

Chapter 03

Synthetic Fibres and Plastics

Advantages & Disadvantages of plastics:

Advantages:

- Plastics are less reactive toward air and water and does not get corroded easily.
- Plastics are strong, light, and durable.
- They can be moulded into different shapes and they are even cheaper than different types of metals.
- These properties find very wide applications in the preparation of household articles and other materials.
- They are economically more easily available.
- Plastic is a poor conductor of heat and electricity.
- This property finds application in the preparation of handles of screwdrivers, utensils, and other household articles.
- Plastics also find use in the health care industry like syringes, gloves, packing of tablets, and threads, which are used for stitching of wounds.
- Special type of cookware is used for wovens, which is plastic.

Disadvantages:

- Plastic is non – biodegradable when disposed into the earth, it cannot be mixed into the earth fastly.
- Burning of plastic can release, many poisonous gases, which are harmful.
- To avoid this we must adopt the 5R principle.
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Refuse and Recover.