

# Investigate the Effectiveness of Coir and Rice husk filler on the mechanical and water absorption behaviour of Kevlar fiber based composite Materials

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## ABSTRACT

Hybrid composite plastic products have increasingly supplanted traditional cad materials in an array of applications, most notably automotive as well as domestic appliances. As sales grow, variations are all being integrated into traditional fabrics for particular purposes in order to reduce energy consumption while maintaining quality requirements. The latest research aims to look into the impact of additives mostly on the magnetic strength of fibres. Organic granules such as agricultural residues, grain hulls, as well as coir fibre are used in man-made fibre reinforced composites. Polyimide as well as epoxy adhesives were employed to examine the impact of lattice upon the characteristics of man-made fibers. Organic additives were discovered to be more effective in polypropylene (PP) blends. Overall, matrix composites with coconut shell outperform both these natural fillers throughout crystal blends in regards to their mechanical properties.

**Keywords:** Coir; Rice Husk; Kevlar Fiber; Mechanical Properties; Natural fillers; Moisture absorption.

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## INTRODUCTION

The enhanced use of fibre-based plastic products in the last decade has resulted in significant research concern in the field of natural fibres. However, while polyester fabric reinforced polymers have excellent properties, their operating costs are quite high, owing primarily to manufacturing costs. In contrast, the utilisation of natural fabrics results in cheaper and lighter composite materials, despite the fact that the physical characteristics of soil fibre composites are relatively lower than those of glass fibre. As a result, scientists all over the globe have turned to hybrid composites, which combine natural and artificial fibres in a reasonable way [1]. According to various studies, the translational strength of concrete of sisal composite samples improves as the synthetic dosage increases, while the circumferential strength of concrete is indeed less compared to raffia nanocomposite. Other studies discovered that moisture content enhanced sisal composite samples, causing a drop in material properties [2]. The material characteristics of raffia composite materials, like yield stress, ductility, interphase fracture toughness, energy absorption capacity, notch

responsiveness, as well as moisture content, have been researched, and it was discovered that elastic modulus is relatively low compared to those of straightforward glass fibre and higher compared to jute fibre composites.

Moisture content has been discovered to rise as bagasse content increases. To remove debonding as well as acquire softer nanocomposite materials at fewer costs, an ego resulting polymer matrix of sisal as well as fibre glass has been established. Heat transfer and dissipation factors were discovered to increase as the weight fraction of man-made fibres increased in a blended grapefruit green leaves and acrylic fiber-reinforced polymer nylon template [3,4]. Research on kakapo fibre reinforced polyethylene nanocomposite with incomplete kenaf fibre found that increasing the kenaf proportion increased rigidity and thermal properties, whilst also decreasing tensile modulus resilience. Donnell and colleagues [5] investigated the ductile implications, modulus of rupture, as well as fracture toughness characteristics of jute and man-made fibre biocomposites to polyamide as that of the polymeric matrix. The investigations were performed for various glass components as well as discovered to enhance the growing glass proportions. The variability of flexural and tensile characteristics of Jute fibre combination composites fibre weight proportion was investigated, and surface modification of palm fibre led to a great development in such material properties. Good corrosion tests showed that biocomposites just weren't resilient to cyanuric hypochlorite [6].

Heat transfer of linoleic acid polypropylene jute fibre composite samples has been found to be less than synthetic fibre bolstered fibres but higher than sisal carbon fibers. It was also discovered that incorporating dry erase flour into the epoxy increased its heat capacity. Tewari et al. discovered that combining sugarcane fibre and glass fibre enhances flexibility modulus as well as fracture toughness while decreasing strength properties as well as flexural strengths [7]. Quick wood polyethylene as well as quick wood fibreglass reinforced polyethylene blends have been researched for sorbent performance and environmental ageing in elastic modulus. Later, corresponding attributes of ageing and tiredness behaviour were also investigated under axial load. Compressive strength and elasticity of the two blends decreased significantly after three weeks of ageing at 70°C. Cicala et al. posited that the use of natural materials alongside fibreglass for tubing layout might result in a 28% reduction in costs and a 48% reduction in weight [8]. In epoxy, two kinds of biocomposites have been created: one is by combining Raqqa and fibre glass; the other is by interspersing raqqa fibre among fibre glass mattresses. The material strength of the glass fibre epidermis to the raqqa core of the fibre was superior to that of the distributed thing [9,10]. Composite materials with appropriate characteristics were created using husks, fibre glass, as well as polyester. Pasteurized sisal and fibre glass biocomposites with ultraviolet light outperformed untreated sisal biocomposites in terms of mechanical properties. Coco fibre blended blends have been identified as a potential material for systemic projects involving high mechanical properties [11]. The compressive behaviour of coco fibre biocomposites at various temperatures was investigated using equal measures of coco fillers as well as fibre glass. Mechanical characteristics grew with increasing temperature within a week of 50°C and yet decreased significantly related to higher surface temperatures, particularly when using large fibre weight fragments [12].

