



Banjara Careers

An e-magazine devoted to proper guidance and latest updates on career choices and methodology of charting career goals

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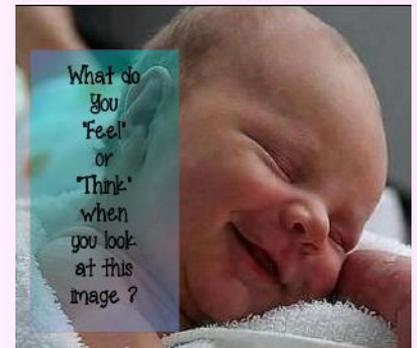


Ali's Career Tips

“Which is the best career?”

If there was a “best” career that everyone would aim for, then very soon its scope would drastically come down, because there will be too many people qualifying in that field. In fact this is what happened in the late nineties to IT and in the past few years to BT (biotechnology). Both are very challenging and promising fields. But whenever too many people rush towards them, the demand obviously comes down.

Keep in mind that when you choose a career and qualify in it, you will be working for almost fifty years in your chosen profession. Have a vision, don't be carried away by which field the highest paid jobs are currently being offered in. In your working life, many times the “scope” of the career will go up and down. But if you choose wisely, and for the right reasons, you will continue to do well even when there is a recession in that field.



Your career decision should be taken based on the following factors:

1. Your interest (what you actually want to do for the rest of your life, what you will **enjoy** doing).
2. Your love for particular subjects, since they lay the foundation of the work you are going to be doing.
3. The lifestyle that you prefer, your personality characteristics, your extra-curricular interests.
4. Your aptitude – i.e. your potential to develop the skills required in any particular career.

Equally important is to know what the various career options are. The choice is increasing at a rapid pace, and you need not follow in the footsteps of the older generation. You can be part of a new, challenging, and thrilling vocation.

Engineering news clips

More Engineering Colleges may Close

We had reported last month that there are more than 10,000 engineering colleges in the country, and many of these do not have even 30% enrollment, which may be given permission

by the government to close down. Within a month it is reported that 800 colleges have been ordered by AICTE to close, as they have not had even 30% enrollment over the past five years. Many other colleges are closing down some of the branches of study. It is suspected that this may only be the tip of the iceberg and hence students are advised to be careful when seeking admission for engineering degree course.



Diploma: Incidentally, the three year Polytechnic Diploma courses are doing well, and employment of diploma holders also continues to remain healthy. A diploma student is also entitled to seek lateral entry into 2nd year B.E. in the same branch of engineering. Hence he studies 3 yrs diploma + 3 years degree while other students study 2 years PUC + 4 years BE, the total duration being the same.

Our Top Institutions sliding in World Ranking: The prestigious IISc of Bangalore has come down from being in the 201-250 rank bracket to the 251-300 bracket this year, as per the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2018. IITs in Bombay and Kharagpur are in the 351-400 rank, while IIT Delhi and Kanpur have further gone down to the 501-600 ranking IIT Madras has gone to the 601-800 rank. For the first time two UK Universities have taken top posts – Oxford and Cambridge.

Interested in Research?: If so, you may have to aim for one of the 30 institutions in India whose scientists have been recognized for receipt of scholarship by the Department of Science and Technology. This is out of more than 800 academic establishments that are eligible. The list includes only two universities – JNU and Hyderabad Univ. Other prominent recipients are IISc, TIFR, IITs, and some of the laboratories under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). These Swarnajayanthi Fellowships include Rs. 25,000/- per month and many other facilities

Post-graduation in Engineering: Innumerable students who are disappointed every year when they could not clear the JEE-Advanced for admission to IITs can plan ahead for doing their M.Tech and other post-graduate courses in engineering, architecture, pharmacy and pure sciences in institutions like IITs and IISc. Final year degree students in the relevant field can apply for the entrance Graduate Aptitude Test for Engineering (GATE) organized every year in rotation by different IITs. This year the exam is being organized by IIT Guwahati (www.gate.iitg.ac.in, phone 0361-2586500)

Career in Medicine

NEET:

Admission to MBBS seems to be getting into complications, litigation and confusion, resulting in many seats remaining vacant while deserving candidates either give up their dreams of becoming a doctor or struggle to take admission in private colleges paying very high fees (and other expenses?) A large number of students also take a year off and join some of the coaching institutions that provide full time training to crack the NEET exam. Even after



losing a year, the success rate is not very high.

