



## **A Brief Report on**

# **Innovative Methodologies to Improve the Quality of Education under National Education Policy - 2020 at Rajiv Gandhi University**



**Submitted By:**

**राजीव गाँधी विश्वविद्यालय**

**Rajiv Gandhi University**

**रोनो हिल्स, दोईमुख, अरुणाचल प्रदेश**

**Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh**

**2022**

## Contents

Sl.	Particulars	Page(s)
1.	Background Note on the University	03-11
2.	Salient Initiatives Undertaken by RGU Under NEP-2020	12-19
3.	The Way Forward: Future Readiness through NEP 2020 at RGU	19-20

## 1. Background Note on the University

### The Inception

Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), formerly Arunachal University nestled atop Rono Hills on a picturesque table land of 302 acres is a premier institution of higher education in Arunachal Pradesh and has completed thirty-eight years of its existence. Late Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, laid the foundation stone of the University on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 1984 at Rono Hills, Doimukh. The University was converted into a Central University with effect from 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 as per the notification of the erstwhile Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. Since then, Rajiv Gandhi University has carved a niche for itself in the educational scenario of the country. Prof. C.L. Anand appointed in 1987 was the first Vice-Chancellor of the university whereas Shri A P Srivastava was the first Registrar of this University who served from 1985 till 1988. Currently, Prof. Saket Kushwaha is serving as the Seventeenth Vice-chancellor of this university and Dr. N T Rikam is the Twenty Second Registrar of Rajiv Gandhi University serving from 2020.

The University received academic recognition under section 2(f) from the University Grants Commission on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 1985 and started functioning from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1985. It received financial recognition under section 12B of the UGC on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 1994. The University started its academic journey in the year 1988 with 48 students, 18 faculty members, and three departments namely History, Political Science, and Education. B.Ed. programme was started in the current campus whereas post graduate programmes in History and Political Science initiated with Jawaharlal Nehru College (JNC), Pasighat.

### Teaching and Research

The teaching and research programmes of the University are designed to play a leading role in the socio-economic and cultural development of the state as well as

the nation. The University has been consistently and effectively catering to the educational needs of the state of Arunachal Pradesh and the neighbouring states in the North East Region (NER) since its inception. The University has been extending educational facilities to the students from all over India.

Currently, the University offers Under Graduate, Post Graduate, Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) and other skill-based Certificate and PG Diploma programmes through its Forty-One (41) Departments, Two (02) Institutes and One (01) Centre. RGU is also offering graduate, post graduate and many certificate courses through distance education. We are also reaching out to the remotest locations through forty-five affiliated colleges spread across Arunachal Pradesh.

There has been exponential growth in the number of students over the years in various departments of the university and in its affiliated colleges. Currently, a total of 3349 students are enrolled with university in which 205 students are enrolled in Diploma/Certificates Courses, and 558 and 2076 students in undergraduate and post graduate programmes, respectively. A total of 510 PhD scholars are registered with the University. University has a near equal ratio of male and female students over the years.

Currently the University has 186 highly acclaimed regular faculty members and 67 guest/contract faculty members. 29 new regular faculty members have been recruited during the year 2021. 69 faculty members have been promoted under CAS at different level. The faculty members are actively engaged in research activities with financial support from the UGC, DST-SERB, DBT, CSIR, ICSSR, NCW, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh and other funding agencies. Number of faculty members of the university have been awarded with prestigious fellowships by national and international agencies of repute. This year nearly half a dozen faculty members of the university have successfully got registered for their patents. Also, the university has more than two hundred administrative and other non-teaching full time staff.

The University for its Academic Expansion has entered MoU with several institutions. Rajiv Gandhi University has also been closely working with state government of Arunachal Pradesh in research, innovations and other constructive ways. The departments of the university regularly organise capacity building programmes, seminars, workshops and conferences as part of their commitment towards academic excellence. Apart from the enthusiastic conduct and observance of Republic Day, Independence Day, International Day of Non-Violence (Commemorating the birth-anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi) the Rajiv Gandhi University had organized many flagship programmes of the central government such as –

