

## **Lupin plans to expand drug facility at Vadodara**

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Mumbai-based pharma player Lupin Ltd is all set to expand its Vadodara facility to make bulk drugs for cardiac, anti-infectives, anti-tuberculosis, neurology and other segments. The estimated project cost is around ₹270 crore.

The Dabhasa plant near Vadodara is one of the leading bulk drug manufacturing sites for the company.

"The Dabhasa plant is one of our major active pharmaceutical ingredient manufacturing sites which also exports. It is a US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA)-approved facility," a official said.

Meanwhile, the company is planning to expand the unit to add more bulk drugs belonging to the categories of anti-cholesterol, cardiac, neuropathic, respiratory and anti-infectives, among others. The firm is a leading global manufacturer of anti-tuberculosis bulk drugs like Ethambutol Hydrochloride and Rifampicin.

A company spokesperson confirmed the development.

"It is true that we are expanding our facility in Dabhasa, near Vadodara though we haven't procured any additional land for the stated expansion. Lupin has been investing prudently in expanding our manufacturing operations by setting up new and expanding existing facilities to meet future demand."

According to a senior official in the state government, who confirmed the development, the company proposes to make around 80 different varieties of bulk drugs at the Dabhasa plant. The additional capacity would be to the tune of 1,480 tonnes a year.

According to data from IMS Health, therapies like cardiac, anti-diabetics, respiratory and dermatological have clocked a healthy growth during 2013 calendar year.

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