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Indigenous options available for AIDS diagnosis

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Indigenous options available for AIDS diagnosis



The kits for Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) have been developed indigenously by the Indian scientists in rapid and ELISA formats which are currently being manufactured and made available commercially by various companies viz., J. Mitra & Co, New Delhi; Span Diagnostics, Surat; Bhatt Biotech India, Bangalore and Qualpro Diagnostics, Goa.

Talking about the home made cheap alternatives, the union minister of science and technology and earth sciences, S.Jaipal Reddy recently stated in the Parliament, "The indigenous kits are currently available in the price range of Rs. 7.50 to Rs 45 per test as compared to the foreign kits which are available in the price range of Rs 15 to Rs 65 per test."

As per HIV estimation 2012, the total estimated number of people living with HIV in 2011 in India was 20,88642 (close to 21 lakh people). The Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) will be Rs 11394/ crore in the 12th Plan. Approximately Rs 7314.46 crore is allocated to be spent on HIV prevention and awareness during 12th Plan period.