



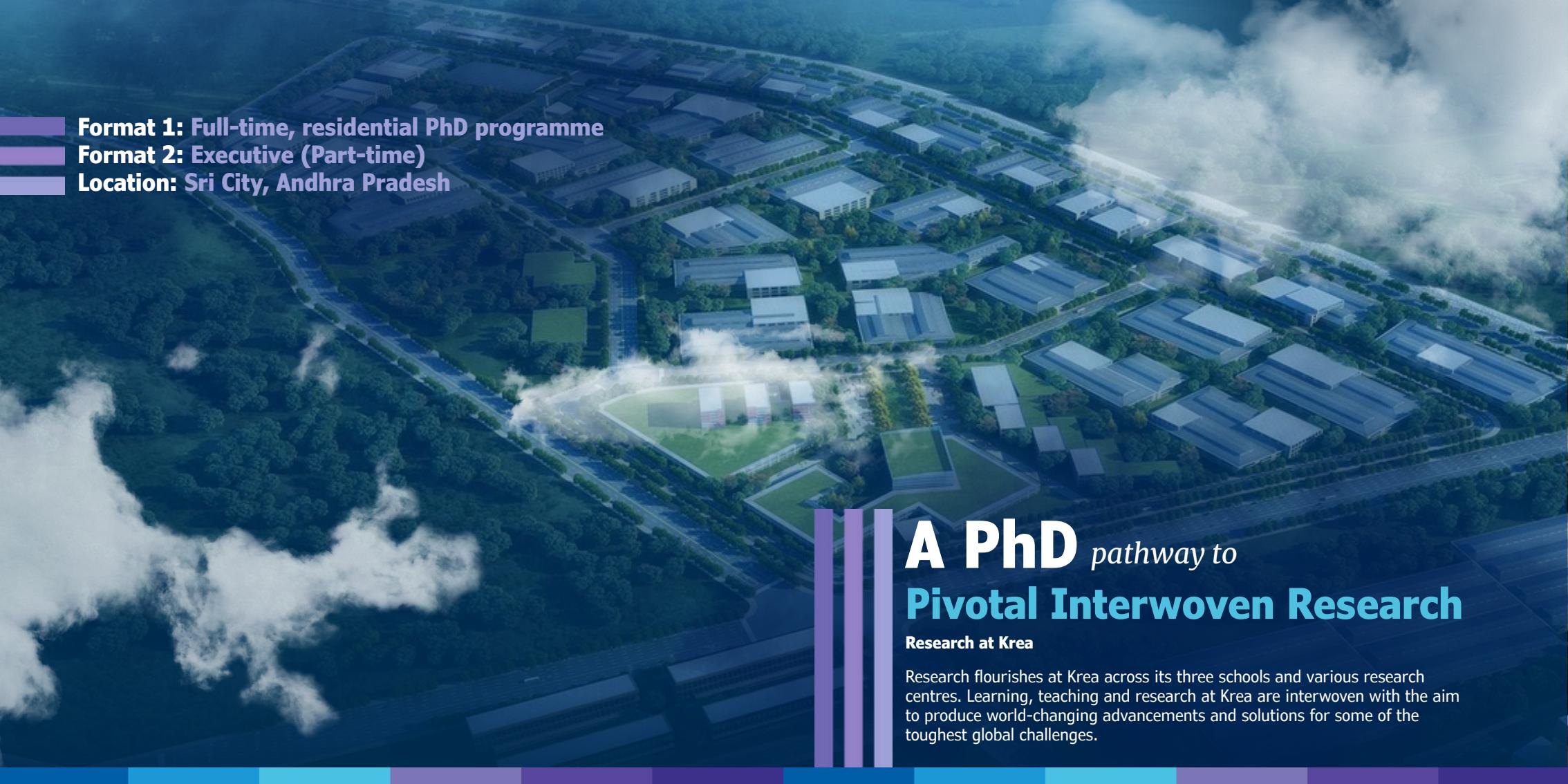
Frontier research in Arts, Humanities, Sciences and Management.

Original insights. Global impact.

2 Schools 1 Doctoral Ecosystem

PhD PROGRAMME 2026
Full-time/Executive (Part-time)



The background image is an aerial photograph of a modern university campus. The campus features a grid of modern buildings with grey roofs, green lawns, and paved roads. In the center, there is a large sports complex with several green fields and a stadium. The surrounding area is a mix of green fields and more buildings, with a large body of water visible in the distance. The overall atmosphere is clean and organized.

