



HESTER

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28 December 2022

To,
BSE Limited
Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers,
Dalal Street,
Mumbai - 400 001

Scrip Code: 524669

To,
National Stock Exchange of India Limited
Exchange Plaza,
Bandra - Kurla Complex,
Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400 051

Symbol: HESTERBIO

Dear Sir:

Subject: Press Release

We attach a press release by the Company titled "**Hester acquires technology from ICAR - NIHSAD to develop a Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H9N2 strain) Inactivated Vaccine for poultry**" for your information and dissemination on your website.

Sincerely,
For Hester Biosciences Limited

Vinod Mali
Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

Enclosure: As above

28 December 2022

Press Release

Hester acquires technology from ICAR – NIHSAD to develop a Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H9N2 strain) Inactivated Vaccine for poultry

Hester has signed an agreement towards receiving indigenously developed technology from Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (ICAR-NIHSAD), for the development and commercialization of the Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H9N2 strain) Inactivated Vaccine for poultry.

The agreement was signed on 27 December 2022 at the office of Agrinnovate India, New Delhi. Agrinnovate is a government entity that acts as an interface between ICAR and the stakeholders in the agriculture sector, which includes technology transfers for vaccine manufacturing in the veterinary sector.

The meeting was attended by:

Director General (DG), ICAR:	Dr. Himanshu Pathak
Deputy DG, ICAR:	Dr. B N Tripathi
Assistant DG, ICAR:	Dr. Ashok Kumar
CEO, Agrinnovate India:	Dr. Praveen Malik
Director, NIHSAD:	Dr. Aniket Sanyal
CEO & MD, Hester:	Rajiv Gandhi
CSO, Hester:	Dr. Manoj Kumar

Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza H9N2 Strain causes comorbidity in poultry flocks throughout the year, leading to huge economic losses to the poultry farmers. The disease generally has low mortality rate up to 6% but can increase significantly in the presence of other infections. It could also lead to an irreversible egg production drop (up to 50%) in layer birds and a performance loss in broilers.

This indigenously developed inactivated H9N2 vaccine for poultry is developed using a local isolate, thereby ensuring that the vaccine is made from the local strain and not by importing any exotic strain.

This development achieves the country's objective towards making India *Aatmanirbhar* (self-reliant).

As per Agrinnovate:

1. The vaccine has passed the sterility, safety, and efficacy testing in experimental trials under laboratory conditions.
2. The vaccine provides protective immunity in chickens for approximately 6 months.

Hester has plans to launch this Vaccine by the end of 2023 after completing the required field studies and obtaining regulatory approvals.

Besides supplying the vaccine within India, Hester intends to export this vaccine to African and Asian countries through Hester's own distribution network, where the demand for this vaccine has already been established.

The huge poultry population in India is a key source of livelihood for rural India. Until date, India had no vaccine available for Avian Influenza despite of periodic outbreaks across the country. These factors make this vaccine as having a significant commercial potential.



Singing of the agreement on 27 December 2022 at the office of Agrinnovate India, New Delhi

About Hester Biosciences Limited:

Hester Biosciences Limited is one of the India's leading poultry and animal vaccine manufacturing company, since 1997. Hester operates in two broad product segments

1. Vaccines
2. Health products

- It is the world's largest manufacturer and supplier of PPR vaccine, having approximately 75% of the world market
- It is the major supplier of Goat Pox Vaccine in India which has been used to immunise cattle against Lumpy Skin disease
- It is the second largest poultry vaccine manufacturer, with approximately 35% market share in India

Hester's vaccine capabilities include multiple platforms such as Chick Embryo Origin, Continuous Cell line, Tissue Culture and Fermentation based live as well as inactivated vaccines.

Hester recently forayed into human vaccines by building a new BSL III drug substance manufacturing facility intended to manufacture Covid-19 and such other human vaccines.

Hester recently launched the Petcare Division with a view to focus on needs of companion animals.

Hester recognises the vision of ONE HEALTH, and works on improving the health of animals thereby enabling better health for human beings.

For more information, please visit www.hester.in