In view of the COVID-19 outbreak following precautions need to be adopted for smooth operations of Decentralized Wastewater Treatment System (DWWTs)

In addition to the regular O&M instructions of DWWTs

- Use personal protective equipment during regular operational and maintenance activities of the plant.
- Ensure adequate water level in Planted Gravel Filter (PGF) bed to sustain plants and to avoid re-commissioning of system.
- Prohibit Visitor’s entry within the plant’s premises.

Things to keep in mind before visiting the plant.

- Wear full sleeve clothes to cover the body.
- Ensure to have all the PPEs like Gloves, mask, jacket, gum boots, face shield or safety goggles etc.
- Ensure to keep sanitizer
- Use bandage for any kind of cut or wound to prevent its contact with the wastewater.
- In case of cold or flu symptoms, immediately consult a doctor and avoid visiting the site.
- Wash your hands properly with soap at least for 20 seconds.

Things to keep in mind during the plant operations

- Do not touch unnecessary things.
- Sanitize your hands properly, before and after touching any object.
- Wear proper PPEs (gloves, mask, jacket and face shield or safety goggles) during the work.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with your hands.
- Avoid consuming food at site.
- DO not smoke and spit at site.
- Use waterproof gloves to avoid cuts or wounds coming in contact with wastewater.
- Maintain a minimum safe distance of 1 m with your colleagues at site.
- Use lime powder as a disinfectant in case of spillage or leakage of wastewater at site.

Things to keep in mind after plant operations

- Used equipments to be sanitized or fumigated properly before keeping it back.
- Dispose off masks and gloves at designated bin, in case of reuse, wash with warm water and sun dry.
- Sanitize gum boots, helmet and safety goggles after every use.
- Sanitize phone, purse etc daily.
- Wash your hands properly with soap at least for 20 seconds.
- Keep used clothes separately for washing and don’t mix with other clothes.
- Ensure to take bath after returning from workplace.
- Wash used PPEs and clothes using 0.05% chlorine solution and sun dry.

Note: Routinely consult a doctor and as per recommendations, ensure to take vitamin supplements and vaccinations of Polio, typhoid fever, hepatitis A, hepatitis B etc.

References: MoHUA and CDC guidelines