Format 1: Full-time, residential PhD programme

Format 2: Executive (Part-time)

Location: Sri City, Andhra Pradesh

A PhD pathway to Pivotal Interwoven Research

Research at Krea

Research flourishes at Krea across its three schools and various research centres. Learning, teaching and research at Krea are interwoven with the aim to produce world-changing advancements and solutions for some of the toughest global challenges.

Krea University was established in 2018, backed by 55 years of strong history. Its sponsoring body, IFMR Society was set up in 1970 as a not-for-profit society focused on research, training and education in the areas of Macro and Microeconomics, Finance and Management. Conceptualised and developed by some of the finest minds from around the globe and the country, Krea University's distinct teaching method focuses on creating a new generation of adaptable, resilient and empathetic leaders, giving them critical thinking skills and the ethical grounding needed to forge ahead. Krea University currently houses three Schools - School of Interwoven Arts and Sciences (SIAS), IFMR Graduate School of Business (GSB) and Krea Doctoral College - with subjects across management, liberal arts and sciences, and provides strategic oversight to various Research Centres.

Research is core to Krea and drives everything we do at the University. Our work transcends disciplines and works across subjects, in deep collaboration. As the world faces enormous challenges, we understand that the solutions seek urgency and the collective efforts of academicians, breaking silos. It calls for extensive, interdisciplinary and interwoven thinking. The research vision at Krea is steered with the aim of solving complex challenges with impactful innovation through knowledge and research. Our resolute mission is to be a catalyst of change and create lasting value through change that is multi-dimensional. In line with this ethos, Krea is preparing research leaders who can tackle global challenges with knowledge, ingenuity, skills and empathy.



Faculty Highlights

- **Mentorship depth:** Accomplished researchers with peer-reviewed impact and global collaborations across arts, humanities, sciences, and management.
- Nearly **100 peer-reviewed publications each year**, with faculty combining rigorous scholarship and industry-linked expertise to guide PhD research across disciplines.

Global Paper Presentations

From research topic ideation to thesis defense stages — doctoral ideas here carry weight across continents. Yours could be next.



A Bibliometric Study of the Literature on Advertising Ethics

American Marketing Association (AMA)
Winter Academic Conference 2025
(Virtual)

Jyothis Maria Franklin (Current PhD Scholar) & **Dr Jayasankar Ramanathan**



The Mitigating Impact of Technology at Crisis Times

XIX International Conference on Public Policy and Management, 2025

Utkarsh Choudhary (Current PhD Scholar)



55+ Years of
Research Excellence

150+ Faculty
Mentors

Message from the Dean



**PROFESSOR
SIVAKUMAR
SRINIVASAN,**
Dean of Research,
Krea University

The PhD programme at Krea has been designed to strengthen the creativity and scholarship of research scholars to engage in deep and impactful research. It adopts a comprehensive strategy by enhancing core knowledge through coursework and promoting critical thinking and innovation to make unique research contributions.

Scholars will be exposed to a wide range of fields and areas of interest, thanks to the broad research interests of our faculty members. Krea has established research facilities that include fully equipped laboratories, software and a well stocked library. These along with the research centres will provide an enriching experience to graduate students at Krea. It is an experiential programme that encourages scholars to engage with the world around them. All these features will positively reinforce scholarship and creativity that, in turn, will enable the Krea research community to contribute to the welfare of humanity through academia, research, and industry.

Counting on the strengths of our acclaimed faculty and upcoming high-end research facilities, we are confident that our PhD scholars will make significant contributions to further the horizons of knowledge in various disciplines.

I invite PhD aspirants to apply for the Doctoral Programme at Krea and emerge as scholarly, ethical, and responsible researchers.

Why Krea University's PhD Programme?

The PhD programme at Krea University transcends the interdisciplinary and dives into the interwoven, providing excellent opportunities for research and teaching to scholars.

- Preparing scholars not just for a career in academics but also for the corporate world
- Research mentoring throughout the PhD journey
- Providing an excellent platform to showcase work at the annual research symposium
- Offering opportunities to work with Research Centres on various topics of applied research and public policy
- Strong PhD alumni network across academia and industry
- Access to a world-class digital library and latest databases on the world economy and corporate annual reports
- Networking opportunities with faculty from renowned international institutions
- Tuition fee waiver, accommodation support and a monthly fellowship
- Funding support for national and international conferences for full-time PhD students



Krea Ecosystem

Krea University houses three schools and provides strategic oversight to various research centres. It's a thriving ecosystem which enables a transformative and cutting-edge university experience.

