

National Housing Bank promotes SUNREF India affordable green housing programme at Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav expo in Lucknow

Lucknow, October 7, 2021: The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) organised a three-day expo-cum-conference titled 'Azadi@75 – New Urban India: Transforming Urban Landscape' at the Indira Gandhi Pratishthan in Lucknow from October 5 to 7.

The event, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the clarion call of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, was a part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava to commemorate 75 years of India's Independence. Rajnath Singh, Minister of Defence, Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, and Yogi Aditya Nath, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, were among the other dignitaries who graced the occasion.

The National Housing Bank (NHB) participated in the expo-cum-conference and used this opportunity to showcase the features of the SUNREF India programme and popularise the concept of affordable green housing among government Institutions in charge of development of Housing, real estate developers, primary lending institutions and the general public from across the state and the country who participated in large numbers.

NHB, the apex financial institution in the country for housing, is implementing the SUNREF India programme with the support of French Development Agency (AFD) and the European Union (EU).

The programme, backed by a credit line of €100 million from AFD and a grant of €12 million from EU, allows banks, housing finance companies to fund green and affordable housing projects and investments therein. The programme has been running for the past 3 years and around 60% of the funds (approximately €60 million) under it have already been disbursed. The aim is to fund the development of 4200 affordable green housing Households within the country.

The SUNREF India team showcased the many benefits – environmental, economic and social impacts of green housing such as reduced water consumption, less energy usage, less emission of greenhouse gases – that a green house provides and distributed various knowledge collaterals highlighting the methodologies that can be adopted by any person wanting to make his or her home a green home.

Present at the expo, V Vaideswaran, Executive Director, National Housing Bank, said, *'We are very happy to see the curiosity and interest of the various stakeholders, and the general public in particular, regarding green housing and its benefits. National Housing Bank is committed to promote the affordable housing programme of the Government of India coupled with green initiative. The SUNREF India housing programme, supported by EU and AFD and implemented by the bank, promotes green affordable housing in the country.'*

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