



सत्यमेव जयते



Annual Report 2020-21

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION & FARMERS' WELFARE

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare
Government of India
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
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Chapter 6

National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) /National Bee Board (NBB)

6.1 Beekeeping:

Beekeeping is an agro-based activity which is being undertaken by farmers/ landless labourers in rural areas as a part of Integrated Farming Systems (IFS). Beekeeping has been useful in pollination of crops, thereby, increasing income of the farmers/beekeepers by way of increasing crop yield, providing honey and other high value beehive products, viz.; bees wax, bee pollen, propolis royal jelly, bee venom, etc., that serve as a source of livelihood for the rural poor. The diversified agro climatic conditions of India provide great potential and opportunities for beekeeping/ honey production and export of honey.

6.2 Schemes of DAC&FW for promotion of Beekeeping:

A. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH):

Keeping in view its' importance, beekeeping is being promoted by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India under the component of “**Pollination Support through Beekeeping**” under **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)**. The scheme is being implemented by the Departments of Horticulture/Agriculture of the State Governments. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for production of quality nucleus stock, production of bee colonies by bee breeders, distribution

of honey bee colonies, beehives, supers etc. and beekeeping equipments. Similarly, assistance for organising trainings/ exposure visits of the farmers/ beekeepers, seminars/ workshops etc. is also provided under the scheme. Beekeeping is also being promoted under RKVY & other schemes of DAC&FW. NBB is one of the National Level Agencies (NLAs) under MIDH.

B. National Beekeeping & Honey Mission(NBHM):

Govt. of India also approved a new Central Sector Scheme entitled “**National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM)**” with a total budget outlay of Rs.300.00 crores for 2 years (2018-19 to 2019-20) for overall promotion and development of scientific beekeeping in mission mode to achieve the goal of “**Sweet Revolution**” in the country by implementing 3 Mini Missions (MMs)-MM-I, MM-II & MM-III under which thrust will be given on awareness, capacity building/ training, focus on women empowerment through beekeeping, setting up of requisite infrastructural facilities, viz.;Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres(IBDCs), Honeybees Disease Diagnostic Labs, Setting up of/ upgradation of Honey Testing labs, Beekeeping Equipment Manufacturing Units, Custom Hiring Centres, Api therapy Centres, Development of Quality Nucleus Stock Centres & Bee Breeders,

etc., Digitization/online registration, etc. under MM-I, processing, value addition, market support, etc. under MM-II and R&D under MM-III. An amount of Rs. 25.00 crores was released under NBHM during 2019-20.

NBHM has been revised & approved by the Govt. of India for its continuation for a further period of 3 years (2020-21 to 2022-23) for Rs. 500.00 crores allotted under Aatma Nirbhar Bharat. NBHM will be implemented through the National Bee Board (NBB). An amount of Rs. 150.00 crores has been allotted under NBHM for the year 2020-21.

C. National Bee Board(NBB):

The National Bee Board (NBB), a registered society under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 (19th July, 2000) was reconstituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (A&C) in June, 2006. About 700 Beekeepers/ Beekeeping societies/firms/companies etc. are the permanent members of the National Bee Board. The main objective of NBB is overall development & promotion of scientific beekeeping in the country to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase honey production for increasing the income of the beekeepers/farmers. NBB has been designated/recognised as the Nodal Agency for overall development/promotion of scientific beekeeping in the country.

6.3. Main activities implemented by NBB under NBHM during 2020-21:

Details of the main activities implemented during the year 2020-21 under NBHM, as on date, are given as under:

A. Quality Control in Honey:

- i. Two world class State of the Art Honey Testing Labs, one at NDDDB, Anand, Gujarat & one at IIHR, Bengaluru, Karnataka, have been approved/ set up. The lab at Anand has been accredited by NABL and has been inaugurated by Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India on **24th July, 2020**. Now the lab has started testing of honey samples for all the parameters notified by FSSAI;
- ii. In addition to implementation of 15 parameters of honey standards, orders for implementation of standards/ tests of **SMR** and **Foreign Oligosaccharides**, which were previously deleted, **have also been issued by FSSAI**.
- iii. Proposal for **developing Traceability Source of Honey and other Beehive Products** has been approved and work initiated/ started. This will help in controlling adulteration in honey & other beehive products.

B. Human Resource Development/Capacity Building/ Awareness Programmes:

- i. **Trainings and Exposure Visits:** 4 trainings including, 2 physical & 2 online trainings of farmers/ beekeepers in scientific beekeeping were organized in which >100 farmers/ beekeepers have been trained during 2020-21.