According to the publications, the structural composites created by combining natural materials with man-made fibres are less compared to those of blends created purely of synthetic materials. Natural materials are employed in conjunction with fibreglass to lower the cost as well as the mass of blends. In the current study, fruit coir, grain hulls, as well as rice husk were employed as filler particles in conjunction with fibreglass to create direct fluorescent and glomerular filtration composite materials. The effects of organic additives, as well as the use of distinct epoxy resins, on the material characteristics of Kevlar have been investigated.

## **EXPERIMENTAL WORKS**

### **2.1 Fabrication of Composites Using Epoxy Resin**

Utilizing Kevlar mattresses, epoxy adhesive, as well as organic diluents, laminates with a thickness of 3 mm were created. Fillers included husks, grain husks, as well as coir. At ambient conditions, matrix composites were planned using the traditional hand layup method in a browser chromed steel thin metal mould measuring 150 mm x 150 mm. The mould is specifically created to produce linoleum plates 3 millimetres thick. Rithu Fiber Industry, India, produced a complex of knitted doped Kevlar mattresses of 300 GSM for each of the blends. The polymer as well as the curing agent have been pneumatically completely mixed in a 10:1 molar ratio. To adhere to a basic comparison process, inserts with a 3 mm thickness were created. The organic additives were utilised at 5% of the mass of the Kevlar. Following a research study, the choice was made to use only 5% organic injectables. First, 10% organic granules have been added, resulting in a significant reduction in material properties. The decrease in characteristics might well be credited to unwet of fibres as well as diluents even by polymer matrices and padding aggregation. Furthermore, in spite of the addition of 10% additives, the layer limitation of 3 mm was never met.

It's indeed important to note that these natural fibres have been previously lowered to a duration of one to four cm before being used. The mould's task edge was first coated with a small amount of polyethylene liquor, which also serves as a solvent. After the polyaniline covering has also hardened, a gentle overlay of epoxy is applied with such a mascara wand, followed by the initial stack of knitted Kevlar in the bottom section of a mould. The Kevlar is extensively encased in epoxy using a squeegee, and afterwards, this same padding has been equally distributed over the stack before placing the 2nd Kevlar layer. Once more, this same polymer is extensively implemented to ensure that it trickles beneath the Kevlar layer as well as jackets these same natural materials as well. This procedure is repeated until the final section of Kevlar is encased in epoxy. To finish the gathering, this same upper plate of both the moulds is carefully positioned over the lesser one. Eventually, the entire mould is positioned in a media as well as a one-tonne compaction load. This same compaction guarantees that encapsulated bubbles are eliminated entirely and the surplus polymer streams out. To complete the setting time, the mould is left at room temperature for 24 hours. Other inserts were made using the same method. Four different types of samples have been created in total. Three of a Kevlar/epoxy blended polymer composite used various environmental materials as additives, including rice husk, grain husk, as well as coconut shells, whereas the fourth cladding used only Kevlar fibre as reinforcement.

