

# Empowering Farmers: HNB Leasing launches Govi Saviya for Agri sector

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*Sanjay Wijemanne, DGM - Retail Banking Group, HNB (third from left) and Damith Pallewatte, DGM - Wholesale Banking Group, HNB presenting the first lease of the Govi Saviya Scheme to Dinesh Indika, a customer of the Giriulla Branch in the presence of (from left): Bandula Monnekulama, Regional Manager, North Central Province, HNB, Kanchana Karungama, AGM - PFS, HNB and Susith Perera, Head of Leasing, HNB.*

HNB launched a comprehensive support system under the HNB Leasing Govi Saviya

campaign.

The initiative, driven by the bank's microfinance officers and supported by heavyweights in the agricultural sector, aims to revive the industry with state-of-the-art equipment and knowledge-sharing missions. Damith Pallewatte, Deputy General Manager (DGM) — Wholesale

Banking Group, HNB, Rajive Dissanayake, DGM – SME & Microfinance, HNB, Sanjay Wijemanne, DGM – Retail Banking Group, HNB microfinance officers, and leading agricultural companies were present at a special ceremony organized to launch the event.

“We are thrilled to launch the ‘HNB Leasing Govi Saviya’ initiative alongside our partners, reaffirming our commitment to every Sri Lankan, from the individual farmer to the large corporations. With nearly half of our nation's land dedicated to agriculture yet contributing only 6.5 per cent to the GDP, it's evident that there's a vast opportunity for growth. Many farmers rely on ancient practices without modernization and financial resources. HNB Leasing Govi Saviya aims to bridge this gap and address any challenges they may face with targeted support backed by innovative financial solutions.

“Our collaboration with microfinance officers and leading agricultural companies is crucial as it allows us to understand and meet unique needs. It allows us to offer a comprehensive toolkit for enhancing productivity and ensuring food security. We understand that agriculture plays a pivotal role in our economy and the well-being of our people. This initiative marks a significant step towards establishing a sustainable and thriving agri sector,” Damith Pallewatte, DGM – Wholesale Banking Group, HNB.

“We believe in the immense potential of Sri Lanka's agricultural sector, not only as a cornerstone of our economy but as a vital part of our nation's future. With HNB Leasing's Govi Saviya, we are doubling down on our commitment to support our farmers, ensuring they have the resources and support needed to thrive,” HNB Head of Leasing Susith Perera said.