



ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ రాజపత్రము
THE ANDHRA PRADESH GAZETTE
PART IV-A EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No.4] **AMARAVATI, WEDNESDAY, 7th FEBRUARY, 2024.**

ANDHRA PRADESH BILLS
ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The following Bill was introduced in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on 7th February, 2024.

L. A. Bill No. 4 of 2024

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF KNOWLEDGE TECHNOLOGIES ACT, 2008.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the State of Andhra Pradesh in the Seventy fifth Year of Republic of India as follows,-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (Amendment) Act, 2024. Short title and commencement.
- (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Government may, by notification, appoint
2. In the Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies Act, 2008 (herein after referred to as the Principal Act), in Section 2,- Amendment of section 2.
 - (a) In Clause (ii), for the words "Constituent Institutes", the word "University" shall be substituted. Act No. 18 of 2008.
 - (b) Clause (v) shall be omitted.

(c) In Clause (vii), for the words "Executive Committee" wherever they occur, the words "Institute Management Council" shall be substituted.

(d) In Clause (xii), the word "autonomous" shall be omitted.

(e) Clause (xiii) shall be omitted.

Amendment of section 3.

3. In the Principal Act, in Section 3, -

(i) for sub-section (1), the following shall be substituted, namely, -

"(1) The Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies established in 2008, with its headquarters at Idupulapaya (RK Valley), YSR Kadapa District, and its other Constituent Institutes located at Nuzvid, Eluru District; Etcherla (Srikakulam), Srikakulam District; and Kanigiri (Ongole), Prakasam District in the State of Andhra Pradesh, for teaching and research in sciences, engineering, technology and other emerging areas under the control of a common Governing Council, shall continue to function in furtherance of its objectives."

(ii) For sub-section (3), the following shall be substituted:

"(3). Each of such Constituent Institutes shall have flexibility to take functional and administrative measures subject to the guidelines or instructions issued by the Governing Council from time to time."

(iii) In sub-section (4), for the words "constituent Institutes", the word "University" shall be substituted.

(iv) In sub-section (5), for the word "Institute", the word "University" and for the word "Director" occurring at two places, the word "Registrar" shall be substituted, respectively.

Amendment of section 4.

4. In the Principal Act, in Section 4, in clauses (i), (ii), (v) and (vi), for the words "Information Technology, Nano Technology, Solar Energy Technology, Biotechnology and other emerging areas", the words "Science, Engineering, Technology and other emerging areas" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 5.

5. In the Principal Act, in Section 5, -

(a) for sub-section (1) the following shall be substituted:

“(1) The Governing Council shall be the apex body for the overall governance of the University and responsible for the general superintendence, accreditation, direction and policies of the University. The Governing Council shall meet at least 4 times in a calendar year. The Governing Council shall exercise its power and discharge its functions as per the provisions of the Act including Statutes.”

(b) In sub-section (2),-

(i) in clause (iii), after the word “bursaries”, the words “medals and prizes” shall be inserted.

(ii) clause (xiii) shall be omitted.

(iii) after clause (xv), the following clauses shall be inserted:

“(xvi) Take decisions on questions of policy relating to the administration and working of all the Institutes under the control of the University;

(xvii) Consider and approve the programmes of the university;

(xviii) Prescribe and conduct courses of study, education and research;

(xix) Lay down standards of proficiency to be demonstrated before the award of diplomas, certificates and other distinctions in respect of courses offered by the university;

(xx) Frame Statutes and Regulations for the conduct of the affairs of the university and to add to, amend, or repeal them from time to time;

(xxi) Consider and pass resolutions on the Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the university;

(xxii) Prescribe tuition and other fees;

(xxiii) Regulate and determine all matters concerning the administration of the University;

(xxiv) Enter into any agreement with the relevant organizations for successful conduct of activities of the university;

(xxv) to invest any money belonging to the university including any unapplied income, in such stocks, funds, shares or securities

as it shall, from time to time, think fit, or in the purchase of immovable property in India, subject to the rules & regulations and prior approval of the State Government;

(xxvi) to transfer or accept transfers of any movable or immovable property on behalf of the university;

(xxvii) to create teaching and academic posts, to determine the number and emoluments of such posts and to define their duties and conditions of service;

(xxviii) to appoint such faculty and other academic staff as may be necessary, on recommendations of the selection committee constituted for the purpose;

(xxix) to create administrative ministerial and other necessary posts and to make appointments thereto in the manner prescribed by the Regulations.”

