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NABARD in News /02 Sept 2021

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# ‘Leverage power of convergence between agri start-ups and FPOs’

## OUR BUREAU

Pune, September 1

Agri start-ups have demanded access to farmer communities and self-help groups to broad base their areas of operation and insisted on the need for building backward linkages. Agri start-ups put forth this demand in an online event organised by NABFOUNDATION, a not for profit company, promoted and wholly-owned by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to execute development projects.

The meeting was chaired by GR Chintala, Chairman, NABARD, while Anil Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, delivered the inaugural speech.

The meat industry aggreg-



GR Chintala, Chairman, NABARD

ator present for the meeting demanded more organised goat-rearing among more rural communities.

## Focus on start-ups, FPOs

Agrawal informed the agri start-up community about the set of products and services designed to encourage agri enterprises. He remarked that it was an opportune moment for the government and NABARD to come together to make a lasting difference in the start-up sector.

Chintala said that leveraging the power of convergence was the need of the hour with some 1,500 agri start-ups on the one hand and some 4,500 Farmer Producer Organisations set up by NABARD on the other.

## Fund of funds planned

Convergence between NABARD, NABFOUNDATION, NABVENTURES and agri start-ups can bring in the much-needed youthful dynamism and technological expertise which rural India needs so desperately, he said. Chintala said that NABARD would work along with the Union government to establish a Fund of Funds specifically for rural agri start-ups.

NABARD, through NABVENTURES, has provided venture capital assistance to agri start-ups and today is the largest supporter in the agri sector.

राष्ट्रीय कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास बैंक

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

## कॉर्पोरेट संचार विभाग

प्लॉट क्र सी-24, 'जी' ब्लॉक, बांद्रा-कुर्ला कॉम्प्लेक्स, बांद्रा (पूर्व), मुंबई - 400 051. टेली: +91 22 2652 4693 • फ़ैक्स: +91 22 2653 0071 • ई मेल: [ccd@nabard.org](mailto:ccd@nabard.org)  
Corporate Communications Department

Plot No. C-24, 'G' Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400 051 • Tel.: +91 22 2652 4693 • Fax: +91 22 2653 0071 • E-mail: [ccd@nabard.org](mailto:ccd@nabard.org)