

The Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on agricultural biotechnology, in his inaugural speech at the Indian Science Congress in Trivandrum on Jan 3, 2010.



"Developments in biotechnology present us the prospect of greatly improving yields in our major crops by increasing resistance to pests and also to moisture stress. BT Cotton has been well accepted in the country and has made a great difference to the production of cotton.

The technology of genetic modification is also being extended to food crops though this raises legitimate questions of safety. These must be given full weightage, with appropriate regulatory control based on strictly scientific criteria. Subject to these caveats, we should pursue all possible leads that biotechnology provides that might increase our food security as we go through climate related stress."

And this was the headline in Biospectrum, Asia Edition: The business of life sciences  
"PM, consumer groups oppose India's Bt brinjal"

[http://www.biospectrumasia.com/Content/040110IND11702.asp?nl=1\\_182352\\_Jan4](http://www.biospectrumasia.com/Content/040110IND11702.asp?nl=1_182352_Jan4)

(Thanks to Barun, for pointing this out!)