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## ■ Reliance Life Sciences to Make Plasma Proteins for Sri Lanka

By P K Balachandran | Published: 07th August 2015 04:56 AM Last Updated: 07th August 2015 04:59 AM

COLOMBO: Reliance Life Sciences will be manufacturing blood plasma proteins for Sri Lanka, Lankan Cabinet spokesman, Rajitha Senaratne, told the media here on Thursday.

He said that the Cabinet has approved a proposal to allow Reliance Life to buy plasma from the National Blood Transfusion Services (NBTS) at a mutually agreed price on a turnkey basis. Reliance Life Sciences is part of the Reliance Group, a Fortune Global 500 company with an annual revenue of \$66.8 billion.

Senaratne further said that in the next stage, an Indian company based in the US will set up a facility in Lanka to make plasma proteins.

The minister said that NBTS collects about 100,000 litres of plasma every year of which 60,000 litres are locally used. The balance of 40,000 litres, currently discarded, could well be given to plasma fractionators for the manufacture of life-saving plasma proteins like albumin; immunoglobulin; clotting proteins like fibrinogen; anti-coagulants; and protease inhibitors.

Blood plasma fractionation refers to a set of complex industrial processes to separate the various protein components of blood plasma so that they could be turned into clinically useful medicines, Senaratne said.