Schools



Research Centres



PhD Programme at Krea University

The PhD programme at Krea, spread across SIAS and IFMR GSB, is designed to strengthen the creativity and scholarship of research scholars who are expected to engage in deep and impactful research. The programme takes a holistic approach, strengthening foundational knowledge through coursework and encouraging critical thinking to produce original scholarship and new knowledge during the course of the doctoral programme.

The faculty members of Krea come from diverse research backgrounds, giving scholars access to mentorship across the breadth of disciplines and areas of interest. Combined with state-of-the-art facilities including a fully equipped library, laboratories, and research centres, the graduate experience at Krea prepares scholars to contribute to humanity through academia, research, and industry.

Specialisations

PhD students may choose to work in one or more of the following specialisation(s):

SIAS

- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Environmental Studies
- History
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology & Social Anthropology

IFMR GSB

Management with specialisations in:

- Data-Science & Information Systems
- Economics
- Finance, Accounting and Quantitative Finance
- Marketing
- Operations
- Organizational Behaviour & HR
- Strategic Management

Course Structure

The pedagogy is strategically designed across both schools to provide scholars with the best available theory, practice, and methodology for executing their research. An outline of research scholars' academic progression while at Krea is indicated below.

SIAS

Year 1

- Coursework
- Assigning advisor(s)
- Formation of the Doctoral Committee (DC)

Year 2

- Formulation of research problem
- Inputs and approval from the Discipline-specific-Advisory Group (DAG)
- Basic training on relevant techniques/methodologies
- Detailed presentation to the DC for approval

Year 3,4,5

- Research/Field Work
- Presentations in conferences
- Publishing in Journals

Important

- The Doctoral Committee will conduct a progress review for every candidate at the end of each academic year.
- For candidacy, scholars must complete the required coursework and get the necessary approvals on their research proposal within the time period stipulated by the DC.
- All full-time PhD scholars are required to work as Teaching Assistants for 2 courses every academic year, from the 2nd year onwards.



Year 1, 2

- Combination of Core & Area level doctoral courses, MBA-level Courses
- Course of Independent Research Study
- End-of-Year 1 Examination
- Comprehensive Examination

Year 3, 4 (for Full-time scholars) & Year 3, 4, 5, 6 (for Part-time scholars)

- Formation of Doctoral Committee
- Proposal Presentation
- Periodic progress report and Public Seminar
- Thesis Presentation
- Synopsis & Thesis submission
- External Review
- Viva Voce Examination
- Final Thesis Submission

**Eligibility**

Scholars need to meet the below criteria to be eligible to apply for the PhD programme of their choice.

SIAS**Full-time PhD Programme**

- 30 years and below
- Postgraduate degree (MA/MSc/MPhil) and above, or a four year undergraduate degree in the respective discipline from a UGC recognised institution
- A minimum of 55% marks in HSC, Pre-University Exam (12th grade), UG and PG are essential

Please Note:

The age limit is applicable only for receiving a Krea PhD Fellowship and does not apply to candidates with existing/new fellowship from sources not affiliated to Krea University

A relaxation of 5% marks or equivalent will be given to candidates who belong to SC, ST, OBC (NCL), PwD, and EWS categories.

Part-time/ FIP*

- 50 years and below
- Postgraduate degree (MA/MSc/MPhil) or above in the respective discipline(s) from UGC recognised institutions
- A minimum of 55% marks in HSC, Pre-University Exam (12th grade), UG and PG is essential.
- 3 years of work experience including probation (if any)
- NOC from Employer

*They are not eligible to receive the Krea PhD Fellowship



Best paper award for the paper, *Caste and COVID-19: Exploring Variations in Health Expenditures among Different Caste Groups in India* at the Japan STI Conference, Centre for Society and Policy, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India & Keio University, Japan in the 'sustainability impact' track.

Mohammed Hashim, (Current PhD Scholar)

Full-time PhD Programme

- 30 years and below*
- 60% marks in the undergraduate degree
- Masters Degree or equivalent PG Diploma in any discipline, with 55%* percent marks in the qualifying examinations

or

- Five-Year integrated Master's degree/Dual degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline with 55 percent marks in the qualifying examinations

or

- Professional Qualification like ACA/FAC/AICWAI/ACSI Qualifications of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Institute of Cost & Works Accountants of India and Institute of Company Secretaries of India
- Valid Scores of Standardised Tests (CAT, CMAT, GATE, GMAT, GRE, NET JRF, NMAT, XAT) – or pass an entrance test
- Graduates of full-time post-graduate degree course and candidates in the final year of the post-graduate degree are eligible to apply

Part time PhD Programme

- MBA degree with 55 percent marks in the qualifying examinations
- Five years of Work Experience after MBA
- NOC from the employer

Students with Undergraduate and/or Postgraduate degrees from ODL (Open and Distance Learning) institutions are also eligible to apply as per the UGC policy and notification

*Please Note: A relaxation of 5% marks or equivalent will be given to candidates who belong to SC, ST, OBC (NCL), PwD, and EWS categories.

