ADaRSH & NHB JOIN HANDS TO FACILITATE WIDER ADOPTION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES

August 21st 2013, New Delhi: In an endeavor to upscale and induce wider participation of developers and users for energy efficient housing, Association for Development and Research of Sustainable Habitats (ADARSH, a joint initiative of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and The Energy and Resources Institute) and National Housing Bank (NHB) signed a memorandum of understanding today. The website for the program on Energy efficient Homes was also launched during the event by the Hon’ble Secretary.

Giving his special remarks, Chief Guest, Shri A.K. Misra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Alleviation said “This is a great model, and must ensure that we propagate it effectively. To my mind, scaling and regulating is not a problem, however, there is a need to convince the promoters to ensure energy efficiency in the building sector”.

Speaking at the occasion, Dr. R.K. Pachauri, Director General, TERI said “The implementation of a range of efficiency measures in buildings in India provides numerous economic and social benefits. In this effort the collaboration between KFW, NHB and ADaRSH, an organisation established to promote energy efficiency in India’s building sector, is an innovative step, on which the country can build further efforts in the years ahead”.

Mr. R V Verma, Chairman and Managing Director, National Housing Bank said, “We consider this partnership between NHB, KfW Development Bank, Germany and TERI as very valuable in promoting Energy Efficiency in Residential housing sector in India. We are trying to promote the concept (Energy Efficiency) through financial sector intervention and going forward, as we scale up the activities under this Initiative, we will be involving large number of stakeholders in the financial and the construction sector. This Initiative is a part of the larger global initiative with respect to energy efficiency and energy conservation across different countries.”

Mr. Peter Hilliges, Director, KfW Development Bank, India said “We are committed towards generating awareness among people, and inspiring them to invest in energy efficiency. We are deeply honoured to partner with TERI and NHB for this initiative, and trust our next step will be much better”

Energy Efficient Homes is the first major program in India focused on bringing energy efficiency in the untapped huge residential sector (especially targeting the high rise
apartments). Launched in 2011, the programme has received an encouraging response from builders, primary lending institutions (PLIs) viz. banks & HFCs and other stakeholders from across India, owing to the increased awareness towards energy efficiency. It has offered the builders a new way of marketing their projects. The PLIs have also shown keen interest in this programme to promote energy efficiency in the residential sector.

The programme currently has certified 14 projects with the assessment tool which includes around 22,000 residential units.

As part of the programme, NHB is extending refinance assistance to PLIs viz. HFCs and scheduled banks. The refinance is for the direct housing loans to individuals purchasing housing units under the certified projects. The scheme has been in operation since January 1, 2011.

KfW the Federal Bank of Germany, is assisting National Housing Bank (NHB), financially and technically in promoting energy efficiency in newly-constructed housing units by providing advisory services on energy efficiency optimization of building designs. The programme involves identifying efficiently designed residential buildings, usage of an assessment tool to calculate the energy savings of the building project and a labelling and certification mechanism for the energy savings. The theme of the programme is that developers participating in the programme are required to demonstrate energy efficiency improvement in their projects by at least 18% over a typical residential building. TERI has worked with the Fraunhofer-IBP to customize this tool to Indian conditions. Based on the evaluation result, NHB and the primary lending institutions can easily identify which projects are eligible for refinance. Under the Promotional Programme for Energy Efficient New Residential Housing, primary lending institutions (HFCs, banks) are eligible to receive NHB-Refinance for home-owner loans to fund the purchase of thus certified energy efficient apartments.

ABOUT TERI:

TERI is an independent, not-for-profit research institute focused on energy, environment, and sustainable development and devoted to efficient and sustainable use of natural resources.

Since its inception in 1974, TERI has emerged as an institution of excellence for its path-breaking research, and is a global brand widely respected by the political leaders, policy makers, corporate entities as well as the civil society at large.

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