C. Seminars/ Webinars on Beekeeping:

- i. One 2 days District Level Seminar on scientific beekeeping in the State of Uttar Pradesh has been conducted during 2020-21 in which >250 farmers/ beekeepers/ stake holders participated.
- ii. Six rounds of Meetings/ VCs were organized with the stakeholders viz.; concerned Ministries/ Departments/

National Level Agencies, State Govts., Central & State Agril. Universities, etc. to discuss the details of scheme (NBHM) and popularize the scheme.

- iii. Two rounds of Meetings /Webinars to discuss the details of NBHM & implementation of honey standards with honey processors/ exporters & regulatory authorities organized.
- iv. 1 Webinar conducted in coordination with Dr. YSR Horticulture University on Apiculture in Andhra Pradesh.
- v. Awareness programme/ Webinar on Beekeeping organized in coordination with Agriculture Information Vadamalai Media Group, Bangalore for the farmers/ beekeepers of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, etc.
- vi. A Webinar to discuss the details of proposals received from State Govts. /CAUs/SAUs /Central Organizations, etc. has been organized on 04.12.2020 in which about 75 officials participated.
- vii. Meeting/ VC with the stakeholders viz.; concerned Ministries/ Departments/ National Level Agencies/ Organizations to discuss the details of scheme (NBHM), etc. organized on 22.12.2020.

D. Induction of members:

25 new Beekeepers/ Societies/ Firms/ Companies/ Institutions/ organizations/ Departments/ Agencies, etc. have been inducted as member of NBB during 2019-20.

E. Registration of Beekeepers/ Beekeeping & Honey Societies/ Firms/ Companies involved in Beekeeping:

600 beekeepers/ societies/ firms/

companies with about 1.00 lakhs honeybee colonies have been registered with NBB till December, 2021. Insurance cover of Rs. 1.00 lakh is also given to registered beekeepers by NBB.

F. Formation of FPOs in 2020-21:

5 FPOs of beekeeper/honey producers in the States of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan & West Bengal have been formed and launched by Hon'ble Minister of Agri. & FW on 26.11.2020.

G. Project Proposals approved under NBHM during 2020-21:

Executive Committee (EC), NBHM, in its meeting held on 14.12.2020, has considered & approved **11 project proposals**, recommended by PAC, for total assistance of **Rs. 2560.21 lakhs** for funding under NBHM. These proposals relates to Awareness/ Seminars & Capacity Building in scientific beekeeping, Empowerment of Women through beekeeping, Technology Demonstrations on Impact of Honeybees on yield enhancement & quality improvements of Agril./Hortl. Produce, Distribution of specialized Beekeeping equipments for production of high value products, viz. Royal Jelly, Bee Venom, Comb Honey, etc., Setting up honey testing lab, honey processing & bottling plant, Api-therapy centre, Bee disease diagnostic lab, Studies on exploring potential of High Altitude Honey, Production of special honey in Kannauj & Hathras Distts. of UP and Use of mustard honey to cure colon cancer, Developing Traceability Source of Honey and other Beehive Products for Rs. 35.00 lakhs etc.

6.4 Main achievements of NBB in beekeeping/ honey production since its

inception in DAC&FW/ during the last 14 years (2006-07 to 2019-20)

The main achievements of NBB in beekeeping/ honey production during the last 14 years (2006-07 to 2019-20) are summarized as under:-

- **Honey production** has increased from 35,000 MTs (2005-06) to 1,20,000 MTs (2018-19) which is **242.86% increase**. Honey production has been estimated 1,15,000 MTs in 2019-20.
- **Export of honey** has increased from 16,769 MTs (2005-06) to 61333.91 MTs (2018-19) which is a **265.76% increase**. 59536.74 MTs of honey exported in 2019-20.
- Honey bee colonies have increased from about 8.00 lakhs in 2005-06 to 36.00 lakhs in 2019-20.
- Four training modules, viz.; (i) basic training on beekeeping (ii) training on scientific beekeeping (iii) training on post-harvest management, processing, etc. & (iv) training on production of high value beehive products viz.; royal jelly, pollen, propolis, bee venom, bees wax, bee bread, etc. prepared & circulated to all the stakeholders including ICAR, SAUs, State Govts., KVIC, etc. for training in beekeeping.
- **>30,000 farmers/beekeepers** have been trained in scientific beekeeping including production of high value beehive products, viz.; bee pollen, propolis, royal jelly, bee venom, etc.
- **>30 Bee Breeders** have been developed for multiplication/ production of **quality honeybee colonies** along with queens for providing to the trained farmers/ beekeepers. Each bee breeder produces at least 2000 bee colonies every year.
- **10,000 Beekeepers/Beekeeping & Honey Societies/Firms/Companies** with **16.00 lakh honeybee colonies** have been registered with NBB.
- **16 Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres (IBDCs)** as role model for beekeeping have been commissioned, one each in the States of Haryana, Delhi, Bihar, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and UT of Jammu & Kashmir
- **35 Issues** of Quarterly Magazine **“Bee World”** containing information on scientific beekeeping and other related issues published.
- Have prepared & got approved projects under RKVY and other schemes of DAC&FW. Two types of project proposals/ models: **(i) Model-I:-** For adoption of scientific beekeeping by farmer as an enterprise; and **(ii) Model-II:-** Providing pollination support by beekeepers/beekeeping entrepreneurs on custom hiring basis for promoting scientific beekeeping under RKVY, NFSM & other schemes of DAC&FW .
- **Advisories on Good Beekeeping Practices (GBPs)** published & circulated to all State Govts. & concerned agencies/ stakeholders.
- Technically feasible and economically viable scheme for overall promotion & development of scientific beekeeping & adoption by the farmers/ beekeepers under

