

TOR for Rapid Assessment of Apiculture Scheme

I. The Context

Bee keeping/ Apiculture is a Cottage Industry. Bees harvest nectar and pollen from flowering plants and provide honey which is valued as food and medicine for ages. Bees are efficient pollinators in both natural and agricultural ecosystems and help in increasing the farm yields. Hence the government thought it fit to have a separate scheme for promoting scientific Apiculture particularly with the species *Apis cerana*. Apiculture scheme was earlier with the Industries and Commerce department and was implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Board. It was shifted to Horticulture department during the year 2011-12 for popularizing throughout the state. The department provided additional funding under Suvarna Bhoomi Yojane for purchase of Bee-boxes and Bee-colonies in the first year of implementation. In continuation of this, during 2012-13, a budget provision of Rs.200.00 lakhs under the Head of account 2851-00-200-0-01 (Plan) was given for the development Madhuvana and Apiculture activities. Under this scheme short duration orientation training on bee keeping techniques was imparted to farmers, youth and women. Honey bee boxes and colonies were distributed at subsidized rates to the interested bee keepers. The scheme is due for up scaling in the coming years.

II. Key objectives of Madhuvana and Apiculture scheme:

1. To create awareness among farmers in Karnataka on the importance of bee keeping practice for honey production and increasing farm production through bee pollination.
2. Establishment of bee nurseries and production of disease resistant bee colonies in Madhuvanas for supplying to the farmers on regular basis.
3. To distribute bee boxes and colonies to the interested bee keepers.
4. To popularize honey production and consumption through extension activities, and
5. To create additional self employment opportunities in the rural areas.

Since the Horticulture Department intends to expand the Apiculture activity through increased investment, time and effort, it is considered necessary to make a rapid assessment of the experience gained in the last couple of years. It is proposed to hire an independent external agency to conduct the assessment and to provide independent feedback.

III. Terms of Reference:

1. To assess the effectiveness of Madhuvana and Apiculture Scheme implemented by Horticulture Department.
2. To provide a snapshot of the economic contribution of Apiculture to the participating households, particularly on the small and marginal farmers.
3. To assess the scope for further expansion of Apiculture activities in the state of Karnataka, and
4. To recommend ways and means to popularize the Madhuvana and Apiculture Scheme on a state-wide scale.

IV. Proposed methodology:

Required data and information is to be collected through focus group discussion of participating farmers and some potential participants, personal interviews of key officials, honey traders, marketing agencies and other key stakeholders. It is necessary to cover all the agro-ecological regions of the state during the study. If need be, a limited survey of households may be taken up. Sample size and the justification for the same are to be provided by the participating consultants. Number of households, yield of honey in quintals, increase in the farm yields in tons and economic returns in lakh rupees will be the units of analysis.

V. Deliverables and Time Schedule:

- a) **Request for Proposal:** A Request for Proposal (RFP) will be issued to the prospective external consultants. Each one of them will be given an opportunity to conceive the study according to their expertise and understanding and make a power point presentation in about 20 minutes to a team of senior officers in the last week of May, 2013. The proposal which is the best in terms of methodology to adequately cover the objectives of the study and modest in terms of cost will be accepted and the contract will be awarded to the agency which makes such a proposal.
- b) **Inception Report:** Contract agreement will be signed with the successful bidder within a week of the award. The consultant should submit a detailed Inception Report in accordance with the guidelines that will be provided and get this approved within two weeks from the date of agreement.

- c) **Field survey and data collection:** Successful consultant will undertake the field survey and data collection work in accordance with the approved inception report and complete the same within one month of its communication.
- d) **Midterm progress report:** Upon completion of the 50% of the field survey work, the consultant will submit a midterm progress report and debrief the nodal officer.
- e) **Draft Evaluation Report:** A draft evaluation report should be submitted by the consultant within one month of completing the field survey work. The same will be placed before a joint committee of officers of the Horticulture Department and the KEA. It will be reviewed rigorously. The Consultant should revise the draft in accordance with the advice of the committee.
- f) **Final Evaluation Report:** Final Evaluation Report incorporating the review comments on the draft should be submitted within fifteen days after the review. 25 copies of the report, along with copies of survey tools, raw field data and processed outputs should be submitted. These items and a copy of the report will be posted on the website of Horticulture Department as well as that of KEA.

VI. Payment schedule: Cost of contract will be paid in four installments as below:

- 50% will be released as advance on signing of the contract
- 30% will be released after the draft report is approved.
- 20% will be released after submitting the final report along with data etc.

VII. Nodal Officer: Sri Maheswar, Additional Director of Horticulture will act as the nodal officer for this study. He will provide additional information if needed and clarify doubts if any. He will make necessary arrangements for coordinating the field survey work.

VIII. Oversight for the study: Karnataka Evaluation Authority will provide the complete oversight for the study. All technical aspects of the study are subject their approval.

IX. Expectation from the study: The proposed study is expected to provide a strategy for expanding the Apiculture activity effectively throughout the state. It should provide the necessary inputs in terms of policy changes, modalities of implementation and convergence possibilities with a view to benefit the rural community to the maximum extent possible.

Approved
MUSA
SAS
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