

By e-mail/ Speed Post

**F.No. 6-18/2016-NBB**  
**National Bee Board**  
**Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare**  
**Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare**  
**Government of India**

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated: 02.05.2017  
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**Subject: Minutes of the Meeting to discuss the strategy of implementation and review of progress of Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres (IBDCs)/Centres of Excellence (CoEs) held at 11.00 A.M. on 17.3.2017- reg.**

Sir,

Please find enclosed the minutes of the Meeting to discuss the strategy of implementation and review of progress of Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres (IBDCs)/Centres of Excellence (CoEs) held under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.K.Malhotra, Agriculture & Horticulture Commissioner, DAC&FW at 11.00 A.M. on 17.3.2017 in Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi, for kind information and necessary action.

Encl: As above.

  
(Dr. B.L. Sarswat)  
Director (C/C) &  
Executive Director, NBB

1. The Vice Chancellor, Rajendra Prasad Agricultural University (RAU), Pusa, (Samastipur), Bihar, Pin-848125.
2. Dr. Chitra Srivastava, HOD, Department of Entomology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Pusa, New Delhi- 110016.
3. The Vice Chancellor, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Punjab.
4. The Vice Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Iroisemba, Imphal, Manipur, Pin Code- 795 004.
5. The Vice Chancellor, GB Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand, Pin code- 263145.
6. The Director, ICAR-Indian Institute of Vegetable Research (IIVR), SH 74, Kelabela, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Pin Code- 231304.
7. The Director General of Horticulture cum Mission Director, State Mission on Medicinal Plants, Government of Haryana, Udhyan Bhawan, Sector 21, Panchkula, Haryana

✓ Copy for information to PPS to Agriculture and Horticulture Commissioner, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.

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**F.No. 6-18/2016-NBB**  
**National Bee Board**  
**Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare(DAC&FW)**

**Subject: Minutes of Meeting to discuss the strategy of implementation and review of progress of Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres (IBDCs)/Centres of Excellence (CoEs) held on 17.3.2017 at 11.00 A.M.**

A meeting was organized to review the progress of Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres (IBDCs)/Centres of Excellence (CoEs) held under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.K.Malhotra, Agriculture & Horticulture Commissioner, DAC&FW at 11.00 A.M. on 17.3.2017. A list of participants is annexed.

2. The Chairman, while welcoming the participants, briefed about the purpose of conductance of the meeting regarding review of the progress of IBDCs/CoEs on Beekeeping. These centres will provide all requisite support to the beekeepers/stakeholders in the State to enable them to adopt scientific beekeeping. The University/Institute wise strategy and progress of implementation of IBDCs/CoEs established during the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 (7) including one IBDC by the Department of Horticulture, Government of Haryana were reviewed/discussed in detail. The representatives of the Universities/Institutes were requested to present the status in this regard. The Universities/Institutes wise details are as under:

**(i) IIVR, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh:**

Dr. Bijender Singh, Director, IIVR, Varanasi presented the strategy to be adopted for implementation of the project and mentioned that the work will be started in the first quarter of the year 2017-18. He informed that the infrastructural facilities, viz: buildings, sheds, etc. are available in the campus. We have to modify/design them as per the requirement of IBDC. Regarding Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, he mentioned that IIVR already have laboratory which may be upgraded as per the requirement of diagnostic system of honeybees including molecular technology, etc. Dr. A.B.Rai, HoD/Entomologist will be PI for IBDC. He requested for more funds for deploying staff in the project for its effective functioning.

It was suggested by ED, NBB that IIVR should give thrust on working of *Apis mellifera* species including development of quality nucleus stock, its multiplication, etc. He mentioned that for effective and smooth functioning of the centre, a strategy for some of the units of the centre may be worked out on PPP mode by involving expert member societies of NBB. If required, the scientists may be sent for practical training/exposure on the centres of these Societies.

**(ii) CAU, Imphal, Manipur:**

Dr. Premjit Singh, Vice-Chancellor, CAU, Imphal mentioned that a senior scientist/entomologist will be deputed as PI for this project and the project will be taken on the Farm of KVK having 32 hac. of land. AICRP (HB&P) centre will be involved in this project. He mentioned that the thrust will be given on developing quality nucleus stock of *Apis-cerena*, its multiplication, etc. He requested for practical training/exposure of the scientists/entomologists of the University in some other Universities/Member Society of NBB.



ED, NBB mentioned that recently training in Manipur on Beekeeping is being organized by NBB in association with one of our Member Societies. The concerned officials/scientists of University may participate in this training to have practical knowledge in beekeeping.

**iii) RAU, Bihar:**

Dr. J. P. Upadhyaya, Director (Research) and Dr. Neeraj Kumar, Scientist, RAU, Samastipur, Bihar presented the strategy being followed for implementation of IBDC Project. It was informed that work of setting up of IBDC at KVK, Piprakothi is in progress. The work of beehives, supers and beekeeping equipments manufacturing unit is also in progress. A detailed progress report was also given in the meeting. Dr. Neeraj Kumar mentioned that a group of scientists involved in IBDCs, may be sent for training either at PAU, Ludhiana or at Pantnagar University. He informed that about 82% of total funds released (Rs.89.00 lakhs) during the year 2015-16 as first instalment, has been spent. Therefore, more funds may be released for the Centre to make continuity in the work.

