

**Launch of Government of Maharashtra's and IFAD, SRTT Assisted
Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed
Districts Programme**

In the presence of

Shri. Ashok Chavan, *Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra*

Shri. Harshwardhan Shahajirao Patil, *Minister for Co-operation, Employment Guarantee Scheme, Marketing, Parliamentary Affairs*

Shri Shivajirao Moghe, *Minister for De-Addiction Activities, Social Justice, Welfare of Nomadic Denotified Tribes and Other Backward Classes*

Shri. Vijay alias Balasaheb Bhausahab Thorat, *Minister for Agriculture, Employment Guarantee Scheme, Water Conservation*

Shri Manoharrao Rajusingh Naik, *Minister for Food & Drugs Administration*

Dr. Nitin Kashinath Raut, *Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Fisheries*

Shri. Subhash Ramrao Zanak, *Minister for Women & Child Development*

Mr. Ravsaheb Shekawat, *MLA Amravati*

Shri. A. K. Jain (IAS), *Secretary CM Office*

Shri. Firdoz Gandavia, *SRTT*

Shri. Vincent Darlong, *Country Programme Officer IFAD,*

Dr. S. K. Goel (IAS), *Principal Secretary-Co-operation and Marketing*

Shri RajGopal Deora, *Commissioner Co-operation*

Shri B. T. Deshmukh, *MLA*

Shri Bachu Kadu, *MLA*

Shri Kewalram Kale, *MLA*

Shri Ravi Rana, *MLA,*

Shri Virendra Jagtap, *MLA,*

Shri DineshWaghmare (IAS), *Divisional Commissioner Amravati,*

Shri. Nawin Sona (IAS), *Project Director CAIM and Additional Divisional Commissioner, Amravati, Ms. Richa Bagla, District Collector, Amravati,*

Shri. Sudam Pawar, *Additional Project Director-CAIM,*

PMU, PSU, DPMT staff, Government official of all line Departments, NGOs, Self-help groups and farmers

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra, inaugurated the Convergence of Agricultural interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts (CAIM)-exhibition stalls and took a brief look on all the stall and interacted with exhibitors and NGOs about their work and stall theme; who was accompanied by his colleagues Minister and other invitees. Dr. S. K. Goel, Principal Secretary, Co-operation, Marketing and Guardian Secretary, Amravati welcomed all dignitaries on the dais. Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Maharashtra inaugurated the CAIM programme by lighting lamp and announced that CAIM programme is launched.

Shri. Dinesh Waghmare, Divisional Commissioner, Amravati gave an introductory speech to august gathering and briefed them about the project objectives, Goals and outcomes and thanks all partners for their extended support in designing and implementing the programme.

Dr. S.K. Goel, Principal Secretary, Cooperation and Marketing, gave all the details of the programme and requested to participate actively in CAIM programme.

Thereafter, Dr. Vincent Darlong, Country Programme officer IFAD briefed about IFAD's active participation and ongoing Programme in India and highlighted how CAIM programme is innovative and important for all of us.

Shri. Firdoz Gandavia expressed the vision of the Tata Trusts for the participating in CAIM programme and briefed about the various programs of Tata trusts across the Republic of India.

Thereafter Shri Shivajirao Moghe, *Minister for De-Addiction Activities, Social Justice, Welfare of Nomadic Denotified Tribes and Other Backward Classes* expressed the burning problems in front of Vidarbha region. Issues related to quality of education need to be addressed urgently so our youth will be mainstreamed and will get the equal opportunities.

Shri. Vijay alias Balasaheb Bhausahb Thorat, *Minister for Agriculture, Employment Guarantee Scheme, Water Conservation, Govt. of Maharashtra* shared his experiences about Vidarbha region. He also instructed that local cattle need to be improved rather than introducing new cattle which is not appropriate for the Vidarbha. He briefed about the CAIM programme.

Shri. Harshwardhan Shahajirao Patil, *Minister for Co-operation, Employment Guarantee Scheme, Marketing, and Parliamentary Affairs* presides over and guided through his presidential speech, *informed*

the audience that this programme is not the package it's loan from IFAD and people representative should participate in the selection process of the Villages as per the IFAD's village selection criteria. He addressed the several problems that Vidarbha region is facing i.e. climate change, low irrigation, adverse marketing conditions which cumulatively results in distress. CAIM is designed to address all these problems.

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Maharashtra released the Handbook of CAIM Programme and addressed the august gathering.

Highlights:

- The farmer suicides have been decreased over the period of time due to specific interventions and programme like Prime Minister Package and Chief Minister Package.
- Various development programme will be introduced till the zero suicides. He stated "I still feel that there is need to pay more attention towards it. And I will do until the suicide stop completely"
- Tenure of Vidarbha Statutory Development Board (Vidardha Vaidhanik Vikas Mahamandal) is extended for 5yrs for the development of Vidarbha Region
- Chief Minister Package will be extended for 5 yrs.
- He called upon public representatives and people for their participation in it to ensure success.
- The State's irrigation potential was 20-21% while that of the Country was 40 %. It will be my endeavor to bring State at par with the nation on this front.
- Storage Facilities: need to be improved and increased from 5.50 Lakh metric tonne to 13 Lakh metric tonne.
- He lauded Dr. S.K. Goel for hard work for the development of Vidarbha regions as Divisional Commissioner as well as Principal Secretary therefore he decided to appoint him as Guardian Secretary of Amravati Division.

Shri. N Nawin Sona, Project Director CAIM and Additional Divisional Commissioner Amravati, gave vote of thanks to all the dignitaries for their valuable time and guidance, and thanks to audience for their cooperation and shown interest in CAIM.

The success of comes from the leadership of Project Director to plan and execute micro details of the event. The words of appreciation overwhelmed us and inspire us to continue the same.