

By Speed Post

F.No. 20-5/2008-NBB
National Bee Board
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW)
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Government of India

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-1.

Dated: 15.2.2017

Subject: Minutes of the Meeting held on 02.02.2017 at 10.00 A.M. to discuss details for developing data base for beekeeping and honey production in the country – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose a copy of minutes of the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.K.Malhotra, Agriculture & Horticulture Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, to discuss details for developing data base for beekeeping and honey production in the country at 10.00 A.M. on 02.02.2017 in Committee Room No. 142, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi, for your kind information and necessary action please.

(Dr. B.L.Sarawat)
Director (C/C) & ED, NBB

1. Shri R.H.Anil Kumar, Joint Secretary (ARI), Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi.
2. Shri S.S.Ray, Director, Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), Near Krishi Vistar Sadan, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012.
3. Shri U.K.Vats, General Manager, APEDA, NCUI Building, 3, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-16.
4. Ms. M.Mamtha, Sci-SE, Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), Near Krishi Vistar Sadan, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012.
5. Shri S.P.Joshi, Director, Horticulture & Food Processing, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Udyan Bhawan, 2, Sapru Marg, Lucknow-226 001.
6. Ms. Sheela P., Additional Director of Agriculture, State Horticulture Mission, Government of Kerala, Sunny Dale, Mead's Lane, Palayam, Thiruvananthapuram-695 034.
7. Dr. Anshu Bhardwaj, Sr. Scientist, Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI), ICAR Library Avenue, New Delhi- 110012.
8. Dr. M.M.Kimoth, Consultant, Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), Near Krishi Vistar Sadan, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012.
9. Shri Bindu Muralidharan, Technical Officer, State Horticulture Mission, Government of Kerala, Sunny Dale, Mead's Lane, Palayam, Thiruvananthapuram-695 034.
10. Shri Bakul Chandra Saikia, Sr. Area Development Officer & State Nodal Officer, Government of Assam, Janta Bhawan, Khanapara, Dispur, Guwahati-781022.

PPS
Keep in minutes file
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copy to website
15.2.17

11. Shri Jagjit Singh Kapoor, Managing Director, M/s. Kashmir Apiaries Export, Kashmir House, G.T. Road, Doraha-141421, Dist. Ludhiana, Punjab
12. Shri Devvrat Sharma, M/s. Akhil Bharatiya Vikas Sansthan, 144-A, Pocket A, Dilshad Garden, New Delhi - 110095.
13. Shri Om Prakash Gupta, Indian Apiaries, A-10, Subhashnagar, Bharatpur, Rajasthan.
14. Shri Subhash Kamboj, Vill & P.O. Hafizpur, Distt. Yamunanagar, Haryana.
15. Ms. Prajakta Admane, Beekeeper, Sari Shilp Chamorshi Road, Gadchiroli-442605, Maharashtra.

Copy for information to :

1. Sr. PPS to Secretary (AC&FW) & Chairman, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
2. Sr. PPS to AS(RS) and Chairman, MC, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
3. PPS to HC&MS, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

F.No. 20-5/2008-NBB
National Bee Board
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW)

Minutes of the Meeting held under the chairmanship of Agriculture and Horticulture Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to discuss details for developing data base for beekeeping and honey production in the country at 10.00 A.M. on 2.2.2017 in Committee Room No. 143, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

A meeting to discuss details for developing data base for beekeeping and honey production in the country was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.K.Malhotra, Agriculture & Horticulture Commissioner, DAC&FW at 10.00 A.M. on 2.2.2017. A list of participants is enclosed at Annexure-I.

2. The Chairman while welcoming the participants, briefed about the purpose of the meeting and mentioned that State-wise data of honey production estimated by NBB for the years 2015-16 (88900 MTs final) and 2016-17(94500 MTs estimates). He mentioned that as such, no agency/organization is working on developing data base on honey production in the country. The purpose of organizing this meeting is to discuss the authentic source and mechanism for collection of data base on honey production. Dr. B.L.Sarswat, ED (NBB) mentioned that NBB in consultation with its main Member Societies/firms/companies, honey traders/honey processors/ exporters, etc. concerned stakeholders, etc. develops data on honey production and use the same for all purposes. On the same lines, the data for honey production for the last 7-8 years and current year (94,500 MTs) has been worked out/ estimated by NBB, time to time, and the same has been used. He mentioned that the State Departments of Horticulture/Agriculture of all the States have also been requested, time to time for furnishing data for beekeeping and honey production. However, no concrete information has been received from the States in the matter.

