



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

National level Beekeeping Development Committee meeting of Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM) conducted at TNAU, Coimbatore

The Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM) of India conducted the Beekeeping Development Committee meeting at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore on 5-9-2018. The meeting was organised by the Department of Agricultural Entomology which was chaired by Padma Shri Dr. Bibek Debroy, Chairman, EAC-PM and member NITI Aayog, Government of India.

Mr. Ratan P Watal, Member Secretary, EAC-PM and Principal Advisor for Social Sector, NITI Aayog, GOI, Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor of TNAU, Mr. Rajeswara Rao, Adviser, EAC-PM, Dr. B.L. Sarswat, Executive Director, NBB, GOI, New Delhi, officials of Department of Agriculture, Horticulture and KVIB of South Indian States namely Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka and Puducherry, beekeeping scientists from State Agricultural Universities and leading beekeepers from Tamil Nadu participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, discussions were held on the prospects of beekeeping development issues to be addressed and opinions were sought from beekeepers, scientists and officials of department on agriculture, horticulture and KVIB in South India.

Dr. M.R. Srinivasan, Professor of Entomology, TNAU presented the technical details on beekeeping development in South India.

The chairman of the BDC, Dr. Bibek Debroy, Chairman, EAC-PM and member of NITI Aayog, Government of India informed during the meeting that the discussions were fruitful and in the right direction and was hopeful that the outcome of the meeting will help to improve beekeeping in India leading to increased production of honey and other hive products and also enhance agricultural productivity through cross pollination finally fulfilling the ambition of Government of India in doubling farmers income. He also interacted with students and staff of TNAU. The speaker himself being a renowned teacher was greeted by students on Teachers day.

The Vice-Chancellor Dr. K. Ramasamy welcomed the gathering, Dr. A.S. Krishnamoorthy, Director, Centre for Plant Protection Studies introduced the speakers to the audience and Dr. N. Muthukrishnan, Professor and Head, Entomology, TNAU, Coimbatore delivered the vote of thanks.

Mr Ratan P Watal, member secretary to EAC-PM who was Finance Secretary to GOI and was instrumental in preparing Union budget for four years during 2013-16 also discussed with students and staff of TNAU about the role of students in nation building. The team visited the apiary and the newly established state of art insect museum at TNAU and appreciated the University.

Public Relations Officer