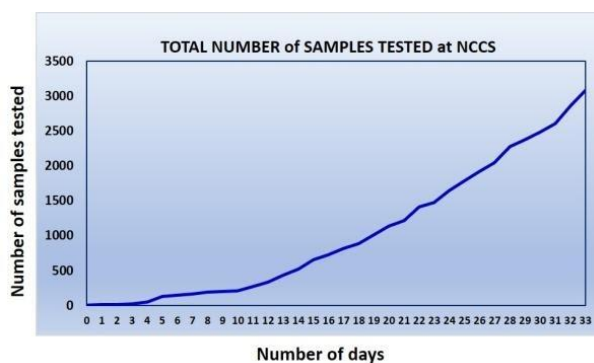


## DBT-NCCS tests over 1000 samples for COVID in under a week

The National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS) Pune, an autonomous institution of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, began testing samples for SARS-CoV-2 at the end of April 2020 to facilitate the ongoing COVID-19 surveillance. NCCS repurposed some of the laboratories to serve as a testing centre with extensive and speedy preparations made soon after it was approved as a diagnostics facility by the DBT, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Maharashtra State Government.



DBT-NCCS accelerates efforts & tests over 1000 samples for COVID in less than a week and over 3000 samples in just over a month

Initially, fewer samples were sent to this centre from within the Pune district of Maharashtra. However, with Maharashtra being the worst affected state in India, a large number of samples are required to be tested every day. Undaunted by this task, the team at Department of Biotechnology's NCCS accelerated and doubled its efforts, and is now testing over two hundred samples per day from other districts of Maharashtra as well.

NCCS tested over a thousand samples in less than a week recently, and has tested more than 3000 samples in a little over a month. The tireless and diligent efforts of scientists, technical and other staff have played a big role in this endeavour. A short video shared on the NCCS social media and website offers a glimpse into the activities of the diagnostics team.

Link: <https://www.nccs.res.in/index.php/Events/Covid>

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/ICgBoPiZNu4>

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