

EXPERIMENTAL INVESTIGATION ON COCONUT FIBER REINFORCED
CONCRETE

PROJECT REPORT

Submitted by

EZHILARASAN D

112818103003

RAJESH S

112818103004

BANDARU HIMANTH

112818103301

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T.J.S ENGINEERING COLLEGE



ANNA UNIVERSITY-CHENNAI 600025

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T.J.S. ENGINEERING COLLEGE

Peruvoyal, Kavarattipalayam,

Geminidipoondi Taluk,

Thiruvallur Dist - 601 206.

BONAFIDE CERTIFICATE

Certified that this project report "COCONUT FIBER REINFORCED CONCRETE" is the bonafide work of EZHILARASAN D, RAJESH S and BANDARU HIMANTH who carried out the project work under my supervision.


SIGNATURE

Mr. K. KAVIRASAN, ME., M.I.E.,
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT,
Department of Civil Engineering,
T.J.S. Engineering college,
Peruvoyal-601201,



SIGNATURE

Mr. R. PRAVEENKUMAR, ME
SUPERVISOR,
Department of Civil Engineering,
T.J.S. Engineering college,
Peruvoyal-601201,

Submitted for the University Examination held on 20.6.2022
T.J.S. ENGINEERING COLLEGE, Chennai.


INTERNAL EXAMINER


EXTERNAL EXAMINER


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Peruvoyal, Kaungupattal,
Gummidipoondi Taluk,
Thiruvallur Dist - 601 208.

ABSTRACT

Sustainability is a wide accepted concept in modern construction scenario. Even though the construction industry is revolutionizing in a significant manner in terms of both equipment and materials used, the cost of construction has skyrocketed along with the deteriorative impact on environment. This resulted in the adoption of a more balanced approach with the environment as its nerve centre to create a better world to live in. This has led to the adoption of a natural fibre like Coconut for the strength enhancement in concrete


Coconut fibre is available in abundance at the test site, which makes it quite viable as a reinforcement material in concrete. Further, it acts as a new source of income for the coconut producer who gets the benefits of the new demand generated by the construction industry. In addition to this, it is an effective method for the disposal of coir mattress waste which will reduce the demand for additional waste disposal infrastructure and decrease the load on existing landfills and incinerators. The problem of high rate of water absorption of the fibre could be reduced by coating the fibres with oil. Moreover the fibres being natural in origin is ecologically sustainable and can bring down the global carbon footprint quite effectively.

This study aimed at analyzing the variation in strength of coconut fiber (oil coated raw and oil coated processed fibres) reinforced concrete at varying fibre contents and to compare it with that of conventional concrete. The various strength aspects analyzed are the flexural, compressive and tensile strength of the coconut fiber reinforced concrete at varying percentages (4%, 5%, 5% by the weight of cement)


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Peruvoyal, Muvattupuzha,
Gurukulam Group of Institutions

of fibre. The influence of shape of fibre on strength is also studied by testing on coconut fibre mesh of predetermined dimensions. The optimal percentage of both the processed fibre strands and raw fibre meshes were found out by trial and error and the optimum percentage of superplasticizer needed for the required workability was also determined.


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T.J.S. ENGINEERING COLLEGE
Peruvoyal, Kottayam Road,
Gummidipundi, Thiruvallur Dist - 601 206.