3. The Chairman mentioned that there is set system for developing data base for the agricultural/horticultural crops but for beekeeping and honey production, well set system is not prevailing. He discussed the main sources of collecting/generating data in

this regard are processors/exporters of honey, APEDA, KVIC, Beekeeping and Honey Societies/Beekeepers/Traders, etc., big players in domestic market viz., Dabur, Patanjali etc. He asked the participants to give input/their views for developing a system for generating accurate data base for beekeeping and honey production.

4. Shri U.K.Vats, GM, APEDA mentioned that about 40,000 MTs of honey has been exported from India during last year. Shri R.H.Anil Kumar, Joint Secretary, MSME mentioned that the KVIC has its Beekeeping Extension Centres at field level and they are also having some data on beekeeping and honey production. He suggested that MSME is having online registration system for industry, such type of system may be used by NBB for registration of beekeepers/stakeholders.

5. Shri Jagjit Singh Kapoor, Exporter of honey mentioned that the major source of honey production is mustard crop in India, honey of which is fully exported. The other sources are eucalyptus and other florals. He also raised the issue of quality of honey being marketed in the domestic market.

5. Shri Devvrat Sharma, Director, Hi-Tech Naturals Products India Ltd. mentioned that about 50,000 MTs of honey is being traded by big domestic players including Dabur and Patanjali during the current year. He also mentioned that about 10% of honey is being traded locally by the beekeepers at their level and some small packers are also involved in packing and trading of honey in domestic market.

6. Shri S.S.Ray, Director, Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) mentioned that for registration of beekeepers/stakeholders and getting quick information in this regard, the help of Smart **App for mobile** (short term solution) may be taken and long term sustainable mode, a Portal for this purpose, may be developed and the help of Bhuvan may be taken for this purpose. The strategy/design for all this, may be developed by Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC). He has also stated that a special Geo App on android base may be used for registration of beekeepers/stakeholders with details of location, photo, attributes, viz., name, mobile number, number of colonies, infrastructure available, etc. may be requested through a format designed for the same. The system in this regard may be as under:-

Google Portal – Sub Portal for Beekeeping – Mobile App may be downloaded from this portal - Geo Special data base including migration information, area, etc. The data so generated may be validated through processors, exporters, KVIC, States etc. For wild honey, the State Forest Departments may be contacted to provide the information.

7. Dr. Anshu Bharadwaj, Sr. Scientist, IASRI, ICAR, has mentioned that App for developing data base for crops is already developed and working in several States on pilot basis. The App for developing data base in beekeeping will be instant solution. For long term solution, the Portal for the same should be developed. However, for success of these programmes, there will be need for sensitization of beekeepers and creation of awareness among the beekeepers/stakeholders. The modalities/strategy for the same may be worked out/designed by IASRI on the pattern of KVK App or the same App may be used/designed to develop data for beekeeping and honey production. However, since IASRI is overloaded with the work of digitalization, it may not be possible for IASRI to implement the project.

8. Dr. B.L.Sarawat, ED, NBB informed that NBB has already doing registration of beekeepers, beekeeping and honey societies/traders/firms/companies, etc. involved in beekeeping, as per the rules, regulations, guidelines already designed by NBB, in consultation with all the stakeholders including EIC, APEDA, M/o Commerce and Industries, etc. As on date, 6496 number of beekeepers, beekeeping societies, etc. with 10.72 lakhs honey bee colonies are registered with NBB. Further, he mentioned that there is need to give priority to beekeeping by the States and help in developing data base for beekeeping and honey production.

9. Dr. S.P.Joshi, Director of Horticulture, Uttar Pradesh mentioned that the registration of beekeepers/stakeholders may be done online, for that NBB may develop Portal, this may be like Portal of registration of farmers for horticulture. This will provide good response and more number of beekeepers/stakeholders could be registered with NBB. The State Department of Horticulture may be involved for doing the task at field level through its district level officials.

