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The Wild honey bees are distributed throughout the Asia including the Indian sub-continent. In India has eleven honey bee species have been identified, the domesticated are three species (""Apis cerana cerana"", ""Apis cerana indica"", ""Apis cerana himalaya""), Amongst the wild bees two little bees (""Apis florea"", ""Apis andreniformis"") and there are four wild and giant honey bees (""Apis dorsata dorsata"", ""Apis dorsata bingami"", ""Apis dorsata breviligula"", ""Apis laboriosa""), introduced European honey bee species ""Apis mellifera"" and Stingless bee ""Trigona"" species are well distributed in plains, forest and hill areas of India.

The study on the Biodiversity of ""A. dorsata"", distribution, honey production, people involved in honey harvesting/hunting and its economics has been undertaken. The nest population ranges from solitary both in terrestrial and arboreal habitats to as many as 610 in a single Banyan tree ""Ficus bengalensis"". As these bees are migratory in nature move from one region/area to other region/area by leaving remnants on rock cliffs, tree branches, buildings due to change in the cropping pattern and environmental condition. These remnants act as attractants to bees to construct nests for the next season. There is manifold increase in crop yield of Agriculture, horticulture and forest produce.

The details of sustainable honey harvesting from these giant bees and the conservation strategies are documented. The production of the honey ranges from 25 to 60 kgs and beeswax from 5-8 kgs per year per colony. As these ""A. dorsata"" nests on man-made structures such as tall buildings, underneath bridges, these bees are the excellent pollinators, the pollination efficiency was also documented. Three fourth of the honey produced in India is from these wild bees. Many people particularly tribal communities are largely dependent upon for their livelihood and sustain the nests through scientific honey harvesting and colony management for pollination service and ultimately for the conservation. Different regions and geographical areas have adopted different methods of conservation strategies. The details will be discussed.