

REPORT ON THE 5TH DAY OF THE GREEN SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (GSDP)

Certificate Course on "Apiculturist (Wild Bee) – NTFP" for ST Candidates

Day: Day 05

Date: 18th September 2026

Venue: College of Agriculture, Iroisemba, CAU, Imphal

Mode: PowerPoint presentation followed by hands-on practical demonstration

Resource Person: Arambam Suchitra Devi, Bee Professional, AICRP – HB&P

Overview

The 5th day of the Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP) Certificate Course on "Apiculturist (Wild Bee) – NTFP" for ST candidates was conducted in two parts — classroom session using a PowerPoint presentation, followed by a practical session. The day's proceedings were aimed at familiarising the trainees with the range of equipment used in modern and traditional beekeeping, along with their proper use, handling and maintenance.

Session 1: Classroom Presentation

The session 1 began with a PowerPoint presentation on "Beekeeping Equipments and Their Uses," delivered by the resource person, Ms. Arambam Suchitra Devi, Bee Professional, AICRP – HB&P, to the assembled trainees. The session was well attended, with participants seated with their notebooks, actively noting down key points as the presentation progressed.

The presentation covered the following equipment and topics in detail:

- Traditional versus scientific/advanced beekeeping equipment, and the reasons for adopting scientific equipment (ease of handling, safety, reduced contamination, and higher yield).
- Movable frame hives and Intermediate Technology Hives, including inner and top covers used for capping and ventilation.
- Smoker – its use in calming bees during honey extraction and the materials used as fuel.
- Personal protective equipment – bee veil, boots, and sting-resistant gloves.
- Uncapping knife and bee brush, used for removing wax caps and cleaning hive frames.
- Queen gate and queen cage, used for managing and protecting the queen bee.
- Comb foundation mill and comb foundation sheets, used to guide comb building.
- Queen excluder – a barrier that separates the queen from worker bees within the hive.
- Honey extractor, honey processing plant, and honey bottling and bottle-drying machinery.
- A basic overview of the economics of beekeeping, including approximate input costs and expected net profit per colony.

Session 2: Practical Demonstration

Following the classroom session, the candidates moved to the Integrated Beekeeping Development Centre, at the College of Agriculture, Central Agricultural University (CAU), Imphal, for hands-on practical exposure to the equipment discussed earlier.

- Beehive boxes were opened and the wooden frames were examined, allowing candidates to observe the inner and top covers and frame arrangement first-hand.
- The honey extractor was demonstrated, along with an explanation of its use in extracting honey from multiple combs at once.
- Protective gloves and other safety equipment were displayed and explained.
- Processed honey samples were displayed and discussed with the trainees during an interactive session with the resource person, Ms. Arambam Suchitra Devi.

Summary

Day 5 of the GSDP Certificate Course successfully combined theoretical and practical learning, giving trainees a clear understanding of the equipment required for beekeeping — from protective gear and hive tools to honey extraction and processing machinery. The hands-on session at the Integrated Beekeeping Development Centre reinforced the concepts taught in the classroom and gave participants direct exposure to the tools they will use in the field.



Ms. Arambam Suchitra Devi (Bee Professional, AICRP – HB&P) explaining the slides to the trainees



Classroom session: trainees attending the PowerPoint presentation on beekeeping equipment



Candidates observing the beehive frames during the practical session



Honey extractors and protective gloves on display at IBDC.



Interactive session with the resource person and display of byproducts of honey bees