(c) After sub-section (2), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely,-

“ (3) the constitution of the Governing Council and the term of office of its members are as prescribed below:

- (i) Vice - Chancellor (Chairperson);
- (ii) Chairperson, Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education;
- (iii) Principal Secretary or Nominee of the Information Technology, Electronics and Communications Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (iv) Principal Secretary or Nominee of the Higher Education Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (v) Principal Secretary or Nominee of the Finance Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (vi) Directors of all the Constituent Institutes of the University;
- (vii) Director, International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad;
- (viii) Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Tirupati;
- (ix) Two of the following persons (to be nominated by the Government):

- (a) Director, IIM Visakhapatnam
- (b) Director, National Institute of Technology, A.P
- (c) Director, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, (IISER), Tirupati
- (x) Four eminent persons, including one from industry, to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor.
- (4) The Registrar shall be the Convener of the Governing Council.
- (5) The term of office of the nominated members shall be three years. A nominated member shall be entitled for re-nomination for another term of three years.
- (6) One-third members of the Governing Council shall form a quorum for a meeting of the Governing Council.
- (7) The Governing Council shall have full executive control over all the Institutes.
- (8) The Governing Council shall have a common seal for the University and provide for the custody and use of such seal.
- (9) Delegate such of its powers to the Vice-Chancellor as may be considered necessary or desirable.
- (10) The Registrar with the prior approval of the Vice-Chancellor shall convene the meetings of the Governing Council as and when required."
6. In the Principal Act, after Section 5, the following section shall be inserted, namely,- Insertion of new section.
- "5A. Officers of the University:** The following shall be the officers of the University, namely,-
- i) The Chancellor;
- (ii) The Vice-Chancellor;
- (iii) The Registrar;
- (iv) The Finance Officer;
- (v) The Deans;
- (vi) Such other persons as may be prescribed to be officers of the University."
7. In the Principal Act, for section 6, the following shall be substituted, namely Substitution of section 6.

“6. The Chancellor -

- (1) The Chief Minister of the Andhra Pradesh shall be the Chancellor of the University.
- (2) He / she shall, by virtue of his / her office, be the Head of the University and shall, when present, preside at convocations of the University.
- (3) He / she shall exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be conferred on or vested in him / her by or under the provisions of this Act.
- (4) The Chancellor may, by order in writing annul any proceeding to the University, which is not in conformity with this Act, the Statutes or the Ordinances:

Provided that before making any such order he / she shall give a notice calling upon the University to show cause why such an order should not be made and if any cause is shown within the time specified therefor in the said notice, shall consider the same.”

Substitution of section 7.

8. In the Principal Act, for section 7, the following shall be substituted, namely, -

“7. The Vice-Chancellor - (1) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Academic Head and the Chief Executive Officer of the University, providing leadership to the institutes and be responsible for implementation of the decisions of the Governing Council and day-to-day functioning of the University.

(2) The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor from the panel of three persons recommended by the Search Committee constituted by the Government, consisting of:

- (a) a nominee of the Governing Council;
- (b) a nominee of the University Grants Commission and
- (c) a nominee of the State Government.

(3) The Search Committee shall submit a panel of three names in alphabetical order to the Government. The Chancellor shall appoint any one from the panel as the Vice Chancellor.

(4) The Vice-Chancellor shall be a person possessing the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment. The Vice-Chancellor shall be a distinguished academician, with a Doctoral Degree and a minimum of ten years' of experience as a Professor in a University or equivalent in any State or Central Government funded educational / research institutes, from the faculties of engineering and technology, with proof of having demonstrated academic leadership.

