

## Value addition to local mineral resources

### **The manufacturing and designing of durable natural coloured decorative items with technical usage of waste mineral sands and ground stones**

Beautiful rocks & minerals have a ready made demand all over the world. Scarcity, durability and portability of minerals are strengthening this demand. However, their abundant availability, inbuilt impurities and poor optical properties make lower demand in the market.

To overcome these issues on minerals with less demand, technologies have been developed and geared into finished products.

At very first, shapes and sizes of mineral particles are controlled by manual crushing and grinding systems. Then sieving, tumbling, panning, precipitating, chemical cleaning and washing methods are introduced. After drying, the mineral particles are graded, further separated or blended with other minerals to improve the optical properties.

There are three main lines of productions developed.



Of these the first range involves lamp shade manufacturing totally based on the developemnt of translucent surfaces with coated minerals. The second range is the sand drawings based on the surface coating systems, but two different distinct technologies are introduced for the placing of minerals on to a given surface. The third range is solid sand statues and sculpture developments by resin based castings.

Once the products are developed, the surfaces are treated separately for their durability.

Finally, to strengthen the natural colours of minerals and to retain the original beauty of minerals manual finishing, methods are employed.”

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