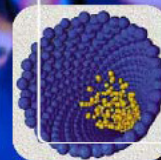




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Many issues that are of paramount concern from a human development perspective reportedly could be addressed by nanotechnology products that are already or soon to be available. However, many people are concerned about the potential effects on human health and the environment, as well as the socio-economic and ethical implications of nanotechnology.

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Headlines:

[President's Address at the Inauguration of the Indo-US Nanotechnology Conclave](#)

[A New Report on Government Oversight of Nanotechnology](#)

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Title: President's Address at the Inauguration of the Indo-US Nanotechnology Conclave

Source: Government of India

In his address at the inauguration of the Indo-US Nanotechnology Conclave earlier today, Indian President A.P.J. Kalam said that nanotechnology research, development, and commercialization will be important in achieving India's national missions to improve the efficiency of agriculture and food processing, expand infrastructure development in urban and rural areas, achieve energy independence, produce clean drinking water, and provide adequate healthcare. Kalam said that nanotechnology-based fertilizer and pesticide delivery systems and nanocomposites for food packaging may allow India to produce more food on less land, with fewer resources. He also pointed out that India is planning to build a hundred million homes in the next ten years, build all-weather roads in rural areas, and build new airports, bridges, and industrial complexes. He said that new nanomaterials could make building materials cheaper, stronger, and heat resistant. He highlighted nanotechnology-based solar photovoltaic cells and nanostructured hydrogen storage systems as two potential novel methods of alternative energy. Kalam said that scientists at Banaras Hindu University have developed nanofilters that can remove contaminants from drinking water and are also cheap to manufacture, easy to clean, durable, and heat resistant. Additionally, he said that India's Defence Research and Development Establishment (DRDE) has developed a typhoid detection kit using recombinant DNA technology that can detect typhoid bacteria directly from a single blood serum sample in under three minutes. The Indo-US Nanotechnology Conclave is a joint meeting of nanotechnology stakeholders including scientists, engineers, academics, industry members, government, and funders. President Kalam's address can be viewed online at the link below.

[Link](#)

Title: A New Report on Government Oversight of Nanotechnology

Source: Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

A new report from the Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in the U.S. argues that better and more aggressive oversight and new resources are needed to manage the potential adverse effects of nanotechnology and to promote its continued development. The report, entitled *Managing the Effects of Nanotechnology*, analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of existing laws that apply to nanotechnology and outlines provisions that a new law might contain. It finds that some current regulatory approaches may work for nanotechnology applications. The report's author, J. Clarence Davies, former assistant administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) during the George H.W. Bush Administration, says, for example, "The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has the authority it needs to review and regulate nanotechnology applications in the areas of drugs and biomedical devices." "But," says Davies, "most of the existing applicable programs are seriously flawed, lack resources, and require new thinking and funding." David Rejeski, director of the Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies, says that proactive dialog between government, business, and citizen groups is needed, as well as more in-depth public policy analysis. Davies says, "The ideas presented in this report challenge business and government to work together to nurture and encourage nanotechnology and to anticipate and address its adverse effects." "Reaching consensus on nanotechnology regulation that encourages economic innovation and environmental stewardship will not be easy," Davies acknowledges, "but it is a challenge that we cannot ignore." The report and press release are available online at the link below.

[Link](#)

Title: Innovations to Benefit Packaging, Medical, and Textile Industries

Source: Mining Weekly

This article says that South Africa's Center for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is working with the University of Pretoria, the University of South Africa, and the University of Stellenbosch to develop a nanoparticle drug delivery system for anti-tuberculosis (TB) medicines. The drug delivery system could reduce the frequency and the duration of TB treatment, as well as eliminate patient noncompliance with treatments. The materials used in the manufacturing of the nanoparticles are all biocompatible and biodegradable. The article says that, once improved, the system may be suitable for administering other antiretrovirals, such as those for HIV/AIDS. The project is being led by CSIR senior researcher Dr. Hulda Swai and is funded by South Africa's Department of Science and Technology. The article can be viewed online at the link below.

[Link](#)