



# Honey FPO Programme: NAFED

## Why in News

Recently, the **Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare** has virtually inaugurated the **Honey Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) Programme** of the [National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited](#) (NAFED).

- A **Producer Organisation (PO)** is a legal entity formed by primary producers, viz. farmers, milk producers, fishermen, weavers, rural artisans, craftsmen, etc.
  - FPO is one type of PO where the members are farmers.
- **Apiculture or beekeeping** is the care and management of honey bees for the production of honey and wax. In this method, bees are bred commercially in apiaries, an area where a lot of beehives can be placed.

## Key Points

- The programme has been launched under the **Formation and Promotion of FPOs**.
  - It is a new **Central Sector Scheme** for the promotion of **10,000 new FPOs**.
  - Under it, the **National Level Project Management Advisory and Fund Sanctioning Committee** (N-PMAFSC) had allocated FPO clusters for **2020-21** to all implementing agencies.
    - Initially there will be three implementing agencies to form and promote FPOs, namely [Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium](#) (SFAC), [National Cooperative Development Corporation](#) (NCDC) and [National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development](#) (NABARD).
    - **NAFED** has been appointed as the 4<sup>th</sup> national implementing agency.
    - States may also, if so desire, nominate their implementing agency in consultation with the **Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare** (DAC&FW).
  - FPOs will be developed by specialist **Cluster Based Business Organizations** (CBBOs) engaged by implementing agencies.
- NAFED, through CBBOs and the **Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals** (ISAP) has initiated the formation and promotion of FPOs of beekeepers and honey collectors in 5 states of India.
  - These 5 locations are **East Champaran** (Bihar), **Morena** (Madhya Pradesh), **Bharatpur** (Rajasthan), **Mathura** (Uttar Pradesh) and **Sunderbans** (West Bengal).
  - The **first Honey FPO** has been registered in the state of Madhya Pradesh under the [National Beekeeping and Honey Mission](#) (NBHM).
- **Benefits:**
  - **Skill Upgradation** in scientific beekeeping.
  - State of the art **infrastructural facilities** for processing honey and allied beekeeping products like **bee's wax, propolis, royal jelly, bee venom**, etc.

- Quality upgradation by **quality control laboratories**.
- Better **supply chain management** by improving **collection, storage, bottling and marketing centres**.
- Promotion and Formation of FPOs is the first step for **converting Krishi into Atmanirbhar Krishi**.
- **Other Efforts by Government to Promote Beekeeping:**
  - Government is promoting beekeeping as part of its **aim to double farmers' income and ensure tribal upliftment**.
  - The Government has **allocated Rs. 500 crore** towards beekeeping under the [Atmanirbhar Abhiyan](#).
  - [Apiary on Wheels](#):
    - It is a unique concept designed by the [Khadi and Village Industries Commission](#) (KVIC) for the easy upkeep and migration of Bee Boxes having live Bee colonies.
  - The **National Bee Board** has created four modules to impart training as part of the NBHM.
    - Under it, 30 lakh farmers have been trained in beekeeping and are also being financially supported by the Government.
    - Mini Mission 1 and Mini Mission 2 are schemes under the mission.
  - The Government launched **NBHM** as part of '**Sweet Revolution**'.
    - The 'Sweet Revolution' was launched in **2016** to **promote beekeeping and associated activities**.

### **National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd**

- It is an **apex organization of marketing cooperatives** for agricultural produce in India.
- It was founded on **2<sup>nd</sup> October 1958** and is registered under the **Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002**.
- NAFED is now **one of the largest procurement as well as marketing agencies** for agricultural products in India.
- **Objectives:**
  - To organize, promote and develop marketing, processing and storage of agricultural, horticultural and forest produce.
  - To distribute agricultural machinery, implements and other inputs, undertake inter-state, import and export trade, wholesale or retail as the case may be.
  - To act and assist for technical advice in agricultural production for the promotion and the working of its members, partners, associates and cooperative marketing, processing and supply societies in India.

### **National Bee Board**

- SFAC registered the NBB as a society under the **Societies Registration Act, 1860** in 2000 and it was reconstituted (with the secretary as chairman) in June 2006.
- Objective:
  - Overall **development of beekeeping by promoting scientific beekeeping** in India to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase the honey production for increasing the income of the beekeepers/farmers.
- Presently NBB is implementing [National Horticulture Mission](#) (NHM) and **Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan State** (HMNEM).

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