

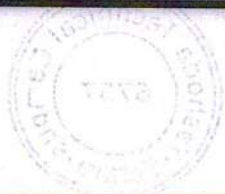
Yashoda Shikshan Prasark Mandal

Yashoda Technical Campus, Satara

An Autonomous Institute



Plastic Ban Policy



1. Preamble

Yashoda Technical Campus, Satara considers environmental sustainability and responsible resource utilisation as integral components of quality education and institutional development. As a higher education institution, the Institute recognises its responsibility to create an environmentally responsible campus and to develop awareness, knowledge and sustainable practices among students, faculty members, staff and other stakeholders.

Plastic has become an important environmental concern because of its extensive use, persistence in the environment and difficulty of environmentally safe disposal. In particular, unnecessary and single use plastic products contribute to solid waste generation, littering, drainage blockage, soil and water pollution and adverse impacts on biodiversity.

The Institute therefore adopts this **Plastic Ban and Plastic Waste Management Policy** to systematically reduce the use of plastic, eliminate prohibited single use plastic products from the campus, promote reusable and environmentally preferable alternatives, and ensure appropriate management of plastic waste generated through unavoidable institutional activities.

The policy is aligned with the principles of waste minimisation, resource conservation, responsible consumption and sustainable campus management. It also supports the Institute's commitment towards the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly **SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 14: Life Below Water and SDG 15: Life on Land.**

2. Vision

To develop Yashoda Technical Campus as a clean, responsible and progressively plastic free educational campus through reduction of unnecessary plastic consumption, adoption of sustainable alternatives, effective waste management and continuous environmental awareness.

3. Mission

The Institute shall strive to:

1. Eliminate unnecessary and prohibited single use plastic products from the campus.
2. Reduce the generation of plastic waste at source.
3. Promote reusable, recyclable and environmentally preferable alternatives.
4. Develop responsible consumption practices among students, faculty and staff.
5. Strengthen segregation, collection and responsible disposal of plastic waste.
6. Promote environmental education and awareness.
7. Encourage students to develop innovative solutions for plastic waste reduction and management.
8. Integrate plastic reduction practices with Green Campus and sustainability initiatives.
9. Encourage environmentally responsible procurement by departments and institutional units.
10. Continuously monitor and improve the Institute's plastic management practices.



4. Policy Statement

Yashoda Technical Campus, Satara is committed to maintaining a progressively plastic free campus by reducing unnecessary plastic consumption, prohibiting identified single use plastic products and promoting sustainable alternatives.

The policy shall apply to academic, administrative, residential, commercial and event related activities conducted within the Institute campus.

All students, faculty members, administrative and supporting staff, contractors, vendors, service providers, visitors and event organisers are expected to comply with the provisions of this policy.

The Institute shall follow the principle of **Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recover and Recycle**, with emphasis on prevention of plastic waste at source.

5. Need for the Policy

The Plastic Ban Policy is adopted considering the following requirements:

1. Increasing environmental concerns associated with plastic waste.
2. Need to minimise avoidable waste generation within the campus.
3. Need to promote responsible consumption among students and staff.
4. Need to encourage sustainable alternatives.
5. Need to improve campus cleanliness and waste management.
6. Need to prevent littering and improper disposal of plastic.
7. Need to strengthen Green Campus initiatives.
8. Need to promote environmental awareness through institutional practice.
9. Need to encourage sustainable procurement.
10. Need to support the Institute's commitment towards the Sustainable Development Goals.
11. Need to strengthen compliance with applicable environmental regulations.

6. Objectives

The Plastic Ban Policy aims to:

6.1 Reduce Plastic Consumption

To progressively reduce the consumption of unnecessary plastic materials throughout the campus.

6.2 Eliminate Single Use Plastic

To prohibit the use, sale and distribution of identified single use plastic products within the campus.

6.3 Promote Sustainable Alternatives



To encourage the use of cloth, jute, paper, steel, glass, reusable and other environmentally preferable alternatives wherever feasible.

6.4 Promote Waste Prevention

To prevent plastic waste generation rather than relying primarily on disposal and recycling.

6.5 Strengthen Waste Management

To ensure segregation, collection, storage and responsible disposal of unavoidable plastic waste.

