I have been writing about the different activities formulated and implemented by various districts missions in addition to the activities implemented in the state level during covid-19 in ‘Through the districts’ section of this article series. Hope you have read about the activities implemented by Pathanamthitta district yesterday (Making an Impact -263). Today we will explain about the special activities implemented by Idukki district.

Idukki’s excellence
In Idukki, there are 54 CDSs (Community Development Societies- Panchayath level federation of NHGs) which has 15,974 NHGs. 1,64,323 women are members of these NHGs.

1. Tuber cultivation extension week
Tuber cultivation extension week is the special activity formulated and implemented by the district team for making use of the geographical peculiarities of Idukki district for cultivating tuber crops. The programme aims at cultivating tuber crops in every available land and fallow land owned by Kudumbashree families in the district. It is also aimed to be prepared to avoid the food scarcity, which may occur if the lock down will be extended further. The farming groups and NHG members became part of this programme and cultivated tapioca, colocasia, purple yam, lesser yam etc. Those who didn’t have own land cultivated the crops in the sacks filled with soil. NHG members arranged the seeds and fertilizers on their own. A competition for sharing the folklores related to agriculture was organised through whatsapp groups formed in the block level. NHG members have wholeheartedly welcomed this competition. ‘Adukalathottam’ challenge was also organised for Kudumbashree NHGs for
The competitions were organised during 27 to 29 of April. 150 children participated in the competition. Mankulam Ashika Paul (Sister Lini) bagged the first prize. Ashlin Paul (Mother Theresa) bagged second prize and Anagha Murali (Madhavikutty) bagged third prize.

4. PSC even during lock down; students continues their training

The youth from Vattavada who have been pursuing PSC coaching in the district with the help of Kudumbashree is continuing their training even during lock down. The 15 beneficiaries who had been studying in the PSC coaching centre functioning at the Grameen Vigyan Kendra at Vattavada is continuing their training through Whatsapp, even though their training centre was closed due to lock down. The trainers of the KMG Trust who runs PSC coaching centre at Vandiperiyar is training the students of Vigyan Kendra. The classes are given through video class.

All facilities were arranged for this at the Grameen Vigyan Kendra at Vattavada. The classes were given four days a week. In addition, books are made available to the students from the Abhimanyu Memoroal Library which functions at Panchayath building. The beneficiaries include 11 girls and 4 boys who had completed their graduation. As the lock down was notified, arrangements were made to continue the classes through Whatsapp under the leadership of Snehitha Gender Help Desk. Whatsapp group was formed by including all the students. The lessons were shared as per the schedule through these Whatsapp groups. Tests were also conducted, the marks were reviewed and the study/ training activities were continued.

Idukki is moving forward with the activities formulated according to the specialities of the district. May the district team and NHG members be able to continue these activities at its best.