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EcoProtect Engineering introduces Coir-based Erosion Control System in Sri Lanka



Before the installation

EcoProtect Engineering Pvt Ltd, a subsidiary of Multichemi Group has introduced an innovative and environmentally friendly method of erosion control using coir based erosion control products for the first time in Sri Lanka.

EcoProtect Engineering Pvt Ltd is a joint venture between Multichemi Group and Coco Technologies Corporation, a leading erosion control specialist in the Philippines. They have been in this field for over 10 years and have been instrumental in making coir-based erosion control systems mandatory in the Philippines. They currently carry out erosion control projects in the Philippines and

many other countries.

The major applications of this technology are protecting highway embankments (cuts and fills) exposed slopes, maintenance of rehabilitated embankments and revegetation of difficult terrains etc. Though Sri Lanka is one of the largest exporters of coir and coir-based products in the world this technology was never applied here for erosion control, which is a burning issue. This venture would be a boost to the local industry as well as an effective way of controlling soil erosion.

Also, majority of the manufacturers of these coir based erosion control products are based in down south coastal areas, namely in Ambalangoda



After the installation



Two months after installation

an area heavily affected by the recent 'Tsunami' tragedy. This innovative technology introduced by EcoProtect Engineering will create a new market for coir-based erosion control products, which in turn will be an economic boost for people in those areas amidst the tragedy that hit them.

Recognition of coir in the erosion control industry has come from the fact that it is an abundant, renewable,

natural resource with an extremely slow decomposition rate and a high strength compared to other natural fibers. Coir fibers are derived from the husk of coconuts, the versatile fruit known as the gift of the tree of life.

Coir erosion control products are ideal and economical to install in bio-engineered erosion control applications. These products are biodegradable within three to five years and

absorb moisture up to five to eight times its own weight. Coir erosion control products hug all ground surfaces to hold soil and seed in place and prevent undercutting. They can be installed on slopes exceeding 1:1 ratios, act as a soil nutrient and put back approximately two tons of rich organic matter per acre. Coir erosion control products also accept hydro seeding before and after installation.