6.6 Develop Environmental Awareness

To create awareness among students, faculty, staff and visitors regarding the environmental consequences of plastic consumption.

6.7 Encourage Student Participation

To involve students in plastic reduction campaigns, audits, awareness programmes, innovation activities and community engagement.

6.8 Promote Green Procurement

To incorporate environmental considerations into institutional purchasing decisions.

6.9 Encourage Innovation

To encourage research, projects and innovation related to plastic alternatives, recycling, waste management and circular economy practices.

6.10 Continuous Improvement

To periodically assess the effectiveness of the policy and implement corrective and preventive measures.

7. Scope

The policy shall be applicable to all areas and activities of Yashoda Technical Campus, including:

1. Academic departments.
2. Administrative offices.
3. Classrooms.
4. Laboratories.
5. Workshops.
6. Library.
7. Hostels.
8. Canteens and food service areas.



9. Stores and procurement activities.
10. Seminar halls and auditoriums.
11. Sports and recreational areas.
12. Transportation facilities.
13. Institutional events.
14. Conferences and seminars.
15. Workshops and training programmes.
16. Cultural and technical events.
17. Student clubs and professional societies.
18. NSS and outreach activities.
19. Contractors and service providers.
20. Visitors and external agencies.

8. Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

Plastic

A material consisting of polymers that can be moulded or processed into various forms.

Single Use Plastic

Plastic products intended to be used once for a short duration before being discarded.

Plastic Waste

Any discarded, unwanted or surplus material made wholly or partly of plastic.

Plastic Free Campus

A campus in which prohibited and unnecessary single use plastic products are eliminated and sustainable alternatives are promoted.

Reusable Product

A product designed for repeated use instead of disposal after a single use.

Green Procurement

Procurement that considers environmental impacts, resource efficiency, durability, recyclability and sustainability in addition to conventional purchasing criteria.

Plastic Audit

A systematic assessment of plastic consumption, plastic waste generation, sources of plastic waste, disposal practices and opportunities for reduction.



9. Prohibited Plastic Products

The following products shall be prohibited within the Institute campus, subject to applicable Government regulations and operational requirements:

1. Single use plastic carry bags.
2. Disposable plastic cups.
3. Disposable plastic glasses.
4. Disposable plastic plates.
5. Disposable plastic bowls.
6. Plastic spoons.
7. Plastic forks.
8. Plastic knives.
9. Plastic straws.
10. Plastic stirrers.
11. Plastic food serving containers where sustainable alternatives are reasonably available.
12. Plastic decoration materials wherever sustainable alternatives are available.
13. Plastic flags.
14. Disposable plastic water bottles for routine institutional meetings and events.
15. Thermocol disposable plates, cups and decorative items.
16. Unnecessary plastic packaging for institutional events.
17. Plastic wrapping used only for decorative or convenience purposes.

The list may be modified in accordance with changes in applicable Government regulations and institutional requirements.

10. Sustainable Alternatives

The Institute shall promote the use of sustainable alternatives such as:

Plastic Product	Preferred Alternative
Plastic carry bags	Cloth, jute or paper bags
Plastic cups	Steel, ceramic or reusable cups
Plastic glasses	Steel or glass tumblers
Plastic plates	Steel, ceramic or suitable biodegradable alternatives
Plastic spoons	Steel or reusable cutlery
Plastic water bottles	Reusable steel or glass bottles
Plastic event banners	Cloth or reusable display materials
Plastic decoration	Cloth, paper, natural or reusable materials
Plastic packaging	Paper, cardboard or reusable packaging
Disposable food containers	Reusable or sustainable environmentally preferable alternatives



The Institute shall select alternatives based on environmental suitability, safety, hygiene, durability, availability and cost effectiveness.

11. Plastic Free Campus Implementation

The Institute shall implement the policy through a systematic approach consisting of the following stages:

Stage 1: Awareness

Stakeholders shall be informed about the policy, prohibited items, alternatives and their responsibilities.

Stage 2: Identification

Departments and institutional units shall identify major sources of plastic consumption.

Stage 3: Reduction

Unnecessary plastic products shall be eliminated from routine institutional activities.

Stage 4: Substitution

Suitable reusable or environmentally preferable alternatives shall be introduced.

