## **About the Cover**



Photo shows different paper mill sludges or fibers from four paper mills and wastepaper tested as additive in stone mastic asphalt (SMA) to prevent cracks in road pavements. Good road is normally paved or covered with a structure to supplement the natural strength of the soil foundation. Prevention of cracks results in high road maintenance cost. Sludge is generally a waste product in pulping and papermaking processes. The use of paper mill sludge as fiber additive in asphalt will cut down the load on landfills as tons of the waste is generated daily from major domestic paper mills. Addition of 5 and 6% of asphalt and between 0.3 and 0.5% of sludge or fiber coming from any of the four paper mills resulted in Marshall specimens with properties that generally pass the Department of Public Works and Highways' specifications for both medium and heavy traffic road pavements. Complete study is found on page 29 (Photo courtesy of Erlinda Mari, FPRDI, DOST).

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