

# JSW to enter paints biz in mid-2018

FC BUREAU

*Mumbai*

THE Sajjan Jindal family is investing Rs 1,000 crore to build two factories to foray into the Asian Paints-dominated paints segment and is targeting an April 2018 launch, a senior official has said.

"We are planning to launch in April of next year. We have one factory coming up in Vijaynagar in Karnataka and one industrial line coming up in Vasind in Maharashtra," his son Parth Jindal, who is looking after the business, said.

He said JSW Paints is a fully family-owned entity and the two plants are coming up at an investment of Rs 1,000 crore, which will be funded through both

debt and equity.

Asian Paints is gaining market share every year in the paints segment and the family, which already runs JSW Steel and JSW Cement, looks at this as a lucrative business because of the complementarity, Jindal said.

"The paint industry is growing at 15 per cent every year. Asian Paints is gaining market share every year. It's an industry we are very excited about. We have the cement and steel distribution already in place. We have the opportunity to become the one stop solution where we can offer cement, steel and paint to consumer," he told reporters recently.

It will be both a business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer (B2C), he said.