(5) The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a term of three years. He / She shall be eligible for another term of three years subject to the provisions of the Act:

Provided that nothing in this clause shall adversely affect the tenure of an existing incumbent

(6) The Vice-Chancellor shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the Chancellor passed on the ground of wilful omission or refusal to carry out the provisions of this Act, or abuse of the powers vested in him and after due enquiry ordered by the Government, by the Lokayukta or by such person who is or has been a Judge of a High Court or the Supreme Court as may be appointed by the Chancellor in which the Vice-Chancellor shall have an opportunity of making his representation against such removal:

Provided that where the enquiry is conducted by a person who is or has been a Judge of High Court or the Supreme Court the report of such an enquiry shall be forwarded to the Government and the Chancellor shall act in accordance with the advice tendered by the Government on a consideration of the report while exercising his powers under this sub-section :

Provided further that where the Lokayukta enquires into an allegation against the Vice-Chancellor under the Andhra Pradesh Lokayukta and Upa-Lokayukta Act, 1983 (Act No. 11 of 1983), then, notwithstanding anything contained in Section 12 of that Act, the Lokayukta shall submit the report to the Government and the

Chancellor shall act in accordance with the advice tendered by the Government on a consideration of the report while exercising his powers under this sub-section."

Insertion of new section. 9.

In the Principal Act, after Section 7, the following Section shall be inserted, namely,-

"7A. Registrar - (1) The Registrar shall be a whole-time officer of the University appointed by the Governing Council, on the recommendation of a Selection Committee consisting of the Vice-Chancellor and two other members nominated by the Governing Council, for a term of three years or less and on such other terms as may be prescribed:

Provided that he / she shall be eligible for another term of three years. The Registrar shall retire on attaining the age of superannuation, regardless of the term of appointment. The Registrar shall be an academician holding the post of Professor (or equivalent) for at least five years.

(2) The Registrar will be on deputation in the post in case somebody outside the University is appointed.

(3) The Registrar shall be responsible for-

(a) The custody of all the records and the common seal of the University;

(b) The overall control and supervision of all the administrative work of the University and in the constituent institutes;

(4) The Registrar shall discharge such other duties and perform such other functions, as may be prescribed by the statutes, or required from time to time, by special or general order of the Vice-Chancellor.

(5) The Registrar shall represent the University in suits or proceedings by or against the University, sign powers of attorney and verify pleadings.

- (6) The Registrar shall draw such salary and other allowances and be governed by such conditions of service as fixed by the Governing Council, provided that the salary and allowances and the conditions of service shall not be varied to the disadvantage of an incumbent during the term of his/her office.
- (7) In the temporary absence of the Registrar on leave, for whatever reason or until the vacancy caused in any other manner is filled, the Vice-Chancellor shall appoint any person temporarily for a period not exceeding three months to act as the Registrar (in-Charge)."
10. In the Principal Act, in section 8, in sub-section (1), for the words "Constituent Institutes", the word "University" shall be substituted. Amendment of section 8.
11. In the Principal Act, in Section 9,- Amendment of section 9.
- (i) In the opening paragraph, for the words "The Institute", the words "Subject to the guidelines or instructions issued by the Governing Council from time to time, the Constituent Institute" shall be substituted.
- (ii) In clauses (ii), (x), (xii), and (xiv), for the word "institute", the word "University" shall be substituted.
- (iii) in clause (xviii), for the words "its objects", the words "the objects of the University" shall be substituted.
12. In the Principal Act, in Section 10,- Amendment of section 10.
- (i) In Clause (ii), for the word "Dean", the words "Associate Deans" shall be substituted.
- (ii) In Clause (iv), before the word "Finance", the word "Deputy" shall be inserted.
13. In the Principal Act, for section 11, the following shall be substituted, Substitution of section 11.
namely, -
- "11. Director of the Institute - (1)** The Director shall be appointed by the Governing Council from the panel of three persons recommended by the Search Committee, consisting of:

- (a) Chairperson, Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education (APSCHE);
- (b) Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department or nominee of Higher Education Department;
- (c) A nominee of the Governing Council.

(2) The Search Committee shall submit a panel of three persons in alphabetical order to the Governing Council, which shall be the appointing authority.

