PUDUCHERRY: The central government has dispatched 1,555 samples from Madhya Pradesh to Puducherry in a special flight directing Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (Jipmer) to test the samples for Covid-19.

The special flight landed Puducherry airport on Friday afternoon and the samples were transferred to an ambulance following the necessary protocol and were taken to Jipmer.

Jipmer is one of the institutions in the country authorized by the Union government to conduct Covid-19 test. The institute can test a maximum of 90 samples in a batch. Each test takes on an average of six hours.

The institute has screened 17,133 patients and has performed real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) tests on 1,929 patients since March 23.