

F. No. 6-2/2018-NBB  
National Bee Board  
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare,  
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare  
Govt. of India

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.  
Dated: 17.05.2020

To

- I. The Directors of Horticulture/ Mission Directors (SHM), All State Governments.
- II. Vice Chancellors of the CAU- Imphal, Manipur, Dr. RP CAU- Pusa, Bihar, GBPUA&T- Pantnagar. PAU. Ludhiana, Punjab, SKUAST, Srinagar, J&K, RVSKVV, Gwalior, MP, CSKHP, Palampur, HP, TNAU, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, Dr. YSR Horti. Uni., VK Gudum, AP, UHS- Bagalkot, Karnataka
- III. Director of Horti., Deptt. of Horti., Govt. of Tripura and Directors of IARI, Pusa, Delhi, ICAR-CISH, WB and ICAR-IIVR, Varanasi, UP
- IV. CEO, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Bombay.
- V. Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), New Delhi.
- VI. Chairman, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Mumabi.
- VII. Chairman, NDDDB, Anand, Gujarat.
- VIII. Managing Director (MD), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), 4, Siri Institutional Area, Block A, Hauz Khas, New Delhi, Delhi 110016
- IX. Executive Director, Tribal Co-Operative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED), NCUI Building, 2nd Floor, 3, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-110016.
- X. MD, National Agri. Coop. Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED), Near Ashram Chowk, NAFED House, Ring Road, Siddhartha Enclave, Sunlight Colony, Delhi 1100014.
- XI. Chairman, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO), IFFCO Sadan, C-1, District Centre, Saket Place, New Delhi — 110017.
- XII. Managing Director (MD), Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited-World's Premiere Fertilizer Producing Cooperative (KRIBHCO), KRIBHCO Bhawan, A-10, Sector-I, NOI DA, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P., India, 201 301.
- XIII. Managing Director, Mother Dairy Fruit & Vegetable Pvt. Ltd., A3, Sec.-1, Noida, UP-201 301.
- XIV. Project Coordinator, AICRP (HB&P), IARI, Hill Side Road, Pusa, New Delhi- 110012.
- XV. CEO, FAB India, N-14 Greater Kailash - I, New Delhi- 110048
- XVI. President, FICCI Lady Organization (FLO), FLO Federation House, 1 Tansen Marg, New Delhi 110001, Email: [flo@ficci.com](mailto:flo@ficci.com)
- XVII. Elected members of MC, NBB
- XVIII. Member Societies of NBB.

**Subject: Celebrating World Bee Day (WBD) on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 — reg.**

Sir,

As you are aware, beekeeping activities are being carried out by farmers in rural areas under integrated farming system. Honeybees are one of the best pollinators which help in increasing the yield of various agricultural and horticultural crops through pollination support. Further, it provides income and employment to the rural people by way of increasing yield of various crops and providing honey and other beehive products, viz. Royal jelly, propolis, bees wax, pollen, comb honey, bee venom, etc. It is also the source of livelihood for rural poor. Therefore, honeybees/beekeeping is being treated as one of the most important 5th input for sustainable development of agriculture/horticulture.

2. Keeping in view the importance of beekeeping, a component "**Pollination Support through Beekeeping**" has been incorporated in Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for development of scientific beekeeping in the country. Further, National Bee Board (NBB) has been designated/ recognized as a Nodal Agency for overall development/promotion of scientific beekeeping in the country. The activities of beekeeping & projects of Integrated Development of Scientific Beekeeping, etc. are also being implemented under RKVY and other schemes of this Department. In a meeting taken by

**Hon'ble Prime Minister, it has been decided that at least one district in each State should be developed as a model /role model for beekeeping.** In pursuance to this, NBB has initiated action and 16 Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres (IBDCs)/Centres of Excellence (CoEs) on Beekeeping have already been commissioned/ sanctioned in the States.

3. Further, Govt. of India has also approved a new Central Sector Scheme entitled “**National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM)**” for overall promotion and development of scientific beekeeping in mission mode to achieve the goal of “**Sweet Revolution**” in the country by giving thrust on capacity building & trainings, specific focus on women, input support for promotion & production, setting up of Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres (IBDCs), other Infrastructures for processing, value addition, market support, including collection, grading, trading, etc. centres, etc., setting up of honey testing labs, bee disease diagnostic labs, development of nucleus stock & bee breeders, digitization/ online registration, etc., & R&D under 3 Mini Missions (MMs)-MM-I, MM-II & MM-III. An amount of Rs. 150.00 crores has been allotted for the year 2020-21 under the scheme.

4. In view the above & to give wide publicity/thrust, to create awareness about scientific beekeeping & use of its products including honey, etc., and as supported by the FAO & endorsed by UN General Assembly, it was decided by the Deptt. of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India **to celebrate World Bee Day (WBD) every year on 20<sup>th</sup> May** by making 2-3 days programmes.

5. The main theme of celebrating WBD is to “**SAVE BEES**”. Programmes/ activities which may be included for this event would be: organizing exhibitions, conferences, seminars, honey festivals, publishing literature on importance of honeybees/ beekeeping in agriculture/ horticulture, publicity through electronic media/ newspapers, awareness about uses of honey and other beehive products, promoting uses of honey in schools/colleges, organizing rallies of farmers/ beekeepers/ students/ villagers in villages/ towns/ cities, awareness about usage of honey and other beehive products in daily life & their importance in human health, displaying boards/sign boards, etc. on main/ public places, involving beekeepers/ scientists/ exporters/ traders/ processors, etc. of honey and other beehive products in the campaign. These all will give boost to beekeeping activities in the States and country as a whole. However, the activities of organizing exhibition, conferences, seminars, Honey Festivals, etc. in which public participation is required should be avoided because of Lockdown due to COVID-19.

6. Keeping in view the above, you are kindly requested to celebrate World Bee Day (WBD) on **20<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 by making 2-3 days programmes**, as per details given above. The action taken in this regard may be communicated to this Department. This may please be treated as Most Urgent and action taken on priority basis.

**Yours Faithfully**

**(Dr. B. L. Sarswat)**  
**Executive Director**

**Copy for information and necessary action to:**

- I. The APCs/Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries of Horticulture & Agriculture of All the States.
- II. PIs of All IBDCs.

**Copy for information to:**

- I. Dy. Secretary (Hort.), Horticulture Division, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- II. Sr. PPS to Secy. (AC & FW) & Chairman, NBB, DAC & FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- III. PPS to Horticulture Commissioner and Member Secretary, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.