
PLASTIC-FREE CAMPUS

2 messages

Dr. Padmakumar Nair <director@thapar.edu>

30 August 2023 at 12:48

Reply-To: director@thapar.edu

To: deputy director <deputydirector@thapar.edu>, Deans <deans@thapar.edu>, Heads <heads@thapar.edu>, employees@thapar.edu, students@thapar.edu, Faculty <faculty@thapar.edu>, staff@thapar.edu

30 August 2023

Dear All,

It is with great enthusiasm that we express our collective desire to make our esteemed institute a **plastic-free campus**. We believe that by taking this crucial step, we can contribute to a sustainable and environmentally responsible future. As a leading educational institution, it is our responsibility to lead by example and inspire positive change within our community.

By **transitioning to a plastic-free campus**, we can not only create a healthier environment for everyone but also set an example for others to emulate. The eradication of single-use plastics, such as plastic bottles, disposable cutlery, and plastic bags, is an essential step towards achieving this goal. The following measures are proposed to ensure a successful transition:

1. **Replace plastic water bottles with reusable alternatives:** Stop using plastic bottles in your offices. Instead, we can use glass bottles, paper glasses for our daily use.
2. **Encourage the use of eco-friendly alternatives:** Provide sustainable alternatives to plastic products such as compostable cutlery, biodegradable food containers, and reusable shopping bags in the campus cafeteria, food outlets, and bookstore.
3. **Raise awareness and promote behavioural change:** Organize awareness campaigns, seminars, and workshops to educate the campus community about the negative impacts of plastic waste and the benefits of adopting sustainable practices. Engage students through competitions, exhibitions, and art installations that highlight the importance of a plastic-free environment (NSS, PWS should take initiatives in this direction)
4. **Collaborate with local vendors and suppliers:** Encourage the procurement of products and supplies from local businesses that prioritize environmentally friendly practices and packaging.

In order to make the plan an implementable one, **the following specific timeline based additions and responsibilities** are requested to be followed on campus:

1. We should aim to stop using single use plastic bottles by :
 - a) **30 Sep** in offices.
 - b) **30 Sep** in hostels and other commercial establishments and residences.
2. To discourage the use of single use plastics in our daily use, all residents and commercial establishments and hostels to minimise/ switch over to sustainable alternatives by **30 Sep**.
3. Single use plastic garbage bags to be replaced by the 125 GSM bags by the shopkeepers in COS by **15 Sep**.
4. **DoSA** is requested to task all societies to promote sustainable living promotion in their activities/events. A tentative plan for execution of the same can be circulated by **30 Sep**.

5. **DoAA** is requested to add seminars and webinars promoting sustainability at least once a quarter in the Academic calendar. List of such events can be circulated to all by **30 Sep**.

6. Signages to be placed at various places on campus to declare it as plastic intolerant. The same to be decided by the Administration by **30 Sep**.

We firmly believe that the implementation of these measures will not only contribute to a cleaner and greener campus but will also instill a sense of responsibility and environmental stewardship among the students, faculty, and staff. Moreover, it will enhance our institute's reputation as a forward-thinking and socially conscious educational institution.

We kindly request your support and guidance in this endeavour. We believe that by working together, we can make a significant difference in our collective fight against plastic pollution and create a more sustainable future for generations to come.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your positive response and feedback to make this effort a success.

(Padmakumar Nair)

Director

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Prof Padmakumar Nair

Director

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Associate Dean of Sustainability TIET <adean.sustainability1@thapar.edu>
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6 November 2024 at 16:00

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