

JNU to develop portable and efficient PCR machine

Scientist led by Dr. Jaydeep Bhattacharya at School of Biotechnology, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi is developing a low-cost, portable and battery-operated polymerase chain reaction (PCR) machine to test coronavirus. According to JNU authorities, the device will save time of reaction and can complete testing in 50 minutes as compared 120-180 minutes taken by conventional method which is time consuming and expensive. Advantages of machine lies in its portable size, low cost, time efficiency for testing and simple training of personnel is needed in handling the device.



According to JNU, this technology will cost of Rs 60,000 to Rs 1 lakh as compared to conventional real-time PCR which costs around rupees 10-15 lakh. The prototype of the device can be expected within four months. The project is supported by the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a PSU under the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India.

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