Stage 5: Segregation

Unavoidable plastic waste shall be segregated at source.

Stage 6: Collection

Plastic waste shall be collected through designated waste management arrangements.

Stage 7: Recycling and Disposal

Recoverable plastic shall be handed over to appropriate authorised agencies wherever applicable.

Stage 8: Monitoring

Compliance shall be periodically reviewed and documented.

12. Responsibilities of Stakeholders

12.1 Competent Authority

The Competent Authority shall:



1. Approve the policy.
2. Provide institutional support.
3. Facilitate necessary infrastructure.
4. Encourage sustainable campus development.
5. Review major recommendations arising from policy implementation.

12.2 Internal Quality Assurance Cell

IQAC shall:

1. Coordinate implementation of the policy.
2. Promote awareness among stakeholders.
3. Facilitate periodic review.
4. Maintain institutional documentation.
5. Coordinate relevant audits.
6. Monitor corrective and preventive actions.
7. Integrate relevant outcomes into institutional quality assurance processes.

12.3 Heads of Departments

Heads of Departments shall:

1. Ensure compliance within their departments.
2. Prevent procurement of prohibited plastic items.
3. Encourage sustainable alternatives.
4. Promote student participation.
5. Maintain relevant records.
6. Report significant issues to the concerned institutional authority.

12.4 Faculty Members

Faculty members shall:

1. Follow the Plastic Ban Policy.
2. Avoid unnecessary use of disposable plastic.
3. Encourage students to practise responsible consumption.
4. Integrate environmental issues into relevant academic activities.
5. Encourage student projects and innovations related to plastic management.

12.5 Students

Students shall:

1. Avoid bringing prohibited plastic products to the campus.
2. Use reusable bottles and containers.
3. Avoid littering.
4. Follow waste segregation practices.
5. Participate in plastic reduction and awareness activities.
6. Support cleanliness drives and environmental initiatives.



7. Report major violations to the concerned authority.

12.6 Administrative Staff

Administrative offices shall:

1. Minimise plastic consumption.
2. Avoid disposable plastic materials during meetings.
3. Prefer reusable materials.
4. Follow green procurement practices.
5. Maintain appropriate waste segregation.

12.7 Housekeeping Staff

Housekeeping personnel shall:

1. Collect segregated plastic waste.
2. Prevent mixing of recyclable plastic with biodegradable waste wherever practicable.
3. Maintain cleanliness of collection points.
4. Transfer plastic waste to designated storage or collection areas.
5. Maintain records where required.

12.8 Canteen and Food Service Providers

Canteen operators and food service providers shall:

1. Comply with the Institute's Plastic Ban Policy.
2. Avoid prohibited disposable plastic products.
3. Use reusable utensils wherever feasible.
4. Avoid unnecessary plastic packaging.
5. Maintain appropriate waste segregation.
6. Cooperate with institutional inspections.
7. Ensure that food safety and hygiene requirements are maintained while adopting sustainable alternatives.

12.9 Contractors and Vendors

All vendors and contractors operating within the campus shall comply with the policy.

Relevant agreements, purchase orders or service contracts may include appropriate clauses requiring compliance with the Plastic Ban Policy.

12.10 Visitors

Visitors are expected to comply with the Plastic Free Campus requirements and avoid bringing prohibited single use plastic products into the campus.

13. Green Procurement



The Institute shall progressively incorporate sustainability considerations into procurement.

Before purchasing plastic based products, departments shall consider:

1. Whether the product is essential.
2. Whether a reusable alternative is available.
3. Whether the product can be repaired or reused.
4. Whether the product can be recycled.
5. Whether a less plastic intensive alternative is available.
6. Whether packaging can be reduced.
7. Whether the product has a longer service life.

Preference shall be given to durable and reusable products.

14. Plastic Free Institutional Events

All institutional events shall follow plastic reduction practices.

Organisers of conferences, seminars, workshops, cultural programmes and other events shall:

1. Avoid disposable plastic cups and plates.
2. Provide drinking water through refill facilities wherever feasible.
3. Avoid unnecessary plastic packaging.
4. Prefer reusable or environmentally preferable materials.
5. Avoid plastic decorations wherever suitable alternatives are available.
6. Use reusable display materials wherever possible.
7. Ensure waste segregation after the event.
8. Include plastic reduction requirements in event planning.