**iv) GBPUA&T, Pantnagar:**

Dr. Pramod Mall, Professor & Head, GB Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar presented a detailed strategy for implementation of project. He mentioned that 20 hac. Bee flora has already been planted in University campus to develop bee garden. A honey processing plant of the capacity of 10 quintal/per day is also available with the University. He mentioned that satellite centre under this project will be at KVK Dakarani, Dehradun with main centre at University. For setting up of Quality control lab for beehive products including honey will be set up at University. The work of manufacturing of beekeeping equipment, beehives, supers, etc. will also be set up for making quality beekeeping equipments. The university will work on both of the species, *Apis cerena* and *Apis mellifera*.

**v) IARI, PUSA, New Delhi:**

Dr. Chitra Srivastava, Head, Entomology Division, IARI, Delhi mentioned that as such no work has been done on beekeeping in past in IARI. She presented the progress made in setting up of IBDC at IARI, PUSA, Delhi and about Rs.87.00 lakhs has been spent out of the first release of Rs.100.00 lakhs. She requested for further release of funds to continue the work.

Dr. Sarswat, ED,NBB mentioned that while visiting this centre, some suggestions for improvement of quality, relating to maintenance of honey bee colonies, planting bee friendly flora/plants in bee garden, setting up of unit for manufacturing of beekeeping equipments, beehives, supers, etc., were given. The officials engaged in this centre were also got trained from one of the Member Societies of NBB. It was also suggested to start the work for setting up of Disease Diagnostic Lab, Honey Processing and marketing centre, honey testing laboratory, development of quality nucleus stock etc., by putting dedicated and knowledgeable scientists, etc.

**vi) PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab**

Dr. S.S.Kukal, Additional Director, Research, PAU and Dr. Pradeep K. Chhuneja, PI, PAU, Ludhiana presented the detailed strategy for implementation of IBDC project and informed that the project has been incorporated in the budget of the University. The component/activity-wise planning will be completed by the end of April, 2017. University is already engaged in conducting trainings for Master Trainers and it was mentioned that 500 queens/quality nucleus stocks, per



year, will be developed under the project. The work on setting up of Disease Diagnostic Lab and Honey Testing Laboratory will also be started shortly. He requested that for effective and smooth implementation of the project, some inter-compact changes are required within the approved cost of the project, for which a detailed proposal would be submitted shortly. He also agreed for conducting trainings/practical exposure for the scientists engaged in setting up of IBDC in other Universities/Organisations/ Institutes.

**vii) IBDC at Ramnagar, Kurukshetra, Haryana**

Shri Billu Yadav, Dy. Director (Horti.), Horticulture Department, Haryana mentioned that IBDC is being set up at Kurukshetra with a total cost of Rs.10.50 crores including Rs.5.00 crores for construction of buildings/infrastructure. The work of setting up of this centre is under progress. He requested for technical guidance of NBB for making this centre more effective.

3. In the concluding remarks by Chairman, it was suggested that the basic and most important requirement for sustainable development of scientific beekeeping in the country is of Quality Nucleus Stock of *Apis-cerana* and *Apis mellifera*, setting up of Honey Bee Disease Diagnostic Labs and Technological Advancements in the field. These all three activities are related to research system/AICRP(HB&P)/SAU. Therefore, more thrust is required on these aspects/units by the Universities/KVKs in setting up of IBDC. He mentioned that time schedule/calendar of completion of the activities/units of IBDC along with detailed strategy may be prepared by the Universities/KVKs/Institutes. He mentioned that interaction of the officials of these centres will be help each other for effectiveness of these centres. It was also informed that a National Seminar of Beekeeping will be organized in association with HAU, Hissar at Karnal in which the participation of the concerned officials of these centres may be ensured. The information for Seminar will be given after confirmation of the dates of the Seminar. He further mentioned that the Universities/KVKs/Institutes may frame a strategy to involve the Expert Member Societies of NBB in these centres to run the centre on PPP mode.

4. It was also mentioned that thrust may be given for implementation each and every activity approved under these centres in effective manner with best technology so that the purpose of setting up of these centres as role model in the State/Area may be served.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



List of Participants

1. Dr. S.K.Malhotra, AC&HC, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Dr. B.L.Sarswat, ED, NBB, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Dr. Billu Yadav, Dy. Director (Hort.), IBDC, Ramnagar, Kurukshetra, Haryana.
4. Dr. B. Singh, Director, ICAR, IIVR, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
5. Dr. M. Premjit Singh, Vice Chancellor, CAU, Imphal, Manipur.
6. Dr. J.C.Mehla, State Level Consultant, IBDC, Ramnagar, Kurukshetra, Haryana.
7. Dr. A.B.Rai, HOD, Crop Protection, ICAR, IIVR, Varanasi, UP.
8. Dr. Neeraj Kumar, PI, AICRP on HB&P & ICAR, DRPCA, Pusa, Bihar.
9. Dr. J. P. Upadhyaya, Director, Research, DRPCA, Pusa, Bihar.
10. Dr. Chitra Srivastava, Head, Entomology, IARI, New Delhi.
11. Dr. S. Subramanian, Principal Scientist, Entomology, IARI, New Delhi.
12. Dr. Shashank P.R. Scientist, Entomology, IARI, New Delhi.
13. Shri S.S.Kukal, Additional Director Research, PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab.
14. Dr. Pradeep K. Chhuneja, Apiculture Unit, Deptt. of Entomology, PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab.
15. Dr. Pramod Mall, Prof. & Head, GB Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar.
16. Dr. Jaspal Singh, Entomologist, PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab.