



DATTA MEGHE

INSTITUTE OF HIGHER
EDUCATION & RESEARCH
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

LEARN. LEAD.

No.382L 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 for Plastic Free Campus is hereby notified as under.

Policy for Plastic free campus

Introduction

DMIHER (DU) is dedicated to promoting sustainable practices by minimizing plastic waste on campus. Recognizing the environmental impact of plastic pollution, this policy outlines the university's commitment to eliminating single-use plastics, adopting eco-friendly alternatives, and implementing a waste management framework. The policy aligns with national regulations, including the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016 and its amendments, to contribute to DMIHER (DU)'s long-term sustainability objectives.

Objective

The objective of this policy shall be for DMIHER (DU) to reduce plastic waste across campus and encourage sustainable practices. This policy shall mandate the minimization of single-use plastics, the adoption of environmentally friendly alternatives, and the establishment of a waste management framework to ensure compliance with PWM Rules and other relevant Indian laws.

Need and Scope

The Plastic Use Minimization Policy shall address the need for sustainable waste practices to reduce plastic pollution and its effects on health and the environment. This policy shall be applicable to all university departments, facilities, faculty, staff, students, and third-party contractors associated with DMIHER (DU). It shall cover the use, procurement, disposal, and recycling of plastic materials across academic, administrative, healthcare, and residential facilities.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy shall be to:

1. Eliminate single-use plastics on campus by promoting reusable and environment friendly alternatives.
2. Ensure compliance with relevant Indian regulations, including the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 and subsequent amendments, as well as state-specific mandates.
3. Foster a culture of sustainability and environmental responsibility within the DMIHER (DU) community through education, awareness, and responsible waste practices.

- 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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Implementation

1. DMIHER (DU) shall prohibit the use of single-use plastic items, including disposable cutlery, straws, bags, and polystyrene products across campus facilities in accordance with the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016 and subsequent amendments. The university shall promote alternatives such as reusable or biodegradable materials, including paper, glass, and metal, wherever feasible. All procurement activities shall prioritize sustainable products and materials, minimizing plastic packaging and selecting suppliers aligned with eco-friendly practices. Vendors shall be required to comply with the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework, ensuring responsible disposal of the plastic products they supply.
2. DMIHER (DU) shall mandate proper segregation of plastic waste to support recycling efforts. Clearly marked bins for plastic and non-plastic waste shall be provided across campus, in line with the Plastic Waste Management Rules and the Environment Protection Act, 1986. Certified recycling partners shall handle recyclable plastic waste, processing it to prevent environmental contamination. The university shall minimize plastic packaging procurement and encourage vendors to use recyclable or biodegradable materials wherever possible.
3. To ensure compliance with packaging standards, regular audits shall be conducted, and preference shall be given to vendors who demonstrate compliance with PWM Rules and relevant state regulations. DMIHER (DU) shall organize regular training, workshops, and awareness campaigns to educate students, staff, and faculty on the harmful impact of plastic and encourage sustainable alternatives. As part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and Clean India Mission, the university shall host an annual "Plastic-Free Month" campaign to foster a culture of environmental responsibility.
4. The university shall ensure compliance with Maharashtra's state-level ban on single-use plastics, working with local authorities to align campus practices with local laws in addition to PWM Rules. Each department shall record its plastic usage and reduction efforts, submitting reports to the central waste management office for tracking. Waste audits shall verify compliance with the plastic minimization policy and identify further reduction opportunities.
5. All vendors and contractors associated with DMIHER (DU) shall be required to comply with the university's plastic minimization policy and adhere to state and national regulations. Contracts shall include provisions to reduce plastic packaging and use sustainable alternatives wherever possible. Regular checks shall ensure that vendors meet all required standards, including EPR obligations under the Plastic Waste Management Rules.
6. DMIHER (DU) shall designate "Plastic-Free Zones" across campus to raise awareness and promote compliance. Drinking water stations and recycling bins shall be placed throughout the campus to minimize reliance on single-use plastic water bottles and other disposable items. Departments and individuals demonstrating significant progress in plastic reduction shall be recognized through the university's Green Recognition Program, encouraging ongoing sustainability engagement.

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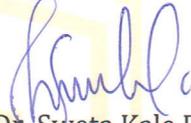
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7. The university shall promote innovation in waste management by supporting pilot programs aimed at reducing plastic use, reusing materials, and developing new strategies for waste minimization. Active stakeholder participation shall be ensured to refine practices, enhance compliance, and strengthen campus sustainability efforts. DMIHER (DU) shall engage students, faculty, staff, and third-party vendors in sustainability initiatives, inviting feedback and collaboration to improve plastic reduction practices across campus.

DMIHER (DU) shall review this policy periodically to incorporate new developments in plastic reduction practices, address legal requirements, and integrate feedback from waste audits. This policy shall undergo continuous improvement to remain aligned with best practices in sustainability and reinforce the university's commitment to minimizing plastic waste on campus.


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)
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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