

## **NHB imparts training on green housing to officials of urban authority, lenders in Bhopal**

**The training on green affordable housing was conducted under the SUNREF India Programme**

**Bhopal, October 22, 2021:** National Housing Bank (NHB), the apex financial institution in the country for housing, conducted a two-day training for officials of the Bhopal Development Authority (BDA) and representatives of primary lending institutions (PLIs) in the city on October 21-22, under the capacity building and awareness creation component of its Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Energy Finance (SUNREF) India programme.

The programme is backed by a credit line of €100 million from the French Development Agency and a grant of €12 million from the European Union. It extends technical support and credit to banks and housing finance companies in India to lend to and invest in green and affordable housing projects.

The first day of training was undertaken for the BDA officials. On the second day, training was organised for the representatives of local branch offices of PLIs, including scheduled commercial banks and housing finance companies, located in Bhopal. Over 50 participants attended the sessions. The training sessions were organised with the support of the Regional Representative office of NHB in Bhopal. Shri Vaibhav Ramteke, Regional Manger of National Housing Bank emphasized on the Bank's focus on Green Housing. In the program, Shri Subhash, Regional Manger, NHB also deliberated on the "Go Green Initiatives" of the Bank.

**Mr Buddhesh Kumar Vaidya, Chief Executive Officer of BDA, the guest speaker for the training programme, highlighted the importance and benefits of going green, integrating environmental and social compliance and increased adoption of the green techniques in building construction methodologies.**

The training sessions covered technical concepts and know-how on green affordable housing to enable the officials include the green techniques in their construction methodology. The trainers explained in detail, the various techniques and materials utilised in construction of green buildings. The complete process flow of application by a PLI to avail refinance under the SUNREF programme was elaborated upon.

**Mr Kushal Pal, Managing Director of Cent Bank Home Finance Ltd, guest speaker for the PLIs training session, emphasised the need for scaling up green affordable housing to reach a larger segment of society. He also highlighted the importance of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors.**

Reduced water consumption, and lower energy usage and emission of greenhouse gases were among the various economic and ESG benefits of green housing for promoters, users and other stakeholders underlined by the training.

