

From Chairman's Desk

Development of powerful anti-AIDS drug; new treatment for Alzheimer's disease; new pain medicine, and drug for lupus, an autoimmune disease that afflicts more than 130,000 Americans alone, most of them women are very promising research assignments and social need.

Biomedical research in general and Genomics and Proteomics in particular have laid new roads for drug discovery. Proper and efficient maintenance of databases to analyze large volumes of data holds key to effective utilization and commercial exploitation of research findings. This requires in-depth database research and technology development to with hold the ever-growing volumes of data. For

Pharmaceutical chemists, relational chemical databases for the molecules of specific biological importance are especially useful. The ability to search based on substructure/similarity searching methodologies provides ease in usage.

In this era of data mining and Outsourcing, database development solutions integrate the tools developed in-house for Data Mining. This especially helps in the analysis of published data and storing into the database for prospective queries. India is fast emerging as a destination for outsourcing because of several scientific, commercial and economic reasons. The innovative workforce available in India and prevalence of institutions of excellence create ideal environment for time bound project completion at various levels. Educational institutions need to grab this opportunity by providing applied courses at graduate and post-graduate levels to generate apt human resource to meet the challenges of future.

Thus a step towards trained manpower for documentation of authentic research data, development of customized databases with flexible data storage and data retrieval options would have high potential and employment opportunity even in this disastrous economic dwindling because of its appreciation value for current and future research co-ordination.

India with large contingent of scientific researchers and PhDs, having expertise in specialized areas, computer skills and proficiency in the English language is well positioned to address the global Research and Analysis need with a focused array of Research and Analysis services.

Knowledge Parks for integrated pharmaceutical and biotech research collaborating between industry and academy, equipped with superb facilities in R&D, information technology and biotechnology need to be developed for high class contract research and know-how generation and technology transfer. After all pharmaceutical industry is knowledge based and research intensive, at the same time large number of small scale units lack their own R & d facility because of huge financial investment and hence in the years to come their future is gloom as an off shoot of globalization and open market access. It is high time that Chambers of Commerce ponder upon the emergent problem and lend a helping hand to sponsor research in academic institutions, which are directly useful to the industry. Academy need to be recognized as flag ship of industrial research.

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