Event organisers shall be responsible for ensuring compliance throughout the event.

15. Drinking Water Management

The Institute shall encourage reduction in dependence on disposable bottled water through:

1. Provision of drinking water facilities.
2. Water refill points wherever feasible.
3. Promotion of reusable bottles.
4. Periodic maintenance of drinking water facilities.
5. Awareness among students and staff.

Disposable bottled water may be permitted where required due to specific health, safety, emergency or statutory considerations.

16. Plastic Waste Segregation and Management

The Institute shall promote segregation of plastic waste at the point of generation.

The waste management system shall broadly follow



Generation → Segregation → Collection → Storage → Recovery/Recycling → Responsible Disposal

Plastic waste shall not be:

- Burnt within the campus.
- Dumped in open areas.
- Mixed unnecessarily with recyclable materials.
- Disposed into drains or water bodies.

Recyclable plastic shall be transferred to appropriate authorised or recognised waste management agencies wherever applicable.

17. Plastic Audit

The Institute may conduct an annual Plastic Audit to assess:

1. Major sources of plastic consumption.
2. Quantity or approximate volume of plastic waste generated.
3. Types of plastic products used.
4. Plastic procurement patterns.
5. Waste segregation practices.
6. Recycling and disposal arrangements.
7. Areas of non compliance.
8. Opportunities for reduction.
9. Adoption of sustainable alternatives.

The findings of the audit shall be used for planning corrective and improvement measures.

18. Awareness and Capacity Building

The Institute shall conduct regular awareness activities such as:

- Orientation programmes.
- Expert lectures.
- Workshops.
- Poster competitions.
- Essay competitions.
- Quiz competitions.
- Awareness campaigns.
- Cleanliness drives.
- Plastic collection drives.
- Green Campus activities.
- Student club activities.
- NSS activities.
- Community outreach programmes.

The Institute may observe occasions such as **World Environment Day, Earth Day and Plastic Free July** through appropriate educational and awareness activities.



19. Student Projects and Innovation

Students shall be encouraged to undertake academic and innovation activities related to plastic reduction and waste management.

Possible areas include:

1. Plastic waste segregation systems.
2. Plastic recycling technologies.
3. Alternative packaging materials.
4. Biodegradable materials.
5. Waste collection systems.
6. Plastic identification and sorting.
7. Artificial intelligence based waste classification.
8. Circular economy models.
9. Reuse of plastic waste.
10. Community based plastic management solutions.

Such projects may be undertaken through mini projects, major projects, internships, innovation activities, hackathons and entrepreneurship initiatives.

20. Plastic Free Campus Committee

The Institute shall constitute a committee for implementation and monitoring of the policy.

Suggested Composition

Sr. No.	Position	Role
1	Director / Competent Authority Nominee	Chairperson
2	Dean / Coordinator IQAC	Convener
3	Administrative Officer	Member
4	Estate / Maintenance Officer	Member
5	Faculty Representative	Member
6	NSS Programme Officer	Member
7	Hostel Representative	Member
8	Canteen Representative	Member
9	Housekeeping Supervisor	Member
10	Student Representative	Member
11	Environmental Club Coordinator	Member

Functions

The Committee shall:

1. Coordinate implementation.
2. Conduct periodic inspections.
3. Identify areas requiring improvement.



4. Review plastic consumption.
5. Promote sustainable alternatives.
6. Coordinate awareness programmes.
7. Review vendor compliance.
8. Facilitate plastic audits.
9. Submit recommendations to the Competent Authority.
10. Maintain relevant records.

21. Monitoring Mechanism

Monitoring shall be undertaken through:

Monthly

Departmental and campus level observation of major compliance issues.

Quarterly

Review of implementation by the concerned committee or institutional authority.

Annually

Plastic audit and preparation of an annual implementation report wherever feasible.

The monitoring process shall assess:

- Compliance with prohibited item restrictions.
- Plastic consumption.
- Waste segregation.
- Vendor compliance.
- Event compliance.
- Awareness activities.
- Adoption of alternatives.
- Plastic waste recycling.
- Corrective actions.

22. Non Compliance

The Institute shall primarily adopt an awareness and corrective approach.