1. Unveiling of the 'Wall of Heroes' Portraits in RGU under *Vidya Veerta Abhiyan* – An initiative under the aegis of Ministry of Human Resource Development (erstwhile MHRD), Govt. of India;
2. International Day of Yoga - An initiative of UGC (MoE, GOI);
3. *Swachhta Hi Sewa Hai* – *Swachch Bharat* Mission, GOI;
4. Run for Unity - The *Rashtriya Ekta Diwas* on the occasion of Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel;
5. Cyclothon & Walkathon - Under Fit India Movement initiative of the GoI;
6. *Unnat Bharat Abhiyan* (UBA) - Under UBA RGU has adopted five villages in different parts of the State. Regular outreach programmes are being organised in these villages;
7. *Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat* (EBSB) - Under EBSB MoU has been signed with *Aligarh Muslim* University and BHU (Uttar Pradesh) and NEHU (Meghalaya). Several programmes have been organised wherein visit to *Uttar Pradesh* two teams and one team to *Meghalaya* for cultural exchange programme have been conducted besides webinar dialogue on *Yuva Sangeet Samaroh* (Aligarh and RGU students), *Dekho Apna Desh*, and Meghalaya. Culture exchange programme to BHU;
8. National Service Scheme (NSS) - RGU NSS Cell has been organising regular activities and annual special camp programmes. Near about 350 volunteers are registered. Two of the NSS volunteers from RGU have been recognized with State

Best NSS award. And one volunteer has been honoured with National NSS award during 2019. NSS park has been set up in the university;

9. National Cadet Corps (NCC) - RGU NCC unit is organising regular NCC programmes. A mega NCC camp was organised at RGU where 600 cadets participated;

10. *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao*; and

11. Skill India and Fit India.

The university has also completed its academic and administrative audit (AAA) for 2020. To improve performance and achievement, the University has decided to implement and conduct Academic and Administrative Audit annually. It not only facilitates and helps respective Departments/ Centres but also prepares the University for better grading by the NAAC Evaluations and Accreditation.

### **Affiliated Colleges**

Presently university has about forty-five (45) affiliated colleges comprising of nineteen (19) Government Degree Colleges, Nine (09) private degree colleges, One (01) Government Medical College (TRIHMS), One (01) Government Law College, Two (02) Government Nursing Colleges, One (01) private Law College, Nine (09) private Teacher Education Colleges, Two (02) private Nursing Colleges and a (01) private Homoeopathy Medical College.

### **Academic and Infrastructural Resources**

Smart class room facility has been provided to all the departments. Currently, the University library has 74,500 number of books. Apart from the printed books, the University Library also has 12700 number of e-books in total which are perpetual access in nature. 462 Ph.D. theses have been uploaded under ETD *Shodhganga* Project till the date also. The University Library has subscribed I-Thenticate (Turnitin) –Anti –plagiarism software in the year-2021 from the session 2020-21. This year, Rajiv Gandhi University, Central Library has also started the IR (Institutional Repository) which has inaugurated its portal (<http://rguir.inflibnet.ac.in>) on 20<sup>th</sup> May

2021. 7066 number of e-books have been already uploaded in the Institutional Repository. Besides, the library has subscribed IEEE CSDL for its users in the current academic session.

Rajiv Gandhi University has a dozen students' hostels with a capacity to accommodate nearly sixty per cent (60%) of its students as on date whereas complete (100%) accommodation for *divyangjan* has been ensured in university campus. Nearly a dozen buses of the university ply every day on fixed schedule to facilitate smooth transportation of students and staff. Currently, University has two (02) senior medical officers, two (02) nurses, one (01) pharmacist and one (01) health assistant together with three (03) MPW staff serving in its health centre which has three (03) beds for emergency service. To promote and protect the rights of women and human rights of the Minorities, University has a proactive anti-sexual harassment committee and minority cell respectively which organizes awareness programmes for different stakeholders and takes remedial measures. University has upgraded its basic infrastructure in due course of time and currently has eleven (11) bore-wells functioning with full capacity and also 250 kilowatts 3DG sets to serve the emergency electric requirements. Additionally, university has eight (08) Rooftop Solar Power Plants, supplied and installed by Arunachal Pradesh Energy Development Agency (APEDA) during 2019-20. The capacity of the plant is around 60 KW and it provides power to different hostels and academic buildings. This project saves around 476.26 KW daily during a sunny day. The APEDA will maintain these plants for five years from the date of installation.

Six (06) artificial water harvesting systems, with bricks and RCC foundation, were installed in the university campus with a capacity of 1.5 lakh litres each during 2002 (at Academic Block and Central Library each) and 2018 (at Department of CSE, Eco-Park, IDE, and Department of Geography each). Out of six (06) systems, four (04) are operational currently. The water, so stored has been used for gardening and cleaning purposes and the rest are used to recharge the ground water level. Due to

availability of the water for nonconventional uses, the green vegetation in the campus is on a path of growth, and adding aesthetics to the campus life. Further, university has developed two (02) water reservoirs to recharge the ground water naturally, during the rainy season.

