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Title: Need to review the closure of vaccine manufacturing Pasteur Institute, Coonoor; BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Chennai ; and Central Research Institute, Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): The Health Ministry, Government of India had ordered to shut down the three age-old vaccine manufacturing units at Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Chennai and Central Research Institute, Kasauli (Himachal Pradesh), as they did not follow the good manufacturing practices. All the three units which produce primary vaccines like DPT, BCG and Polio have been regularly supplying vaccines for the routine immunization programmes for decades. The entire 8 crore doses of the BCG vaccine for TB are supplied by the BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Chennai while CRI, Kasauli and Pasteur Institute, Coonoor provides over half of the required DBT doses in India. Other vaccines like the Yellow Fever Vaccine are manufactured only by the Kasauli unit in India. They were directed not to supply vaccines from the stocks and, therefore, they had to stop the procurement of raw materials by Central Licensing Approving Authority (CLAA). Pasteur Institute sold anti-rabies vaccine only for Rs. 10. After closure, now it is sold in the open market for Rs. 370 to Rs. 1,200. Due to sudden stoppage of vaccine production by these three units nearly 38 crore Indian children will not get any vaccines.

Procuring the Vaccine from the private sector would put the entire Indian population and particularly the poor at a great risk and also the Vaccines are not affordable by them. Government of India has proposed to start a Central Vaccine Park in Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu *in lieu* of these three units.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government that till the opening of the above Central Vaccine Park, the three Vaccine Units should be allowed to continue the manufacturing of vaccines otherwise there will be huge shortage of vaccines in the country and the lives of the entire citizens will be in danger.