Our district teams are moving forward by making use of the lock down period by trying to make developments in the agriculture sector through NHGs. After the announcement of lockdown, various district missions formulated and implemented activities for engaging NHG members in farming. The aim is to motivate each and every family towards self sustainability. Also, as a collective, this will be step towards ensuring food security. District Missions introduced these programmes as competitions in the form of different challenges. In today’s article we will highlight these challenges offered by the various district missions.

**Thiruvananthapuram:**
Kitchen Garden Challenge & Micro Green Challenge Cookery Show-
The District Mission offered the challenge of setting up a kitchen garden which includes five types of vegetables for NHG women. They also organised a competition for cooking a dish using the micro greens produced at home.

**Pathanamthitta:**
Agri Campaign-
The main aim of the agri competition, which was implemented in the name ‘Ente Krushi, Ente Arogyam Oppam Ningaludeyum’ (My farming, My Health, Also yours) was to create homes self sustainable in organic farming. The NHG members were directed to cultivate at least 5 types of crops following the organic farming model in their courtyards.
Idukki: Kitchen Garden Challenge-
This programme was implemented to make the NHG members active in farming and for producing the needed vegetables from the courtyards itself, thereby helping them attain contentment and stay energetic. The condition was to do farming in at least one cent of land.

Ernakulam: Vegetable Farming Challenge-
The NHG members who are part of the farming groups in the district could participate in this competition. They mainly cultivated crops such as spinach, brinjal, ladys finger and bitter gourd. In addition grow bag preparation and cultivation, terrace farming, micro green vegetable farming was also done.

Thrissur: Vishukaineetam-
In addition to the competition to set up a kitchen garden, the vegetables produced by the farming groups in the district were procured and were given to the scheduled tribe families as ‘Vishukaineetam’.

Palakkad: Vegetable Farming Challenge-
The Kitchen Garden Challenge was presented in the name ‘Namuk Nadaam, Namuk Nedaam’ (Let’s sow and Let’s achieve). The challenge was to cultivate at least 5 types of crops in minimum one cent of land following organic farming model.

Malappuram: Micro Green Challenge and Mobile Unit-
The district team organised a competition to produce micro green saplings. In addition, a mobile unit was set up to deliver the vegetables produced by the farming groups.

Kozhikode: Micro Green Challenge Cookery Show and Vegetable farming challenge-
The Vegetable Farming and Micro Green Challenge Cookery Show was organised in the name ‘Arogya Keralam, Janadhipathya Kudumbam, Visha Rahitha Bhaksanam’ (Healthy Kerala, Democratic Family, Poison Free Food). In the cooking competition, the participants had to cook a dish using the micro green, which is germinated using vegetable seeds. The vegetable farming challenge was in organic farming model.

Kannur: Micro Green Challenge-
The Micro Green Agri Challenge was organised in the name ‘Ellarum Nadunnu’ (Everyone is sowing). The competition was to cultivate micro greens which contain minerals and proteins.

Kasaragod: Agri Campaign-
The agri challenge was introduced in the name ‘Vithum Kaikottum’. The challenge was for the NHG members to set up Kitchen Garden in their courtyards or at terraces of their houses. Likewise, various challenges floated by each district mission for the NHG members during lockdown focusing on the agricultural sector has created a new energy in this sector. We are happy that through these challenges we were able to elevate the NHG members to lead a culture where the vegetables needed to the households are cultivated by themselves.