

वसुधा मिश्रा, भा.प्र.से.
Vasudha Mishra, IAS
अपर सचिव
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY



भारत सरकार
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय
कृषि, सहकारिता एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation
& Farmers Welfare
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
4th October, 2019

D.O. No. 20-09/2017-NBB

Dear Chief Secretary,

As you are aware, Beekeeping is an agro based activity which is being undertaken by farmers/beekeepers/landless labourers in rural areas as a part of Integrated Farming System (IFS). Honey bees are crucial foragers/pollinators and help in increasing incomes of the farmers by way of increasing the yield of various agricultural and horticultural crops. Further, they provide honey and other high valued bee hive products, viz., royal jelly, bee pollen, propolis, bee wax, bee venom, etc., which generate income and employment for beekeepers/rural people and serve as a source of their livelihood. They also help in sustaining bio-diversity & environmental sustainability.

2. Keeping in view the importance of beekeeping, a component "Pollination Support through Beekeeping" has been incorporated in the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) of this Department, for development of scientific beekeeping in the country. Further, National Bee Board (NBB), has been recognized as a nodal agency for overall development/promotion of scientific beekeeping in the country. On its part, the National Bee Board (NBB) has issued identify cards to its member beekeepers /firms / societies, etc. and initiated nation-wide registration of beekeepers & issuing Registration Certificate. Beekeeping has been recognized as one of the important activities which can contribute in doubling farmers' incomes. A new Central Sector Scheme, entitled "National Beekeeping and Honey Mission" (NBHM) has also been approved by Government of India for overall promotion and development of scientific beekeeping in the country to achieve the goal of 'Sweet/Gold Revolution.'

3. For commercial / scientific beekeeping and to make it sustainable & viable despite variation in climate conditions and cropping patterns in the country, it becomes necessary to migrate honey bee colonies from one place to other place/State. During migration, often complaints are received from the beekeepers/farmers that they are facing lot of problems relating to theft of bee colonies, hardships at check posts by the officials and police and harassment by the DFOs of State Forest Departments during the transportation of bee colonies and honey and other bee hive products as well as placing of apiary in fields/crops/forest/areas adjoining to forests. The State Governments have been, from time to time, requested to issue directions to all the concerned authorities/departments in the States to address these problems to allow transportation/migration of bee colonies and bee hive products without any hindrance and to facilitate/protect them for doing this valuable activity easily in the State. These issues including the issue relating to Department of Forest have also been highlighted in the report of Beekeeping Development Committee (BDC) constituted under the chairmanship of the Chairman, Economic Advisory Committee to the Prime Minister (EAC to PM).

4. Keeping in view the above, you are requested to issue suitable instructions, to the Departments of Horticulture / Agriculture, Forest, Police, Revenue and other line departments involved in this beekeeping, so that transportation/migration of bee colonies and bee hive products is allowed without any hindrance at check posts by the officials of police/forest, etc., and also to ensure the protection of beekeepers and their colonies from theft, etc. to promote the scientific beekeeping in big way in the State/Country.
5. An action taken in the matter may be communicated to this Department.

With regards & Dussehra greetings,

Yours sincerely,



(Vasudha Mishra)

To,
The Chief Secretary of all States