

## **Pioneers in recombinant research**

Nov 01, 1999

Bharat Biotech International Ltd., was set up to carry out pioneering research and pathbreaking solutions in the field of healthcare through genetic engineering.

The company entered the field of developing and manufacturing vaccine for Hepatitis-B using Recombinant DNA technology.

The company was set up by Dr Krishna M Ella (43) its Chairman & Managing Director, who has a Doctorate in Biotechnology from the University of Wisconsin Madison, USA.

He has 19 years of professional experience in biochemistry, molecular biology and biotechnology both in plants and human organisms and is an expert in yeast microbiology.

The company's emphasis is on developign the next generation of vaccine and drugs through original recombinant research to combat affictions of the heart, pancreas, liver, kidney and nervous system.

The Scientist at Bharat Biotech together with those at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, are working together on future disease syndromes which are region specific.

Bharat Biotech is promoted by Dr Krishna Ella, Dr S. Balasunder (Clinical Prof. of Gastroenterology, Univ. of Alabama), Dr PR Rajagopalan (Associate Dean and Director of Transplant Surgery, Medical Univ. of South Carolina), Dr S. Damodaran (Prof. at Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison), Mr. K.S. Rao and Suchitra Ella (trained in USA) and Dr M Kuppusamy. The company is the largest biotech facility for Hepatitis-B in Asia with a capacity of 100 million doses and conforms to USFDA and UK-MCA standards including those of the WHO. At present the company produces Revac-B a Recombinant Vaccine for Hepatitis-B, which was launched in 1998. This new vaccine brought down the price of imported and domestic vaccines. Bharat Biotech is setting up an R&D; center on IISc campus. The company is developing a third generation of vaccines and the first of its kind in the world with funding from the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.