

Role of BIBCOL in Catering to Human Health in India

The Bharat Immunological and Biologicals Corporation Limited (BIBCOL) is one of the major central public sector undertakings (PSU), under the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India (GoI). The leading biotechnology unit was established in 1989 in Uttar Pradesh, India, with an aim to achieve national self sufficiency in production and supply of high quality polio vaccine. The polio vaccine has played a significant role in polio eradication in India through national immunization program. With efforts of GoI's successful national immunization program, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared India polio free nation on 27th March, 2014.



BIBCOL, Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh, India

Currently, the company manufactures and produces a range of pharmaceuticals products such as oral polio vaccines (OPV), bivalent polio vaccines (bOPV), trivalent polio vaccines (tOPV), zinc dispersible tablets, diarrheal management kit etc. BIBCOL has launched ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) namely BIBPOSHAN for the severely malnourished children with technical inputs from CTI, United States of America and a table top sweetener BIBSWEET.

Under its long term commitment to serve the nation's health needs, sustainability and growth, the company has decided to launch Plasma Derived Medicines (PDMs). Both RUTF and plasma derived medicines such as albumin, immunoglobulin and factors have got huge market potential. The BIBCOL produces and supplies large quantities of OPVs to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI. As per DBT annual report 2016-17, BIBCOL has supplied 206.25 million doses of bivalent oral polio vaccine and 221001 zinc dispersible tablets to ministry. Besides, the PSU has

also supplied over 241 million doses of trivalent and bivalent oral polio vaccine during 2015-16 plus 146006 zinc dispersible tablets.

In 2015-16, BIBCOL has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Institute for Translational Vaccinology (Intravacc) of the Kingdom of Netherlands on “development of vaccines”. Under the MoU, both partners, i.e., Intravacc and BIBCOL agreed to partner with the plan of setting up of a measles-rubella vaccine plant for BIBCOL.

The BIBCOL also launched “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan” from its campuses in different parts of India from 2nd October, 2014 on guiding lines of Mahatma Gandhi’s vision, “sanitation is more important than Independence”. The BIBCOL’s turnover was 146.22- and 202.75 crores for financial year 2014-15 and 2013-14, respectively.

In year 2011-12, BIBCOL carried out studies for development of multi-micro-nutrients fortified milk to measure the potential of toned milk as a vehicle for iron, vitamin A, calcium and vitamin D to address iron deficiency anemia. The BIBCOL has also developed a product consisting of a mixture of seven minerals and thirteen vitamins called composite mineral and vitamin (CMV) formulation as per WHO guidelines in a sachet for treatment of severely malnourished children (SAM). The CMV can be added directly as a premix to F-75, F-100, RUTF and other therapeutic nutritional products.

The BIBCOL has also contributed to nation’s growth by recruiting and training a huge number of young scientists and technologists from different fields like microbiology, immunology, biotechnology, biochemistry, pharmaceutical sciences and biochemical engineering. BIBCOL has trained highly skilled manpower in the field of vaccine production and quality control among other services.

Based on the performance in past two decades and its world class WHO-cGMP certified infrastructure, highly skilled manpower and constant support from DBT, the BIBCOL is ranked among the top 20 Biotech companies of India.

Dr. Bilqeesa Bhat,
Project Scientist
Vigyan Prasar, New Delhi