Opinion of Doing PhD in India

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Opinion

A deep experience in profession involving skills, habits and tools is needed in postgraduate education with discipline background. Hence, when it comes to postgraduate education, especially PhD education, the quality concerns ought to become much more important than quantity concerns. PhD is a doctorate level course and is the highest educational qualification in any subject that one can have. The next level to a PhD is DSc (Doctorate of Science) which only few opt to do this.

A lot of respect is given to candidate with PhD and job profile is more for a PhD with experience than with only PhD degree. Just a PhD degree and work experience may not be sufficient, but ability to work in an well-established organization is very important as industries prefer candidates with not only theoretical knowledge but also with necessary skills.

Generally, PhD is placed high in the field of education. Candidate with PhD will be easily absorbed by top established organizations of all over the world especially which has keen in research.

Even though India produce PhD candidates, but lack of feedback about the quality of Indian PhD from industry pose a major setback in international organization creating an atmosphere of competency related to quality of PhDs. Most of the western countries reject the application of candidates form India who has completed PhD in India due to lack of standards and transparency in some research work carried out here.

Even though the demand for candidates with PhD is more in the field of engineering, computing, management etc. but not enough candidates with PhD are available at this juncture.

Those who have already PhD degree have gone through some simple criteria of getting the degree like 2-3 published papers in some journal/conference proceedings and submission of the thesis.

India is fast growing in research and development services and Indian industry has reached $10 billion. The chance of a PhD candidate from getting a proper placement in western countries is more easier than here and the candidate opt for that despite of having opportunity here due to better financial assistance both in terms of salary and research support in western organization. Due to these factors, many of the well-deserved candidates are joining western institution and improving the quality of research in western countries than in our country due to lack of support for the deserved candidate. However, if a good number of Indian universities do not appropriately respond to this emerging need, the larger national dream to see India as a knowledge superpower cannot be realized.

Massive and active inputs are needed for high quality education. About 180 credits are needed where one credits hour is equal to 25 to 30 hours for completing one bachelors and one master’s degree in Europe making a total of 4500 – 5400 hrs of work for full time PhD making 3 – 4 years and the same may take 6 years in terms of part time. In comparison, a full time PhD work takes 4-5 years in US. But in India, a full time PhD gets completed in 3 years and a part time PhD will get completed in minimum of 5 years whether the study is fully completed or not. The
candidate doing PhD in India are mostly married with less number of bachelor, hence quality of research is substandard compared to young students as the family responsibility intervene in the research work.

It is based on the fact that a high quality of research cannot be done before 6-10 years in case of part time study and Indian universities has not considered this seriously. But recently I have seen some deemed universities have cancelled part time PhD course, which is in a way good for the quality of the research but on the other hand, those who wants to pursue in-service PhD will lack the opportunity of achieving the same.

Some universities sell the PhD for money and some university produce fake dissertation which affects the quality of genuine researchers. University Grants Commission (UGC), despite of laying down so many guidelines, many institutions and universities are not strictly following the same and moreover the salary for the faculty with PhD’s who are serving as PhD guide and staff are not uniform as per designation and experience which makes the faculty to step back from conducting quality research. Nowadays, I have seen that faculty with PhD’s are looked as an intruders in the medical fraternity and has been greatly side lined despite of their valid qualification and experience as per related council and scheduled act pertaining to teacher eligibility criteria for teaching medical students. Only in India, medical PhD has no value, but the same is entirely an opposite scenario in western countries and PhD’s are accepted with a great respect and dignity. Out of 100% registered for PhD, only 10% completes and around 50% do not complete in Spain as it is a symbolic in the society of high intellectual growth of the person because social standing of PhD in Spain is so high that only PhD holders, Grandees and Dukes can sit and cover their heads in the presence of the King.

Indian education system lacks the concept of applied scholastics and hence some institutions produce candidates with substandard level and those with standard PhD degree leave the country and settle in abroad with good opportunity, hence Indian education system should be reframed in terms of the entire field to get quality research in all the areas of development. Medical institutions should encourage students to pursue PhD’s for both personal intellectual growth and as well as the growth of the science. The core curriculum, taken by students in all tracks, provides an understanding of the healthcare delivery system and its role and importance within a variety of organizations. In most of the Indian institutions, there are lack of remuneration, funds, proper guides, feasibility, infrastructure, support, inter and intradepartmental, inter-institutional collaboration etc. posing a major hurdles in doing PhD faced by many candidates. No research will lead to no development should be sensitised to all the students and faculty to motivate them for pursuing PhD.

In conclusion, it is high time for the higher authorities and the law makers to look the above said matter seriously and rethink about the quality of research in PhD that will have a global impact for the development of science and mankind.