

	<p>बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र Bank of Maharashtra भारत सरकार का उद्यम एक परिवार एक बैंक</p>	<p>विपणन एवं प्रचार विभाग Marketing & Publicity Department प्रधान कार्यालय, "लोकमंगल," 1501, शिवाजीनगर, पुणे -5 फोन Phone (020) 25536682/25536955; www.bankofmaharashtra.in ईमेल Email: agmmkt@mahabank.co.in</p>
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PRESS RELEASE

BANK OF MAHARASHTRA LAUNCHES SOIL & WATER HEALTH CARD



Mr. R.K.Gupta, Executive Director, Bank of Maharashtra, a Leading Public Sector Bank today launched Soil and Water Health Card for farmers through Mahabank Agriculture Research & Rural Development Foundation (MARDEF). This is to supplement the efforts of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India for focusing attention on the health of soil in agricultural areas to boost productivity and bring increased prosperity.

Mr.Gupta, also distributed the Cards to farmers at Bhigwan, Pune.

Mr.Gupta said that Bank of Maharashtra is the only bank in the Country providing this facility and every farmer should take benefit of this scheme and obtain Soil & Water Health Card. This will help to know

level of nutrients available in the soil of their farms & accordingly corrective dosage of fertilizers can be given. This will help to improve soil fertility & the crop yield. Further he added that, facility of analyzing Micro Nutrients will also be made available shortly at this center.

Soil Testing Lab at Bhigwan, Pune, Mahabank is analyzing soil & water samples of farmers. Annually more than 10,000 samples are tested. This has helped the farmers in the surrounding area of four districts to know health of their soil & water and to overcome the deficiencies /improve the health of soil.

Mr. Philip D'Silva, General Manager, Priority, Bank of Maharashtra, explained the salient features of Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana. Hon'ble Prime Minister has launched Mudra Loan Scheme with aim to fund Micro/Small enterprises engaged in all non-farm sector income generating activities such as manufacturing, trading and services whose credit needs are upto Rs. 10.00 lakh. Bank is offering Mudra Loans at competitive rates @ 10 % p.a. and no processing charges are levied up to Rs.5.00 lakh.

At this auspicious occasion sanctions under MUDRA were issued to the beneficiaries at the hands of Shri R. K. Gupta, Executive Director of the Bank.

Chief Guest Dr. Ramchandra Sabale, Meteorologist & Trustee of the MARDEF said that, Farmers should change their cropping pattern according to climate change, which is directly affecting the rainfall.

Mr. M. R. Prakash, Zonal Manager, Pune East Zone & Mr. H A Mazire, Dy Zonal Manager, Pune East Zone of the bank, and large gathering of farmers were present on this occasion.