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Q. Counting Scientists productivity with numbers undermines science. Comment. (150W)

Scientists are BRAIN-BANK of a country. They try to bring Innovations and Inventions to reality.

Recently, Scientists at Stanford University ranked 'TOP 2%' of Scientists in variety of disciplines based on number of citations. This have brought the question whether Citation numbers sums the productivity & science.

Citation is just a ^{reference to} Piece of information, in terms of scientific research setting. It maybe a book, paper, article or a journal.

WHY CITATION NEED TO BE A METRIC?

- ▶ World need some scale to assess.
- ▶ Citation is a visible evidence rather than impact or influence.
- ▶ Final work of any Scientist is to citate his/her work.
- ▶ Ideas carry through writings.

WHY CITATION SHOULD NOT BE A METRIC?

- ▶ It solely evaluates the Quantitative data not its Quality / impact.
- ▶ Different Disciplines requires Different time to evolve. Thus, making it impossible to assess with citations.
- ▶ Favouritism & Risk of breeding Unethical Scientific Practices.
- ▶ This take away Scientists from Teaching, Mentoring, Community service ...etc.
 - ✓ This penalize those who work for the Society.
 - ✓ Taking away their Independence.
- ▶ Putting them in a danger of 'Publish or Perish'.

CONCLUSION:-

⇒ Numerical measures is to track productivity but now it backfired and used for hiring, promoting, funding ...etc. This might cull the REAL SCIENCE.