



## **Research Partnerships among RIC Countries: Present Status and Future Responsibilities**

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Research collaboration in the 21st Century is becoming an essential part of universities across the globe. For researchers, the benefits of knowledge exchange and working collaboratively can and may include: informing and improving the quality of research work, enhancing organizational creativity, performance and productivity of a piece of work, and most importantly, with minimum amount funds, research work can be executed in a cooperative and successful manner. As a result, exploring the larger context of how research and education is changing gradually, and how it is affecting the RIC countries (Russia, India and China) is one area that is worth looking into. Plus, how this research collaboration can be enhanced, may also be worthwhile to observe.

Research collaboration relations in different fields between India and Russia have always remained strong since India's independence. Research areas of science, health and bio-technology are some of the many areas where India and Russia have collaborated in the past. However, research relations between India and China can be improved a lot more. According to Weber Science Data, China has already managed to surpass Japan in the total output of producing research articles in the areas of science and health. Furthermore, China at the moment is ranked second in the world, in terms of producing research articles based on science related matters. In terms of promoting social science work, both Russia and China are also gradually moving up the ladder. However, the lack of fluency in English language for both the nations, still acts as a barrier when it comes to promoting and collaborating in social science research work extensively. As a result, alternative measures are essential in order to counter these petty barriers, so research collaboration does not get affected between the three countries.

Relations related to science and technology between India and Russia has always remained solid. In order to enhance this research cooperation, eight Indo-Russian science research centres have come up gradually over the years. Out of the eight science centres, six are in India, while the remaining two are in Russia. According to the Weber Science Data, India and China have produced roughly 1807 research papers through collaboration in Physics. Moreover, Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences and Kunming University of Science and Technology have also signed an agreement very recently, in order to collaborate in the promotion of research in bio-technology.

The collaboration between India and China with other countries in the developing of the '30 meters telescope' is one of the many areas where India and China have started cooperating in research related matters. Furthermore, Nalanda University in Bihar is a clear example of educational collaboration, where both China and Russia have invested significantly in order to set up the university. All in all, language and culture constraints should not limit the research interactions between the countries in

future. Moreover, research collaboration in the areas related to science, health and bio-technology projects should only be seen as a start, and all these countries in future should also make an attempt to explore and promote research in other areas, such as that of social science or education.

During the discussion, many suggestions were put forward by the participants to the speaker, in order to improve his existing research paper. Some of the important suggestions were as follows: since the paper mainly focused on the research collaborations in the field of science and technology, it would be worthwhile to explore research collaboration in other areas also. The presenter had managed to only extract his data from secondary resources and that could be one of the limitations of the research paper. Furthermore, the role which Brazil plays in the research collaboration can/may also be explored, since Brazil is also emerging as a nation that is promoting and collaborating in various research projects. The presenter was also asked to explore what role Indian Government is playing in order to enhance and strengthen the research collaboration relations between India and other nations across the world.

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