Handwashing campaigns in 1224 quarantine centres of Sitamarhi

To engage migrant workers that have returned from other States to Sitamarhi District in Bihar, handwashing campaigns have been held, the activity contributing to making people aware of the proper techniques of handwashing to protect themselves from the spread of coronavirus infection.

“Handwashing is a key tool in fighting against Coronavirus and we felt it was important to create awareness about the need and benefits of frequently handwashing with soap and water for about 20 seconds each time,” District Magistrate-Sitamarhi, Ms. Abhilasha said.

The DM added that as many as 1224 quarantine centres have been set up across the district to meet the needs of the people returning from other states. The activities are being overseen by the District Sanitation Team, Team Swachh Bharat and the Piramal Foundation.

Currently, 16,478 individuals have been housed in various centres. Further, to ensure that their immediate needs are met, the district sanitation team with support from the State Government has given each of them a kit comprising of a set of clothes (separate for men
and women), items needed for washing and bathing such as a bucket, mug, hand sanitizers, sanitary napkins (a part of dignity kit for women), face masks, bathing soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap for washing clothes, hair oil, mosquito net, bedsheet, as also plate and glass. Besides, all three meals are served to them.

Additionally, drinking water has been organised in all the camps and one toilet unit for every 2-3 persons. Two persons are assigned to a room and they are advised to maintain proper social distancing.

The district administration hopes that the quarantine stay of migrant workers will be comfortable and serve as a restful period before they move on to their homes or places of work.

Meanwhile, SHG and Jeevika women along with migrant works have been making reusable cotton designer masks, cloth bags, T-Shirts. While providing for the current COVID-19 needs, the activity is helping to enhance their skills and provide an alternative source of livelihood.