

PUDUCHERRY

## ICMR-Vector Control Research Centre sets up COVID-19 diagnostic lab



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An inside view of COVID-19 Testing Laboratory at the Vector Control Research Centre at Indira Nagar, Puducherry. S.S. Kumar | Photo



Credit: S. S. KUMAR

### **Facility to be managed by a set of technicians trained at Jipmer**

The ICMR-Vector Control Research Centre (VCRC) has set up a COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory to help the Government effort to build testing capacity for the viral infection in the region.

The lab with equipment including centrifuge and vortex for RTC-PCR testing has been established as bio safety level 3 (BSL-3) facility to be managed by a set of technicians trained at Jipmer.

”The laboratory was set up on a request from the government. A successful trial run has been completed and the lab should be up and running in a few days,” said Ashwani Kumar, VCRC Director.

”Our primary catchment would be samples from testing centres at Jipmer and IGMCRI. We also aim to cater to demand for tests in neighbouring regions of Villupuram and Cuddalore,” Dr. Ashwani Kumar said.