### **2.2 Fabrication of Composites Using Polyester Resin**

The Methyl Ethyl Ketone Oxidant as well as the Cobalt Proceed to the next stage were added to a generic base material. Initially, the overall polymer has been blended with Cobalt Octoate, a catalyst. The accelerator hastens the breakdown of organic peroxy innovators known as motivators, which intensifies gelation. The polymer is then treated with MEKP shortly before it is applied to Kevlar fibre, which also acts as a catalyst and activates the gelation of polyesters. MEKP is also beneficial in the chilly set-up of thermoplastic blends. Because the plates were created during the warmer months, when temperatures in India averaged around 50 degrees, only 15mL of Cobalt Octoate and 15mL of MEKP were added to the epoxy. It must be remembered that once MEKP is already incorporated into the polymer, the hand lay-up method must be done soon, or else the polymer begins to electrophoresis, resulting in waste. Thermoplastics Kevlar fibre plates to reinforce filler are produced in a similar manner to epoxy-based layers. The organic materials are also applied in the percentage of 6% by mass of the Kevlar fibre mass, as well as the entire mould meeting is forced to listen to a compression load of 15 metric tonnes in a media. Within three hours, this same thermoplastic plastic laminate is prepared to be used. Multiple thermoplastic Kevlar plates have been made in the same way as the tacky glue Kevlar composites. One would be made entirely of woven Kevlar fibre, while the remaining 3 would be made entirely of fillers such as grain hollow shells, rice hulls, as well as coconut shells.

### **2.3. Testing of Composites**

Tensile testing was carried out in compliance with ASTM D3039. A workpiece dimension of 250 x 25 x 3 mm. The experiment was carried out on a universal testing equipment with a 5-tonne capacity. Plain samples of an exact dimension have been corrected among the grasps of every noggin of a measurement device in such a manner that the force directed imposed on the specimen coincided with the samples' long direction.

The compressive strength of a test piece has been determined with the help of the Berkeley shear clamp. The test samples were 127 x 38.1 x 3 mm in shape. The flat samples were again injected in the centre with a 7-micrometre pit. The experiment was carried out on a universal tester with a load capacity of five tonnes. The test samples have been secured in an UC Berkeley clamp, which has been positioned just on UTM between the two thin plates. This same concrete strength load was placed inside the axially, causing this same sample to underperform.

The experiment with the broken pass was carried out in accordance with ISO: 1998-1962. The testing machine must be 15 mm wide and 24 to 30 mm deep, twice the depth of a composite material evaluated to be closest to 0.03 mm, as per IS norms. The experiment was carried out on the UTM. The sample was held in place in the device by parallel endorses. This same spacing itself between endorses has been kept constant at 16 percent of the assessment samples' evaluated depth. The 3rd V-block, concurrent to and sandwiched between the sponsoring frames, implemented a burden throughout the size of a sample.

The impact resistance of the specimen was determined in accordance with ISO 180: 1993. Based on the dimensions a rectangle portion with a distance of 63.5 and a width of 12.7 mm, as well as a linoleum width of 3 mm, has been planned. The sample has a V-notch at a juncture equal distance from one of the lengthy team's end points. The specimens were placed in the experiment machine's crime such that the toothed facial expression of the sample faced the goal scorer as well as the rhizomes of a tier had been level with the lateral head. Whenever the balance of power is launched using an able-to-operate brake pedal, the remarkable corner of a swing strikes the toothed edge of a sample. The power used to tear the sample was measured.

