



Solar Dehydration Technology

Why in News?

[Indian Institute of Technology \(IIT\) Kanpur](#) has developed a new [Solar Dehydration Technology](#), with the aim of **increasing the income of farmers** and reducing crop wastage.

Key Points

- **Objective :**
 - This technology facilitates drying of **fruits and vegetables** through [solar energy](#) . It is **an efficient and sustainable method**.
 - Its objective is **to increase the income of farmers and reduce crop wastage** .
 - Farmers can preserve their crops for a long time using this technology and sell them when they get a fair price.
- **Benefits :**
 - Solar dehydration is an [eco-friendly method](#) that saves energy and has a positive impact on the environment.
 - Using solar energy **reduces the need for** [conventional energy sources](#), thereby conserving natural resources.
- **TRAINING PROGRAMS :**
 - Under this initiative, 30 farmers have recently been trained in solar dehydration technology.
 - They were given a **live demonstration of pre-treatment and solar drying of tomatoes**, so that they can apply this technology in their farming.
- **Collaboration:**
 - [National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development \(NABARD\)](#) has played a crucial role in this project.
 - Additionally, in partnership with **the Food Processing Department of CSJM University**, it has developed [Standard Operating Procedures \(SOPs\)](#) and quality protocols for this technology.

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National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

- NABARD is an **apex bank for agriculture and rural development**.
- It was **established on July 12, 1982** by an Act of Parliament based on the recommendations of **the Sivaraman Committee**.
- Its function is to provide credit flow for the **promotion and development of agriculture, small industries, cottage and rural industries, handicrafts and other rural crafts**.
- Along with this, the **sustainable development of villages** is to be done by providing support to other related economic activities in rural areas.

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