

No.382N of 2024

Date:5.7.2024

Notification

It is for the information of all concerned that as approved by the Academic Council and Executive Council in its meeting held on 27.6.2024 and 1.7.2024 respectively, the Policy on Minimization of Disposable Items-Extension to Services is hereby notified as under.

Policy on Minimization of Disposable Items: Extension to Services

Introduction

DMIHER (DU) is dedicated to embedding sustainability across all campus operations, particularly within its service areas, including healthcare, events, catering, and maintenance. By minimizing reliance on disposable items and prioritizing reusable, eco-friendly alternatives, this policy reinforces the university's commitment to environmental responsibility and sustainable practices.

Objective

The objective of this policy shall be for DMIHER (DU) to reduce the use of disposable items in hightraffic service areas while promoting environmentally-friendly alternatives, safe practices, and adherence to the university's sustainability goals.

Need and Scope

The minimization of disposable items in service areas is essential for reducing waste and fostering responsible resource use at DMIHER (DU). This policy shall apply to all departments, service providers, and third-party contractors operating within the university, covering disposable items commonly used in healthcare, catering, event management, cleaning, and administrative services.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy shall be to:

- 1. Reduce reliance on non-essential disposable items within service areas.
- 2. Encourage sustainable procurement and waste management practices.
- 3. Provide clear guidelines for handling disposable items in high-traffic environments.
- 4. Promote awareness and encourage behavioural changes toward sustainability.

Implementation

1) In clinical settings where hygiene is critical, single-use items such as gloves, syringes, and other sterile medical tools shall be considered essential and exempt from reduction requirements. Procurement teams shall prioritize suppliers who provide sustainable packaging for non-essential items, ensuring that any unavoidable disposable products align with DMIHER (DU)'s sustainability standards.

- Formerly known as Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences (Deemed to be University)
- Conferred 'A' Grad status by H.R.D. Ministry Govt. of India.
- Re-accredited by NAAC (4th Cycle) with A++ Grade (CGPA3.78)

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- 2) In-house dining facilities shall provide washable, reusable dishes, cups, and utensils to minimize disposable use, with compostable containers and cutlery prioritized for takeout services. Drinking water stations shall be provided throughout the campus, allowing students and staff to refill reusable bottles and reduce reliance on disposable plastic bottles.
- 3) Vendors supplying food and beverages shall be required to minimize disposable packaging and use recyclable or biodegradable materials wherever feasible. For events held on campus, including conferences, seminars, and workshops, organizers shall be encouraged to minimize disposable items, using durable decorations and digital resources instead.
- 4) Materials for event kits and giveaways shall avoid single-use plastics, opting instead for recyclable or biodegradable options such as cloth bags or recycled paper. Cleaning staff shall be provided with reusable cloths, mops, and other tools to minimize disposable cleaning items, and the use of eco-friendly, biodegradable cleaning products shall be prioritized to align with sustainable practices.
- 5) Clearly labelled recycling and compost bins shall be provided throughout campus facilities to ensure proper disposal of any disposable items used. Vendors and contractors working on campus shall be required to align with the university's guidelines on disposable reduction, with contracts specifying the use of bulk packaging and reusable containers where applicable. Vendor compliance shall be periodically reviewed to ensure adherence to these requirements.
- 6) All service staff, including healthcare and maintenance teams, shall receive training on minimizing non-essential disposables and using sustainable alternatives. Event organizers who successfully meet the "Zero Disposable" guidelines shall be awarded a Green Certification, fostering pride in sustainable event management.

This policy shall be reviewed periodically to incorporate improvements based on feedback, regulatory changes, and evolving best practices in sustainable waste management. Based on internal assessments and departmental feedback, adjustments to guidelines for specific areas, particularly healthcare and catering, shall be implemented to enhance compliance without compromising essential functions.

Dr. Sweta Kale Pisulkar Registrar, DMIHER (DU)

Copy to:

- 1. Hon'ble Chief Advisor, DMIHER (DU)
- 2. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, DMIHER(DU)
- 3. Hon'ble Pro Vice Chancellor, DMIHER(DU)
- 4. The Chief Coordinator, DMIHER (DU)
- 5. The Director General (Admin.), DMIHER (DU)
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- 6. The Executive Director, Quality Assurance (Academic Excellence)
- 7. The Executive Director, Research & Development, DMIHER (DU)
- 8. The Executive Director, DMIHER GLOBAL
- 9. The Director, Off Campus, Wanadongri, Nagpur
- 10. All the Heads of Institutions, DMIHER (DU)

- 11. The Principal, FNTCN/SMCON, Wardha/Wanadongri
- 12. All the Deans (Academics), DMIHER (DU)
- 13. The Director, School of Advanced Studies, DMIHER (DU)
- 14. The Director, SHER, DMIHER (DU)
- 15. The Director, People & Planning, DMIHER (DU)
- 16. The Director, Strategy, DMIHER (DU)
- 17. The Director, Admissions
- 18. The Director, Advanced Learning, DMIHER (DU)
- 19. The Director, International, DMIHER (DU)
- 20. The Dean, Examinations, DMIHER(DU)
- 21. The Director, Examinations, Assessment and Evaluation, DMIHER (DU)
- 22. The OSD, DMIHER(DU)
- 23. The Finance Officer, DMIHER (DU)
- 24. Deputy Director, HR
- 25. AO/AOs/AAOs of all constituent colleges
- 26. Website Incharge

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