University has hundreds of trees planted in last few years. Also, there is a complete ban on cutting of trees and bird hunting in the campus. Last year, Rajiv Gandhi University Campus has been declared as a fully plastic free zone.

The use of solar power, conservation of conventional energy, plastic free campus- *Swachhta Hi Sewa* and green audit are indicative as well as substantive sustainable practices of RGU campus. Plants provide everything for our survival. All three basic needs for survival, Oxygen, Water and Food we get from plants. University recently completed green audit of the campus to take stock of the per capita carbon footprint. The green audit, conducted during December 2019 to February 2020, has recorded the occurrence of as much as 116 species of trees in the developed area of the Rajiv Gandhi University campus on top of the Rono Hills. This is for the first time, and it is expected to significantly serve as the base-line data, for similar future assessment. All the plants growing inside the campus with Girth at Breast Height (GBH) over 20 cm were spotted identified and measured for GBH. For this purpose, entire development part of the campus was loosely divided into 26 sectors/areas. Rajiv Gandhi University Museum of Fish (RGUMF) maintained by Department of Zoology is actively contributing in conservation and promotion of new fish species.

## **Achievements**

RGU, the easternmost located central university of the country has kept behind many central universities in the pursuit of academic achievement and secured second place in the rankings released by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, in 2020, by registering 83% in the grading of performance. The varsity lapped up the coveted title of 'Best Central University' in 2020 at the third Himalayan Educators



Summit, 2020 and ranked third to receive the 'Divya Himagiri Himalayan State Education Excellence Award 2020'. These awards mirror RGU's hard work and the urge to excel.

Rajiv Gandhi University has earned the unique distinction of being the first university in the country to prepare First Human Development Report (HDR) of Arunachal Pradesh. The department of economics received a grant of Rs. 10 crore as corpus fund in union budget, 2012 for research and establishment of Centre for Development Studies (CDS).

The huge (81.37%) forest cover, zoo-geographic location, altitudinal variation, various vegetation, high rainfall, different climate regimes etc., contribute in making Arunachal Pradesh an extremely rich biodiversity region. Department of Zoology & Botany of this University has been recognized as the "Centre with Potential for Excellence in Biodiversity (CPEB)" in the year, 2002, vide UGC DO Letter No. F14-2/99(IUC/UNIV. Excellence), dated 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2002. The Centre has successfully completed two successive phases of 5 years each.

The RGU added a priceless feather to its colourful cap by establishing the "Centre of Excellence on Sports Science Education and Research" under the scheme "National Centre of Sports Science and Research" (NCSSR) of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) to develop for the enhancement of the performance of Indian sportspersons in the international competitions. It is the first of its kind in the North-East India and only the 6<sup>th</sup> in the entire country. Under this, the University has started four (04) new departments for holistic development of youth. They are; (a) Sports Biomechanics, (b) Sports Physiology, (c) Sports Psychology, and (d) Strength Training & Conditioning. It envisions to infuse vigour and dynamism into the sporting culture of the university and the region as well.

Rajiv Gandhi University has been selected by the NITI Aayog to set up 'Atal Community Incubation Centre (ACIC)' for augmenting entrepreneurial acumen and

capacity-building among the unemployed youth. As an integral part of the 'Indian Himalayan Central Universities Consortium' of NITI Aayog, New Delhi under UGC STRIDE Scheme, the RGU is contributing in collaborative research pertaining on five different themes.

The University received financial support of Rs. 10 Crore from Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India under PURSE 2021 Programme. The university is assigned by the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh to document the Unsung Heroes of Arunachal Pradesh who fought against British invasion. This year the University has partnered with the State Government for celebrating the golden jubilee of the State's foundation and the its naming as 'Arunachal Pradesh'. Presently, the University is celebrating the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' with a series of well-planned programmes and events, in a befitting manner.

RGU's Arunachal Institute of Tribal Studies (AITS) inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with State Research Directorate for extensive heritage documentation and to formulate a State Culture Policy (SCP) on 16th Oct., 2020, one of few such moves in the country. The Directorate of Youth Affairs, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh has constituted a Drafting Committee for examining State Youth Policy of Arunachal Pradesh taking into account the National Education Policy, 2020 as well as latest Youth Policy of Govt. of India and other states.

