

(To be submitted to CPD, RO for approval of MIS 2B)

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Sr. No.	Particulars	Remarks
1	Name of the Project/ Programme	Field visit report of FSPF on Honey bee activity and IYC celebration at Talliguri SKUS
2	Place	Coochbehar I
3	Date	05.09.2025
4	Name of Organization /NGO/ Person visited	FSPF beneficiary, Satmile NGO, Talliguri SKUS
5	Purpose of Visit	Field visit report of FSPF on Honey bee activity and IYC celebration at Talliguri SKUS
6	Topic Discussed *	Field visit report of FSPF on Honey bee activity and IYC celebration at Talliguri SKUS
7	Outcome of the visit*	<p>The FSPF visit has been conducted at Chilkir haat GP, Satmile GP and Dawaguri GP wherein the beneficiaries are questioned on honey bee activity to gather following information-</p> <p>Under government support, few bee keepers have been provided with bee boxes to rear different species such as Aphis Indica, Serena Indica, and Lebio Trigona. Honey production is comparatively higher during the Rabi season due to the abundance of crops like mustard, sunflower, and vegetables. In contrast, during the Kharif season, limited floral resources result in reduced production, leading farmers to either shift colonies near forest areas or supplement feed with sugar syrup. A progressive farmer has also established a Honey Bee Park with more than 15 colonies and markets honey through traders.</p> <p>Stingless honey requires minimal space, with a production capacity of 1–2 kg per box. Owing to its medicinal and anti-carcinogenic properties, it commands a significantly higher market price. This variety has been newly introduced in Coochbehar district.</p> <p>Varieties such as Aphis Indica require larger boxes and yield comparatively higher production (4–5 kg per box). However, the market price of this honey is lower than that of stingless honey.</p> <p>During the Kharif season, when floral resources are scarce, farmers prepare mustard honey or provide sugar syrup as supplementary feed. Although crops like cucumber and banana are cultivated, farmers prefer mustard honey and sugar syrup as alternatives. The district has a diverse cropping pattern, including mango, litchi, mustard, sunflower, and vegetables, ensuring year-round nectar availability. Only during the khariff/pre-khariff season do farmers resort to mustard syrup as an alternate food source. At present, there is no value addition or processing of honey into by-products such as beeswax or bee venom, both of which have good market potential.</p> <p>In terms of market demand, honey is consumed locally and also has strong demand in neighboring states, particularly due to the proximity of Assam.</p>

		<p>Bees play a vital role in pollination, supporting the growth of fruits, vegetables, and flowers, thereby contributing to food security, biodiversity, and agricultural productivity. Several awareness and training programmes have been conducted by NABARD, UBKV, KVK, and the Horticulture Department, which have helped mobilize farmers towards bee rearing and honey marketing. However, large-scale clusters for honey production, extraction, bee venom processing, and branded bulk marketing are yet to be developed in the district.</p> <p>The introduction of stingless honey, given its high medicinal value, presents significant scope for expansion and farmer adoption. As part of the ongoing intervention, 50 lead farmers will be provided with bee boxes, while 250 farmers/SHGs will be trained to adopt bee keeping and set up units. The farmers will also be trained and mobilized on cultivation of drumstick, pumpkin, cucumber, cucurbits, banana, watermelon etc. as pre khariff or khariff crops for year round nectar availability.</p> <p>From a climate change perspective, this intervention not only enhances pollination and improves crop yields but also provides an alternative livelihood opportunity for farmers and SHGs across the block.</p> <p>2. The Cooperative Literacy Camp was organized at Talliguri SKUS, Coochbehar District to commemorate the International Year of Cooperatives. The programme aimed to raise awareness about the cooperative movement, its role in promoting financial inclusion, and to disseminate information on various initiatives of the Ministry of Cooperation and NABARD for strengthening the cooperative sector. The event was attended by the Regional Manager (WBStCB), DDM NABARD, Supervisor, Coochbehar-I Block, along with officials, members, and SHG representatives of Talliguri SKUS.</p> <p>During the deliberations, the undersigned has stressed the importance of SHG training, establishment of livelihood units through bank-linked support, and financial literacy as key pillars for SKUS sustainability. The Regional Manager, WBStCB, highlighted the significance of strong cooperatives in ensuring timely credit delivery, discussed the progress of PACS computerisation, and advised members on re-KYC compliance. The Supervisor elaborated on various government support mechanisms such as KCC, AIF, PMFME, and Custom Hiring Centres, encouraging SHGs to maintain group cohesion and adhere to timely loan repayments. The Manager, Talliguri SKUS, shared details of ongoing activities including fertilizer business, SHG training, paddy procurement, and a proposal for rooftop solar installation.</p>
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		The camp resulted in enhanced awareness of cooperative principles, financial inclusion measures, and relevant government schemes. It also emphasized skill development, financial literacy, and digital transformation through PACS computerisation as essential tools for improving efficiency and transparency. The active participation of SHG members and sharing of field experiences reinforced the collective effort needed to strengthen cooperatives as key drivers of rural development and inclusive growth.
8	Any other information, if any *	

Note: - * to be given in bullet form

**The BTOR as per the prescribed format of respective Business / Promotional / Development Departments may be submitted to the concerned department, separately.

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01 October 2025





