**CSIR-NEERI initiates to conduct COVID-19 tests**

New Delhi, 28 April (India Science Wire): CSIR-NEERI has come forward to shoulder the massive responsibility of taking up the COVID-19 testing. The Environmental Virology Cell (EVC), there has taken this challenge of helping the testing and diagnostic health care set-up at Nagpur. Dr Krishna Khairnar, Senior Scientist and Head at EVC, is coordinating the COVID-19 testing. Dr Rakesh Kumar, Director CSIR-NEERI had supported the fight against COVID-19 by providing valuable guidance and sponsorship as a Major Lab Project.

Dr Shekhar Mande, Director General, CSIR had been the key figure in ramping-up the CSIR labs throughout the country. CSIR-NEERI (Nagpur) had also been approved for conducting the COVID-19 testing. CSIR-NEERI has also been bestowed with a very important responsibility by Government of India for acting as a regional hub to facilitate capacity building and scaling up of testing facilities for COVID-19 in the region. (India Science Wire)