



PLASTIC FREE CAMPUS POLICY

Purpose:

Plastics, being a Hazardous element in the society posing a major threat to the livelihood of Mankind and other being in the world. The environment is getting polluted at the never before pace sparing no mediums due to plastics. So it is becoming a key responsibility of every citizen of our country not just to “Say No to Plastics” but also to create awareness among the community as whole to stop this pollution and leave behind a green and pollution free place for our future generations.

PRIST will implement the phase-wise ban on use of Plastics in its campus, in particular single use plastics with effect from 1st January, 2016.

Definitions:

Campus: Anywhere within the boundary of the Institution.

Event: Any activity, meeting, conference, seminar, workshop, performance, speech, or gathering that takes place on the Campus.

Single use: Any item designed to be used once and then disposed of or destroyed.

Single-use plastic food service ware: Any bags, straws, cups, containers, lids, cutlery, stirrers, or plates that are made of plastic and intended only for one-time use. This definition includes compostable or biodegradable plastics (such as Oxo biodegradable or vegetable-based plastics) meeting these criteria.

Single-use plastic bottles: Any formed or moulded containers comprised predominantly of plastic resin and intended primarily as a single-use container containing any beverage for human consumption. This definition includes compostable or biodegradable plastic bottles meeting these criteria.

Single-use plastic banners: Any shape of banner made of plastic and intended only for one-time use. This definition includes compostable or biodegradable plastics (such as Oxo biodegradable or vegetable based plastics) meeting these criteria.

Environmentally-responsible alternatives: Any item or system that can replace the items restricted by the policy that is completely free of disposable plastic.

Compostable: Made solely of organic substances that break down into a stable product due to the action of bacteria in a controlled, aerobic process that result in a material safe and desirable as a soil amendment.

Biodegradable: Made solely of substances capable of being decomposed by bacteria or other living organism

Scope:

Following the mantra REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE, the institution has resolved to implement phase-wise ban of plastics in the following fashion.

Phase -1

- Ban on Single-use plastic packing materials in Canteen & Stores.
- Identification & implementation of replacements for alternative food and beverages that are sold in canteen which comes in plastic packaging
- Ban on Single-use plastic bottles of 1 litre or less in volume for in-house meetings and events
- Reduction in usage of Single-use plastic banners
- Segregation of Non-Biodegradable plastics by House Keeping staff & safe disposal of the same through authorized agencies.
- Ban on use of plastic materials used for decorations at the events.

Implementation and Compliance:

- The institution will deploy the members of GREEN CELL for the mission comprising Faculty advisors who will ensure the Planning and implementation of this Phase-wise Plastic ban in the campus.
- They will thoroughly monitor the implementation of the ban and meet frequently to assess & discuss the extend of ban.
- They also prepare the agenda for next phase of ban implementation.
- All departments inside the campus are responsible for organizing or hosting events and activities in institution premises are responsible for ensuring compliance with the policy.
- The Board of Management is responsible for ensuring that the necessary facilities and procedures are in place to enable implementation of the policy, with support from the Purchase Committee, Committee on Catering and others.
- The Committee will be responsible for ensuring that restricted items are not sold or distributed in catering outlets, vending machines, or retail outlets on campus.
- The Committee will also be responsible for ensuring that catering and retail outlets will use eco-friendly materials for their packing or serving of food & beverages.

Awareness & Campaigns:

The Green Cell members will also carry out awareness drives and sensitizing workshops on the harmful impacts of single use plastics among the Students and Staff to encourage following

- Every student will strive to make his/her household plastic free.
- Students to be incentivized to carry out similar campaigns at community level
- Installation of necessary alternative facilities like water units to avoid the purchase and use of plastic water bottles.
- Ensure presence of alternative solutions like cloth bags etc., to plastic bottles, covers and other goods on campuses.
- Conducting events and poster competitions etc. on designing ecological and environment friendly goods to minimize the use of single use plastic.