Workshop on

Research for Resurgence

26th - 27th November, 2016

Organized by

Research Scholars Forum

IIT Bombay
Introduction
Scientists often regard that the Earth has now entered a new geological epoch; the “Anthropocene” – where the scale of human activity has reshaped the environment. The process of industrialization and economic growth has led to the accumulation of material wealth and the improvement in material standard of living. Research and conscious knowledge creation process has fuelled the growth and development.

However, we also witness environmental degradation, social divide, disconnect between self and nature and lack of meaning and purpose in individual life as the major challenges of current time. For example, we leave ecological footprint of 1.5 planets; that is, we are currently using 50 percent more resources that our planet can regenerate. Gini coefficient, which is an indicator of economic inequality in the society has increased in the last three decades in spite of upsurge in the economic growth. According to the WHO, in the year 2000, more than twice as many people died from suicide as died in wars and India has one of the world’s highest rate of suicides among the people aged between 15 years and 29 years.

With no attempt or intention to discount the growth being achieved in industrial, agricultural and service sectors in India, there is a need to keep a watch on the economic, social and spiritual divide increasing on the path of development.

The imperative is on the role of researchers and academicians of the country to evaluate the utility and potential of the existing paradigms and approaches of research and knowledge creation for further growth and development. The researchers, academicians and educators also hold the key role to present the alternate perspectives and carry out the research activities which inform the nation and the world for addressing the glaring social, economic and cultural-spiritual challenges.

Most of the scientific research activities have been dominated by north European and North American scholars and the
institutions in last three centuries. A positivist view has been the most widely subscribed paradigm of research and knowledge creation process, perhaps in all the major domains of research; i.e. technical, social, technical, economical and psychological. Western research brings with it a particular set of values and conceptualisations of time, space, subjectivity, society, family and knowledge.

The Workshop
Community learning, titled ‘Research for Resurgence’ is a reminder that positivist and analytical paradigms can be complemented or even replaced by indigenous and context sensitive research and knowledge creation process to address the challenges of current times. Bharatiya perspective of life in general and knowledge in particular may enrich the current discourse on research to make it more relevant for Desh (location), kaal (time) and Paristhiti (situation). This invitation is for exploring the research practices that can offer alternatives to the ethnocentric and positivist paradigms and to develop a fresh perspective for research and knowledge creation for Bharat; its people and situations. We also plan to present some exemplars of Bharatiya people and their research work to appreciate that Bharatiya research agenda is something “real” that is evolving and can make significant contribution to address the social, economic and cultural-spiritual divide inside and outside of the country. In this workshop, we aim at discussing the possibilities and potential of the agenda for the transition from “Bharatiyata as the researched” to “Bharatiyata as the research approach”. It is in this sense the workshop is named as ‘Research for Resurgence’. This workshop is supported by Research for Resurgence Foundation which is committed to this mission.

Program Objectives
➢ Building a community of researchers and educators to carry out research in Bharatiya perspective
➢ Exchange of ideas and co creating and agenda for research for resurgence
➢ Identify and develop the plan of action for learning and Bharat centric research

Along with plenary sessions and parallel sessions on research for resurgence the workshop includes exhibition on Indian Culture or science and its models or products. If you wish to present your research or scientific concept in this exhibition please inform us in your e mail.
Framework

The workshop will touch upon the following themes:

**What is Bharatiya perspective -**
- Celebrating diversity
- Integral perspective of Bharatiya wisdom traditions
- Bharatiya perspective of research: Some exemplars

**Technological solutions relevant for unique challenges of the country -**
- Need for contextualizing technological solutions
- Traditional knowledge system for addressing current challenges
- Potential research areas to further the traditional knowledge systems
- Action research and collaborative research

**Social science research from Bharatiya perspective -**
- Indigenous perspective on society, politics and individual life
- Indian financial and economic thoughts
- Bharatiya traditional knowledge systems like in Yoga and spirituality and its implications on epistemology and psychology
- Interpretive and cultural sensitive research

Most of the sessions in the workshop are based on approach of Mimansa; i.e. collective thinking and reflection.

**Who will be benefited?**
This program is designed for researchers, educators, institution builders and policy makers in the field of natural and social sciences engaged in applied or fundamental research, knowledge creation and dissemination activities.
Registration
Pre-registration for the program is necessary. To register write to us at rfriitb@gmail.com latest by 20\textsuperscript{th} Nov., 2016 and mention your name, designation and co-ordinates.
**Program Venue**

SJMSOM, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

All communication should be addressed to:

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