

## Govt encourages vaccine production by public sector enterprises

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The union government has approved the establishment of an Integrated Vaccine Complex, Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu as a subsidiary of HLL Lifecare, a Central Public Sector Enterprise, which will produce Pentavalent Vaccines - Hepatitis B, HiB, Measles, Anti Rabies, BCG, and Japanese Encephalitis vaccines.

As per the union health minister, Dr Harsh Vardhan, "The government has also approved the upgradation and setting-up of new Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) complaint facilities for increasing vaccine productions in the other three vaccine producing units namely Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor; Central Research Institute, Kasauli and BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Guindy under the ministry of health and family welfare.

The government on February, 02, 2010 had revoked suspension of manufacturing licenses of all the three vaccine-manufacturing units, pending setting up of Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) complaint production facilities. All the three manufacturing units have already resumed production of vaccines in the existing facilities.