Future Pathways

Krea University's PhD alumni are working successfully in several prestigious and reputed academic institutions which include the following:

Faculty in prestigious academic institutions such :

- Ashoka University
- Bengaluru B.R Ambedkar School of Economics
- BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus
- Center for Development Studies
- Great Lakes Institute of Management
- Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Trivandrum
- IIM Amritsar
- IIM Indore

- IIM Indore
- IIM Kashipur
- IIM Shillong
- IRMA
- Madras School of Economics
- Mahindra University
- Rajagiri Business School
- The Loyola Institute of Business Administration
- OP Jindal Global University

Our alumni are also in significant roles in research institutes, think-tanks and corporates such as



CRISIL
An S&P Global Company

Deloitte.

EY
Building a better
working world

ICICI Bank

**INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT**

SCOPE



Best Paper Award (First Position) at the 6th International Conference on Financial Markets & Corporate Finance, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad

**Soumyabrata
Basu**, (Current
PhD Scholar)

Access research papers/articles written by PhD scholars
[here](#)

Faculty Snapshot

You will be learning from faculty members who come with a rich pedigree across academia, industry and specific areas of studies. Steering cutting-edge research, they are also instrumental in shaping the Indian business pedagogy and narratives that move the world of business and management.

Few of our faculty members:

Accomplished Researchers



Professor Lakshmi Kumar
Professor, Economics and Dean - IFMR GSB
PhD, IIT Madras
Research veteran with 25+ years of academic experience



Professor Balasubramanian G
Senior Professor & Advisor, Finance, Accounting & Quantitative Finance
PhD, Madras University
35+ years of experience in executive teaching and research



Dr Madhavilatha Maganti
Associate Professor, Psychology
PhD, Osmania University
Developmental Psychology, Cognitive Science, Infancy and Early Childhood Development.



Professor Guha Dharmarajan
Professor, Biological Sciences
PhD, Purdue University
Disease Ecologist. Researcher. Educator.

Distinguished Scholars



Professor Ramachandra Guha
Distinguished University Professor
PhD, IIM Calcutta
Author. Historian. Researcher.



Professor Mukund Padmanabhan
Distinguished Professor of Philosophy
MPhil, Delhi University
Editor. Commentator. Curator.



Professor Chandrakumar N
Distinguished Research Professor
PhD, IIT Kanpur
Scientist. Innovator. Mentor.



Professor Sumantra Bose
Professor, International and Comparative Politics
PhD, Columbia University
Political Scientist. Scholar. Author.

Research Minds



Dr Pallavi Pandey
Associate Professor, OB & HR
PhD, IIT-ISM Dhanbad
Leads research in leadership styles and contemporary HR practices



Dr Jyoti Prasad Mukhopadhyay
Associate Professor, Economics and Chairperson - PhD Programme
PhD, IFMR GSB & University of Madras
Sectoral expert in Development Economics, Applied Econometrics, and Behavioral Economics



Dr Sushant Raut
Assistant Professor, Physics, SIAS
PhD, Indian Institute of Technology - Bombay
Particle physicist specialising in neutrino phenomenology and Beyond Standard Model physics.



Professor Vijayalakshmi C
Professor, OB & HR
FPM, MDI Gurgaon
Expert in organisational behaviour, trainer of 1000+ executives

Practitioners as Professors



Sathyanarayanan Ramachandran
Sundram Fasteners Associate Professor, Marketing
MBA, SCSVMV
Brand Management expert and advertising pundit



Dr Vasupradha Srikrishna
Assistant Professor, Communications
PhD, Mudra Institute of Communication
Interdisciplinary communications consultant



Sharon Buteau
Visiting Professor SIAS
Executive Director, LEAD at Krea University
Researcher. Economist. Development Leader.



Professor Sudip Roy
Adjunct Professor, Chemistry
PhD, University of Saarland
Scientist. Innovator. Entrepreneur.

