New Delhi, June 22: High quality sequencing of 45 COVID 19 genomes have been carried out as a joint research program of the Department of Biotechnology’s Institute of Life Sciences (DBT-ILS), Bhubaneswar (DBT-ILS) and Indian Council of Medical Research’s Regional Medical Research Centre (ICMR-RMRC), Bhubaneswar.

Genome sequencing, which determines the DNA of an organism will help in understanding the various pathotypes and shed light on the diversity and virulence of the strains. The obtained sequence information has been submitted to the Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Database. Dr Sunil Raghav of ILS and Dr Jyotirmayee Turuk of RMRC are leading this research from their respective institutes. In addition to this, blood samples of 45 COVID patients have been obtained from COVID hospitals in Odisha and are being processed for immune-profiling.

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