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**E**ducation is no longer a privilege and neither is keeping up with its advancements. Gone are the days where only the rich had accessibility - children in remote villages and towns who attend their local institutes before coming out to the bigger cities need equal exposure - otherwise they will be a burden on the economy as their skill sets will be irrelevant to our necessity. This form of education is counter intuitive to what

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the point of academia is all about. Also the connectivity between industry and academia is not something we should only be looking at, at the university level. We need to take this to the schools and start creating a connect from grade six onwards. I was invited to renowned school recently where I had the opportunity to interact with some very energetic middle school children and it was evident that we, as academicians are losing the opportunity of harness these young minds by not nurturing them at an early stage. I am almost certain that most of these children know a lot more than some of us adults. So, starting the children out early at the schooling level is actually a great way to bridge this gap that sometimes seems like a gaping hole. This will also help a child to start training and thinking about the path that he/she may be interested in going forward as the competitive nature of what this industry demands

is progressively a lot higher to what we faced over a decade ago when we graduated.

These are just some of my thoughts on how we need to initiate ways of improvement in academia - of course there are other ways and each educationalist will have their own views/reasonings - but till we don't find that platform where we are all talking consistently to industry experts and each other - all this is just speculation and conjecture. We need to start at the basics - talk, set a plan and have all in this field follow a path beneficial for our children, who we then hope become responsible, and marketable human capital by the time they are ready to graduate. We need a healthy work force - both in skill and mental stability. Therefore, as educators we stand strong when we say that we work for and by our children - this "contribution" and a long lasting commitment.