Rayalaseema University is located in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, India. Rayalaseema University, which began offering courses in 2009, struggled a lot to earn two distinctions, 2F and 12 B, in just five years. Of the six universities (Palamuru and Satavahana in Telangana; Simhapuri, Krishna, Ambedkar and Rayalaseema in residuary AP) that started around the same time, Rayalaseema University is the only one to get the 12 B status. With the grant of this status, the gates are open for our faculty and students to get opportunities, both global and national," said K Krishna Naik, Vice Chancellor of the varsity. The first tribal academician to occupy the chair of a Vice Chancellor in undivided AP, Prof. Naik said the University has acquired the 12 B status for many reasons, one of which is adapting the intelligent character recognition (ICR) and optical mark recognition (OMR) by which the varsity quickly evaluates thousands of answer scripts and get the results published ahead of all universities in Andhra Pradesh. While the 2F status gives recognition to the degrees the university awards, the 12 B status facilitates the overall development of the university, he said. "Our endeavour is to get the next distinction, that is, recognition from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), which will take the university to another level," Prof. Naik, a Professor of history, told Times of India. As for the students, thanks to the 12 B status, they will get UGC fellowships.

The UGC will also sanction a NET coaching centre for SC, ST, BC, minorities and women. Our students have now become eligible to apply for higher studies abroad under the GOI cultural exchange programme. For faculty, the university can apply for major research projects. This is an opportunity for both students and faculty to scale new heights," the VC said.

The 12B status would also facilitate the varsity to participate in international partnerships and other innovative programmes with the help of UGC funding. "The 12 B status will enable the university to get funds from the UGC under its five year plan and other organizations such as department of biotechnology, dept of science and technology, CSIR, ICAR, ICSSR etc.

The status will also facilitate the university to improve its infrastructure like hostels and get modern equipment for its research programmes. On Saturday (October 31, 2014), the University Grants Commission (UGC) conferred the 12 B status on Rayalaseema University, which would open the doors to international tie-ups and accelerated growth opportunities for the five-year-old varsity.