

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 model for empowerment of women through beekeeping held on 07.06.2018 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 07.06.2018 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 Ms. Kanupriya, Founder, Bee Positive to present the details of the proposed pilot project including a draft of the complete structure for implementation of the activities for empowerment of women through beekeeping, as decided in the previous meeting held on 28.05.2018. Accordingly, Ms. Kanupriya presented the details of the model on the subject.

3. The model envisages 10 women and 50 beehives, along with accessories/equipments. The model will work with the technical support of NBB, DAC&FW and implementation by FICCI, Bee Positive (or others in the NGO sector) and other implementing agencies by involving the financial institutions/banks/GATI, etc. Honey & other beehive products will be extracted and collected under the supervision and technical manpower/ women and kept in a common incubator hub/centre at the district level. The processing, branding, marketing, etc. may be done by the private entrepreneur. As per this model, each woman may get about Rs.1400/- per month in first year, which will increase year after year.

3. The model presented by Ms. Kanupriya was discussed in detail and following were discussed and suggested:-

- i) It may be proposed that the Govt. may consider the initial subsidy level to the women groups for getting the bee colonies, beehives and equipments to be increased from existing 40% to 50%, on the total cost of complete set up of 50 bee colonies.
- ii) The loan for this purpose to the women should be provided by the banks at 6% interest or lower, with recovery period of three years.
- iii) NBB may provide all technical support and train all the involved women groups as well as train the Master Trainers.
- iv) Anganwadi workers may be trained as Master Trainers.
- v) The Incubator Hub may be developed at district level by the private entrepreneurs or the Milk Cooperatives/ Federations/ Unions may be involved in the project and any other Cooperatives/NGO or Govt. body which comes forward.
- vi) There should be proper price support for the honey produced by these women groups. The private entrepreneurs which will be involved in this task, should ensure the minimum price for the product, to sustain the model.
- vii) There should be local Geo-tagging for available flora in the area. Bar-coding/scanning of the cropped area as well as honey bee colonies/apiaries may also be done to ensure the floral source of honey is certified and transparently available.
- viii) The benefits available under the schemes of other Departments/Organisations, viz.; SFAC, NABARD, etc. for promoting women groups, may also be examined and used.
- ix) Possibilities for online marketing of the product (honey), via Amazon, etc. may be explored.
- x) "Madhu Mitra" or other such type of human resource may be developed to help the women groups. Similarly catchy slogan for the Mission may be thought of.
- xi) Pilot project may be developed for the States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhatisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh, as a beginning.

4. After detailed discussions, the following decisions were taken in the meeting:-

- a) The training of women of the groups and other technical support will be given by NBB for the projects.

- b) NBB will also facilitate in getting quality bee colonies/beehives/supers and equipments, etc. from its Member Societies/Firms/Companies.
 - c) The implementation of the pilot projects in the field will be done by FICCI Lady Organization (FLO)/FICCI/ member societies/ firms/ companies of NBB, etc.
 - d) The coordination with all line Departments/Organisations, viz.; financial institutes, banks, milk cooperatives/federations, etc. will be the responsibility of implementing agency of the project in the field.
 - e) Bee Positive will develop a self-contained viable pilot project for its implementation in the field. The time line for implementation of each & every activities should also be defined in the project. This would be presented on June 19th in the next meeting.
 - f) The Bee Positive/FLO/FICCI and other involved organizations will provide the list of women groups, details of members along with details of accounts of the group for their training/ technical support and facilitating in getting the subsidy under MIDH for bee colonies/beehives/supers & beekeeping equipments, etc. to NBB.
5. 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 07.06.2018 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.	
2.	Shri Dinesh Kumar	JS(MIDH), DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	
3.	Dr. B.N.S.Murthy	Horticulture Commissioner, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	
4.	Dr. B.L.Sarswat	ED, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.	
5.	Ms. Harjinder Kaur	Sr. Vice President, FLO Tansen Marg, New Delhi.	9971286969
6.	Ms. Ruchira,	Joint Director, FICCI, Tansen Marg, New Delhi.	9899895853
7.	Ms. Sarita Koli	Senior Assistant Director, FICCI, Tansen Marg, New Delhi.	9811080848
8.	Ms. Kanupriya Saigal	N-116, 3 rd Floor, Panchsheel Park, New Delhi.	8447089111