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Vale brings to Brazil 5 million test kits in humanitarian aid to fight the new coronavirus

The company will also acquire protective equipment for individuals, such as gloves and masks, for health professionals

Vale has closed the purchase of 5 million new coronavirus (Covid-19) rapid test kits to help the Brazilian government combat the spread of the illness in the country.

The tests, which can provide results in just 15 minutes, were purchased from China and will be delivered to the Brazilian government.

The first shipment of 1 million kits is estimated to be delivered by the supplier to Vale in China next Friday, March 27th. They will arrive in Brazil in the beginning of the following week. The remaining 4 million are expected to be delivered by the Chinese supplier by mid-April. The amount of test kits purchased by Vale represents half of the needs estimated by the Brazilian Ministry of Health at the moment.

"Vale offers this humanitarian help to Brazilian society in a moment which the country unites for the health and safety of its people. We are making use of our logistics network in Asia to bring equipment to Brazil that may make a difference in the lives of people", said Vale CEO Eduardo Bartolomeo.

The company is also purchasing from its Chinese suppliers personal protective equipment such as goggles, gloves, and masks for doctors and nurses. The material will also be delivered to the federal government. Vale and China have a long term partnership, developed more than 40 years ago.

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