(3) The Director must be a distinguished academician with doctoral degree and adequate administrative experience. He / She shall be a serving as a Professor (or its equivalent) for at least 5 years in any public university or Centrally funded educational / research institutes from the faculties of engineering and technology.

(4) The maximum age limit for appointing a person as Director shall be 62 years on the date of the appointment.

(5) The Director shall hold office for a term of three years and shall be eligible for another term of three years. However, if, at any time upon representation made or otherwise and after making such inquiry as may be deemed necessary, the situation so warrants and if the continuance of the Director is not in the interests of the Institute, the Governing Council may, by an order in writing stating the reasons therein, remove the Director from such date as may be specified in the order:

Provided that before taking action under this subsection the Director shall be given an opportunity of being heard in person.

(6) The Director shall be responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the Constituent Institute. It shall be the duty of the Director to see that the Act, the Statutes and the Regulations are duly observed, and he shall have all powers necessary to ensure such observance.

(7) The Director shall report to the Vice-Chancellor.”.

14. In the Principal Act, in Section 12,-
- (i) In sub-section (1), for the words “Executive Committee”, the words “Institute Management Council” shall be substituted.
- (ii) In sub-section (2),-
- (a) in clause (b), for the words “authorities of the constituent Institute”, the words “authorities of the university and Constituent Institutes” shall be substituted.
- (b) in clause (c), for the word “Chancellor” the word “Vice-Chancellor” shall be substituted.
- Amendment of section 12.
15. In the Principal Act, in Section 13, for the words “constituent Institute”, the word “University”, shall be substituted.
- Amendment of section 13.
16. In the Principal Act, after Section 13, the following section shall be inserted, namely,-
- “13A. The Associate Deans** - The Associate Deans of the Constituent Institute shall be appointed in such manner and exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Statute 7A.”
- Insertion of new section.
17. In the Principal Act, for Section 14, the following shall be substituted, namely,-
- “14. The Administrative Officer.** - The Administrative Officer of the Constituent institute shall assist the Director and shall be appointed in such a manner as may be prescribed by the Statute 4.”
- Substitution of section 14.
18. In the Principal Act, in Section 15, for the words “constituent Institute” the word “University” shall be substituted.
- Amendment of section 15.
19. In the Principal Act, in Section 16, before the words “Constituent Institute”, the word “University” shall be inserted.
- Amendment of section 16.
20. In the Principal Act, in Section 17, in clause (i), for the words “Executive Committee”, the words “Institute Management Council” shall be substituted.
- Amendment of section 17.

Substitution of section 18.

21. In the Principal Act, for Section 18, the following shall be substituted, namely, -

“18. Institute Management Council.- The Institute Management Council shall be the principal executive body of the Constituent Institute, under the Chairpersonship of the Director concerned. The Institute Management Council shall be responsible for taking decisions at the institute level. The constitution of the Institute Management Council, the term of office of its members and its powers are as per Statute 10.”

Substitution of section 19.

22. In the Principal Act, for Section 19, the following shall be substituted, namely, -

“19. Board of Studies. - (i) The Board of Studies (BoS) shall arrange for periodical monitoring of the development programmes and of teaching and research in the University.

(ii) A separate BoS shall be attached to each faculty of study.

(iii) There shall be representation for students (alumni) on the BoS.

(iv) The constitution and functions of the Board of Studies shall be as prescribed by Statute 12.”

Amendment of section 21.

23. In the Principal Act, in Section 21, the word and expression “University/” shall be inserted before the words “Constituent Institute”.

Amendment of section 22.

24. In the Principal Act, in Section 22, -

(i) for the words “Executive Committee”, the words “Institute Management Council” shall be substituted.

(ii) The following shall be added at the end of the Paragraph, -

“A consolidated Annual Report shall also be prepared for the University and submitted to the State Government, after the approval of Governing Council.”

Substitution of section 23.

25. In the Principal Act, for Section 23, the following shall be substituted, namely, -

“23. Annual Accounts & Finance Matters - (1) The annual accounts of the University for the preceding financial year shall be submitted by the Governing Council to the Government, before the

end of the financial year. The Government shall cause an audit to be made by such person, as it may appoint in this behalf. The accounts when audited shall be printed and copies thereof shall, together with the copies of the audit report, be submitted by the Governing Council to the Government with its comments. The Government shall as soon, as may be after the receipt of the audit report, cause the audit report together with the comments of the Council to be laid before each House of the State Legislature.

