Dear

Please refer to D.O. letter of even no. dated 14th February, 2020 from Ms. Yasudha Mishra, the then Special Secretary, DAC&FW and letter of even no. dated 14.04.2020 from ED, NBB regarding Action Taken Report (ATR) on the recommendations of Beekeeping Development Committee (BDC) constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Bibek Debroy, Chairman, EAC to PM, to take lead in promoting and coordinating activities involved in beekeeping industry so that “Sweet/Golden Revolution” in the country could be achieved. ATR in the matter is still awaited. You are requested to expedite the same.

2. Further, it is brought to your notice that Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (M/o EF&CC), on the recommendations/issues concerning them, has informed as under:

As per section 2(f) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, “beeking” as a traditional practice, is exempted from the definition of “commercial utilization” and hence beekeeper have no obligation to get any approval for undertaking beekeeping activity from National Biodiversity Authority or State Biodiversity Board. and The honey and wax sourced from non-forest areas/domestic premises will not qualify for regulation under Indian Forest Act (IFA) 1927, as per section 2(4) b. However, honey collected from forests will be subject to regulations as per IFA & State Forest Acts as it is classified as a forest produce. As far as harassment by officials of domestic beekeepers, this Ministry will again advise the States to do the needful to facilitate the beekeeping and marketing of honey and wax without any obstruction.


4. Keeping in view the above, you are requested to issue instructions to the concerned officials/departments not to harass beekeepers and facilitate beekeeping as well as marketing of honey & other beehive products without any obstructions. You are also requested to expedite the ATR on the recommendations of BDC, if not sent yet.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(B.N.S. Murthy)

Encl. as above.

The Chief Secretaries of All State Governments.

Copy for information & necessary action to the Secretaries/Principal Secretaries (Forest), Deptt. of Forest, All State Governments.
Dr. B.L. Sarswat  
Executive Director,  
National Bee Board (NBB),  
DAC&FW, MoA&FW  
New Delhi  
E-mail: bl.sarswat@nic.in

Dear Sir,


2. In this connection, the under signed is directed to inform that the Biological Diversity Act (BD), 2002 being implemented by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)/National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai. As per section 2(f) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, 'bee keeping' as a traditional practice, is exempted from the definition of 'commercial utilization' and hence bee keepers have no obligation to get any approval for undertaking bee keeping activity from National Biodiversity Authority or State Biodiversity Board.

3. The honey and wax sourced from non-forest areas domestic premises will not qualify for regulation under Indian Forest Act (IFA), 1927 as per section 2(4) b. However, honey collected from forests will be subject to regulations as per IFA & State Forest Acts as it is classified as a forest produce. As far as harassment by officials of domestic bee keepers, this Ministry will again advise the States to do the needful to facilitate the bee keeping and marketing of honey and wax without any obstruction.

4. The details of the ‘Nodal Officer’ for future correspondence in the matter will be communicated to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in due course.

Regards,

(Tarun Kathula)  
Director-CS-III Division  
E-mail: tk.kathula@gov.in  
Telfax: 011-24595135

Copy to:

1. Ms. Vasudha Mishra, Special Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare; e-mail: asc-agri@gov.in
2. Shri J. Justin Mohan, Secretary, NBA, Chennai