

Royal Enfield to set up third plant to double capacity by 2018

NEW DELHI: Royal Enfield, the two-wheeler arm of Eicher Motors, plans to set up its third plant in Tamil Nadu to double its motorcycle production capacity to around 9 lakh units per annum by 2018.

The company is already in the process of raising production capacity at its two plants in the outskirts of Chennai to 4.5 lakh units per annum by the end of this year.

Eicher Motor's board, which met on Friday, accorded in-principle approval for additional capacity creation at Royal Enfield.

"The board has approved to set up third plant at Vallam Vadagal in Tamil Nadu. It will eventually give us total capacity of 9 lakh units per annum by 2018," Eicher Motors Managing Director and CEO Siddhartha Lal told reporters here.

The additional capacity



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SIDDHARTHA LAL

MD & CEO, EICHER MOTORS

will primarily come from the first phase of the new plant, the work on which would begin early next year, he added.

When asked about the proposed investment in the plant, Mr. Lal said the company would finalise the amount during its board meeting in February next year.

New products

On new products, he said the company would launch two new models, based on

new engine platforms. "One model would be launched early next year and the other one in 2017," Mr. Lal said.

The company, which sells various popular models like Bullet, Classic, Thunderbird and Continental GT, also plans to expand its sales network in the country.

"By the end of the year, we plan to have 500 dealerships across India in a single unified retail identity," Mr. Lal said.—PTI