

## **NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development)**

### **Introduction**

- NABARD is an apex institution accredited with all matters concerning policy, planning and operations in the field of credit for agriculture and other economic activities in rural areas.
- It is an apex refinancing agency for the institutions providing investment and production credit for promoting the various developmental activities in rural areas
- It takes measures towards institution building for improving absorptive capacity of the credit delivery system, including monitoring, formulation of rehabilitation schemes, restructuring of credit institutions, training of personnel, etc.
- It co-ordinates the rural financing activities of all the institutions engaged in developmental work at the field level and maintains liaison with Government of India, State Governments, Reserve Bank of India and other national level institutions concerned with policy formulation.
- It prepares, on annual basis, rural credit plans for all districts in the country; these plans form the base for annual credit plans of all rural financial institutions
- It undertakes monitoring and evaluation of projects refinanced by it.
- It promotes research in the fields of rural banking, agriculture and rural development

### **Types of Refinance Facilities offered**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Credit Facilities</b>
Commercial Banks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long-term credit for investment purposes</li><li>• Financing the working capital requirements of Weavers' Co-operative Societies (WCS) &amp; State Handloom Development Corporations</li></ul>

<p>Short-term Co-operative Structure (State Co-operative Banks, District Central Co-operative Banks, Primary Agricultural Credit Societies)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short-term (crop and other loans)</li> <li>• Medium-term (conversion) loans</li> <li>• Term loans for investment purposes</li> <li>• Financing WCS for production and marketing purposes</li> <li>• Financing State Handloom Development Corporations for working capital by State Co-operative Banks</li> </ul>
<p>Long-term Co-operative Structure (State Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks, Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Term loans for investment purposes</li> </ul>
<p>Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short-term (crop and other loans)</li> <li>• Term loans for investment purposes</li> </ul>
<p>State Governments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-term loans for equity participation in co-operatives</li> <li>• Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) loans for infrastructure projects</li> </ul>
<p>Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) - Informal Credit Delivery System</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revolving Fund Assistance for various micro-credit delivery innovations and promotional projects under 'Credit and Financial Services Fund' (CFSF) and 'Rural Promotion Corpus Fund' (RPCF) respectively</li> </ul>

NABARD also offers various credit facilities like:

- **Short-term/ Medium term/ Long-term refinance** for various types of production/marketing/ procurement activities at attractive interest rates to various organizations, societies, Govts etc.

- **Investment Credit** (Medium and Long Term) Refinance with a mission of Accelerating Private Capital Formation to Promote Sustainable and Equitable Agriculture and Rural Prosperity with Refinance as Lever
- **Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)** is a fund to promote the investment in infrastructure for agriculture. State Governments as well as Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs), Non-Governmental Organisations, Self-Help Groups, etc. are eligible to borrow out of RIDF for their schemes like ongoing Irrigation, Flood Protection, Watershed Management projects, rural Road & Bridge projects, Primary and Secondary Schools, Primary Health Centers, Village Haats, Joint Forest Management, Terminal and Rural Market/Godowns, Rain Water Harvesting, Watershed development, flood protection, drainage, Cold Storage, Riverine Fisheries, Fishing Harbour & Jetties, Mini/Small Hydel Projects in Power Sector, Rural Drinking Water Supply Schemes, Citizen Information Centres, Modern abattoir, Seed/Agri./Hori. Farms, etc.
- **Rural Farm and Non Farm Sector Schemes**
- **Refinance for Rural Housing Facilities scheme** provides Credit to the Individuals, Co-operative Housing Societies, Public Bodies, Housing Boards/ Housing Development Authorities/ Improvement, Trusts, Local Bodies, Voluntary agencies and NGOs, Housing Finance Companies registered, with NHB for finance extended by them to housing projects in the 'rural' areas only. The finance is provides for Construction of New Houses as well as Repairs/Renovation of existing houses in rural areas/ Rainwater Harvesting Structures/ Sanitary Latrines, etc.
- Under the **Micro Credit Innovation scheme**, NABARD facilitates sustained access to financial services for the unreached poor in rural areas through various microFinance innovations in a cost effective and sustainable manner
- NABARD has been designated the Implementing Agency for implementing the Revival Package in all the states. **The Department for Cooperative Revival and Reforms (DCRR)** has been constituted in NABARD for this purpose. NABARD is providing dedicated manpower at the national, state and district levels for implementing the Package.
- **Loans to State Governments** for funding equity of Co-operative Credit Institutions.
- NABARD has formulated a Model scheme for issue of **Kisan Credit Cards** to farmers, on the basis of their land holdings, for uniform adoption by banks, so that the farmers may use them to readily purchase agricultural inputs such as

- seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, etc. and also draw cash for their production needs. Farmers have to get in touch with Authorised banks to use this facility
- **A Research and Development Fund** has been established by the bank with the objective of acquiring new insights into the problems of agricultural and rural development through in-depth studies and applied research and trying out innovative approaches backed up by technical and economic studies. It includes facilities for training, dissemination of information and promotion of research by undertaking studies techno-economic and other surveys in the fields of agriculture, rural banking and rural development. The eligible Institutes for the fund are Approved research institutions, organisations and other agencies which are engaged in action-oriented, applied research, Individuals or groups of individuals would also be extended assistance provided they are sponsored by suitable organisations which would certify the proper use and accounting of funds, Private and commercial organisations are not normally eligible for assistance under the this fund.
  - **SWAROJGAR CREDIT CARD SCHEME** aims at providing adequate and timely credit ie. working capital or block capital or both to small artisans, handloom weavers, service sector, fishermen, self employed persons, rickshaw owners, other micro-entrepreneures, SHGs, etc from the banking system in a flexible, hassle free and cost effective manner. Borrowers in urban areas can be covered under SCC Scheme. Small business covered under priority sector is also eligible under SCC Scheme. Any scheme/project that are income generating/ employment generating may be covered under the scheme. The facility may also include a reasonable component for consumption needs. Farm sector activities like fisheries, dairy, etc. can also be covered under the scheme. Generally such of the self-employment activities which have regular turn over/income stream on short-interval basis can be covered under SCC scheme. SCC is a credit delivery mode and not a purpose. Coverage of SCC will not make a unit ineligible for subsidy. Banks can issue SCCs to target borrowers of SCC scheme for disbursing credit under any schemes whether they are covered under subsidy or not.
  - **Farmers' Club Programme** is a grassroot level informal forum. Such Clubs are organised by rural branches of banks with the support and financial assistance of NABARD for the mutual benefit of the banks concerned and rural people. The broad functions being to coordinate with banks to ensure credit flow among its members and forge better bank borrower relationship,

interface with subject matter specialists in the various fields of agriculture and allied activities etc., extension personnel of Agriculture Universities, Development Departments and other related agencies for technical know how upgradation. Liaison with Corporate input suppliers to purchase bulk inputs on behalf of members, organise/facilitate joint activities like value addition, processing, collective farm produce marketing, etc.; for the benefit of members. They can also sponsor / organise SHGs, undertake socio-economic developmental activities like community works, education, health, environment and natural resource management etc.

- **NABARD Consultancy Services (Nabcons)** is engaged in providing consultancy in all spheres of agriculture, rural development and allied areas. Nabcons leverages on the core competence of the NABARD in the areas of agricultural and rural development, especially multidisciplinary projects, banking, institutional development, infrastructure, training, etc., internalized for more than two decades.
- **Crafts Mart** scheme was initiated with the objective of providing the rural artisans and entrepreneurs access to urban and upcountry markets, products of few artisans supported by NABARD under its various promotional programmes are displayed along with the contact addresses
- **Rural Innovation Fund (RIF)** is a fund designed to support innovative, risk friendly, unconventional experiments in Farm, Non-Farm and micro-Finance sectors that would have the potential to promote livelihood opportunities and employment in rural areas. The following areas/sectors are as thrust areas for support from the Fund. Dry land / Rain fed farming, Rainwater harvesting, Energy from biomass, Crop residues and non-crop bio mass, Distribution and use of water and energy, Storage devices for agricultural and rural products, Managing common property resources, Roads, Sanitation and Waste disposal, micro-Finance, Entrepreneurship/Skill development, micro-Enterprises, Marketing, Housing, Service sector, Health care and Hygiene.
- **Water Harvesting Scheme** is for the SC / ST Farmers with main objective of the scheme is to cover SC/ST farmers in providing irrigation facilities to their homesteads / farmlands. In order to augment the income generating capacity of these SC/ST farmers suitable local water-harvesting structures are proposed alongwith provision for small lifting devices on a nationwide scale. Freshwater aquaculture wherever feasible can also be taken up as per the choice of farmers.

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