(2) The University may accept funds from the Government of India, the State Government, the University Grants Commission, and borrow money from a Bank or a Corporation, for the purposes of the University.

(3) The University shall not, without the prior approval of the Government, divert earmarked funds for other purposes or upgrade any post or revise the scales of pay of its staff or implement any scheme which involves any matching contribution from the Government or create a post or posts resulting in a recurring liability on the Government either immediately or in future:

Provided that for the existing teaching purposes the Governing Council may authorise the creation and filling up of posts of teachers for a period not exceeding one year but any such post or posts shall not be continued or created afresh for any period beyond the said period of one year without the prior approval of the Government.

(4) The terms and conditions including the pay and allowances for the officers of the University, including the Constituent Institutes, shall be as notified by the Government from time to time."

26. In the Principal Act, after Section 23, the following section shall be inserted, namely,- Insertion of new section.

"23A. Inspection and Inquiry: (1) The Government shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made by such person or persons as it may direct of the University, its buildings, laboratories,

libraries, museums, workshops and equipment and of any institutions maintained by or affiliated to the university and also to cause an inquiry to be made, into the teaching and other work conducted or done by the University in respect of any matter connected with the University. The Government shall in every case give notice to the University of its intention to cause such inspection or inquiry to be made and the University shall be entitled to be represented thereat.

(2) The Government shall forward to the Vice-Chancellor a copy of the inspection report for obtaining the views of the Governing Council and on receipt of such views, the Government may tender such advice as they consider necessary and fix a time limit for action to be taken by the University.

(3) The Governing Council shall, within such time as the Government may fix, report to them through the Vice-Chancellor the action which has been taken or is proposed to be taken on the advice tendered by them.

(4) The Government may, where action has not been taken by the University to their satisfaction, within the time fixed and after considering any explanation furnished or representation made by the Governing Council issue such directions as they may think fit and the University shall comply with such directions."

Amendment of
section 24.

27. In the Principal Act, in Section 24, in clause (iv), for the word "Institutes", the word "University", shall be substituted.

Amendment of
section 26.

28. In the Principal Act, in Section 26, in clauses (i), (iv) and (vii) for the word "institute", the word "University" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Whereas, the State Government has been spending considerable sum of funds on rural education towards building infrastructure, develop curriculum and train the teachers, so as to improve the education in rural areas;

And whereas, the Government, in order to cater primarily to the educational needs of the meritorious rural youth of Andhra Pradesh, in 2008, established Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (RGUKT);

And whereas, it is felt that the university needs certain changes like redefining the role of the Chancellor, Vice - Chancellor, aligning provisions as per the University Grants Commission regulations, appointment of the Registrar and other officers of the university and the constituent institutes, strengthening the Governing Council and making the university function as a cohesive entity instead of the constituent institutions operating autonomously, among other things. It is proposed to amend the existing Act.

The Bills seeks to give effect to the above decisions.

BOTCHA SATYANARAYANA
Minister for Education
Government of Andhra Pradesh

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clauses 1 (2) of the Bill authorize the Government to issue notification in respect of matters specified therein. The notification so issued which are intended to cover matters mostly of procedural in nature are to be laid on the table Legislature of the State and will be subject to any modification made by the Legislature.

The above provision of the Bill regarding Delegated Legislation are thus of a normal type and are mainly intended to cover matters of procedure.

BOTCHA SATYANARAYANA
Minister for Education
Government of Andhra Pradesh

**MEMORANDUM UNDER RULE 95 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE ANDHRA PRADESH
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.**

The Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (Amendment) Bill, 2024 after it is passed by the Legislature of the State may be submitted to the Governor for his assent under article 200 of the Constitution of India.

BOTCHA SATYANARAYANA
Minister for Education
Government of Andhra Pradesh

Dr. P.P.K. RAMACHARYULU,
Secretary General to State Legislature.