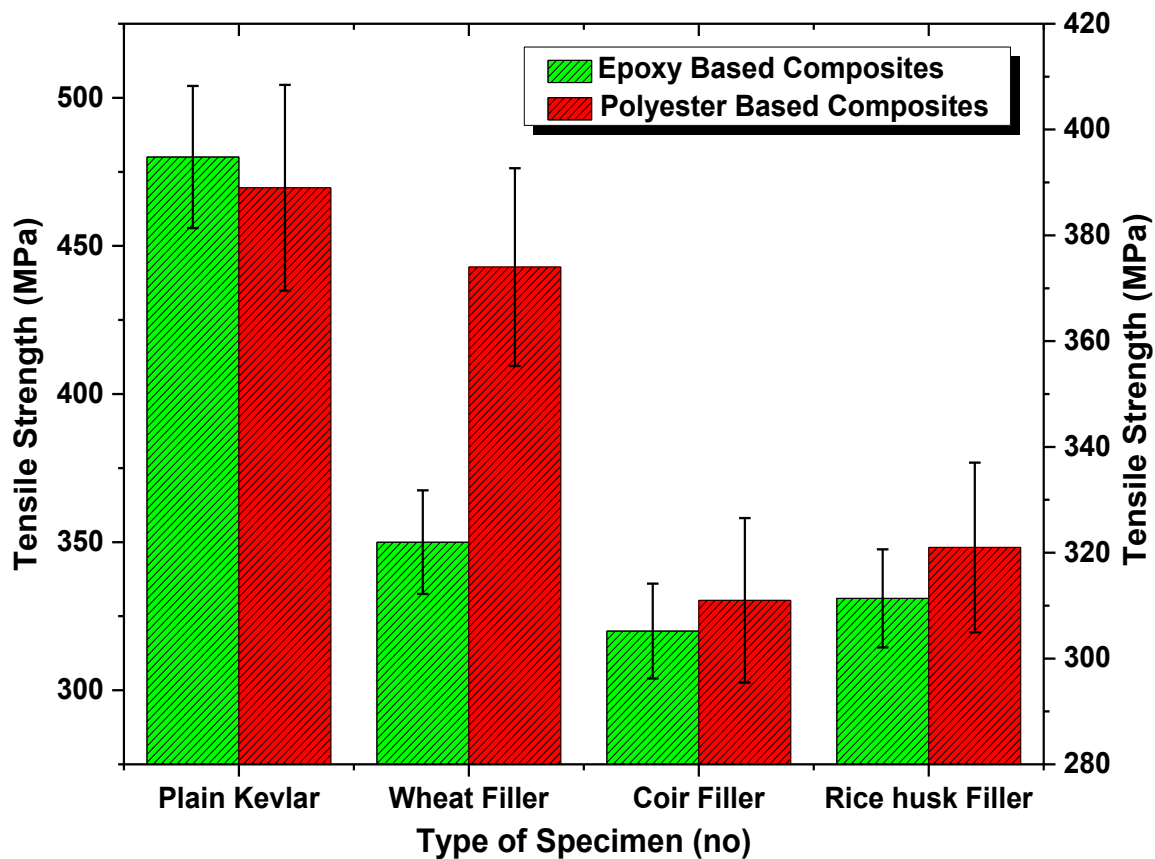
Hardness Test specimens measuring 25 x 25 mm have been planned. On some kinds of Rockwell device, a metal ball abutment with a radius of 1.05 mm was employed to evaluate the hardness. The measurement was performed just on the Rockwell K-scale with a load of 200 kg, and now an estimate of four test conditions was obtained.

The test of moisture uptake has been carried out in accordance with the Indian Standard IS: 1998-1962. A 38 mm rectangular material was created. The mass of a sample was first determined in air (W1), and then it was engrossed in purified water for 24 hours. The sample has been correctly wiped after being removed from the liquid as well as weighed approximately 2 minutes after being removed from the liquid.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **3.1. Tensile Strength.**

In summary, the tensile behaviour of epoxy-based Kevlar is higher compared to thermoplastic blends. Figure 1 depicts the tensile value systems of the eight composite materials under consideration. The tensile modulus of epoxy as well as polyester polymer blends reduces once organic granules are added. This same tensile of tacky glue blends to coconut shell as well as grains of hollow shell as ingredients is larger than that of the tensile of plain Kevlar-based polyester materials [13].



*Fig.1. Tension Behaviour of different fillers-based Kevlar composites*

In contrast, polyester mixtures to husk additives outperform epoxy to husk additives in terms of durability. This same possible explanation could be that husk bonds best to polyester, even better than epoxy. Polymer composite mixtures with coconut husk additives have a look similar to simple Kevlar blends, whereas polyester-based mixtures with husk additives have superior durability strength compared to certain other thermoplastic composite materials with additives. The tensile modulus of silicone caulk composite samples was lowered by up to 20.14%, while thermoplastic composite materials were lowered by 17.85%.

### 3.2. Compressive Strength

The compression force was measured on the UTM. Figure 2 demonstrates that the compression power of epoxy-based blends is greater than that of thermoplastic blends. The compression of all epoxy-based blends, both without and with additives, is greater than that of Kevlar-based polyester biocomposites. This demonstrates that adhesive should be employed as a mixture for increased compression. Among the Kevlar-Polyester blends, the content writing coir has higher compression strength than simple Kevlar-Polyester samples. Overall, reinforced composite grain hollow shell as padding always had the lowest compressive strength [14,15]. With the addition of grain corncob additives, the compressive strength of wood putty and thermoplastics blends was reduced by up to 36.7% and 18.41%, respectively.

