



PONNAIYAH RAMAJAYAM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (PRIST)

Declared as DEEMED-TO-BE-UNIVERSITY
U/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956

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THANJAVUR- 613 403 - TAMIL NADU

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 mounded 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.

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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 ban of plastics in the following fashion.

- 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 liter 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.



GREEN POLICY


Purpose:

A Green Campus is a place where environmental friendly practices and education combine to promote sustainable and eco-friendly practices in the campus. The green campus concept offers an institution the opportunity to take the lead in redefining its environmental culture and developing new paradigms by creating sustainable solutions to environmental, social and economic needs of the mankind.

Greening the campus is all about sweeping away wasteful inefficiencies and using conventional sources of energies for its daily power needs, correct disposal handling, purchase of environment friendly supplies and effective recycling program. Institute has to work out the time bound strategies to implement green campus initiatives. These strategies need to be incorporated into the institutional planning and budgeting processes with the aim of developing a clean and green campus.

Setting up the Green cell:

The Green Cell be interdisciplinary and have representation of nationally eminent ecologist on its panel. The Green Cell is located in the Institute's existing centre/department connected with sustainable development/Environmental engineering so that technical resource support is available. It may further set up a working group drawn from active faculty\students interested and working on this agenda to create a participatory, transparent process with ownership. It has the chairperson as its chair to enable the coordination. The Green Office will guide, oversee and review the implementation of the Green Agenda guidelines as approved by the Board of Management.


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Green Master Plans:


Since there is a need to augment the infrastructure on the campus it becomes equally critical to ensure that the master plan is compliant with environmental norms and at least, GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) compliant. In case of older master plan there has been a fresh reappraisal of the Master Plan to make it compliant with environmental norms. Master Plans shall be instrumental in generating awareness about sustainable planning and development. The same has been widely discussed in an open house forum clearly delineating the land use specially the permanent green areas. New construction plans shall be executed only after the Master Plan has been discussed in the open house, so that the principles of ecology sensitive and green planning are well adhered to by all stakeholders on the campus.

Special Emphasis be given to:


- i. **Bio-diversity:** PRIST campus is built on erstwhile clear land that was the habitat for one species off another. As leading higher educational institution it should show the way that development need not be at the expense of other fauna, but that inclusive growth is possible. One way to do this could be the protection of these fauna on the campus in a scientific way.
- ii. Consider the participatory documentation of its flora and fauna with the help of experts, environmentalists and the student community for whom it would be an educational and sensitization process.
- iii. **Creation of Water bodies:** Water Harvesting, surface water bodies, water conservation measures are being reviewed fore-grounded to recharge water tables.
- iv. **Minimizing Carbon Foot print and Green Audit:** Detailed parameters for this have been delineated in the Institution guidelines on this.

More Green Initiatives in PRIST:

- The institute as policy decided that, henceforth all new building proposals shall be examined by the Institute Green Committee before their final approval
- The Green committee to look into the various environmental and energy aspects of a green technology and environment.
- More green initiatives planned for *wastewater treatment* as well as *recycling* and *rainwater harvesting* in a decentralized manner.


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- Out of the total solid waste generated in the campus separating organic and inorganic waste is planned and reviewing the available technology that can co-generated biomass from our organic waste.
- National service Scheme (NSS) volunteers of the institute primarily the undergraduate and postgraduate students are also going to propagate these ideas amongst the neighborhood villages as a part of their social responsibility.
- *Paper recycling* in the campus
- *Waste water management* and use of grey water
- *Save Energy*: Save Energy will be the motto of every day's working in each institute. Every institute will purchase only energy star compliant computers and equipment's. If energy star is unavailable, purchase the most energy-efficient model available in the market.
- *Save Energy Tips*:
 - a. Activate power management features on your computer and monitor so that it will go into a low power "sleep" mode when you are not working on it.
 - b. Turn off your monitor when you leave your Table.
 - c. Activate power management features on your laser printer.
 - d. Whenever possible, shut down rather than logging off.
 - e. Turn off unnecessary lights and use daylight instead.
 - f. Avoid the use of decorative lighting
 - g. Use LED or compact fluorescent bulbs.
 - h. Keep lights off in conference rooms, classrooms, lecture halls when they are not in use.
 - i. Use the fans only when they are needed.
 - j. Unplug appliances not plugged into power strips (like TVs, Refrigerators, ACs, tea/coffeepots, printers, faxes and chargers etc.)
- *Digital Library /E-Learning Centre*
Use more readout material in soft form. Reduce the hard readout material. Use more of e-mail for officially communicating the information needed, online reading etc.


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As per the resolution passed by the Board of Management in its 20th meeting held on 13.04.2019, PRIST Deemed to be University, Main Campus is declared as a **Vehicle Free Zone** with effect from 15.04.2019 with an aim to make the campus environmental friendly and thereby student friendly as well.

The institution has decided to ban the use of private vehicles inside the campus with an aim to reduce pollution and also encourage the use of environment friendly modes of movement from one building to another.


In future, the institution will deploy electric vehicles which the faculty, staff and students can use for short commuting purpose.

The institution is encouraging students, faculty and staff to make use bicycles within the campus.

Moreover, the institution is adopting the following guidelines for transforming the campus into a **Vehicle Free Zone** in an efficient manner:

- Students are banned to make use of four wheelers for commuting purpose.
- Institution free transport provided to the students so as to minimize the student's two wheelers in the parking area.
- Two wheelers parking area is provided near the GATE NO. 1
- Four wheelers parking area is provided near the TEMPLE ZONE
- Student's buses parking area is provided in the GATE NO.2.
- Parking area for Administrator's vehicles and VIP Guests vehicles is provided in the ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK QUADRANGLE
- Vehicles which do not have Institution Parking Sticker will not be allowed to enter into the campus
- As PRIST Deemed to be University is a Higher Educational Institution, no honking of horns and use of vehicles without silencers is allowed inside the campus.
- Free shuttle bus service is made available for transport of visitors between campus to town bus stand
- If any vehicle entered/parked in the no vehicle zone then such vehicle will be seized by the Security personnel and a penalty of Rs.100 will be levied.
- Limited number of free cycles is proposed to be provided to the staff and students. Such cycles will be colored differently in such a way that the user will not be permitted to take it outside the campus.
- Barry guards will be placed near the Gate No. 1 and Gate No. 2 and Security personnel are deployed at these points to restrict the vehicle movement beyond the Barry guard points.

Date: 15.04.2019


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