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Affliation to Kaloji Narayanarao University of Health Sciences, Warangal, Telangana. Reconginsed by Dental Council of India, New Delhi.

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## PLASTIC BAN POLICY

There are number of reasons for banning plastic, including, plastic waste has emerged as one of the biggest environmental concerns adversely impacting the soil, water, health and wellbeing of citizen at large, excess-consumption of plastic combined with limited waste disposal systems has become a challenge to the urban waste disposal systems, and has choked the rivers and water systems in rural areas, the time has come for a systematic campaign to reduce the usage of plastic especially the single-use plastic, the college has decided to take plastic ban as a campaign of importance to address the environmental hazards being and bring attitudinal changes that shun use of plastics, the educational institutions have the unique spread and influence to educate the students and households on the needs for avoiding usage of plastic. As per the University Grant Commission (UGC) guidelines to ban the use of plastic in Universities/educational institutions and in support of the 'Swachhata Hi Sewa' Campaign, launched by the Government of India with an aim to eliminate the use of plastic and to dispose of plastic waste. The Board of Malla Reddy Health City with the concurrence of the management and all the board members had unanimously condemned utility of plastic in and around the Health City, the boardimplements strict ban on single use plastic in its campuses, canteensand hostels with immediate effect. Towards achieving the objective, following measures will be taken to make the campus 'plastic-free' by systematically banning the use of plastic and replacing the same with suitable environment-friendly substitutes at all institutions and adoption of policies and practices towards cleaner and plastic-free campus. For this, the institution shall:

a) Ban use of single-use plastics in campuses, canteens and hostels, etc

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b) Carry out awareness drives and sensitization workshops on the harmful impacts of singleuse plastics.

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- c) Mandate all students to avoid bringing non-bio-degradable plastic items to the institutions.
- d) Encourage their students to sensitize their respective households about the harmful effects of plastics and make their households 'plastic-free'.
- e) Install necessary alternative facilities like water units to avoid the use of plastic water bottles, and encourage the use of alternative solutions like cloth bags, paper bags, etc, instead of plastic bottles, bags, cover, and other goods on campuses.

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