CERAMIC EDUCATION IN INDIA: VIEW POINT

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Rapid changes in the global scenario for traditional and advanced ceramics have necessitated the requirement of ceramic engineers with good theoretical background, scientific outlook, analytical capabilities and communication skills. In India, seven Universities and Institutions offer ceramic education in the B.E/B.Tech. level, three in the M.Tech. level and many offer research programmes leading to Ph.D.degree. But the number of graduates in ceramic technology passing out from educational institutions is less than the actual demand of the ceramic industry in the country. The gap can be minimized if an active partnership is fostered among the educational institutions, R & D organizations and ceramic industry. This will prove beneficial to the students for development of their skill and innovation in solving the real life problems. The curriculum, syllabi and the environment in the educational institutions need to be industry focused. The authors analyse the key role played by advanced ceramics in the hi-tech areas, challenges and opportunities for ceramic engineers and the need to orient ceramic education in India.