

Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (RGUKT) Basar was established as a university in Andhra Pradesh (A.P), India. In March 2008, the then AP Government created RGUKT by an act of the Legislature as a full-fledged university which would initially admit approximately the top 1% of the rural students into the three residential campuses located at Basar, Nuzvid, and R K Valley (Idupulapai- Kadapa). The first batch of about 6,000 tenth class students got admitted into a six year integrated program in August 2008. Subsequently, due to the bifurcation of the erstwhile state of Andhra Pradesh into Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in the year 2015, the three campuses too got divided between the two states. Currently, the Basar campus of RGUKT is the only one that is functioning in the state of Telangana.

RGUKT Educational Objectives: The primary objective of establishing RGUKT was to provide high quality educational opportunities for the talented rural youth of Telangana. The initial goal was that at least the top 1% of the rural X class passed out students would be given the opportunity to study at RGUKT. RGUKT, Basar, has followed the same objective and is now catering to the talented rural youth of the various districts of Telangana. RGUKT, Basar, accepts 1000 students every year as intake into the PUC course as part of a 6-year integrated program and aims to graduate them with a B.Tech. degree. The key educational objective of RGUKT is to use advances in learning sciences and explore the use of modern cognitive science tools in education and learning. Phrases such as "Learning by Example", "Learning by Doing", "Problem-Based Learning", "Self-Paced Learning", etc become facilitated when every student can be assured to have a personal computer that does not have to be shared with anyone else. Every student is therefore issued a laptop from the very first class right up to the end of his/her 6 year stay in campus. RGUKT believes in reinforcing core values of integrity, respect for all, and care for environment. The University looks to disseminate and advance knowledge in the emerging fields such as Information Technology, Nanotechnology, Cloud Computing, Data Analytics, Internet of Things etc. To make special provisions for integrated courses including Humanities, Social Sciences and other interdisciplinary areas to impart broad-based education including soft skills. To function as a resource centre for knowledge management and entrepreneurship development in the domain of emerging technologies. To establish close linkage with industry and to make teaching and research

at the University relevant to the needs of the economy, at national and global levels. RGUKT Basar: Basar, abode to Gnana Saraswati, located on bank of holy river Godavari, is near to Nizamabad town. It was earlier in the district of Adilabad. However, since the districts were reorganized in the new state of Telangana in 2016, Basar has now become a Mandal by itself and falls under the district administration of Nirmal. The ancient temple of Gnana Saraswati - the Goddess of Knowledge - is located at Basar. It is believed to be one of the two oldest of temples dedicated to Goddess Saraswati in India, the other being located in Kashmir. 'Akshara Gnana' is a special ritual at Basar in which devotees from all over the country and the world bring their children to the temple to be initiated into acquiring knowledge by formal education. The devout believe that the Goddess answers all the prayers of the committed devotees, filling their life with bliss and happiness. The campus at Basar is very well connected to the rest of the India by road as well as rail connectivity.

Vision: The vision of the University is to provide quality engineering education to meritorious rural youth deprived of this opportunity, through an innovative blend of modern computer assisted, learner-centric instructional methodology along with rigorous traditional teaching in a world class ambiance. This vision is driven by the main causes that most of the talented rural youth wishing to pursue higher education Have no access to renowned and world class institutions and facilities Come from economically impoverished background that severely inhibits their choices and passions. It is in the light of this background that the University envisages to provide the requisite high quality education to these students and thus enable them To experience educational standards in Engineering education that are of world-class To enroll in a top technical University that provides free education to the deserving 1% of the creamy layer of students who have passed out of the X class. **Mission:** To create a Knowledge Hub for producing qualified manpower possessing Post Graduate and Doctoral qualification in different branches of Engineering. To develop the campus as a highly research-centric institute. To promote and propagate innovative teaching and research programs and create specialized centers of Learning/Training. To help the students launch on a path of self discovery.

