

## **Hilleman Laboratories renews agreement with Jamia Hamdard University cementing the industry-academia collaboration to enable affordable vaccine development**

- *Establish Jamia - Hilleman Interaction Day – A knowledge forum for a healthy exchange of ideas and encouraging innovation*

**New Delhi, 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014:** Hilleman Laboratories, an equal joint-venture partnership between Merck & Co. and Wellcome Trust, and Jamia Hamdard University sign an agreement to renew their lease for another 4 years (January 2015 – December 2018) furthering their efforts towards Vaccine Research and Training Capacity Building.

Marking the development, the two organisations have established a day long forum called the Jamia Hilleman Interaction Day aimed at providing a suitable knowledge platform to encourage exchange of innovative ideas and building relations with the two entities.

On this occasion, Dr. Davinder Gill, CEO, Hilleman Laboratories, expressed his heartfelt gratitude stating, “We are delighted to receive a four year extension and grateful to all at Jamia Hamdard University for providing us a conducive environment for advancing research and developing affordable vaccines for low resource settings. Our common ideologies enable a symbiotic relation towards creating an ecosystem for research and development.”

Dr. G.N. Qazi, Vice Chancellor, Jamia Hamdard University said, “We are very happy to host the team at Hilleman Laboratories on our campus. With the state-of-the-art infrastructure and extremely proficient team, Hilleman Laboratories gives our students, faculty and scholars an exposure which is in line with world-class settings. This collaboration will positively impact the society at large bettering opportunities for those interested in research and innovation in India.”

Dr. Qazi added, “The joint venture vaccination research centre was set up four years ago as an initiative to develop vaccines catering to the low income countries and provide at cheaper rates.”

### **About Hilleman Laboratories**

Hilleman Laboratories is a first-of-its-kind joint-venture partnership formed between Merck & Co., a global research-driven pharmaceutical organization and Wellcome Trust, a global charitable foundation dedicated to human and animal health by supporting the brightest minds.

Hilleman Laboratories has been named after renowned scientist and father of modern vaccines Dr. Maurice Hilleman. His dedication to making a difference through the practical application of vaccine research and delivering vaccines to people most in need forms the core mission of Hilleman Laboratories.

Operating on a not-for-profit principle, Hilleman Laboratories aims to bridge the gap between early vaccine research and clinical proof of concept and become a preferred partner for Low Cost Vaccine Manufacturers for vaccine development and usage for public health in the developing world.