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Submitted by
S SHAMEEM AKTHAR
1786BVA025



ABSTRACT

THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY IS TO INVESTIGATE THE LEVEL OF AWARENESS AMONG INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS OF THE POTENTIAL APPLICABILITY OF HEMP AS AN ALTERNATIVE SUSTAINABLE COMPONENT IN BUILDING MATERIALS. THE KEY FINDINGS FROM THE CASE STUDY SHOW THAT THE HOUSE WAS BUILT TO BE AS ORGANIC AND ECO-FRIENDLY AS POSSIBLE AND INCORPORATED MANY GREEN ASPECTS. THE REPORT EXAMINES AND MODELS TWO DIFFERENT ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDING CONCEPTS – THE MORE COMMON PASSIVE HOUSE AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL FRIENDLY HEMPCRETE BUILDING SYSTEM. THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE AGREE THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR EXPLORING ALTERNATIVE BUILDING MATERIALS AND THEY SEEM TO HAVE RELATIVELY HIGH KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT HEMP IS INCLUDING THE BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH IT. HOWEVER, MAJORITY OF THE RESPONDENTS WERE NOT CERTAIN WHETHER HEMP IS READILY AVAILABLE OR NOT AND THIS SUGGESTS THE MINIMAL USE OF THE PLANT, IT IS STILL LIMITED AND ITS APPLICATION THERE OF IS ALSO MINIMAL. CURRENT GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS IMPOSED ON THE CULTIVATION OF THE HEMP PLANT IN THE COUNTRY EQUALLY SEEM TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MINIMAL USE OF THE PLANT IN CONSTRUCTION. KEY WORDS: ALTERNATIVE BUILDING MATERIAL, GREEN CONSTRUCTION, HEMP, SUSTAINABILITY.

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