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Non-Destructive Testing and Evaluation Education in India

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Education, research and development, training and certification of professionals, integrating Testing and inspection into quality assurance exercise in the industrial sector and in the upkeep of other installations and assets of the national infrastructure, are amongst the elements which determine the level of progress in the country. The level of activities, the areas of special attention and depth in the proficiency in these areas have been variable in the country. The focus of attention and relatively intense activity has been the training and certification sector. This may be attributed primarily to the demands and compulsions of the industrial sector, particularly in nuclear, oil & gas, chemical, transportation, space and defense on one hand and lucrative rewards for training and certification activities resulting from gainful employment of the trained and certified personnel within and outside the country. It is encouraging to see the intense and excellent research and development work in the discipline, which results from the vision of the leaders and dedicated work of the teams and individuals in the national centers of excellence in research, industry and academia. The activity in the human resource development has to look at the requirements of promoting expertise and skills in all the segments of the NDT and NDE and other related areas. This may further have to be examined in relation to globalization, adjustment of economic zone barriers and now liberalization of education; of particular relevance is the impact of distance education in its emerging form armed with the communication and information technology backup. The entry of the national institutions of prestige like the IITs in this area is an important development and should give a renewed impetus to quality education in the field of NDT also.

The paper proposes to examine the current scenario in the country and some reflex ions for addressing the issue from academic and professional view point