

IIT-I develops low-cost coloured bricks for affordable rural houses

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Indore: Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Indore has developed a low-cost coloured bricks using stone waste aimed at promoting low-cost housing in rural areas.

The institute claimed that the use of these bricks will save around 35 per cent cost of construction as these bi-layered bricks will not need plaster and paint.

NO PAINT OR PLASTER NEEDED

These bricks can be manufactured at an industrial scale at a cost of less than Rs 5 per brick, said the institute adding that these bricks can be manufactured in machines used for normal fly ash brick with minor alterations. Institute's Centre for Rural Development and Technology has developed these special bricks jointly with the department of civil engineering, mechanical engineering and

physics in its brick laboratory using the inherently coloured dimensional stone waste available in million of tons in dumping areas.

Researchers Dr Sandeep Chaudhary, Dr Rajesh Kumar and Dr Ankur Miglani along with research scholars Vivek Gupta and Divesh Kumar have used four stone wastes from Dholpur, Jaisalmer, Kota and Makrana for developing these low-cost bricks.

Chaudhary said, "Intensive research work is going in the institute in the field of pre-manufactured products and gainful utilization of waste materials for the last four years."

He said, "The red-coloured fired bricks adversely affect the environment, and many states in our country have banned its manufacturing. The fly ash bricks can be imparted colour using synthetic colours; however, that would increase the cost. Therefore, research scholars have used waste materials and developed coloured bricks using dimensional stone waste, which is strong and durable."