

## **HLL Lifecare's plan to set up 'medipark' gets Cabinet nod**

Our Bureau

*First ever cluster to produce medical devices to come up near Chennai*

New Delhi, October 5:

The Cabinet on Wednesday took various decisions including approval of HLL Lifecare Ltd's proposal, a Mini Ratna PSU under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, to sub-lease 330.10 acres in Chengalpattu, near Chennai, to set up a medical devices manufacturing park (Medipark) through a special purpose vehicle.

HLL Lifecare's stake in the project will be above 50 per cent. The Medipark project will be the first manufacturing cluster in the medical technology sector in the country, envisaged to boost the local manufacturing of hi-end products at a significantly lower cost.

"It would contribute to the development of medical devices and technology sector and allied disciplines in the country, which is still at a nascent stage besides generating employment and give a boost to the government's 'Make in India' campaign," said a government statement.

It also approved the proposal for transfer of two acres from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi to the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) on lease basis for a period of 99 years at a total lease rent of ₹8,01,278 at ₹1 per sq.m per year.

The VCI will expand its activities related to upgradation of skill of in-service veterinary professionals by conducting short courses.

Cabinet also approved the memorandum of understanding (MoU) between India and the African Asian Rural Development Organisation (AARDO) for capacity building programmes in rural development.

The MoU for 2015-17 entails capacity building programmes for AARDO member countries that will be organised every year during the period at institutions of excellence in India such as National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD & PR), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutions, Indian Institute of Management (IIMs) and others.

The Cabinet also gave its approval for the signing of MoU between India and European Union in the field of water resources.