

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4003
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20TH MARCH, 2018

PRODUCTION OF HONEY

4003. DR. RAVINDRA KUMAR RAY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by the Government for increasing production of honey in the country; and
- (b) the details of the steps taken by the Government and the funds spent during the last three years and the current year in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for overall development of horticulture in the country. Under MIDH, among others, to promote beekeeping in the country, assistance is provided for various capacity building/HRD programmes (trainings & exposure visits of farmers/beekeepers, officers/field workers, etc., seminars/workshops, etc.), production of nucleus stock of honeybees, developing bee breeders, distribution of honey bee colonies, beehives, supers, etc. and complete set of beekeeping equipments under the component of "Pollination Support through Beekeeping". The State Departments of Horticulture/Agriculture are the implementing agencies for implementation of the Mission's programmes/components in the State/field. National Bee Board (NBB), a society registered under Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860, has also been designated as a National Level Agency (NLA) for implementation of various activities/components for development of scientific beekeeping under MIDH.

The beekeeping and honey production is also being promoted under Rashtriya Kishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) of DAC&FW.

The year-wise details of funds/subsidies/assistance provided for encouraging beekeeping/honey production for the last three years period (2014-15 to 2016-17) and the current year (2017-18), under MIDH & RKVY are given as under:

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(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Year	Assistance Provided/ Funds Sanctioned/ Released		Total
		under MIDH	under RKVY	
1.	2014-15	2166.86	304.20	2471.06
2.	2015-16	3048.19	250.00	3298.19
3.	2016-17	3181.13	84.00	3265.13
4.	2017-18	3462.23	1500.00	4962.23

Khadi and Village Industries Commission implementing Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) for promotion of Khadi and Village Industries which includes assistance for production of Honey. The details of the scheme are as under:

- i. PMEGP is the credit linked subsidy Scheme for setting up Khadi and village Industries units including honey production units by unemployed persons. The maximum cost of the project eligible for financing under PMEGP is Rs.25.00 lakhs in Manufacturing Sector and Rs.10.00 lakhs in Service Sector. Under this Scheme, any unemployed person may submit his/her application online. The scheme is being implemented through all Public Sector Banks, Selected Private Sector Banks and Co-operative Banks.
- ii. Margin Money in the form of subsidy, provided according to categories of beneficiaries and geographical location of the unit, as per following details:

Categories of beneficiaries under PMEGP.	Beneficiaries contributions (of the project cost)	Rate of subsidy. (of the project cost)	
Area (location of the project/ unit)		Urban	Rural
General category.	10%	15%	25%
Special Category (including SC/ST/ OBC/ Minorities/Women, Ex-servicemen, Physically Handicapped, NER, Hill & Border Areas).	05%	25%	35%

ICAR – All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Honey Bees & Pollinators (HB&P) having research plans to increase the genetic diversity of the existing stock of Apis mellifera to breed more efficient strains.

NBB, DAC&FW, for promotion and development of scientific beekeeping/honey production in the country, has decided to set up Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres (IBDCs)/Centres of Excellence (CoEs) on beekeeping in the country. 14 IBDCs/CoEs, as role model for beekeeping, have been commissioned/ approved by NBB, DAC&FW under MIDH in 14 States, one each in, Haryana, Delhi, Bihar, Punjab, MP, UP, Manipur, Uttarakhand, J&K, TN, Karnataka, HP, Tripura and West Bengal.

The registration of beekeepers has also been started by National Bee Board to address the problem of traceability source of honey. NBB also provide insurance cover of Rs.1.00 lakh to all registered beekeepers.

The above efforts have resulted increase in Honey Production from 76,150 Metric Tones (MTs.) in 2013-14 to 94,500 MTs. in 2016-17. Honey production for the year 2017-18 has been estimated at 1,05,000 MTs.
