H.E. The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, is the Visitor of our Institute. The Institute is managed by a Board of Governors (BoG) created as per NIT Act of 2007. Under the Act, the Director is the Principal Executive and Academic Officer. The Board of Governors is assisted by three other authorities, viz., The Senate, The Building and Works Committee and the Finance Committee. The Institute has different Departments, Centers and Technical Service Units (TSUs). Each Department or Centre is headed by a faculty member and each TSU is headed by a faculty member or an officer.

To become an internationally acclaimed institution of higher learning that will serve as a source of knowledge and expertise for the society and be a preferred destination for undergraduate and graduate studies.

NIT Rourkela was established as Regional Engineering College (REC) Rourkela on 15 August 1961 under the then Chief Minister of Odisha, Biju Patnaik and its foundation stone was laid by the then Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru. It was granted autonomy and functional independence by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in 2002 thus becoming one of the National Institutes of Technology.

NIT Rourkela is a deemed university, and is governed by its Board of Governors, which is responsible for the overall superintendence, direction and control of its affairs. The Director is responsible for managing the day-to-day affairs of the institute. He heads the Senate, which frames the curriculum and conducts the examinations. The Senate also appoints advisory or expert committees to make recommendations to the Board of Governors on academic matters related to various departments. The Director is supported in various activities by the Deans i.e. the Dean for Academics, the Dean for Student Welfare, the Dean for Planning and Development and the Dean for SRICCE (Sponsored Research, Industrial Consultancy and Continuing Education). The Registrar is in charge of all office matters, and has four Assistant Registrars to aid him.

Quality Policy
"Every student and employee of NIT Rourkela as well as all external agencies providing service to the Institute shall strive to achieve quality, speed and economy (in that order of importance) in all their endeavors. They will employ and create TECHNOLOGY to enhance productivity, protect the environment and uphold human dignity".