

## NABARD PLUMPS FOR SOLAR PUMP SYSTEMS FEBRUARY 20, 2015 THE HINDU

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Manufacturers invited to share their technology with banks and farmers

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), an implementing agency of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy's (MNRE) solar photovoltaic water pumping systems scheme, is involving all the stakeholders to encourage farmers to prefer solar systems for irrigation needs.

The NABARD has invited the MNRE empanelled manufacturers of the solar photovoltaic water pump systems, all the banks and the New & Renewable Energy Development Corporation of Andhra Pradesh for its one-day workshop on implementation of the scheme in Krishna district. The workshop will be conducted in Vijayawada on Thursday. "Solar pump systems are economically viable for all kinds of farmers. The subsidy offered by the NABARD is a minimum of Rs. 50,000 and a maximum of up to Rs. 1.94 lakh for each system based on its capacity," NABARD Assistant General Manager N. Madhumurthy said.

The solar photo voltaic water pump systems manufacturers – Tata Solar, BPL Solar, Cyber and Motion companies – will present their technology before the bankers in order to convince them to extend their credit support to the farmers.

The NABARD is acting as an implementing agency of the scheme as a part of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission of the government of India. "Installation of solar systems will help farmers avoid dependency on grid-power, apart from minimising input cost," said Mr. Madhumurthy. Farmers who have installed the solar systems since December 2014 would be brought into the scheme.

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