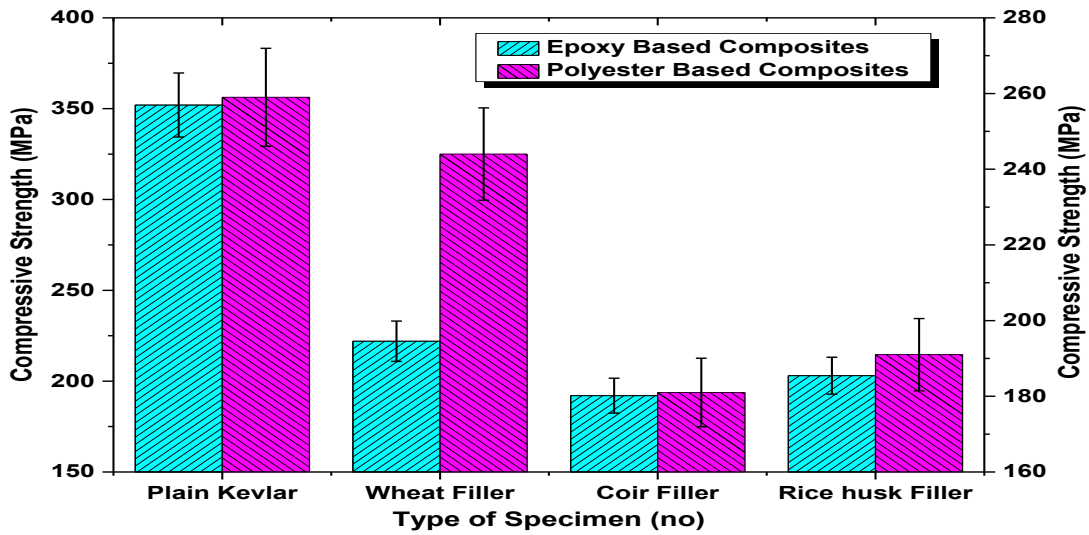


Fig. 2. Compression Behaviour of different fillers-based Kevlar composites

### 3.3 Impact Strength

Figure 3 displays that the izod growth of thermoplastics blended with coir fibre as additives has been encountered to be the greatest of all composite materials manufactured. In epoxy-and thermoplastic blends, distinct patterns were noticed. In tacky glue blends, simple Kevlar samples had the highest important power, followed by those containing grain filler particles, coir fibre diluents, and the lowest tensile properties to grain corncob additives. However, in thermoplastics blends, samples to coir as additives appeared to have the greatest positive power, followed by those containing husk additives, grain corncob diluents, and the lowest impact resistance was with simple Kevlar [16,17]. Overall, the fracture toughness of thermoplastic composites improves with the incorporation of organic additives. The fracture toughness of thermoplastic material increases by an optimum of 15 % when coir dust fillers are added, but still decreases by 19 % when grain corncob additives are added in epoxy-based blends.