10. Ms. Sheela P, Additional Director of Agriculture, Kerala informed that the Horticulture Mission providing assistance for master bee breeder, colony distribution etc. and collecting data through bee breeders and other stakeholders in the State. The honey production i.e. 2700 MTs for the year 2016-17 estimated by NBB for Kerala State is correct.

11. Shri Bakul Chandra Saikia, Sr. Agriculture Development Officer, Assam informed that the responsibility of collection/developing data on beekeeping and honey production may be given to the State Departments of Horticulture/Agriculture. The State Horticulture Mission, Assam has written letters to District level Officers for collecting the information. He informed that the honey is being marketed locally by the beekeepers of the State and the Assam has good honey production. However, he was not able to inform the quantity of honey production in the State. NBB has estimated about 1000 MTs honey production for the State for the year 2016-17.

12. Ms. Prajakta Admane, Beekeeper of Nagpur, Maharashtra mentioned that beekeepers, most of them are illiterate/less educated, are not even aware of the various schemes of Government. There is need to train them and create awareness for the schemes/programmes, registration process, etc. to get the benefit.

13. After detailed discussions, Chairman took the following decisions:-

i) A portal for beekeeping may be developed by NBB including an App for downloading on mobile, free of cost, by the beekeepers with help of IASRI & MNCFC and should be tested at pilot scale to fine tune, if needed.

ii) The strategy/design for getting information on mobile App/Portal may be developed by Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre and IASRI. The designing/strategy may include basic information relating to beekeepers/stakeholders viz. name, address, contact number, location of colonies, number of bee colonies, total honey production, other infrastructural facilities, etc. The validation of the data/information received on App/Portal may be done through processors/exporters of honey, KVIC, State Department of Horticulture, APEDA, etc.

iii) The Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre may incorporate task of developing data base/information on beekeeping under the Chaman Project.

iv) A base line survey/study for developing data base for Beekeeping and Honey Production may also be conducted by NBB and State Departments of Horticulture/State Horticulture Missions.

v) For developing data base on wild honey colonies and honey production, State Forest Departments and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may be requested.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-I

ATTENDANCE SHEET

Subject : A meeting to discuss details for developing data base for beekeeping and honey production in the country under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.K.Malhotra, Horticulture Commission, DAC&FW, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India on 02.2.17 at 10:00AM Committee Room no. 142, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

1. Dr. S.K.Malhotra, Agriculture & Horticulture Commissioner and MS, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
2. Shri R.H.Anil Kumar, Joint Secretary (ARI), M/o MSME, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi.
3. Dr. B.L.Sarswat, Executive Director, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
4. Shri S.S.Ray, Director, MNCFC, DAC&FW
5. Shri U.K.Vats, General Manager, APEDA, 3rd Floor, NCUI Building, Siri Institutional Area, Delhi.
6. Ms. S.Mamtha, Sci-SE, N, MNCFC, DAC&FW
7. Shri S.P.Joshi, Director, Horticulture & Food Processing, UP
8. Ms. Sheela P. Additional Director of Agriculture, State Horticulture Mission, Kerala
9. Dr. Anshu Bharadwaj, Sr. Scientist, ICAR-IASRI, PUSA
10. Dr. M.M.Kimoth, Consultant, MNCFC, DAC&FW
11. Shri Bindu Muralidharan, Technical Officer, State Horticulture Missioner, Kerala.
12. Shri Bakul Chandra Saikia, Sr. Area Development Officer, State Nodal Officer, Honey Bee Assam, Department of Horticulture & Food Processing
13. Mr. Jagjit Singh, Kashmir Apiaries Export, Ludhiana
14. Shri Devvrat Sharma, Hi-Tech Natural Products India Ltd.
15. Shri Om Prakash Gupta, Indian Apiaries, A-10, Subhashnagar, Bharatpur.
16. Dr. Pooja Singh, Consultant, NBB, DAC&FW, Janpath Bhawan, New Delhi.
17. Shri Subhash Kamboj, Vill. & P.O. Hafizpur, Distt. Yamunanagar, Haryana
18. Ms. Prajakta Admane, Beekeeper, Nagpur, Maharashtra