Not many students are aware of the wide number of paramedical courses, nutrition studies, veterinary sciences, nursing, hospital management, and even Indian systems of medicine. Each of these offer rewarding careers to those who have the commitment and aptitude.

Studying Abroad: If you wish to do your MBBS abroad, you now have to obtain an Eligibility Certificate from the Medical Council of India (www.mciindia.org) in their prescribed application form. If students do not obtain this certificate, they will not be eligible to give the exam that is held after completion of MBBS for them to practice in India.

Dentists: Many students who cannot get into medicine often go blindly into BDS (Dental Sciences), since it gives them the respectability of having “Doctor” attached to their name. Dentistry is a purely surgical profession and it requires excellent kinesthetic (mind-body connection) skills, which are not tested in the NEET exam. This has resulted in dozens of Dental colleges being established in different places, and hence many qualified dentists do not find sufficient employment.

This year has been particularly bad, with more than 1,400 seats remaining unused in Karnataka alone. This is despite the fact that fees has been brought down to half of earlier rates this year. Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has already surrendered more than 600 seats and is awaiting government orders on what to do with the other 1,400 that are still unfilled.

While dentistry continues to be a fulfilling and noble profession, it should be taken up by those who have understood the field, have the hand movement dexterity to perform surgical procedures and, due to the current lack of demand, be willing to slowly work their way up in their profession patiently.

Medical College for Sale: On 12th September a newspaper advertisement announced that an established medical college in Kerala is available for ‘sale’ to financially sound buyers. It reminded me of the novel by Chetan Bhagat in which when a young man does not get admission in engineering in any college, he decides to set up an engineering college of his own! So, medical aspirants, here is an opportunity.

For school and PUC students

Stick to one Language: PU Board of Karnataka has scrapped the system of having question papers in English and Kannada, giving students the option to reply in any one language. Now students have to enroll for either English or Kannada medium and question papers will be given only in that language.



IGCSE students wanting to join PUC: Department of PU Education has advised students of the IGCSE Board that they should opt for their March 10th standard exam if they wish to take admission in a PU College. Students appearing in June will get their results too late to be eligible for admission.

Good news for Math: Khan Academy, a non-profit from USA has

tied up with Government of Karnataka to provide inputs that make math interesting through, videos, pop quizzes and fun experiments, based on the school curriculum. These will be available both in English and Kannada from the next academic year.

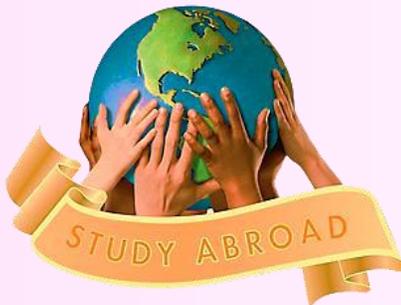
Beware of Defective Marks Cards

Karnataka State Open University had cancelled as many as 70,000 marks cards due to suspected malpractice by the agency that was given the responsibility of printing them. Now the verification process is going on and many students have lost valuable time, with the case being investigated by the City Crime Branch of the Police. This is not the first time in India where bona fide students of a UGC recognized (and in this case a Government) University had to suffer for no fault of theirs. Prospective students are advised to be cautious.



Studying Abroad

MBBS in China: Over 90 Government medical universities from China are advertising in India, particularly in Kashmir, offering “affordable” MBBS courses, with English as medium of instruction. They declare that the course fee is Rs. 11 lakhs, and claim that 200 queries have been received by them.



Caution: Students who study MBBS abroad need to give an exam held by the Medical Council of India before they can practice in our country. There have been reports that the percentage of students who clear the MCI exam is quite low.

MBA in USA: B-Schools in USA are showing a drop in enrollments from foreign students. Only those offering Data Analytics are getting more applicants. Compared to that Canada and Europe are showing a healthy increase in applicants. Similarly in India a majority of the B-schools reported a significant increase in their application volumes this year. Overall the demand for graduate business education remains strong, particularly among the well-known brands.

