

“Role of Industry-Academia interface for filling the Skill Gap from an Entrepreneur”

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Abstract

Industry needs academia and can benefit from its capabilities. Teaching research and extension are the trinity of higher education. A productive interface between industry and academia, in the current era of a knowledge driven economy, is critical. Industry Interface is an interactive and collaborative arrangement between academic institutions and business corporations for the achievement of certain mutually inclusive goals and objectives. Institute remain in continuous touch with industry for overall development of their students. Industry needs “ideas”. It has funds, but lacks time. It has Yesterday in mind. Institute needs “funds”. They have time, expertise and can provide ideas. They have Tomorrow mind. Bringing them together gets us Today. There is no Chase, there is NEED! The paper is an attempt to list down benefits from industry – academia interface and would also point out the ways to build the gap so as to develop the skill. This paper also states out the inhibiting factors both from industry and academia and measures to overcome it. Technical education forms the backbone of development of a nation. Industry is the major consumer of technical institution product. The real requirement of industry will be explored only through effective interaction with them. The paper is exploratory in nature and is an effort to create a base for further study.

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Universities and industry are rapidly inching closer to each other to create synergies like providing industry exposure, upgrade the skills of the students and guide them on governance which is benefit to Institution, Students and Industries as well as towards society.

The initiative is structured in such a manner that the students gain knowledge, functional understanding, and exposure to the industry environment. Industry institute interaction is done through various means like sending students for industrial training & visiting, inviting students for campus interviews & inviting experts from different industries for lectures. also they take different activities like summer training, experiential learning & industrial projects.

Universities are, or at least ought to be, prime repositories of up - to - date and advanced levels of knowledge in different fields in a society. Especially in a knowledge society, industry and business are the main users and beneficiaries of such knowledge. Therefore, it is almost inevitable for the universities and industries to come together in a close, constructive collaboration to use such knowledge for their mutual benefit and also for the benefit of society.

The skill gap refers to the expanding difference between the theory taught in academia and the actual practice in industry. It is therefore of utmost importance that an interface programme helps in the phase of building the path to encourage fill the gap.