



राष्ट्रीय कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास बैंक

NATIONAL BANK FOR AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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**PRESS RELEASE**

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### New Software to help farmers

Vanarai Trust, Pune, a NGO involved in rural development, under the Presidentship of Padmavibhushan (Dr.) Mohan Dharia, has developed a unique web-based software to help the farmers of Maharashtra to take investment decisions on farming operations on their land. The software has been developed by the Software Institute for rural Development (SIRD), Pune and has been jointly funded by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) under its Rural Innovation Fund and by the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India. The software covers 65 farm and allied activities which are relevant to the agro-climatic conditions prevailing in the State. The software provides all necessary information related to the selected farm/ allied activities like the quantity and source of inputs like seeds, the farm practices to be followed (spacing of plants, soil nutrient requirements, irrigation requirements, fertilizer/ preventive pesticides applications needed, etc.), expected yield under the farm conditions, the prevailing market prices for the produce and the overall profitability of taking up the activity at farm level. This software can also be used by the financing banks for appraising the farm investment projects from the farmers and help expedite decisions on such loan proposals.

The new software which will be a boon to the farmers of the State, will be launched formally by Shri Prithvi Raj Chauhan, Hon. Minister for Science & Technology, Government of India in the presence of Shri Umesh Chandra Sarangi, Chairman, NABARD at the College of Agricultural Banking, Pune at 1700 hours on 10 August, 2009. A galaxy of dignitaries including the farmers, people's representatives, senior officers from the Central and State Governments and senior executives from Banks are expected to grace the occasion.