

## **NEWS**

### **Bill Gates makes hush-hush visits to Andhra firms**

Friday, May 31, 2013

Hyderabad: Microsoft co-founder and chairman Bill Gates visited Biological E Ltd, a leading vaccine manufacturer, and the International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) near here on Thursday on a private trip kept completely under wraps.



Bill Gates visits Biological E, Hyderabad. Seen in the picture are (Sitting: L to R): Bill Gates, Renuka Datla and Mahima Datla, (Standing: L to R): Narender Dev Mantena, Divya Bijlwan, Trevor Mundel, Rayasam Prasad, Martin Reers, P V V S Murthy and Ravikumar

Bill Gates, who is also co-chairperson of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, visited Biological E Ltd late Thursday evening, the company said in a statement on Friday.

“Mr Bill Gates congratulated Biological E on the science and innovation platform of the company that allows it to supply effective and affordable vaccines,” the statement said.

“Our company is committed to manufacturing quality vaccines at prices that make them one of the most cost-effective investments in global health. We are very proud to support immunisation needs of the world’s poorest countries and supply life-saving vaccines to underprivileged children in the world,” said Mahima Datla, managing director of Biological E after meeting Bill Gates.

His private one-day visit was kept secret for security reasons. The media and junior officials at ICRISAT were not informed.

Available at <http://www.aaletimes.com/2013/05/31/bill-gates-makes-hush-hush-visits-to-andhra-firms/>