





Shri V Shashank Shekhar Joint Secretary (EE .I) Telephone: 011- 23389247 Email: v.shashank@nic.in

भारत सरकार मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय स्कुल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY SHASTRI BHAVAN **NEW DELHI-110 115**

D.O. No. 4-7/2018-MDM-1-1(EE-5) Dated the 8th August, 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am enclosing a self-explanatory D.O. letter from Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, regarding inclusion of honey under Mid-day Meal scheme.

2. This is for information and action as appropriate.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(V. Shashank Shekhar)

Chief Secretaries of States/Administrators of UTs

Copy to: Administrative Heads of Education Departments in States/UTs





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Secretary





भारत सरकार कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय कृषि, सहकारिता एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare

D.O.No. 13-2/2017-NBB

15th January, 2018

Dear Sim Swarup,

As you are aware, National Bee Board, functioning under this Ministry is mandated for promoting scientific beekeeping in the country under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Beekeeping, besides increasing the yield of various horticultural & agricultural crops through pollination support. also produces Honey and other beenive products, viz.; Royal Jelly, Propolis. Pollen, Bees Wax Venom, Comb Honey, etc., which generate income and employment for beekeepers/farmers/rural people and serves as source of their livelihood.

- 2. Honey is one of the main products of beekeeping which is produced by honeybees from nectar and pollen collected from flowers/plants. It is complex of Carbohydrates, Protein with good Amino Acids, Vitamins (Vitamins (A. E. D. B1, B2, B3-Niacin & Nicotinic acid B5, Pantothenic acid, B6, B-12, Folic Acid & Vitamin C), Minerals (Copper, Zinc, Sodium, Potassium, Silicon, Phosphorus, Calcium, Magnesium, Manganese, Iron, etc.), Enzymes, etc. Besides, it has following characteristics: (i) an energizing action (ii) a mild appetizing effect (iii) an easier assimilation and digestion of other foods (iv) a desirable influence on the assimilation of calcium in children (v) an action of preferential retention of magnesium which explains why children nourished with honey develop better (vi) antibacterial & anti fungal (vii) reduces cough & throat irritation (viii) penetrates in the deepest tissues of the body (ix) low hypoglycaemic index which helps in controlling and regulating blood sugar level in the body and (x) antioxidant etc. As per Swiss Bee Research Centre, it has been estimated that 600 components/substances are found in honey. In view of these qualities and nutritive value, honey is treated as pre-digested food, which is easily absorbed into blood. The absorption of honey is sustained and gradual too.
- 3. In the important observations made during the presentation by Group of Secretaries (GoS) before Hon'ble Prime Minister, among others, one of the observations was "A scientific analysis of the nutritional value of honey may be got done. It may also be examined if honey could be made part of the Mid-day Meal

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Scheme". Keeping in view this, the nutritive value of different types of honey has been got tested by NBB from NABL accredited Lab and the report supported the presence of Carbohydrates, Protein, Amino Acids, Mineral, Vitamins, Enzymes, etc, as mentioned above.

4. Keeping in view the above, it is suggested that honey may be included in the Mid-day Meal Scheme and other such type of Schemes of Ministry of Human Resource Development to enhance the nutritional intake of the children and to address the problem of mal-nutrition. National Bee Board (NBB) will ensure the supply of quality honey through its Member Societies/Firms/Companies involved in production and processing of honey.

With hind regards

Yours sincerely,

Gehlarayde (Dr. S.K. Pattanayak)

Shri Anil Swarup, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.