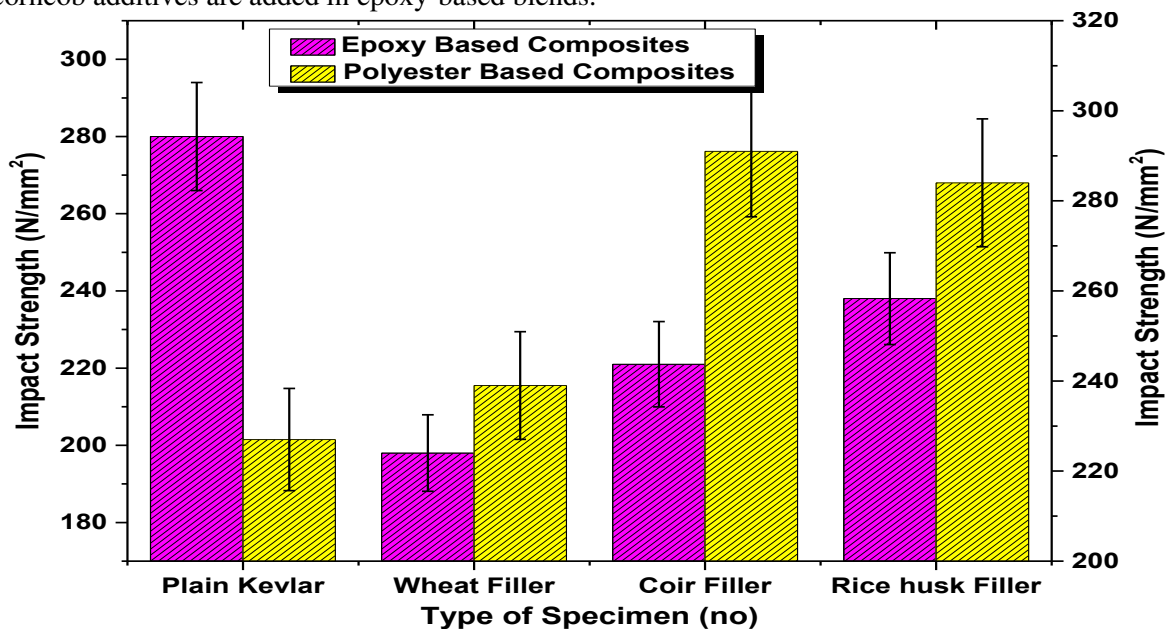


Fig. 3. Impact Behaviour of different fillers-based Kevlar composites

### 3.4. Hardness

The hardening of simple Kevlar-Epoxy blends has been found to be HRK 100.25. The inclusion of filler particles lowered the firmness of Kevlar-Epoxy blends. The toughness of Kevlar-Polyester blends to grain additives was greater than that of plain Kevlar-Polyester blends. Figure 6 shows that the hardness of blends with grain corncob additives has been discovered to be lowest with both epoxy and polyester as a matrix [18,19]. The toughness of polymer composite concrete decreases by 49.8% when grain corncob additives are added, while thermoplastic mixtures are enhanced by 1.12% when rice granules are added. Figure 4 shows the Hardness values of a hybrid composites.

