

## **Technology License Agreement on “*Brucella abortus* S19Δ per vaccine” between ICAR-IVRI and Hester Biosciences Limited, Ahmedabad**

A Technology License Agreement (TLA) ceremony was held on 22 September, 2020 through virtual platform for the transfer of technology “*Brucella abortus* S19Δ per vaccine” developed by ICAR-IVRI. The technology was developed by Dr Pallab Chaudhari and his team with the financial support from Department of Biotechnology (DBT), New Delhi. The TLA is in between ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar, Hester Biosciences Limited, Ahmedabad, DBT-BIRAC and Agrinnovate India Limited. The ceremony was graced by Dr Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR), Dr Renu Swarup, Secretary, DBT and Chairperson, BIRAC, Dr B. N. Tripathi, DDG (Animal Science) and other dignitaries and officials from ICAR-IVRI, DBT, BIRAC, BCIL, DAHD and Hester Biosciences Limited. The Director General, ICAR in his address emphasized the importance of the Brucella vaccine in India and also highlighted its economic, social and developmental impact. He further complimented the Inventor of the technology and Director of the institute for this significant achievement. Dr Renu Swarup, Secretary, DBT congratulated the inventor and his team and also to ICAR and stressed on more collaboration between ICAR and DBT in future on technology transfer.

The *Brucella abortus* S19Δ per vaccine is a modified strain of *B. abortus* S19 developed by altering lipopolysaccharide (LPS) structure of the organism through deletion mutation under one of the DBT funded research project on “Brucellosis network program” and named the modified strain as *B. abortus* S19Δper. The developed vaccine has several advantages over the conventional S19 vaccine in terms of its safety, potency in addition to DIVA capability i.e. ability to differentiate between naturally infected with vaccinated animals. It has been tested and evaluated in small animal model and also in buffalo calves and observed to be very effective. Brucellosis is one of the most important zoonotic diseases worldwide and also endemic in India that causes huge economic losses to dairy industry due to infertility, abortion, birth of weak offspring and reduced productivity. The vaccine has great demand in India and will be of immense use in the national control programme on brucellosis.

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Talking: Dr. Renu Swarup View Everyone 15

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