Campus Life Life at RGUKT As mentioned earlier, RGUKT is a fully residential environment. This is

necessary because most of the rural students come from a geographically distributed wide area and would not be able to commute to the campus. Thus, it is essential to provide a fully residential campus with all of the facilities included such as a shops, hospitals, bank, laundry, barbershops, etc. appropriate for a community of about 7000 people consisting of 6,000 students, 500 faculty and staff and 1200 service providers of various types. The Director of the Institute also becomes the pseudo-Mayor of this township dealing with the typical problems of community based living. Since the students are joining the institution at the age of 15 where they are undergoing physical transformation and hormonal changes, being away from home adds to their stress. The local Health Clinic must provide for Psychological Counseling and support. Many rural households tend to be poor and many of the factors of daily living that we take for granted are not always known, such as using a sit-down toilet as opposed to a squatting toilet and significant additional personal education will be needed to facilitate the integration into the larger community.

Life in a Residential Campus:

As a fully residential program, all students will stay on the campus. The program is intensive and runs for 3 semesters of 16 weeks of 6 days a week each. Only 6 weeks of vacation is permitted: 1 week in Dasara, 1 week during Sankranthi and four weeks in summer. While the program appears intensive, it is also designed to help absorption by making students apply concepts right-then-and-there in class. All education is mediated through the use of Information and Communication technologies. The academic complex is being connected by high speed LAN which extends to each student's desk and a laptop is provided to each student right from his or her first year. Each class of about 50 students will have mentors who will conduct a discourse and discussion around a prerecorded expert lecture. The best part of this learning paradigm is that students will have time in these class sessions to receive the lecture, ask questions, discuss with the help of mentors and apply the concepts to problem solving. A good student would have no homework! To keep up with this program and life in general, time is set apart for physical fitness activities. During the first two years all students would attend physical training and exercise each morning and participate in sports in the evening. The daily academic program will consist of 4 periods of just less than 2 hours duration each from 8 AM to 4PM with a lunch break. During the

evening after dinner, there will be programs in soft skills, reading classics, and viewing selected movie programs from 7.30PM to 10.30PM. This will be a more relaxing and a quiet learning time. Students get to explore their talents in art, drama and music as well. Subsequent year will offer greater flexibility in individual daily schedule. Separate and secure hostel facilities will be provided for girls and boys. Food and dining facilities will be according to modern standards. Sports & Games

RGUKT provides facilities for both indoor games such as caroms and chess and outdoor games such as volleyball and basketball. Swimming pool facility will be made soon. It is anticipated to hold Inter-campus competitions will also be held. Shopping center To cater to the needs of students, there is a general store, a canteen, a salon and a beauty parlor in every hostel. Students can make use of these services at a reasonable price. Extra-curricular activities in RGUKT RGUKT's goal is to give students a well-rounded education and doesn't stop with just giving students an education in the Sciences and Engineering. Students are encouraged to get involved in arts, music, drama, debate, paintings and other related skills. At this point, there is no full time faculty for these disciplines but it is anticipated to hire full time faculty and visiting faculty also. Soft Skills and Edutainment After an evening break consisting of sports and dinner, students are expected to go back to the classes for a wide range of activities involving soft skills and edutainment. These sessions are normally supposed to happen from 7:30PM to 10:30PM. The students have access to audio books of classics, both Western and Indian. The Western Classics might include books by Mark Twain, Walter Scott, Dickens and the Indian classics might include the Autobiography of Mahatma Gandhi. Each paragraph in each book is hyperlinked to an audio rendering of that paragraph so that a student can listen to a native speaker reading the paragraph with proper pronunciation and intonation. Thus, as well as reading the classics, the student is also able to learn how certain proper names are pronounced such as San Joaquin Valley. The students also learn how to do touch typing, prepare and participate in debating clubs and read newspapers online. Those students that are taking the remedial classes will miss some of these activities but it is expected that they will have plenty of time to catch up. Health and Safety: RGUKT provides its students and staff all the necessary medical facilities. A medical center with the required facilities is

under construction and is anticipated to be operational soon. The center will have 30 beds and 3 doctors. Note Parents are allowed to meet their children only on Sundays. Relatives of students are not entertained unless they are accompanied by the students' parent(s). Parents need to make an appointment to meet their children. When students want to go out of campus to their home towns, parents are required to come and pick them up. Cell phones are not allowed to be used on campus. Students can use their cell phones in their rooms alone. If one is found to be using a cell phone on campus, it will be confiscated immediately. No food from outside is allowed in the hostel. Parents are not supposed to bring snacks or food of any kind for their children.