- NHM/HMNEH/MIDH/RKVY/NFSM, etc. prepared and got approved under these schemes.
- Projects for **Integrated Development of Scientific Beekeeping (IDSB)** on cluster/ area/ District development approach for enhancing crop productivity & income of farmers/ beekeepers and generating employment in rural areas formulated/implemented.
 - Designed technical standards for food grade plastic containers for storing honey, which helped in minimizing the problem of presence of lead in honey.
 - **Standards of Honey, Bees Wax & Royal Jelly notified by FSSAI.**
 - Prepared 5 year Vision Document for overall development of beekeeping.
 - Requested Ministry of Finance and NABARD for instructing the financial institutions for financing beekeeping activities by providing credit limits /Kisan Credit Cards etc. In pursuance to this, NABARD has already directed all commercial banks to finance beekeeping on a priority basis.
 - Awareness created about role of honeybees/beekeeping in pollination support of various crops.
 - Beekeeping/honeybee has been recognized/ incorporated as an input in agriculture under various schemes of this Department (RKVY, NFSM, MIDH, etc.).
 - Convinced NDDDB/GCMMF/ Dairy Cooperative System for beekeeping and marketing of honey to explore the possibilities for utilizing milk routes/ NDDDB's infrastructure/ cooperative network in the field.
 - **Safal Brand of Honey** launched by Mother Dairy under technical guidance/advice & support of NBB and honey is being sold at Safal Outlets in NCR.
 - **150** officials / representatives / members / farmers of Banas Dairy Union and Kolhapur Dairy Cooperative trained in beekeeping by NBB. Trained farmers/beekeepers have started beekeeping.
 - **Banas Brand of Honey** launched by the Hon'ble Minister on 10th December, 2016 at Palanpur, Gujarat.
 - Setting up of **Honey Testing Lab by NDDDB** in Anand.
 - Participated in various Horti/Agro Expos and disseminated information on scientific beekeeping. Last years, NBB participated in **Krishi Unnati Mela, 2016 & 2018** and demonstrated world class State of the Art technologies on scientific beekeeping for which **NBB was awarded (First Award- in 2016) & appreciated by Hon'ble PM in 2018.**
 - Formulated National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM)- a new central sector scheme.
 - **Beekeeping Development Committee (BDC):**
 - ❖ In pursuance of NBB, a **Beekeeping Development Committee (BDC)** under the Chairmanship of Dr. Bibek Debroy, Chairman EAC to PM was constituted with seven members, including ED, NBB to take the lead in pro-

moting & coordinating activities involved in the Beekeeping Industry so that **“Sweet /Golden Revolution”** in the country may be achieved.

- ❖ Draft report alongwith input was prepared & given by NBB to BDC.

Report was submitted by the Chairman, **BDC to Hon’ble PM**. BDC Report was released by the **Hon’ble Minister of Agri. & FW**, Govt. of India on 28.01.2020 at Ahmadabad, Gujarat. Report is placed on the public portal.

A. Inauguration of Honey Testing Lab at NDDDB, Anand, Gujarat by Hon’ble Minister of Agriculture & Famers Welfare, Govt. of India on 24th July, 2020



B. Virtual launching of Formation and Promotion of FPOs of Beekeepers/Honey Producers of the Districts of Morena, MP, Mathura (UP) Bharatpur (Rajasthan) East Champaran (Bihar) and Sundarban (West Bengal) by Hon'ble Union Minister of Agri. &FW held on 26.11.2020 in Krishi Bhawan



C. Two days State Level Seminar on scientific beekeeping at Sevapuri, Varanasi, UP from 22.10.2020 to 23.10.2020


