

Higher Education of Pakistan: Ills and Remedies

Industry - Academia gap - paragraph

Industry-academia gap is another loophole in our higher education system; The education given by universities is not aligned with the requirements of industries. The so-called higher education does not equip its graduates to secure a decent job and earn a handsome amount. Due to which, there persists a strong job insecurity among students and parents. Students after being graduated, go from pillar to post to acquire a single job and, in some cases, remain jobless for more than a year. This is a key reason for the decline in ~~university~~ universities enrolment. This enrolment decline has also been highlighted by the Economic Survey 2024-25, which gives a shocking figure of 13%. Furthermore, Industry-Academia gap is also reflected in the courses designed by universities. For example, a computer engineer, in eminent universities of Pakistan, is still taught Pakistan studies and Islamiat/Ethics. Studying these subjects is not an issue but the level of

of knowledge, which a computer engineer needs to have, had been taught in college. So, these subjects can be replaced with ^{learning} some other basic industry-oriented skills like time management, emotional intelligence or active-learning etc. Another factor, which is widening this gap, is theoretical overdose. The universities are injecting information more than practical knowledge and skills ~~develop~~ in their graduates. However, industries are looking for skill-oriented people not theory-oriented people. This non-alignment results in the failure of graduates in the practical world. All these things make our higher education system a dead end. Due to these reasons students prefer to learn ~~some~~ practical skills rather than wasting years in acquiring theoretical knowledge. Hence, Industry-academia gap is a major problem in higher education of Pakistan which needs to be reduced.