The University adheres to the academic calendar, conducts the examinations, declares the results on time and organizes convocation every year on a fixed date as the part and culture of its best practices. In our pursuit to infuse and consolidate Constitutional Values and also those of Indian Freedom Struggle, during the convocation each year, university distributes Preamble of the Constitution of India and Fundamental Duties to all the passing out students along with their degree. In equity and diversity parameters, the University always has upheld a consistent and

constructive role. Gender equality and promotion of indigenous students and learners with special abilities have been remaining a top priority for the university. The University is also in the process of expanding its campuses in three locations for the larger benefit of students. Rajiv Gandhi University is creditably matching the new trends in the field of higher education and has assiduously maintained its scholastic distinction to enable the aspiring students keep abreast with their fellow students across the Nation and the Globe.

### **Vision**

Rajiv Gandhi University aspires to be India's most vibrant, energetic, responsive and acclaimed University, to be recognized for excellence in teaching, research and providing the highest quality educational opportunities for the learners of all communities. The University aims at nurturing their talent by promoting intellectual growth to shape their personality and serve humanity as multi-skilled, socially responsible, creative, adaptable, contributing and morally sound global citizens.

### **Mission**

Our mission is to provide opportunities and support students from diverse background and assist them to become well-informed global citizens by developing their intellectual, moral, civic and creative capacities to the fullest through multi-faceted education and sustained engagement with local, national and global communities. The University also aims to carry out academic process for achieving excellence through active and dynamic student-teacher participation and inculcate high moral, ethical and professional standards among students which will enable them to develop knowledge and skills necessary to achieve their professional goals so as to improve the performance and also provide leadership and service to the community.

## 2. Salient Initiatives Undertaken by RGU Under NEP-2020

Following are the existing best practices and innovative methods adopted by the Rajiv Gandhi University in course of implementation of the NEP-2020:

### 1. Constitution of Task Force for Implementation of NEP-2020

In order to steer through the key provisions under NEP-2020 at multiple stakeholders and institutional partners (including affiliated colleges level), Rajiv Gandhi University has constituted a Task Force in the leadership of Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) ever since NEP-2020 was brought to public domain. The task force comprising a blend of senior most as well as young and dynamic faculty members of the university has taken number of initiatives, workshops, conferences and consultative exercise with key stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of NEP 2020 at Rajiv Gandhi University.

### 2. Constitution of NEP-Cell

With a vision to facilitate policy and executive level improvements in sync with the mandates of a flexible, learner centric and new age education of NEP-2020, an NEP-Cell has also been constituted at Rajiv Gandhi University. The Cell functions pro-actively to reach out the various departments and branches of the university in terms of updating their regulations, course-curriculum and modus operandi in line with the letter and spirit of National Education Policy-2020.

### 3. Implementation of Learning Outcome Curriculum Framework (LOCF) at UG Level

Non-uniform course curriculum has been a persistent issue compromising the overall quality and efficacy of higher education in the country especially in the

wake of new age challenges as well as evolving opportunities. In this regard, introduction of Learning Outcome Curriculum Framework (LOCF) at Under Graduate Level has been successfully completed during previous academic year itself (2021-22) by Rajiv Gandhi University across UG Courses in campus as well as all the constituent colleges.

#### **4. Introduction of MOOCs from SWAYAM with Credit Transfer Provisions**

To facilitate learner centric and flexible education, Rajiv Gandhi University has implemented Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) from SWAYAM platform with credit transfer facility as mandatory component in different courses ever since academic session 2019-20.

#### **5. Inbuilt mechanism of Experiential Learning in various programmes**

With an intent to actualise the vision of NEP-2020 regarding practice based, vocational and skill enhancing approach (including those of vocational, life and soft skills) of higher education, Rajiv Gandhi University has ensured through explicit guidelines to various boards of under graduate as well as post graduate studies to incorporate the mechanism of experiential learning in all its courses. As a result, nearly all our courses at UG, PG, Certificate, Diploma and Research level have essential component of experiential learning as on date.

#### **6. Skill Development Courses**

Staying true to the vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister and NEP-2020 in transforming education from qualification to capability, Rajiv Gandhi University has not just established a Skill Development Hub for drop out learners but has also kept in place policy as well as practice decisions of introducing skill development courses. Currently, nearly two dozen skill

development courses in multiple fields from functional and communicative Hindi and English to CCTV installation etc. are being actively run across departments and centres in the university.

