

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND DIVERSIFICATION

YEAR	ACTIVITIES	ACHIEVEMENTS
1958-59	<p>Preliminary investigations having established the feasibility of the utilisation of coir waste and coconut pith as fillers in the production of moulding compositions, a working formula for moulding pieces in a laboratory scale was established. Test pieces have been moulded and the various tests prescribed for such mouldings have been carried out. Effect of various factors affecting the mouldings has been investigated. Certain valuable trials on the incorporation of colouring matter in moulding compositions have been carried out.</p>	
1959-60	<p>Trials were made to substitute synthetic resins by lac and partial substitution without impairing the quality of the material was indicated. Studies were carried out on different types of ropes to prepare draft specifications.</p>	
1960-61	<p>Bituminizing of Coir mattings was undertaken by treatment with bitumen. Investigation into the application of bituminized matting as canal lining has been taken up in collaboration with the Vaiga Canal Authority, Madurai.</p> <p>The coir waste and coconut pith were discarded as materials of little value. The work of Coir Technologist found that they could be used for preparation of phenol formaldehyde moulding powders, which could be hot pressed to obtain articles of any shape using appropriate moulds. These products have been termed as "Coirolite". A pamphlet on "Coirolite" was published. Efforts were made to study the possibility of production of "Coirolite" on a commercial scale by tying up with a plastic manufacturer in Bombay but it did not succeed, as the equipments available in the factory couldn't satisfactorily process the raw material.</p>	<p>1.Developed "Coirolite" from coir waste and Phenol Formaldehyde.</p> <p>2.Investigated into the application of bitumen-ised matting for canal lining</p>