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Testing capacity at IISER to increase to 500 per day

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PUNE: The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER Pune) has received a new RT-PCR machine for the Covid-19 testing centre on its campus, which will help increase the testing from 250 samples per day to 500.

“IISER Pune set up a testing centre on its campus on May 21 to conduct Covid-19 tests. As of August 15, it had tested close to 15,000 samples arriving from hospitals in and around Pune. However, as the pandemic spread the existing infrastructure for IISER became inadequate to meet the demand for testing. Its existing machines had a limited output, allowing only 250 tests to be conducted per day. To address the issue, the institute required the new Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) machines. ICICI Lombard has come forward to fund the procurement of an RT-PCR machine for IISER Pune and contributed Rs20 lakh for the same,” the IISER stated.

Sanjeev Galande, dean (R & D) at IISER Pune, said, “We at IISER Pune are committed to contributing towards the country’s effort in its fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. We are doing this by providing testing services and by using our expertise towards Covid-19-specific research projects.”