Industry-Academia Interaction

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Academia-industry Collaboration has always been a topic of discussion, both between the Researchers as well as the Industry (manufacturer/ service provider). However, still there hardly exists a suitable solution that can give good and viable results. This just highlight how difficult is this problem that we have planned to tackle.

The stand-off between the Academia and the Industry can be best be explained by understanding the relation between a Producer and a Consumer. This relationship requires some kind of Collaboration, as the output of the Producer must largely satisfy the Consumer's needs. This may be in the form of a feedback loop, where the industry provides Academic Institutions inputs about how their Products/ Cervices could best meet the user's requirement. This however fails to happen not only in India, but in similarly developing countries.

Reasons for this kind of a stand-off between the two strata of society are many. The Academia might look towards an innovation or a new invention, basically from the point-of-view of delivering maximum social benefits. The industry, on the other hand might show interest in making the Academia-industry Collaboration a profitable venture, which for the Academia is not the driving force.

The main reason however is the lack of suitable forums and platforms, where these differences may be obliterated or reduced to a minimum to facilitate such an outcome.

I feel, to convert these types of Academia-industry Collaborations into successful ventures, forums, where R&D institutes, colleges and universities that work towards a common goal to innovate processes and produce good and beneficial technologies for the industry to implement viably, are organized frequently.