

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

Minutes of the Meeting to discuss the strategy for implementation of project for empowerment of women through beekeeping held on 12.07.2018 at 11.00 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 his chamber, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi at 11.00 A.M. on 12.7.2018 on the subject. The list of participants is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

2. The Chairman welcomed the participants and asked ED, NBB to present the brief on Action Taken Report (ATR) for the decisions taken in the previous meetings on the subject. Accordingly, ED, NBB summarized the ATR. Among others, he mentioned that the requisite information, viz.; details of Women Cooperative Societies, Area/District/ State-wise, along with activities to be performed by Women Cooperatives developed by Indian Farm Forestry Development Cooperative (IFFDC) is awaited. Similarly, the list of Women Groups developed by Beepositive, FLO and FICCI others are also awaited. These details are required and will be useful for starting the pilot project with these existing Women Groups/Cooperative Societies.

3. Details of the Project along with strategy to be followed for their implementation in the field, were also presented by concerned organisations (Beepositive and Swati Enterprises in association with Akhil Bhartiya Vikas Sansthan).

Swati Enterprises : The representative of Swati Enterprises presented the details of the project including project objectives, strategy for implementation/management, responsibilities of the partners, economics of the project, etc. He mentioned that the organisation will initially cover Jharkhand and West Bengal States under the project.

Beepositive : The representative of Beepositive also presented details of the project highlighting the challenges in the sector, strategy for implementation of the project, developing logistic support, incubator hubs on the pattern of Amul/Dairy Cooperatives, linkages with APMCs, Barcoding of the product, economics of the project, etc. and mentioned that at initial stage, the organisation will start from Uttarakhand and Bihar.

4. ED, NBB mentioned that in the States of Bihar and Uttarakhand, NBB has already funded projects of IBDC/CoE on Beekeeping under which most of the facilities, viz.; beehives & beekeeping equipment manufacturing unit, quality nucleus stock development, bee breeding, collection centre, honey processing unit, quality testing lab, bee disease diagnostic labs, etc., are covered in the project. These infrastructure/facilities may be linked/ utilized under project of empowerment of women through beekeeping. He mentioned that in Bihar, an IBDC/CoE has been set up in KVK, Piprakothe, East Champaran under Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (RCAU). He also informed that in a village (Mehisi) in the district, majority of the families are practicing beekeeping. Women Groups in Mehisi may be promoted/developed. The village is 10-15 kms. far from the IBDC/KVK, Piprakothe. It was also pointed out that there should be proper arrangements for marketing of the products & facilitation

to the women groups in all respect. In Uttarakhand, IBDC/CoE has been with the G.B.PUA&T, Pantnagar & KVK, Dakrani, Dehradun.

4. After detailed discussions, the following suggestions were made for implementation of the project:-

A) Objectives of the Project : In addition to the objectives mentioned in the projects presented in the meeting, the following objectives may also be added:

- i) Ensuring livelihood of the women/members of Group/Society;
- ii) To create rural employment;
- iii) To ensure nutritional security by including beehive products in Mid Day Meal Scheme, National Nutrition Mission (NNM) and other programmes of the Government;
- iv) To develop rural skilling;
- v) Increasing overall farm productivity through pollination;
- vi) Sustainable development of agriculture/horticulture; and
- vii) Maintaining bio-diversity in the area.

B) Project Management : The following changes/suggestions to be incorporated in the project:

- i) The National Bee Board will be the Technical Partner not the financial partner. NABARD/Banks/financial institutions should be the financial partners;
- ii) Developing & proper management for infrastructure, value addition and marketing;
- iii) Monitoring and control by implementing agencies and NBB, for quality control. The FSSAI, AYUSH and MoFPI, etc. may be involved for quality control, processing, etc.;
- iv) Coordination with the Ministries of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), M/o Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), M/o Women & Child Development (W&CD), Human Resource Development (HRD), DoNER, Environment, Forest and Climate Change (EF&CC), Food Processing & Industries (MoFPI), AYUSH, FSSAI and TRIFED, etc. for effective and smooth implementation & management of the project/activities may also be made.

5. The Chairman mentioned that minimum number of bee colonies/beehives in a Group should be 500 and the efforts may be made to make SHGs/Groups/Societies of the size of 25 members. The organisations like Amul/Dairy Cooperatives/Federations, Monte Agro, etc. may be approached and possibilities for using their network/infrastructure under the project may be explored. Possibilities for promotion of stingless bees in the area may also be explored.

6. After details discussions, the following decisions were taken in the Meeting:-

- i) Both the organisations (Swati Enterprises and Beepositive) should submit the final project report/DPR by incorporating the suggestions made in para 4 above.
- ii) The size of women groups/SHGs/Cooperatives should be 25 and number of bee colonies/beehives may be kept at least minimum 500 per group.
- iii) Women Groups/Societies proposed to be developed under the project should be linked with the IBDCs/CoEs developed/being developed by NBB in the States to get full use of the facilities, viz.; KVK, Piprakothi, Samastipur, Bihar, G.B.Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar (PUA&T) & KVK, Dakrani, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture (CISH), Malda, West Bengal and other States.
- iv) Possibilities may be explored to use the network/infrastructure of organizations, viz.; Amul, Ayush, Monte Agro, TRIFED and other concerned Ministries, etc.

- v) Possibilities may be explored for promotion and development of stingless bees in the project areas.
- vi) Coordination with the Ministries of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), M/o Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), M/o Women & Child Development (W&CD), Human Resource Development (HRD), DoNER, Environment, Forest and Climate Change (EF&CC), Food Processing & Industries (MoFPI), AYUSH, FSSAI and TRIFED, etc. for effective and smooth implementation & management of the project/activities may also be made
- vii) As decided in the previous meetings, the implementation of the project in the field will be the responsibility of implementing agency.
- viii) DO letters from AS(JS) to MD, GCMMF/Amul and Chairman, NDDDB may be written for their active participation and support under these projects.
- ix) Publicity regarding use of honey and other beehive products, particularly, nature of crystallization of honey, may be given by NBB as per availability of funds.
- x) The possibilities may be explored for export of honey in Russian Countries where honey is used in whole day food/meal.

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

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List of Participants of the Meeting to discuss the strategy for implementation of model for empowerment of women through beekeeping held on 12.07.2018 at 11.00 A.M.

S.No	Name of the participants	Designation & Organization/ Address	Contact Nos.
1.	Shri Jalaj Shrivastava	Additional Secretary, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	Chairman
2.	Dr. B.N.S.Murthy	Horticulture Commissioner, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	9844199755
3.	Dr. B.L.Sarswat	ED, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	011-23382226
4.	Shri Devvrat Sharma	Akhil Bhartiya Vikas Sansthan, Delhi.	9711730876
5.	Ms. Amrita Singh	Swati Enterprises, New Delhi	8588867959
6.	Ms. Kanupriya Saigal	Beepositive, N-116, 3 rd Floor, Panchsheel Park, New Delhi.	8447089111