

**F.No. 5-5/2017-NBB (Pt.1)**  
**National Bee Board**  
**Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare**

**Minutes of the Meeting to discuss the issues of involvement and empowerment of women through beekeeping and strategy for implementation of activity under proposed National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM) held on 28.05.2018 at 11.30 A.M.**

A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Jalaj Shrivastava, Additional Secretary, DAC&FW and Chairman, Managing Committee, National Bee Board (NBB) and Vice Chairman, NBB, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) in Committee Room No. 142, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi at 11.30 A.M. on 28.05.2018 on the subject. The list of participants is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

2. The Chairman while welcoming the participants briefed about the purpose of the meeting and asked Dr. B.L.Sarswat, ED, NBB to present the details of the component of involvement and empowerment of women through beekeeping under the proposed new scheme of National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM). Accordingly, ED, NBB presented the details of the scheme and component of empowerment of women through beekeeping. The details of Nos. of groups/Nos. of women in each group proposed to be covered during two years period of the scheme (2018-19 & 2019-20) with financial allocations, etc. were presented. The economics of beekeeping based on Apis-mellifera honeybee and Apis-cerana for both types of beekeeping, (stationery and migratory), were also presented.

3. The Chairman mentioned that there is need to facilitate the women groups by way of aggregation of honey & making on-the-spot payments, after getting its quality tested by the traders/processors/societies, etc. The local youth may be involved in aggregation/collection, trading, etc. For making on the spot payments, tie up with the local Regional Rural Banks/Commercial Banks, etc. may be made. Mode of payment may be Paytm/BHIM/RTGS, etc. A strategy for developing corpus may also be made. The Government Organisations/NGOs/Societies/Cooperatives/FICCI Lady Organisation and others may be involved in implementation. Honey and other beehive products should be listed/incorporated under eNAM.

4. The Chairman requested the participants for their suggestions for effective & smooth implementation of the scheme in the field to make it successful. The following issues were discussed and suggested by the participants of the meeting:

- i) To ensure quality production and fetching remunerative prices, the implementation of the scheme should be supervised and monitored by the organisations involved in trainings/implementation of scheme in the field.

- ii) It may not be possible to test all quality parameters on the spot for honey/other beehive products. The Trainings/awareness/monitoring of the project is one of the best ways to ensure quality.
- iii) To ensure remunerative prices and create confidence among the group, there may be MoU between the organisation/society/agency and women groups for procurement of honey and other beehive products.
- iv) The incubation hub/collection centres may be set up at block/tahsil/district level to facilitate groups, in all respect.
- v) Minimum no. of women in a group should be 25.
- vi) Area-wise/region-wise floral charts/maps may be developed to facilitate the migration of honey bee colonies to minimise the dearth period and enhance the productivity of apiaries/honeybee colonies.
- vii) Availability of bee flora for maximum period in the area should be kept in mind while selecting the area/women groups under the scheme.
- viii) The production of high value beehive products viz.; propolis, bees wax, bee venom, royal jelly, bee pollen, etc. in lean/dearth period may be promoted.
- vii) Geo tagging of villages/crop area may be used to identify bee friendly flora in the area.
- viii) Efforts may be made to promote bee friendly flora in barren/fallow lands of Gram Panchayats/Forest/Roadside lands, etc.
- ix) Developing brands for mono floral honey for direct retailing of the product by women groups as well as by traders/processors.

5. The representative of Indian Farm Forestry Development Cooperative Limited (IIFDC) promoted by IFFCO mentioned the following :-

- a) IIFDC has 275 groups of tribal women with about 12000 women members to promote plantation and other economic activities.
- b) Each women group consists of 2-3 Self Help Groups (SHGs), each having 10-12 women. These groups are in four States, viz.; Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.
- c) 25-30 women are in one village and about 50-70 villages are covered in a State.
- d) A group of 30 tribal women from Uttar Pradesh were trained in beekeeping with the help of NBB and they have started beekeeping.

6. The other participants/representatives of Member Societies of NBB also informed that they are associated with some women groups in Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh.
7. The Chairman asked IIFDC to identify only those groups which are having 25 or more women and about 3000 women in four States, may be identified for their involvement in beekeeping.
8. After detailed discussions, the following decisions were taken:-
  - i) A pilot project including complete structure, as discussed above, for implementation of the activity/empowerment of women through beekeeping for Rae Bareilly district of Uttar Pradesh, may be developed by Ms. Kanupriya and submitted before the second meeting on the subject i.e, tentatively on **14<sup>th</sup> June, 2018**.
  - ii) The details of women cooperative societies, area/district/state-wise, along with activities being performed by these women cooperatives may be made available by IIFDC to NBB immediately, particularly a list of societies/groups located in the area which are more suitable for beekeeping.
  - iii) Horticulture Division may provide district/state-wise details of horticultural crops including fruits, vegetables, etc. promoted/covered under NHM/HMNEH/MIDH schemes to develop floral charts/maps.
  - iv) Honey and other beehive products should be listed/incorporated under eNAM.
7. The Chairman also mentioned that all important decisions/minutes may be uploaded on NBB's website. NIC may be asked to link NBB website with DAC&FW's website.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**F.No. 5-5/2017-NBB (Pt.1)**  
**National Bee Board**  
**Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare**  
**Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**  
**Govt. of India**

**Annexure-I**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE MEETING HELD AT 11.30 A.M. ON 28/05/2018**

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Name of the participants</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Contact Nos.</b>
1.	Shri Jalaj Shrivastava	Additional Secretary, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	Chairman
2.	Dr. B.L.Sarswat	ED, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	9868824532
3.	Shri Kedar Nath Verma	DS(MIDH), DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	8447828815
4.	Dr. N.K.Patle	DC(Horti.), DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	
5.	Shri Sanjay Kumar	DC (Horti.), MIDH, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	011-23382480
6.	Dr. S.S.Tomar	ADC (Crops), DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	011-23387175
7.	Ms. Kanupriya Saigal	N-116, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Panchsheel Park, New Delhi.	8447089111
8.	Shri Devvrat Sharma	Hi-tech Natural Products India (Pvt.) Ltd. Dilshad Garden, Delhi.	9711730876
9.	Shri Jaidev Singh	47-A, Satyam Enclave, Delhi-110095.	9810268758
10.	Shri S.P.Singh	IFFDC, IFFCO Colony, Sector 17-B, Gurugram.	9910057238
11.	Dr. Pooja Singh	Consultant, NBB, DAC&FW	011-23382226