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## STATE GOVERNMENT REDUCING THE COST OF RT-PCR TEST IN PRIVATE LABORATORY

Deputy Chief Minister Nitinbhai Patel said that in view of the prevailing corona condition in the state, the state government decided to reduce the cost of testing after discussions with Chief Minister Vijaybhai Rupani to ensure that RT-PCR tests are conducted in private laboratories of corona patients. The charge for the sample taken from the internal hospital or at the patient's home is currently Rs. 1100 out of which Rs. 300 has been reduced to Rs. 500 and the charge for testing done in the laboratory is currently Rs. 200 out of which Rs. 100 reduced to Rs. It has been decided to do 200. The decision to reduce the price will have to be implemented by all the private laboratories in the state from 30.09.2021.

Giving details that RT-PCR and antigen tests are being done free of cost by the government laboratory of Gujarat regarding corona across the state, the Deputy Chief Minister added that on

19.08.2021, 4,611 tests of RT-PCR and 8,000 tests of antigen were received. A total of 1,3,411 tests have been performed so far while 20,8,8 tests for RT-PCR and 1,15,12,8 tests for antigen have been found.

Announcing the importance of providing oxygen facilities to the patients of Corona immediately, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the state government has also decided to set up PSA Medical Oxygen Generation Plant for the treatment of Kovid patients in 11 hospitals with a capacity of 3000 LPM at Civil Hospital, Ahmedabad. And Sola G.M.E.R.S. Hospital and Vadodara's Gotri GMERS. 1200 LPM at the hospital. As well as Patan's Dharpur GMERS. Hospital, Junagadh's GMERS. Hospital, General Hospital, Botad, Lunawada, Mehsana, Porbandar, Surendranagar and Veraval. It is planned in advance to set up a medical oxygen generation plant with a capacity of. This will save precious lives by providing oxygen to the patients of Corona.

Deputy Chief Minister Shri Nitinbhai Patel said that considering the current situation in Corona, the Health Department has taken an important decision to extend the term of Ma-Card till June 30, 2021 to help the citizens for health treatment.

Deputy Chief Minister Shri A added that the term of the mother card of the citizens has expired on 31.03.2021. Considering the current Corona situation for such citizens, it has been decided to extend the validity of Maa-card for another three months i.e. till 20.02.2021 which the citizens of the state are requested to take note of.

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