## **7. Protection And Promotion of The Rich Heritage of Tribal Culture**

In our pursuit to serve the cause of local communities and indigenous culture staying true to the spirit of returning back to the locale where we are located, i.e., predominantly Tribal Social Fabric of Arunachal Pradesh which is home to twenty-six major and over hundred minor tribes, Rajiv Gandhi University has taken significant measures for the protection and promotion of the rich heritage of tribal culture. Introduction of Certificate Course in Tribal Language as well as Research Project on Oral traditions and Indigenous Knowledge System in due support and collaboration with State Government of Arunachal Pradesh has been a mark and telling record of undeterred commitment to quality education with a human face.

## **8. Mandatory Internship in Course Curriculum at UG and PG levels**

Rajiv Gandhi University has an inbuilt mechanism of professional grooming for our learners. Courses like those of Social Work, Management, Mass Communication, Education, Computer Science and Engineering, Electronics and Communication Engineering etc. have a mandatory component of internship in their curriculum which has also been incorporated in traditional courses through a policy decision in the light of provisions laid down under NEP-2020 under multiple entry and exit system.

## **9. Capacity Building Initiatives for Key Stakeholders on NEP 2020**

In order to spread awareness on salient provisions, the new age pathbreaking vision and learner centric approach of NEP-2020, Rajiv Gandhi University has organized over fifty programmes and capacity building workshops for key

stakeholders including students, scholars, parents, teachers and non-teaching staff of the university in past two years.

### **10. Lateral Entry Facility in MCA programme (In the spirit of Multiple Entry and Exit System)**

One of the most path-breaking features of NEP-2020 envisions for a Multiple Entry and Exit System across higher education in the country. As it includes one of our top priorities here at RGU under NEP-2020, as a mark of humble yet strong beginning we have implemented Lateral Entry Facility in MCA programme.

### **11. Academic Bank of Credit**

After completion of Framing the modalities for the establishment of Academic Credit Bank, Rajiv Gandhi University has joined the nation in registering for Academic Bank of Credit in our pursuit to facilitate more flexible and learner centric educational edo-system as envisioned in NEP-2020.

### **12. Research and Development Cell**

As per the mandates of UGC and NEP-2020, Rajiv Gandhi University has also constituted Research and Development Cell conceding the fact that research is the backbone of academics. It simplifies concept building and transforms new ideas into innovations in pursuance of a new era of passion for researches. Each finding gives immense pleasure and multiplies enthusiasm towards achieving target. The Research and Development Cell aims to nurture research culture in the university by promoting research in newly emerging and challenging areas of Technology, Sciences, Social Sciences, Sports, Fine Arts and Humanities. It encourages the students and faculty to undertake the research in newly emerging frontier areas of traditional as well as newly emerging multidisciplinary fields. This enhances the general research capability of

budding learners by way of participating in conferences, seminars, workshops, project competition, etc. The RDC will enable attainment of targets of *Atma-Nirbhar Bharat* (Self-reliant India) and is expected to play a pivotal role in the catalyzing multidisciplinary/transdisciplinary and translational research culture mandated in NEP 2020.

### **13. Multi-Stakeholder Consultative Workshop**

Multiple consultative workshops for awareness and consensus building with teachers, administrative staff and principals as well as academic administrators and other key functionaries of constituent colleges, departments, institutes and centres etc. has been organized from time to time by IQAC and NEP-Task Force of the university to facilitate quality education as well as speedy implementation of the provisions of NEP-2020 in not just the university but across the state.

### **14. Innovation Centre**

Innovation Centre has been set up in the University with a humble motive to accelerate the overall development of university community towards transforming their lives economically, socially and physically by identifying their talents/ skills and further training them through awareness and skill development programmes. Economically viable areas such as cultivation of mushroom, vegetables, and weaving have been tried in the park.

### **15. Skill Hub Initiative**

The 'Skill Hub Initiative' under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 3.0 scheme has been implemented at RGU to focus on the introduction of skill training programmes in the education ecosystems. Initiative considers the policy level synergy on integration of vocational education with general education as envisioned in the 'National Education



Policy 2020'. The effort also supplements the objectives of 'National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 2015'.

### **16. Promotion of Holistic Education**

As part of holistic education learners are regularly provided with ample opportunities for their all-round development through cultural, physical, academic, co-curricular, outreach, extension, excursion tours and other capacity building activities.

