

# Waste Management Policy



**Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra**

## **Introduction**

r. Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra is committed to transforming lives and serving the society through pursuit of excellence in teaching, innovation lifelong learning, cultural enrichment and outreach services. University realizes that sustainable and holistic waste management essential in reducing its environmental footprint and providing a safe and healthy work environment for teaching and non-teaching employees, students, and visitors. The University must ensure that all the campus wastes are disposed of responsibly by using proper waste segregation mechanisms at the source and if possible, converting it into value-added environment-friendly products. Furthermore, the medical and other hazardous waste should be disposed of or managed by government-approved, registered waste contractors.

## **Policy Statement**

The University will adopt the principles of the ‘best practicable environmental option’ in the delivery of its waste management services. The University will apply a ‘waste hierarchical approach’, to reduce, reuse, recycle and recover waste products in preference to the disposal of waste to landfill.

The University recognises the importance of meeting these legal requirements and managing its waste responsibly, reducing the volume of waste sent to landfill and maximising reuse and recycling where possible. The University requires all the teaching and non-teaching staff, students, guests and anyone else making use of the premises to comply with this Policy and associated “University Environmental Guidance” to ensure compliance with all waste legislations.

## **Policy Objectives**

The objectives of this policy are:

- To ensure that waste management is performed by all waste legislative requirements, including the duty of care, and to plan for future legislative changes and to mitigate their effects.
- To minimise waste generation at source and facilitate repair, reuse and recycling over the disposal of wastes in a cost-effective manner.
- To provide clearly defined roles and responsibilities to identify and coordinate each

## **The activity of Waste Management.**

- To promote environmental awareness to increase and encourage waste minimisation, reuse and recycling.
- To invest in the expansion of recycling opportunities on the University campus and transform waste into value-added products.
- To ensure the safe handling and storage of wastes on the University campus.
- To provide appropriate training for teachers, residents, staff, students and other stakeholders on waste management issues.
- To promote a holistic approach to waste management in the campus.

## **Organization and Management.**

The responsibilities and organisational arrangements for this Waste Management Policy lie with a variety of personnel within the University.

### **The function of Advisory Board**

- i) Coordinating the provision of a central waste and recycling contract service for use by all facilities on the campus.
- ii) Ensuring that all contractors are advised that they must comply with the Duty of Care; and that they must comply with the University's Waste Management Policy.
- iii) Ensuring that all contractors appointed to carry out works are from the government 'approved list'.

### **Co-ordinator, Environment Sustainability Management Cell (ESMC), University is responsible for:**

- i) Provision of advice and guidance to the University on waste management.
- ii) Setting Environmental Performance Indicators for waste management.
- iii) Reporting annually to the University on progress against the 'Environmental Performance Indicators'.
- iv) Monitoring and auditing the management systems for all wastes, to ensure safety and legal compliance.
- v) Monitoring and auditing all waste contractors working for the University.
- vi) Provision of appropriate training for all personnel who have responsibilities for waste management.
- vii) Coordinating the gathering of, and supplying all relevant information to appropriate enforcement agencies, when information relating to waste management is requested.

viii). Investigation of any incidents or spillage relating to all types of hazardous and general waste management.

**The support staff is Responsible for:**

- i). Overseeing the day-to-day delivery of general waste and recycling services.
- ii). Monitoring the performance of the university contractor against the contract agreements.
- iii). Liaisoning with the “Environment Sustainability Management Cell” to establish standard procedures for managing waste on the University campus.
- iv). Operational monitoring of waste management systems across the campus.
- v). Compiling waste transfer data and statistics notes for centrally managed waste and recycling collections.

**Heads of Department/Directors are Responsible for:**

- i). Non-hazardous Wastes  
Ensuring that no hazardous waste is disposed of through the general or waste recycling streams.
- ii). Hazardous Wastes;  
Nominating a ‘responsible person’ within their department to coordinate waste disposal for any hazardous or laboratory wastes.
- iii). Informing the Environment Sustainability and Management Cell, about the nominated ‘responsible person’ and updating the cell if and when the ‘responsible person’ changes. The tenure of the person will be a minimum of two years.

**Staff/Supervisor (contractual) will be Responsible for:**

- i). Disposing of waste responsibly (at both office and residence), through the appropriate waste disposal system (segregation of waste), by University policy and procedures.
- ii). Reporting any problems with waste collection schemes to ESMC of the University.

**Students will be Responsible for:**

- i). Disposing of waste responsibly, through the appropriate waste disposal system, according to University policy and procedures.
- ii). Reporting any problems related to department/laboratory waste or waste collection procedure to the ‘Head of Department’.

**Action Plan**

It will be mandatory on the part of the Head of the Department/Principal investigator (Project)/ in-charge to report changes/additions in hazardous waste generation and steps taken to reduce the generation of waste per unit of

production. As per the Hazardous Waste regulations, the University can store hazardous waste for a period not exceeding 90 days and shall maintain a record of the sale, transfer, storage, recycling and reprocessing of such wastes unless the concerned State Pollution Control Board has extended the stipulated period. The waste could be recycled /reused or disposed of in captive or common treatment, storage and disposed facilities available on the campus or incinerated, as proposed in the waste hierarchy list. Inventories of 'end of life' consumer products such as e-waste are also required to be made. The university will explore options/ opportunities for reusing, recovering and recycling of non-hazardous waste in an environmentally sustainable manner. Paper waste will be recycled to make paper board and packing material. The toxic inks and dyes of the paper will be treated with enzyme technology, which is environmentally benign.

### **Safe disposal of hazardous waste**

For the waste which cannot be recycled/ reused, safe and environmentally sound disposal will be adopted depending upon the waste category. Design and operation norms of disposal facilities should be strictly adhered to as per the guidelines framed by CPCB. Setting up of common Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities is essential. A common treatment plant for departmental and household waste will be established and the degradable and non-biodegradable waste will be segregated and treated according to their physical nature.

### **Waste**

According to the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), waste is "materials that are not prime products (that is, products produced for the market) for which the generator has no further use in terms of his/her purposes of production, transformation or consumption, and of which he/she wants to dispose. Wastes may be generated during the extraction of raw materials, the processing of raw materials into intermediate and final products, the consumption of final products, and other human activities. Residuals recycled or reused at the place of generation are excluded."

### **Incidents**

Incidents are events that are distinguished from accidents in terms of being less severe.

### **Segregation**

It is an activity where waste or materials are separated or are kept separate according to radiological, chemical and/or physical properties to facilitate waste

handling and/or processing.

### **Biomedical waste**

Waste, which is generated during the diagnosis, treatment or immunisation of human beings or animals or in research activities pertaining thereto or in the production or testing of biologicals, and including categories mentioned in Schedule I, (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998, MoEF, Gov. of India.

### **Treatment and disposal of “Biomedical Waste”**

- (a) Bio-medical waste shall be treated and disposed of by Schedule I, and in compliance with the standards prescribed in Schedule V, Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998, MoEF, Gov. of India.
- (b) Every occupier, where required, shall set up by the time-schedule in Schedule VI, requisite bio-medical waste treatment facilities like incinerators, autoclaves, and microwave systems for the treatment of waste, or, ensure requisite treatment of waste at a common waste treatment facility or any other waste treatment facility.

