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Market Watch

# Roche Diagnostics India first private firm to get COVID-19 test approval

BY PTI | MAR 18, 2020, 04:56 PM IST

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NEW DELHI: Swiss firm [Roche Diagnostics](#) India received the [license](#) for conducting [coronavirus](#) tests after approval from drug regulator [DCGI](#), making it the first private firm to get such permission after the government decided to allow accredited private labs to test for COVID-19.

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According to a senior official, the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) is now assessing giving license to another private diagnostic firm, bio rieux, which has also sought approval to conduct tests for coronavirus.

The official said two Indian diagnostic companies-- Triviron [Healthcare](#) and Mylab Discovery Solution-- have also sought approval from the DCGI for the coronavirus [testing](#) kits developed by them.

The Union health ministry had on Tuesday issued guidelines for private sector laboratories intending to initiate COVID-19 testing while appealing them to conduct the tests free of cost.

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