

## CAREER TIPS

**A**lmost seventy years ago, a young boy in the far off Rameswaram village would gaze at the planes flying overhead and would strengthen his resolve to be in one of them one day. He achieved his dream when he flew in a fighter jet as the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, the President of India.

Many young boys and girls have similar dreams now. And they do not have to be as great as Dr Abdul Kalam to realise them. They can become aeronautical engineers and maybe even space engineers! Among the dozens of specialisations available in engineering, the most attractive and glamorous one is Aeronautical engineering.

The entry into this field is through regular entrance exams, as in any other stream. IITs offer this branch and so do selected colleges all over the country. Colleges in Chennai and Chandigarh have made a name for themselves over the years.

In Karnataka, two colleges in Bangalore and one in Gulbarga, have recently started offering this option. One of them - M V Jayaram Engineering College - also offers a post-graduation in



various specialisations of aeronautics.

However, one need not necessarily qualify as an aeronautical engineer to touch the sky. The aeronautical field also employs mechanical, electrical, electronics, computer, instrumentation and telecommunication engineers. One can do a B.E. in any of the above branches and then either seek employment in the aero sector, or go in for a post-graduate specialisation. Though the growth of the aeronautical industry in India is not very fast, it is expanding slowly but steadily.

There is a steady recruitment in organisations like HAL, NAL, ISRO, CABS

and also in the commercial airlines.

The armed forces also require more and more engineers of different streams. It offers opportunities to their pilots to study higher and gain expertise. Of course, with the breaking down of global barriers, employment is available in any part of the globe.

The skills required to be successful in this field are: proficiency in math, physics and geography, steady concentration, ability to analyse, think logically, a curious mind to explore and grasp new ideas and, of course, a love for the vast blue skies.

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