In India: For seven years there was a steady rise in candidates applying for CAT for admission to IIMs and other reputed B-schools. This year there has been a slight drop from 2.32 lakhs in 2016 to 2.31 lakh for the test to be conducted on 26th November 2017. The IIMs offer 4,500 seats in 20 institutions

Technology Addiction

The media is full of Blue Whale, Saraha and other potentially dangerous activities on the Internet which can destroy the peace, academics and lives of students who start going deeper into them. There is relief available, to either students or their parents who wish to understand and be safe, in the form of Service for Healthy



Use of Technology (SHUT) clinic being operated by NIMHANS in Bangalore for guiding, preventing and providing therapy. Started by eminent Clinical Psychologist Dr. Manoj Kumar Sharma, Professor at NIMHANS, it offers free service to all. Contact 26685948 or write to nimhans.wellbeing@gmail.com or shutclinic@gmail.com.

Blue Whale

Have you had discussions between students and parents/teachers on Blue Whale? The government has issued strict warnings about its usage, and that it is a crime (abetment to suicide). Many parents have been going to their family doctors or pediatricians due to the scare. Fortis Healthcare has launched a 24x7 helpline (Number 8376804102) for those who wish to seek relief or information.

Doctors have requested parents to keep an eye on the time spent by a child on Internet, particularly by locking doors and avoiding friends etc. If possible, parents should check the browsing history of their child. They have also cautioned not to isolate the child by asking questions like, “Hope no one is asking you to end your life.”



Do your career planning when there is no pressure

When you are in the beginning of the academic year, with no pressure of annual or Board exams, this is the right time to narrow down your career goals and thereby plan which course or college you would like to go to. Once you choose your career, you will be working in that field for at least 40-50 years. Hence you need to start the process of narrowing down, even if you are in 9th or 11th. Once you decide your career, it becomes easier to select subjects and courses to take you towards your goal.



What course you take e.g. science, commerce or arts, what degree to pursue after 12th and even what post-graduation to take up after degree – all these should be decided based on a careful and scientific evaluation of the combination of interest + aptitude (skills) + personality traits + opportunities. Do not wait till the last moment when admissions are closing and you need to take immediate decision. Get yourself assessed at

Banjara Academy. We will list out all your traits holistically and once you agree that we have analyzed you correctly, we will list out most suitable careers, and then we will work with you on what courses, colleges, subjects you need to select to take you to the right goal.

JAM exam for admission in M.Sc., integrated M.Sc+Ph.D and MCA in IITs and a few other institutions will be held on 11th February 2018. The last date for applying is 10th October 2017. Minimum qualification is a graduation in any science stream. Good opportunity for students interested in pure sciences to get an exposure to the best brains from technology and to understand the application of sciences in technology and other related fields.

Admission is not as highly competitive as the JEE (Advanced). Details available on www.ja.iitb.ac.in or phone 022-25767022

Nandan Nilekani, 1977 graduate of IIT Bombay and Chairman of Infosys has said, “Machines won’t be able to replace humans. As machines become smarter, (technology) will take away a lot of jobs that machines can do well. But it can never take away jobs which require people to do well.”

Soft skills like being able to empathize, collaborate, work in teams, set goals and lead people can never be automated according to him. His advice to students is, “develop those kind of capabilities to get things done in a very different way which have a very high degree of human interaction.”

This e-newsletter is published monthly for free circulation, purely to give better insights and deeper awareness to students, teachers and parents about how one can go about selecting a career. It aims to bring not only updated information about courses and careers, but also the right way any individual student can go about selecting his or her most suitable career. If you wish to receive a free copy by mail, write to us at banjaracareers@gmail.com

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check out our website for free study techniques, articles on careers, managing stress and other aspects of life: www.banjaraacademy.org

We have many books and booklets on human behavior, free lectures twice a month, and free confidential counseling for anyone who needs emotional support. One Year part-time **Diploma in Counselling Skills**, open to all, with no theory or text books. Convenient batches. Certificate courses in **Life Skills Training**, 6 month part-time program to become a trainer.

We offer a unique **Gurukul** for kids who cannot, or do not attend mainstream schools, and we provide assessment of children for all ages, for behavior and academic issues. **Aptitude testing and career guidance** is done for students who have completed 9th, 10th or 12th standard and wish to know their strengths and suitability to the most appropriate career