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IT City will now be India's nano capital

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: After IT and BT, Bangalore is all set to go the nano way. The second Bangalore Nano event that concluded on Saturday marked several initiatives towards this end. One of these is setting up India's first nano institute — Institute for Nano Science and Technology — in the city.

There was a solemn pledge from the authorities and stakeholders to ensure Bangalore becomes the 'Nano City of India'. The institute will be set up with a Rs 100-crore grant from the Centre. This will come from the budgetary provision of Rs 1,000 crore for nanoscience and technology initiatives. The state government has allotted 14 acres on the city outskirts to set up this centre. Bangalore is among the three places selected for such an institute; Kolkata and Mohali being the other two.

Speaking at the event, home min-

ister V S Acharya promised all government measures to encourage research & development in nanotechnology, create opportunities for commercialization of the sector and facilitate development of small, medium and large scale industries committed to nanotechnology.

Vice-President M Hamid Ansari, chief guest at the event, called nanotechnology the transformative force in the future. He stressed that public funding for scientific and technological R&D is premised on the promise of enhancing public welfare and economic development. He added that any new technology comes with a package of opportunities and risks.

Governor Rameshwar Thakur said if the sector has to take off, it is necessary that research companies pass on concepts for commercialization. A nanotechnology vision group has also been constituted under the guidance of C N R Rao.



Professor C N R Rao, governor Rameshwar Thakur and Vice-President Hameed Ansari release the Bangalore Nano declaration on Saturday