

## **Union Finance Minister to inaugurate NABARD's Foundation Day Seminar on 'Doubling Farmers' Income by 2022' on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 in New Delhi**

Hon'ble Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley will inaugurate a Seminar on 'Doubling Farmers' income by 2022' organized by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) on the occasion of its 35<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. **The seminar will be webcast live on <http://delhiwebcast.yolasite.com> from 9.30 am onwards on 12th July 2016.**

The significance of the Seminar lies in bringing together policy makers, academicians, bankers, developmental agencies and industry leaders in the area of agriculture, in a common platform, with a view to deliberating on policy issues, strategies and implementation for achieving the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of 'Doubling Farmers' Income by 2022'.

NABARD, being India's apex development financial institution for agriculture and rural development, will play an important role in setting up the roadmap for doubling farmers' income through various credit and non-credit interventions, in partnership with Government of India, State Governments, banks, research institutions, developmental agencies and the corporate sector.

Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala, Chairman, NABARD said "Doubling farmers' income by 2022 is an important mission announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. With small and marginal holdings constituting 85 per cent of total holdings in the country, the task of doubling real income of farmers by 2022, though a challenge, is not insurmountable, if there is a concrete roadmap set for and by all States. We are on the crossroads where we need to enhance farm productivity and make agriculture sustainable. There is also a need to increase farmers' income through diversification to high value agriculture as well as allied and off-farm activities. The Seminar will attempt to explore short and medium term action points for achieving the target."

NABARD would focus on prioritizing last mile activities to complete incomplete projects/ schemes, efficiency enhancement of lagging sectors, rationalization of incentives, and aligning more partners in this endeavour.

The Seminar is expected to address key issues in Doubling Farmers' Income by 2022, focusing on the following themes: (i) Enhancing Farmers' Income and (ii) Enabling Environment. NABARD will be presenting two papers on these themes, focusing on policy environment, credit and infrastructure support, risk management, marketing strategies, etc. This will be followed by panel discussions by eminent panelists.

NABARD will also suggest the roadmap for enhancing farmers' income, increase in yield, leveraging water resources for enhancing farm income, focus on dryland areas, low input agriculture, cost reduction possibilities, systematic farming approach and professionalism in agriculture.