



**Biological E. Limited**  
Celebrating Life Every Day

**Press Release**

## **Biological E. Limited's Pentavalent Vaccine as a part of Government Immunization Program**

**Hyderabad, India – November 14, 2014 –** Biological E. Limited (BE), the first Indian Vaccine company and the first Pharma company based in South India has announced on Children's day, that its 5-in-1 Pentavalent Vaccine is being launched for introduction in the Immunization program in Telangana, in the presence of the Honorable Chief Minister of State of Telangana, Sri K Chandrashekar Rao.

BE's Pentavalent vaccine has received Pre-Qualification from the World Health Organization (WHO). More than 100 Million doses of this 5-in-1 vaccine have been administered to children around the world till date. Pentavalent vaccine has been adopted for immunization by most countries in the world and is now being inducted into the National immunization program and in Telangana. With this Pentavalent vaccine, the children in India will be immunized not only against Diphtheria, Tetanus (also known as Lockjaw), Pertussis (also known as Whooping Cough), Hepatitis-B (also known as White Jaundice or silent killer) but also Bacterial Meningitis and pneumonia caused by Haemophilus influenzae type b Bacteria (Hib). The Pentavalent vaccine has been supplied by UNICEF to India and is supported by GAVI. BE, a Hyderabad Based company, is immensely proud to support the initiation of the Pentavalent vaccine in the immunization program in Telangana.

### **Need for vaccination against HIB**

- HIB refers to Bacterial *Haemophilus influenzae* type b which accounts for 40% of Meningitis and more than 20% cases of pneumonia in children.
- HIB contributes to 2% of total mortality in children of under 5 years of age.
- India has annually, 312,000 cases and a death toll of over 72,000 due to HIB in children under 5 years of age.

Adding to this, Ms. Mahima Datla, Managing Director BE Limited said, "Thousands of children in Telangana are exposed to the risk of deadly vaccine preventable diseases. Availability of this vaccine in Telangana will protect children from 5 deadly diseases Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Hepatitis B and Meningitis and Pneumonia caused by Hib. The Telangana Government's endeavor is to increase health access to underprivileged children, and this vaccine will be available free of cost to all children through the Immunization program. This combination vaccine will improve vaccine compliance and coverage. This vaccine has already been used to protect millions of children all over the world and the inclusion of this Pentavalent Vaccine into our National

Immunization Program, and particularly in our home state is a proud moment for us. Our vision is to ensure protection to every single child against vaccine-preventable diseases.”

### **About Pentavalent Vaccine**

Pentavalent Vaccine is a 5-in-1, convenient and safe, Liquid Vaccine that provides effective protection for children from 6 weeks of age against five diseases: Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Hepatitis B and Meningitis and Pneumonia caused by Hib. Pentavalent Vaccine has been developed and produced by Biological E. Limited in Hyderabad, Telangana.

### **About Biological E. Limited**

Biological E. Limited, the first private sector biological products company in India and the first pharmaceuticals company in South India was established in 1953. Originally incorporated as Biological Products Private Limited, and launched by Dr. Vijay Kumar Datla, today, BE is a globally recognized vaccine manufacturer and has supplied over 2 Billion Doses of Vaccines till date all over the world. BE supplies several essential and lifesaving Vaccines and Pharmaceuticals to UN Agencies viz. UNICEF, PAHO, Many Global markets, and in India to the National Immunization program, various State Governments, PSUs, Indian Armed Forces and the domestic retail market. With a mission to improve health & survival of people and contribute to the societies BE serves by providing equitable access to quality vaccines and therapeutics, BE Limited has had a long and richly textured history and the future promises to be even more exciting.

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### **For further information please contact**

Srikanth Gunishetty | +91 8121040100 | Srikanth.gunishetty@edelman.com

Nikitha Nainani | +91 9000418056 | Nikitha.nainani@edelman.com