen and at a distance of 75 mm from the ends. The greater cross-sectional dimension shall be vertical. The two round bar supports shall rest on flat rigid floor (see Figure 13).

A mass of  $20 \pm 1$  kg in the form of a metal bar with a minimum cross-sectional area of  $2500 \text{ mm}^2$  and not exceeding  $3000 \text{ mm}^2$  shall be dropped from a height specified in Table 3, on to the centre of the specimen. The specimen shall then be carefully examined for permanent cracks. If such a crack is observed, the post shall be deemed to have failed this particular test.

#### NOTE

Finally, the specimen tested shall be broken to expose the reinforcement, and sizes of reinforcements and minimum cover measured.

Type Height of drop (mm)

Line posts 115
Strainer posts 500
Struts 90

TABLE 3 - Drop height to impact test

# 8.2 Static load test

A typical arrangement for static load test is given in Figure 14.

In this arrangement, the specimen shall be horizontally placed, with the greater cross-sectional dimension vertical. The diameters of the round bars, providing fixed points of support shall be not less than 25 mm. The load shall be increased gradually as slow as possible until the first visible crack is observed in the specimen.

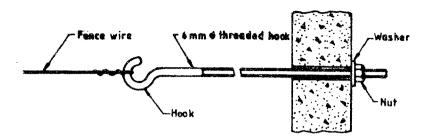


FIGURE 12-Device for tightening fence wire

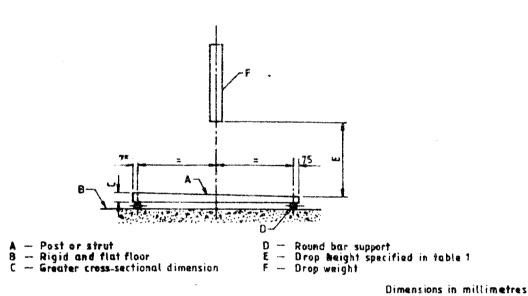
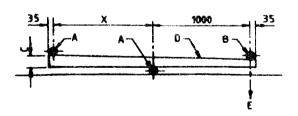


FIGURE 13 - Typical arrangement for impact test



- Round bars providing fixed points of support
- Round bar providing loading point
   Greater cross-sectional dimension
   Post ar strut
   Load
- Đ

Dimensions in millimetres

PIGURE 14 - Typical arrangement for static load test

The applied load shall then be recorded as the test load. The visible crack(s) shall be carefully observed. The load required to provide the first visible crack(s) in the reinforced concrete post shall be not less than that specified in Table 4. If the load required to produce the first visible crack(s) is less than that specified in Table 4, the post shall be deemed to have failed the test.

#### NOTE

Finally, the specimen tested shall be broken to expose the reinforcement, and sizes of reinforcements and minimum cover measured.

TABLE 4 - Minimum static load requirements

Type of post	Minimum static load at first crack(s )(kg)
Line post	75
Strainer post	200
Strut	50
i	

# 9 SAMPLING AND INSPECTION

# 9.1 Sampling

## 9.1.1 Lot

In any batch, all fence posts of the same type and same dimensions shall be grouped together to constitute a lot.

## 9.1.2 Sub-1ot

If the number of fence posts in a lot exceeds 500, the lot shall be divided into a suitable number of sub-lots, such that the number of posts in any sub-lot shall not exceed 500.

# 9.1.3 Sample size

Sample size shall be made up of posts selected at random from a lot or sub-lot. To ensure randomness of selection, methods given in SLS 428 may be used.

## 9.2 Number of tests

The number of posts to be tested for dimensional requirements (overall length, cross section and straightness) and strength shall be in accordance with **Table 5**.

The posts tested for impact or static-load shall be broken to expose the reinforcement. The reinforcement and cover actually provided shall be the same or better than what is claimed by the manufacturer (see 10).

Size of lot or sub-lot	Sampl	e Size		Permissible no. of defectives		
•	Dimen- sional require- ment	Impact Test	Static Load Test	Dimen- sional require- ment	Impact Test	Static Load Test
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Up to 100	10	1	; 1	1	0	0
101 to 200	15	1	; 2	1 1	0	, 0
201 to 300	20	2	; 2	2	0	, 0
301 to 500	30	3	3	3	0	0

TABLE 5 - Sample size and criteria for conformity

# 9.3 Criteria for conformity

- 9.3.1 The number of fence posts which do not satisfy the requirements of overall length, cross section and straightness shall not exceed the corresponding number given in Column 3 of Table 5.
- 9.3.2 All the fence posts tested for impact or static strength test shall satisfy the requirements of each test as well as reinforcement and cover as claimed by the manufacturer (see 10). In addition concrete cover shall comply with 6.2.1. If one or more fence posts fail, twice the number of fence posts originally tested shall be selected from the sample already selected, and subjected to the test. If there is no failure among these fence posts, the lot or the sub-lot shall be considered to have satisfied the requirements of these tests. If any of the posts fail the entire sample shall be tested; and if there is no failure among these fence posts, the lot or the sub-lot shall be considered to have satisfied the requirements of these test.

#### 10 MARKING

The fence posts shall be clearly and indelibly marked at the time of casting with the date of manufacture. (See also 6.2.4)

The manufacturer's certificate, the delivery note or the invoice shall contain the following particulars:

- the name, trade mark or other means of identification of the manufacturer;
- b) type reinforcement and details of reinforcement embedded in each type of fence post; and
- c) minimum concrete cover (for general use or coastal use) provided in the fence post.

## NOTE

Attention is drawn to the certification marking facilities offered by the Sri Lanka standard Standard Institution. See the inside back cover of this standard.

# SLS CERTIFICATION MARK

The Sri Lanka Standards Institution is the owner of the registered certification mark shown below. Beneath the mark, the number of the Sri Lanka Standard relevant to the product is indicated. This mark may be used only by those who have obtained permits under the SLS certification marks scheme. The presence of this mark on or in relation to a product conveys the assurance that they have been produced to comply with the requirements of the relevant Sri Lanka Standard under a well designed system of quality control inspection and testing operated by the manufacturer and supervised by the SLSI which includes surveillance inspection of the factory, testing of both factory and market samples.

Further particulars of the terms and conditions of the permit may be obtained from the Sri Lanka Standards Institution, 17, Victoria Place, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08.



## SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION

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