

## **Round Table Discussions and Release of Report On -"Scaling Up Housing Microfinance" by National Housing Bank in collaboration with IFMR Capital and DFID, UK on March 13,2014 at New Delhi**

As the apex financial institution for housing, National Housing Bank (NHB) is committed to contribute to research, analysis and informed debate on housing and housing finance issues. As part of NHB's research and knowledge dissemination initiatives, the Bank collaborated with IFMR Capital and DFID UK to carry out studies on "Scaling up of Housing Microfinance in India" with the objective of evaluating NHB's housing microfinance programme and studying the savings pattern of select informal sector households. Further, the study endeavoured to develop a savings-linked housing finance product and understand the potential of the SHG-Bank Linkage model for a housing finance product. The study has also recommended a scalable housing microfinance product. The study examined microfinance institutions and non government organizations working in the area of housing microfinance in ten states.

Dr Nachiket Mor, Member of the Central Board of Members, Reserve Bank of India released the study at a round table discussion on the report - "Scaling up Housing Microfinance" organized by NHB at New Delhi on March 13,2014 in the presence of Mr R.V Verma, CMD, NHB , representatives from IFMR Capital , DFID, UK and other distinguished guests and invitees to the event.

Dr. Mor commended the initiatives of the partnership between NHB , IFMR Capital and DFID, UK. On the release of the report on Scaling up of Housing Microfinance in India, envisaged to increasing affordable housing credit to the low income sections of the society, he expressed the hope that the study would help the stakeholders in scaling up the low cost housing finance and housing microfinance and achieving the goal of financial inclusion.

Mr R.V Verma , CMD, NHB observed that the present initiative is part of NHB's endeavour to disseminate the widely conducted research and analysis on issues relating to affordable housing with a view to promoting and facilitating the development of deep and vibrant housing market. He mentioned that the study was a result of the partnership with UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID) to launch an affordable housing project that will operate in eight low-income States through targeted interventions and innovative funding models in the sector

The Workshop was attended by personnel from the Government, Banks and Housing Finance Companies, R&D Institutions, Microfinance Networks, academia/research as also various multilateral agencies like World Bank and International Finance Corporation and generated discussions on policy and financing and risk issues related to housing microfinance.



From L to R : Ms Meenal Madhukar, Senior Partner, IFMR capital, Mr R V Verma, CMD, NHB, Mr Nachiket Mor, Member, Central Board of Directors, RBI, Ms. Aditi Rajyalaxmi, Senior Team Lead (Housing), DFID, Mr. Arnab Roy, ED, NHB and Mr. R.S Garg, ED, NHB