

# Govt plans cervical cancer vaccination

**T**he government is likely to begin administering anti-cervical cancer vaccine in girls aged nine to 14 years in six states in June, official sources said on Sunday.

In the first phase of the vaccination campaign, 25.5 million girls are targeted to be administered the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Mizoram, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, an official source said. The Union health ministry has drawn a roadmap to roll out HPV vaccine in the universal immunization programme and is likely to float a global tender in April for 160.2 million doses to be procured by 2026, official sources said. The Serum Institute's made-in-India vaccine against cervical cancer, CERVAVAC, was launched last month.

The HPV vaccine will be available in the private market at an MRP of ₹2,000 per dose, it has been learnt.