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Apollo, DRL unveil pilot programme for Sputnik V vaccination in Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam

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The first phase of the programme will kick-off with vaccinations in Hyderabad on May 17 and in Visakhapatnam on May 18 at separate facilities at Apollo Hospitals in those cities



Apollo Hospitals and Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) announced the launch of a limited pilot programme for the Sputnik V vaccine as part of the soft launch by Dr Reddy's in India. The first phase of the programme will kick-off with vaccinations in Hyderabad on May 17 and in Visakhapatnam on May 18 at separate facilities at Apollo Hospitals in those cities. The vaccinations would follow the SOPs as recommended by the government including registration on CoWIN.

Dr K Hari Prasad, President – Hospitals Division, Apollo Hospitals Enterprises Limited said, "This pilot phase will allow Dr Reddy's and Apollo to test the arrangements and cold chain logistics and prepare for the launch. We are confident that with the Sputnik V vaccine, we will be able to make a significant contribution to ease availability and access to COVID vaccines to the community at large."

MV Ramana, CEO – Branded Markets (India & Emerging Markets), Dr Reddy's Laboratories said, "We are pleased to collaborate with Apollo Hospitals as part of our soft pilot launch of the Sputnik V vaccine in India. We are working to scale up the pilot and take the vaccine to other cities, and in the upcoming months we hope to inoculate as many Indians as possible."

The Sputnik V vaccines for the pilot programme would be supplied by Dr Reddy's from the first batch of 1,50,000 vaccine doses imported by them for the soft launch. After Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam, the pilot programme will be extended to Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Kolkata, and Pune.