

Hester Pharma tie-up with Japanese co.

By A Staff Reporter

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The Ahmedabad-based Hester Pharmaceuticals Limited has entered into strategic alliance with Ghen Corporation (Japan) and its subsidiary Maine Biological Laboratories (United States) on the establishment of the State-of-the-art poultry vaccine manufacturing facilities in the country at the cost of approximate Rs. 5 crores.

The production plant will be based in Ahmedabad in Western India.

The company would also shortly introduce a range of Immunocomb kits for the diagnosis of poultry, canine, feline, bovine and Ovine diseases. Immunocomb kits are manufactured by Biogal Galed Labs., Israel.

Hester Pharmaceuticals currently markets vaccines from Maine Biological Laboratories, U.S.A. & Ghen Corporation Japan, animal & livestock disease diagnostic kits from Idexx Corpn. U.S.A. and Biological Galed Labs, Israel and animal feed from Ghen Corporation and Kemin Europe, Belgium.

Promoted by first generation professionals, the company is setting up Rs. 5.04 crores project to manufacture poultry vaccines.

The company has been headed by Managing Director Mr. Rajiv D. Gandhi and his brother Mr. Sanjiv D. Gandhi, both of whom have vast experience and expertise in the marketing and distribution of veterinary pharmaceutical and animal health products along with poultry vaccines, laboratory kits, etc. Dr. Bhupendra V. Gandhi, renowned nephrologist is also a co-promoter.

The group was originally engaged in the distribution of raw materials and chemicals to pharmaceutical units. In 1983 Rajiv D. Gandhi joined its operations diversifying it to veterinary products. Two companies were formed in 1985 and 1986 to represent multinationals like Boehringer Mannheim GmbH, Burroughs Wellcome, Pfizer, Roche, Cyanamid, Eskayef etc... After successfully handling regional marketing for over 4 years. The Group went on to represent Ghen Corporation Japan, IDEXX Corporation USA, Maine Biological Laboratories, USA, International Diagnostic Systems USA, Kemin Europa N.V. Belgium and Biogal Galed Labs., Israel.

Talking about the project, Rajiv D. Gandhi said, the company is setting up a project for manufacture of poultry vaccines both

live as well as killed/inactivated in technical and financial collaboration with Ghen Corporation, Japan and Maine Biological Laboratories Inc. The project with an installed capacity of 395 million doeses of live and killed vaccines will use the world acclaimed technology of MBL and Ghen Corporation. This will help the company in producing international quality products. The company will also have access to all future developments at MBL and Ghen Corporation.

The project will be located at village Merda Adraj, Taluka Kadi, Dist Mehsana in Gujarat. Due to the inherent nature of the project, the unit has to be located in an area which is clean and free from excessive industrialisation. Merda Adraj has the necessary infrastructural facilities viz, Power, water supplies and telecommunication system and is free from pollution. It is well linked by rail as well as road. The unit being located in a category II notified backward areas will be eligible for a subsidy of Rs. 15 lakh.

The company has already acquired the land. The civil construction of the factory building has commenced and is scheduled to be completed by October, 1994.