In case of non compliance:

1. The concerned person or unit may be informed about the violation.
2. Corrective action may be advised.
3. Repeated violations may result in written warning.
4. Vendors or contractors may be required to comply with specified corrective measures.
5. Continued or serious non compliance may result in appropriate administrative action as per institutional rules and contractual provisions.



The objective of such measures shall be to ensure effective implementation rather than merely impose penalties.

23. Incentives and Recognition

The Institute may recognise departments, classes, student groups or individuals demonstrating exemplary compliance.

Recognition may include:

- Green Department Award.
- Plastic Free Event Award.
- Green Student Recognition.
- Environmental Innovation Award.
- Certificates of appreciation.
- Recognition during institutional events.

Such recognition shall encourage positive participation and development of an environmentally responsible institutional culture.

24. Documentation and Record Maintenance

The following records may be maintained:

1. Plastic Ban Policy.
2. Committee constitution order.
3. Committee meeting minutes.
4. Awareness programme reports.
5. Photographs.
6. Attendance records.
7. Plastic audit reports.
8. Procurement records.
9. Vendor undertakings.
10. Event compliance records.
11. Waste collection records.
12. Recycling or disposal records.
13. Student project records.
14. Annual implementation report.
15. Corrective action records.

The records shall be maintained by the concerned institutional unit and made available for internal review and accreditation purposes as applicable.

25. Community Engagement

The Institute shall extend its plastic reduction initiatives beyond the campus wherever feasible.

Students and faculty may participate in:



- Village level awareness programmes.
- School awareness programmes.
- Community cleanliness drives.
- Plastic collection campaigns.
- Waste management demonstrations.
- Environmental awareness campaigns.
- Sustainable alternatives promotion.
- Technical solutions for local waste management problems.

Such activities shall contribute to the Institute's social responsibility and community engagement objectives.

26. Linkage with Sustainable Development Goals

The Plastic Ban Policy contributes primarily to the following SDGs:

SDG	Area of Contribution
SDG 6	Prevention of plastic pollution affecting water resources
SDG 11	Development of clean and sustainable communities
SDG 12	Responsible consumption, waste reduction and recycling
SDG 13	Reduction of environmental impacts associated with waste
SDG 14	Reduction of plastic pollution affecting aquatic ecosystems
SDG 15	Protection of terrestrial ecosystems from plastic waste
SDG 4	Environmental awareness and sustainability education

27. Linkage with Institutional Quality Processes

The Plastic Ban Policy shall be integrated with existing institutional quality processes, including:

1. Green Campus initiatives.
2. Environmental awareness programmes.
3. Green Audit.
4. Energy Audit.
5. Environment Audit.
6. IQAC activities.
7. Student project activities.
8. NSS activities.
9. Extension and outreach programmes.
10. Sustainability reporting.
11. Institutional best practices.
12. Continuous improvement processes.



The policy shall be implemented through established institutional mechanisms wherever possible.

28. Implementation Cycle

The Institute shall follow the following continuous improvement cycle:

Policy → Awareness → Implementation → Monitoring → Plastic Audit → Review → Corrective Action → Improvement

The cycle shall enable the Institute to progressively reduce plastic consumption and improve its environmental performance.

29. Expected Outcomes

Effective implementation of this policy is expected to result in:

1. Reduction in single use plastic consumption.
2. Reduction in plastic waste generation.
3. Increased use of reusable alternatives.
4. Improved waste segregation.
5. Improved campus cleanliness.
6. Increased environmental awareness.
7. Increased student participation in sustainability initiatives.
8. Increased sustainability oriented projects and innovations.
9. Improved vendor compliance.
10. Strengthened Green Campus practices.
11. Increased contribution towards relevant SDGs.
12. Development of an environmentally responsible institutional culture.

30. Policy Review and Revision

The Plastic Ban and Plastic Waste Management Policy shall be reviewed at least once every two years or earlier when required.

Review may be initiated due to:

- Changes in Government regulations.
- Changes in plastic waste management requirements.
- Findings of Plastic Audits.
- Recommendations of Green or Environment Audits.
- Institutional strategic requirements.
- Feedback from stakeholders.
- New technological developments.

Any revision shall be approved by the Competent Authority.



Approval

Prepared by:

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Signature: 

Approved by:

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