Specialists, Authors, Grant Awardees



Professor Chandrasekaran N
Professor, Operations and Strategy, Area Chair - Strategic Management & Chairperson - Executive MBA Programme
PhD, University of Madras
Industry veteran, start-up specialist & author



Dr Debasish Mishra
Assistant Professor and Area Chair, Data Science and Information Systems
PhD, IIT Kharagpur
AI and ML expert, author of *Digital Twin – Fundamental Concepts to Applications in Advanced Manufacturing*



Professor Govindarajan T R
Visiting Professor, Physics
PhD, Madras University
Visiting Professor at University of Texas, Max Planck Institute, Sao Paulo University, Brazil & more.



Dr Jyoti Kumari
Assistant Professor, Finance, Accounting and Quantitative Finance
PhD, IIT Kharagpur
ICSSR Major Research Projects Grant Awardee

Fellowship

Full-time PhD students reside on campus for the entire duration of the programme. This means that a student cannot take up alternate employment during their course of study. Krea University provides a monthly fellowship to full-time PhD students to support them in their studies. The details of monthly fellowship are as shown below and are subject to change every year:

S. No.	Year	Amount per month (INR)
1	First Year	50,000/-
2	Second Year	50,000/-
3	Third Year	52,000/-
4	Fourth Year	52,000/-
5	Fifth Year	52,000/-

Please note:

- The fellowship is offered for four years and may be extended to the fifth year based on recommendation from the Doctoral Committee and approval from the PhD Chair and Dean of Research.
- A candidate can take up to 8 years to complete their PhD. However, the above-mentioned benefits such as fellowship and permission to stay on-campus will not be extended beyond the 5th year of the PhD programme.

Accommodation

Full-time PhD scholars are required to stay on campus. Krea will provide hostel rooms (sharing type) with (double occupancy) on campus. for a monthly fee. However, if accommodation is not available on campus, students have to make their own arrangements outside campus. Students who stay outside the Krea campus need not pay monthly room rent to Krea.

Additional Support

All full-time PhD students are covered by health insurance. They are also provided financial support to attend domestic and international conferences and present their research papers.

Fee Structure

Details	Fees
Application Fee	Rs 500/-
Acceptance Fee	Rs 5,000/- (adjusted against caution deposit)
Caution Deposit	Rs 25,000/-
Annual Fee for full-time	Rs. 6000/-
Annual Fee for part-time	Rs 100,000/-
Term Fee (6th year onwards of PhD Registration)	Rs 10,000/-
Hostel Fee (subject to revision) for full-time	Rs. 7,500/- per month
Hostel Fee (subject to revision) for part-time	Rs 10,000/- per month
Dining Fee*	At rates prevailing at the time of admission
Medical Insurance	At rates prevailing at the time of admission
Dissertation Submission Fee	Rs 5,000/-



Best Paper Award in Economics Track at IIM Kashipur Conference, 2023 for the paper titled 'Definition, Measurement and Determinants of Energy Poverty: Empirical Evidence from Indian Households' co-authored with Dr Jyoti Prasad Mukhopadhyay

Manasi B, (Current PhD Scholar)

Your Campus your home

- Infrastructure strategically built for a B-School experience such as the virtual trading floor
- Study and live on a vibrant 40-acre green campus in Sri City, just 70 km from Chennai
- Learn in tech-enabled classrooms, trading floor and cutting-edge labs
- Enjoy delicious, multi-cuisine meals across several dining spots
- Live comfortably in spacious 9 residential towers with plenty of spaces to hang out and unwind
- Play your favourite sports with courts and fields for badminton, basketball, cricket, football, and more
- Breathe easy surrounded by 700+ native trees, butterfly gardens, fruit orchards, in solar powered premises
- Dive into knowledge with a library housing 30,000+ books and 60,000+ e-journals at your fingertips
- Access essential support at the medical centre, unwind in welcoming student lounges, and conveniently purchase daily necessities from the on-campus store
- Sri City is home to over 200 companies from 28 countries including multinationals like Kellogg's, Isuzu, Mondelez, Pepsi, Panasonic, Daikin, Kimberly Clark, Alstom, Kobelco, Foxconn, Danieli



Scan QR code to
explore Krea's campus





Contact Us

For any queries, write to phd.admissions@krea.edu.in

CAMPUS: 5655, Central Expressway, Sri City, Andhra Pradesh 517646

ADMIN OFFICE: No: 196, T.T.K. Road, Alwarpet, Chennai 600018

