First batch of IIITians up for grabs

'34 Firms Including DRDO Queue Up To Recruit Fresh Graduates'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Months before the first batch of 6000 engineers graduate from the Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (RGUKT), dozens of public and private sector companies are already queuing up for recruitment.

The university will be the first technological institute in the state to have such a large batch of engineering graduates from six streams such as electronics and communication, computer science, civil, mechanical, metallurgical and chemical engineering pass out in May 2014.

A total of 34 public and private sector companies have signed up for the placement drive, including TCS, Infosys, Mahindra Satyam and HCL. From the public sector, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) have expressed interest to recruit engineers, varsity officials said.

The varsity was established in 2008 with three separate institutions functioning under it at Nuzvid (Krishna district), Idupulapaya (Kadapa) and Basar (Adilabad), to provide world-class technical education to rural students.

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> **Prof R V Raja Kumar** | VICE-CHANCELLOR, RGUKT

Although it had started out with a total of 6,000 seats in all the three institutions, the number of seats were later reduced to 3,000 in 2010, due to lack of proper infrastructure facilities.

Vice-chancellor of the varsity, Prof R V Raja Kumar who had earlier held teaching and managerial positions in IIT-Kharagpur, said the curriculum followed by students will ensure them good placements during the recruitment drive. "We are following a national-level curriculum similar to the one followed by IIT-Kharagpur. The lessons are concept-based and students are made to follow the problem-solving method of learning," Kumar said.

While a majority of the students of the institute come from rural areas, RGUKT has been imparting special English training to bridge the language gap. English courses will continue in the form of technical writing classes and similar modules, an official said. "Students can match the soft skills of those graduating from premier institutions in the country. Recruiters are looking forward to hiring such talent," the vice-chancellor said.

The varsity offers a six-year course that includes a two-year pre-university schooling equivalent to Intermediate education. Students from government schools, who topped SSC exams from each mandal in the state, are eligible for admissions. Over 50 per cent of the students studying in the varsity are girls.

The new recruitment drive will be a shot in the arm to the institute which has not been getting government funding in recent years.