### **17. Promotion of Sprit of Service, Constitutional and Human Values**

Robust mechanism of NCC and NSS and proactive engagements in flagships schemes viz. Swachh Bharat Mission, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, National Integration Day, Constitution Day, and International Women's Day etc. has been implemented by Rajiv Gandhi University.

### **18. Promotion of Languages, Arts, and Culture**

Centre for Endangered Languages is actively engaged in promotion of languages, Arts, and Culture. Department of History is taking conscious efforts in promotion of indigenous knowledge system including oral traditions. Tribal Museum at AITS is our institutional mechanism to promote art and culture. With regard to promotion of Language, Arts and Culture, AITS has been actively contributing through regular workshops and institute-community interface.

### **19. Development, Promotion and Empowerment of Faculty**

The University has inbuilt policy of promoting research, innovation and professional engagement of faculty members with monetary and moral support. Few of the mechanisms in this regard include Seed Money for newly

recruited faculty members, support money for attending conferences and seminars, membership to professional bodies, monetary support for patent, research paper publication in UGC-Care, Scopus Indexed, SCI, SSCI journals.

## **20. Student Support System**

With regard to Student Support System, there are existing provisions with regard to Scholarship, Career and Distress Counselling, Placement, Entrepreneurship, Youth Development Training and Capacity Building through dedicated Cells and Centres. Apart, robust Mentor-Mentee System being in place in every department is solely meant for student's support

## **21. International Collaboration for research, teaching and students exchange programmes**

University has entered into Memorandum of Understanding with International Institutions for international collaborative activities. We have a dedicated International Scholars' Cell to facilitate and extend our horizons for the same.

## **22. Setting up Start-up incubation and other required Centres**

Rajiv Gandhi University has set up Atal Community Incubation Centre (ACIC) supported by NITI Aayog for augmenting entrepreneurial acumen and capacity-building among the unemployed youth. Additionally, Rajiv Gandhi University Museum of Fish (RGUMF) maintained by Department of Zoology is actively contributing in conservation and promotion of new fish species. Centre for Entrepreneurship is also contributing to promote and support entrepreneurial activities among learners.

## **23. University Industry Interface**

University Industry Interface has been pro-actively functional at RGU with a multi-dimensional vision to incorporate latest updates and requirements by

industries and thereby update our curricula and also to include experienced professionals from their end (in line with the vision of Professor of Practice) in training and grooming as well as strengthening rapport with prospective employers for better placement and internship opportunities for our learners.

#### **24. Four-Year Bachelor of Science Programme to be jointly offered by Departments of Physics and Chemistry**

Adhering to the spirit of multi-disciplinary and flexible higher education, Departments of Physics and Chemistry at Rajiv Gandhi University have jointly evolved a four-year Bachelor of Science Programme. The programme outline and detailed structure developed after multiple consultations and brainstorming with key stakeholders including few of the architects of NEP-2020, is in final stage and all set to be implemented from upcoming academic session as a unique initiative of the institution.

#### **25. Provision for retired faculty members towards mentoring**

The University has policy provision to constructively engage retired faculty members for mentoring the students and scholars. The vision being to make best use of experience of teachers and augment the existing provisions of a robust mentor-mentee system in our institutional culture of student support and progression.

### **3. The Way Forward: Future Readiness through NEP 2020 at RGU**

NEP-2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century aims to transform India into a vibrant knowledge and equitable society by making education more holistic, flexible, multidisciplinary, suited to 21st century needs. It is based on the foundational pillars of Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability and Accountability. It envisions to do away with the limitations of rigid separation

of disciplines, fragmented higher educational ecosystem, limited access in socio-economically disadvantaged areas, limited teacher and institutional autonomy, lesser emphasis on research, ineffective regulatory system etc.

While augmenting the recent developments and institutional initiatives of RGU as described under twenty-five (25) specific pointers in previous section of this report, the University has zeroed upon following five (05) priority areas to be focused upon and realized in letter and spirit of NEP-2020, in recent future:

1. Flexibility of Courses and Student Mobility: Multiple Entry and Exit.
2. Promotion of Indian Knowledge System
3. Global Citizenship Education (GCED)
4. Continuous Capacity Building of Key Stakeholders
5. Learner Centric Educational Eco-System and Multi-Disciplinarity.

To conclude, Rajiv Gandhi University joins hands with the architects of National Education Policy- 2020 in realising the vision of current leadership of the nation in transforming education to a learner centric and new age society.

---