

## ■ India's First HPV Vaccine CERVAVAC Launched

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh announced India's first indigenously developed vaccine, CERVAVAC for the prevention of cervical cancer on 1st September 2022. Cervical cancer caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV), ranks as the second most prevalent cancers in India and accounts for nearly one-fourth of the world's cervical cancer deaths despite being largely preventable. This affordable and cost-effective vaccine has taken India a step closer to PM Modi's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, said Dr Jitendra Singh. CERVAVAC is an outcome of a partnership of Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and BIRAC (Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council), the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, supported by Serum Institute of India Private Limited.