

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5165

TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH MARCH, 2026

IMPLEMENTATION NBHM IN TAMIL NADU

5165. SHRI SELVAM G:

SHRI NAVASKANI K:

SHRI C N ANNADURAI:

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

(a) whether the Government is implementing the National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) in the State of Tamil Nadu and if so, the objectives, coverage in the State and components of the Mission;

(b) the number of beneficiaries, beekeeping clusters, honey processing units and Farmer Producer Organisations supported under NBHM in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, district-wise;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the impact of NBHM on income enhancement, crop pollination and livelihood diversification of small and marginal farmers in the State, if so, the finding there of;

(d) the measures taken to strengthen access to quality bee colonies, modern equipment, testing and certification facilities, branding and market linkage for Tamil Nadu beekeepers; and

(e) the steps being taken to further expand scientific beekeeping and value addition in the State?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR)

(a): Government of India, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) a Central Sector Scheme through National Bee Board (NBB) with the objective to promote scientific beekeeping and holistic development of beekeeping sector in the country including Tamil Nadu. Three Mini-Missions under NBHM have following components.

- i. Mini Mission-I: Setting up of Integrated Beekeeping Development Centers (IBDCs), honey testing labs, bee disease diagnostic labs, nucleus stock development centre, bee breeders, Human Resources Development (HRD) / capacity building, technology demonstration, empowerment of women through Beekeeping etc.
- ii. Mini Mission-II: Setting up of collection, trading, branding, value addition, marketing centers, honey processing plants, storages, etc.
- iii. Mini Mission-III: Research and Development (R&D).

(b): 200 beekeepers / beneficiaries benefited through 8 trainings on scientific beekeeping supported under NBHM during the last 3 years organized by Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency (TANHODA) in Chennai district and Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in Chengalpattu district in the state. Besides, the details of beneficiaries from the training / seminar programmes organized by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore is also given below.

| Programme | Districts | No. of Beneficiaries |
|--|--|----------------------|
| 4 State level seminars | Coimbatore, Madurai, Killikulam and Trichy | 1000 |
| 15 District level seminars | Thiruvarur, Cuddalore, Virudhunagar, Vellore, Theni, Dharmapuri, Salem, Thanjavur, Pudukottai, Ooty, Villupuram, Tiruppur, Kanyakumari and Thiruvallur | 2250 |
| 18 State level trainings | Coimbatore, Madurai, Tuticorin, Trichy, Virudhunagar, Vellore, Thiruvarur, Salem, Ooty, Villupuram, Pudukottai, Dharmapuri, Tiruppur, Cuddalore, Kanyakumari and Thiruvallur | 450 |
| 4 Trainings to Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) | Madurai, Sivaganga, Chennai and Thiruvallur | 200 |

(c): The third-party evaluation study of NBHM by the Management Development Institute (MDI), Gurgaon, Haryana has reported that the training programs cover the majority of aspects related to beekeeping as well as pollination management. It has increased beekeeper knowledge, confidence and practical skills related to beekeeping and hive management and maintenance leading to improved income, work quality, and community well-being. NBHM has created a positive impact on beekeepers' and other stakeholders' satisfaction, knowledge, customer orientation and has made them more efficient in honey processing. Further, it has also helped to understand the crucial role of honey bees in the pollination of cross-pollinated crops. Stakeholders have started appreciating beekeeping as a vital input for agriculture, resulted in improved income for beekeepers and farmers, as well as created employment opportunities for unemployed youth and women participants.

TNAU, Coimbatore has conducted technology demonstrations on the impact of honey bees on yield and quality improvement in mandated crops including coconut, sunflower, gingelly, moringa, coriander and vegetables etc. at 15 Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) (Salem, Ooty, Thiruvallur, Vellore, Thiruvallur, Trichy, Madurai, Virudhunagar, Dharmapuri, Kanyakumari, Tiruppur, Pudukottai, Villuppuram, and Ramnathapuram). The demonstrations clearly indicated that managed honey bee pollination significantly increased pollinator visitation, improved fruit / seed set and resulted in measurable enhancement of yield per hectare across crops (coconut:20-25%, sunflower:15-18%, gingelly:20-22%, moringa:25-28%, coriander:20%, vegetables:18-20%).

(d) & (e): Under NBHM project-based financial assistance is provided to the Implementing Agencies (IAs). Projects on capital infrastructure development such as establishment of one Mini honey Testing Lab at Kanyakumari district, 3 custom hiring centres (CHCs) at Chengalpattu, Vellore and Virudhunagar districts, 318 training on scientific beekeeping, 38 seminars, 37 Women Empowerment Self Help Group (SHGs) formation for human resource development and capacity building and 3 research and development proposals have been sanctioned to IAs in Tamil Nadu for holistic development of beekeeping sector in the state.
