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STATE

# Codify nanoscience research: Hamid

DH photo

DH NEWS SERVICE

**BANGALORE:** Vice President M Hamid Ansari has called for the formulation of a code of conduct for nanoscience and nanotechnology research to offset the risks this emerging sector could pose in the future.

Delivering the Chief Guest address during the inaugural function of the second 'Bangalore Nano 2008,' Ansari said that new and emerging technologies arrived in the form of a package holding out the promise of new opportunities as well as the threat of new risks.

Hence, "promoting basic research and development of technology should go hand in hand with research on addressing environmental, health and safety concerns relating to the use of nanotechnology."

Pointing out that the societal impact posed by such technologies would be many times that of Information Technology (IT) or Biotechnology (BT), due to its role in many sectors, he called for readiness to deal with the disruptive outcomes and possible legal and moral dilemmas.

The challenge is to focus on what nanoscience and technology can do for the masses of the country, Ansari stated.

**Bottom-up approach**

"We need technology that is bottom-up driven rather than top-down driven." All stakeholders, espe-



**Bangalore Nano chief mentor Prof C N R Rao welcoming Vice President of India M Hamid Ansari to the inaugural function of the 2nd Bangalore Nano in Bangalore on Saturday. Home Minister V S Acharya and others are seen.**

cially common people, must have a greater say in the development of nanotechnology, he argued. Rs 3,600 crore

**PROMISES**

- Clean and affordable energy
- Filtration systems for clean drinking water
- Medical devices and drugs to detect and effectively treat diseases
- Detection of harmful chemical or biological agents
- Cleaning of hazardous chemicals in the environment
- Stronger, lighter, more durable materials
- Highly efficient lighting systems

of Rs 5 crore was also being spent to set up BPOs in rural areas and IT zones were created in two-tier and three-tier cities in the State."

Karnataka had allotted 14 acres of land to the Centre for setting up a Nanoscience and Technology Institute on the outskirts of Bangalore. This will be the third such in the country after Kolkata and Mohali.

Chief Secretary Sudhakar Rao said that nanotechnology would create major breakthroughs in the spheres of life sciences, medicine, biotechnology and electronics in the 21st century.

**5 year mission**

"A sum of Rs 1,000 crore will be spent for the five-year Nano Technology Mission and 30 industries and 50 institutions in the State were conducting R and D on nanotechnology," he informed.

for IT projects: Acharya. Home Minister V S Acharya said that a sum of Rs 3,600 crore was being devoted towards 32 IT projects in the State.

"This is expected to generate one lakh jobs." A sum

**SNIPPETS**

**VP's faux pas!**

**BANGALORE, DHNS:** A classic case of slip of the tongue - and one that will be remembered for long as it was none less than the country's Vice-President (VP) who committed this! M Hamid Ansari rendered an impressive speech for 15 minutes in flawless language, from a prepared text.

Unfortunately, he committed a faux pas in the last line of the speech, the only sentence he delivered extempore! "I would like to heartily congratulate Mr Acharya for winning this year's Nano award," Ansari said as a parting shot.

This not only shocked those seated on the dais (including the State's Home Minister himself) but also

generated smiles from many newsmen and members of the audience who were keenly listening to the VP's every word.

It was all the more amusing because just before Ansari commenced his speech, he himself had handed over the Bangalore Nano National Award to Dipankar Chakravorty, meritis Professor and Indian Nation-

al Science Academy Honorary Scientist, Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata.

**Tight security**

Unprecedented security marked the first major function to be held in the City after the Mumbai terror attacks, more so because a VVIP like the Vice-President was taking part. The hotel