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Question:

A multiplate disc clutch transmits 55 kW of power at 1800 rpm. Coefficient of friction for the friction surfaces is 0.1. Axial intensity of pressure is not to exceed 160 kN/m2. The internal radius is 80 mm and is 0.7 times the external radius. Find the number of plates needed to transmit the required torque.

Answer:

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Data: Power=P = 55 KW = 55X10^3 W; N= 1800 rpm; p = 160 KN/m<sup>2</sup> = 160 X 10^3 N/m<sup>2</sup>
 Internal radius R2 = 80 mm; External radius R1= 80/0.7 = 114.28 mm
 Coefficient of friction \mu = 0.1
 No. of plates needed to transmit torque = n = ??
 Now using formula of power,
    55X10^3 = \frac{2 \times 3.14 \times 1800 \times T}{2}
                                                                      .....[ 1 Mark]
 T = 291.79 \text{ N-m}
 Considering uniform wear theory, for clutches, maximum pressure intensity is at minimum
 radius, i.e. R<sub>min</sub> =R<sub>2</sub>
 p_{max} = C / R_2
 160 \times 10^3 = C/0.08
C = 12800
                                                                       ...... [ 1 Mark]
Axial load W = 2\pi C(R1 - R2)
            = 2 \times 3.142 \times 12800 \times (0.1142-0.08)
    W =2756.96 N
                                                                        .....[ 1 Mark]
Considering uniform wear theory, Torque transmitted by clutch
          T = \frac{1}{2}\mu W(R1 + R2) X n
291.79 = \frac{1}{2} \times 0.1 \times 2756.96 \times (0.1142 + 0.08) \times n
 n = 10.89 \approx 11
This is Number of pairs in contact.
No. of plates needed is n + 1 = 12....Ans
                                                                        .....[ 1 Mark]
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