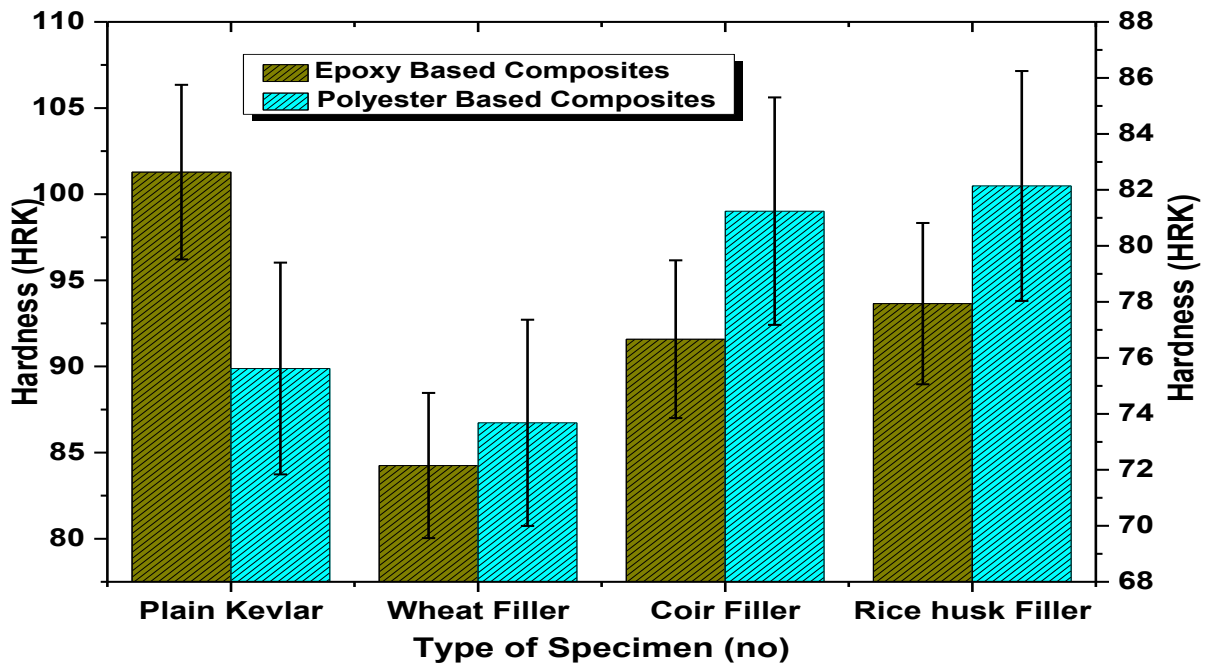
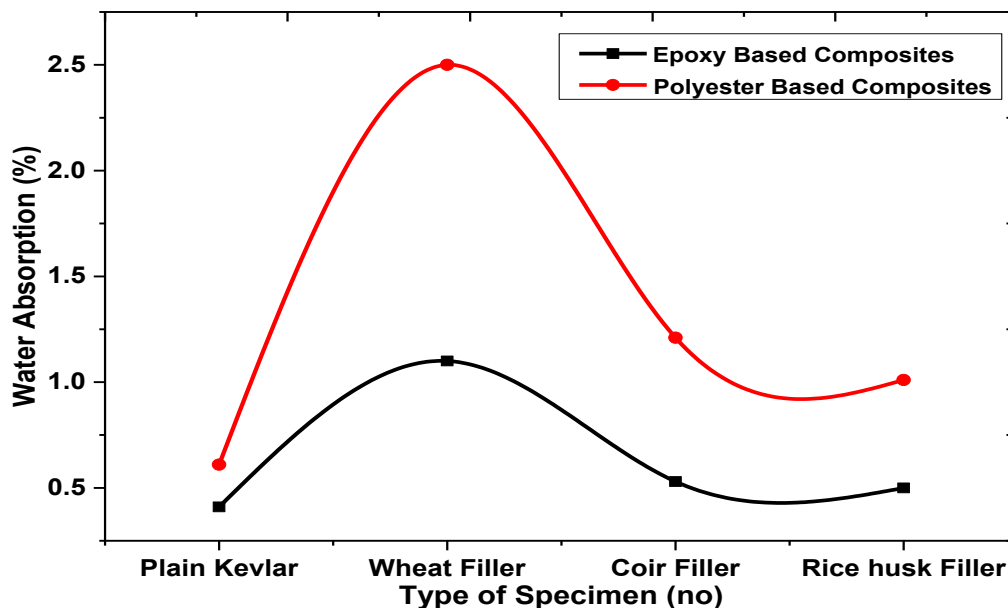


Fig. 4. Hardness Behaviour of different fillers-based Kevlar composites

### 3.5. Water Absorption

Moisture content in Kevlar-Polyester blends has been determined to be significantly higher than that in Kevlar-Epoxy blends. Moisture content is lower in Kevlar Composite due to additives than even in simple Kevlar-Polyester. Figure 5 shows the outcomes of an absorption test for water. The machinability of epoxy nanocomposites might well be affected by water absorption. The publishers already know that absorption of water influences the ductile behaviour of elastomers. Scientists have attempted to link this same water content with the structural behaviour of laminated structures [20,21].



*Fig. 5. Moisture absorption Behaviour of different fillers-based Kevlar composites*

## Conclusion

Different analytical experiments were run on Kevlar Polyester-as well as Kevlar Epoxy-based blends in this study. Overall, adding additives reduces the price and muscle mass of Kevlar fibre composites. The impact of natural filler particles was already investigated, as can be seen from the mentioned findings. Epoxy-based mixtures have a higher tensile strength than thermoplastic blends. Kevlar-Epoxy mixtures with coir dust additives have similar tensile to simple Kevlar-Epoxy blends, and Kevlar-Polyester mixtures with husk fluff have similar tensile to simple Kevlar-Polyester laminates. Kevlar-Epoxy-based mixtures have greater compressive strength than Kevlar-Polyester-based blends. The compressive strength of Kevlar-Polyester samples with coconut shell additives is higher compared to simple Kevlar-Polyester blends.

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