

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2353
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2021

Distribution of bee boxes

2353. Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:
Shri Samir Oraon:

Will the Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the programme regarding the distribution of bee boxes has been launched by Government under Honey Mission;
- (b) if so, the number of bee boxes which have been distributed so far;
- (c) whether there is a technology, in which honey bees do not die while extracting honey;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the department of Khadi Gramodhyog has started grants for setting up the units for beekeeping under Honey Mission; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SHRI NARAYAN RANE)

(a) & (b): The Honey Mission programme was launched by Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC), under the Ministry of MSME, during 2017-18 and is being implemented to promote Bee Keeping activities and provide self-sustaining employment opportunities among farmers, Adivasies and unemployed youth in rural India, especially in economically backward and remote areas. Under the programme, beneficiaries are provided with Bee Boxes, live bee colonies, tool kits and training. Till date, 153759 bee boxes have been distributed to 15495 trained beneficiaries in the country, under the programme.

Besides, under 'A Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries' (SFURTI) implemented by the Ministry of MSME, traditional beekeepers are provided with sustainable employment by organizing them into clusters, and supporting them with new machineries and training. 29 Honey clusters have been approved under the scheme which will benefit 13388 beekeepers with Government of India financial assistance of Rs.68.65 crore.

Under National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM) scheme under the Ministry of Agriculture, scientific beekeeping is promoted for holistic growth of the sector, leading to income and employment generation, livelihood support to farm and non-farm households.

(c) & (d): Under Honey Mission programme, beneficiaries have been trained in modern scientific beekeeping techniques, where the beneficiaries are trained and advised to extract honey from Super Chamber not from Brood Chamber (where Bee and bee larva lies) so that the bees do not get killed.

(e) & (f): Khadi and Village Industries Commission is not implementing any scheme for extending grants directly to the beneficiaries for setting up units of beekeeping under Honey Mission programme. However, 10 bee boxes along with live bee colonies and necessary tool kits are being provided to the selected beneficiaries.

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