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Ever noticed PhD announcements in newspapers and wondered about their practical relevance? 🤔

In today's world, particularly for India, industry-relevant PhD research in applied sciences and engineering, is very crucial. We should strive to make it more 'useful'.

Here are some suggestions for actionable steps:

- ➡ Industries should publish real-world problems and long-term issues that require robust proof of concept.
- ➡ PhD students can choose these problems and get a co-guide from the industry (IG) alongside their main academic guide (AG).
- ➡ The AG ensures research rigor and publication, while the IG focuses on milestone-based and enterprise grade implementation.
- ➡ Students may receive additional stipends from the industry and, upon successful completion, a job offer.
- ➡ Progress, viva sessions, and conference talks should be recorded and published on platforms like YouTube to ensure transparency and showcase research quality.
- ➡ This AG-IG-co-guide model can also be adapted for Master's programs with necessary tweaks.

While some of these practices exist, they seem sporadic and thus need to be formalized, expanded, and rather, made mandatory. Otherwise, PhDs risk becoming mere formalities or promotion tools.

What are your thoughts? Any more suggestions or

disagreements?

P.S. My own PhD was based on an industry problem, guided by two co-guides—one from academia and one from industry. Check out the pics below: my PhD viva panel and the newspaper (Sakal, Marathi) announcement of my PhD! 🎓 📰

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