# UNIT II - CONSTRUCTION PRACTICE - SUPER STRUCTURE

## 1. Introduction to Flooring

- Flooring refers to the process of providing a durable surface to the floor of a building or structure.
- It plays a crucial role in aesthetics, comfort, and functionality.
- Different types of flooring materials can be chosen based on the building's purpose, cost, and durability.

## 2. Types of Flooring Materials

1. **Stone Flooring:**
    - Natural stones like marble, granite, and sandstone are used.
    - These materials are durable, aesthetic, and commonly used in residential and commercial buildings.
2. **Tile Flooring:**
    - Ceramic, vitrified, and porcelain tiles are widely used.
    - Tiles are available in various designs and finishes.
    - They are easy to clean, durable, and resistant to moisture.
3. **Wooden Flooring:**
    - Natural wood planks or engineered wood are used for wooden flooring.
    - It provides a warm and natural look but requires maintenance.
4. **Vinyl Flooring:**
    - It is a synthetic flooring material known for being water-resistant and durable.
    - Popular in areas like kitchens, bathrooms, and basements.
5. **Laminate Flooring:**
    - A multi-layer synthetic flooring product, it simulates wood or stone surfaces.

- Less expensive and easier to install compared to real wood or stone.

6. **Carpet Flooring:**
    - Made from textiles, often used in areas where comfort and warmth are desired, like bedrooms and living rooms.
7. **Concrete Flooring:**
    - Concrete is widely used in industrial, commercial, and even residential buildings for a solid and durable surface.

**3. Flooring Construction Process**

1. **Subfloor Preparation:**
    - The subfloor is the foundation layer over which the actual flooring is laid.
    - It must be properly leveled, cleaned, and sometimes waterproofed before flooring installation.
2. **Laying the Flooring Material:**
    - Based on the flooring material chosen, specific techniques like cement mortar, adhesives, or mechanical fasteners are used.
3. **Finishing:**
    - The final step involves polishing, varnishing, or sealing the floor for durability and aesthetics.

**4. Factors to Consider in Flooring:**

1. **Durability:**
    - Floors in high-traffic areas require materials that can withstand wear and tear.
2. **Cost:**
    - The budget for the project plays a significant role in material selection.
3. **Aesthetic Value:**
    - The look and feel of the floor should match the overall design of the building.

4. **Maintenance:**
    - Some floors require regular maintenance, like wood floors needing polishing and carpets needing cleaning.
5. **Environmental Considerations:**
    - Sustainable flooring options like bamboo and reclaimed wood are becoming popular.

## 5. Planning and Scheduling in Flooring Projects

- Proper planning of material delivery, labor allocation, and sequencing of work is essential.
- Avoiding delays in subfloor preparation and material procurement is key to on-time completion.
- Coordination with other trades, like plumbing and electrical works, is essential to prevent rework.