The Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University Bill, 2013 was passed by Parliament and received the Presidential assent on September 18, 2013. The Act provides for establishment of the Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University at Raebareli as a Central University. The University shall be under the administrative control of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India.

The University's objectives include: (i) promoting of aviation studies, teaching, training and research, (ii) providing institutional and research facilities, (iii) ensuring and regulating the quality of aviation education programmes in India, (iv) facilitating the development of skilled aviation manpower and (v) developing programmes for aviation service providers and training of manpower.

The University's powers include the power to: (i) provide and conduct educational programmes or courses for award of degrees and diplomas, (ii) recognise aviation training colleges and institutes and make provisions for maintenance of their standards, (iii) acquire, hold, manage and dispose any property, (iv) create and appoint teaching or other positions, (v) regulate conduct of the students and employees and (vi) obtain co-operation from the aviation industry.

The Central Government shall appoint a Visitor of the University to review its work and progress. His directions shall be binding on the University. The Visitor shall also appoint the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor. The Chancellor shall be the head of the University. The Act also provides for the establishment, powers and functions of: (i) the Court of the University, (ii) the Executive Council, (iii) the Academic Council, (iv) the Board of Affiliation and Recognition, (v) the Boards of Schools, (vi) the Finance Committee and (vii) other authorities. The Act provides for powers to make Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations. It specifies the matters regarding which these powers may be exercised. All funds received by the University, including contributions and grants from the Central Government, the State Government and the Aviation Industry shall be credited to the University Fund. The University shall also have the power to borrow, with the approval of the central government. The annual report of the University would include the steps taken by the University towards the fulfilment of its objects. It shall be tabled in Parliament by the central government. The annual accounts and balance-sheet of the University shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India and shall also be laid before Parliament.

The University will launch Bachelor’s, Master’s and other Degrees shortly.