



# CAMPUS FOR YOU

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## “ESSENCE OF RESEARCH”

When we think of career, at the very instance our mind gets occupied by Engineering, Medicine, the IIT's as we consider them as the prominent areas for constructing a good career. We feel so very content with it that we sideline the various other sectors that actually get our adrenaline going. One of them is “Research”. Research is not restricted to any predefined field, its open to all the sectors right from Engineering and technology to medical sciences; you just name it and you'll notice the essence of research. Graduate degrees in Engineering, medicines, law's, M.Sc's are pretty much common today in India, thanks to the multitude inception of the low grade institutes and private universities. Engineering colleges are being opened at a brisk rate, like wild mushrooms. Though the AICTE conducts a central examination for admission to engineering courses for filtering the students, most colleges do not take into account the merit or the academic brightness of its students or aspirants; rather, money is a bigger criterion. In this scenario, engineers are produced in bulk year after year. If we go by the recent stats, in the state of Tamil-Nadu round about 80,000 engineering seats were vacant in the academic year 2013. With the recession mounting on, students aren't open to enough jobs, instead we are piling on the list of educated unemployed.

Indians do have good aptitude, sharp brains and high IQ levels, but we have very few good research institutions. In fact, we can count them on fingers- Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC), Indian Institute of Science, NCL Pune, and IISER Bangalore. Taking into account the billion plus population, the population-institute ratio for the same is negligible. Why do we have fewer research institutes? I would say, primarily because of poor foresight and vigilance with the poor political structure of the nation. Our politicians are, supposedly, carried away by the immediate rewarding ventures, and since scientific research is apparently not a big deal, hence “Research” receives the step-motherly treatment from the government. For the same reason, the government gives hefty scholarships to courses in arts, commerce but not for research. Why? The question is

unanswered. It is really unfortunate that even though we had an eminent science personality, Dr. A.P.J Kalam, as a President of the nation, India neither saw any major developments in the zone of research, nor any quality research institute was set-up.

People today are overshadowed by monetary satisfaction rather than things that satisfy their soul, thus as a result they prefer “Money” over “Passion”. Insufficient scholarships or support from the government is one reason; strong competition to get through the exams for few top ranked institutes mentioned above is the other, resulting in the general loss of interest in research.

In the recent years we have been encircled by the Mobile revolution. This Mobile revolution is the outcome of the substantial research that's propelling the mobile world. Today there's a boom in the market made by android phones, smart phones. The question arises, why?? It's purely because the mobile market today is heavily guarded by the research taking place in the area of smart phones; there's up-gradation of software, newer features induced into the phones, and so on.

Growth is one part to industrial development, and development of the nation is another. In today's situation by opting jobs in the corporate world, people are ensuring their personal development; but what about the nation as a whole? Are we contributing enough for the nation? What our leaders and the common masses do not realize is that for an industry to sustain, it requires not just engineers, but a strong Research and Development (R&D) department, which keeps the ball rolling at every stage in a developing country.

India Shining- Wow! India is expected to be a super power by 2015. But let's not just sprawl in the current industrial growth of 9% and be complacent. The day is not far when we will run out of enough researchers, scientists, which will be a deterrent to further development of the nation.

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