



Research Unit
Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Empowering Rural India

The Revolutionary Impact of SVAMITVA

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Launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on **National Panchayati Raj Day, April 24, 2020**, the **SVAMITVA Scheme** aims to drive the economic transformation of rural India by providing property owners in village Abadi areas with a **“Record of Rights.”** Utilizing advanced drone and GIS technology for land demarcation, the scheme fosters property monetization, facilitates access to bank loans, minimizes property disputes, and promotes comprehensive village-level planning. As a step towards achieving true Gram Swaraj, the initiative is instrumental in empowering rural India and making it Atmanirbhar!

As a testament to this vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, on **27th December 2024, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** will grace the e-distribution of **57 lakh SVAMITVA** property cards across **46,351 villages in 10 states and 2 Union Territories**, address the nation and interact with beneficiaries during a ceremony joined virtually by dignitaries nationwide.

Need for SVAMITVA

For decades, the survey and settlement of rural land in India had remained incomplete, with many states failing to map or document the Abadi (inhabited) areas of villages. This lack of legal records left property owners in these areas without formal records effectively barring them from accessing institutional credit to upgrade their homes or use their property as a financial asset for loans and other financial assistance. The absence of such documentation persisted for over seven decades, posing a significant barrier to the economic progress of rural India. Recognizing the critical importance of legally recognized property records for economic empowerment, a modern solution was necessary. Consequently, the SVAMITVA Scheme was conceptualized to leverage advanced drone technology for the survey and mapping of village Abadi areas. In a short span of time PM SVAMITVA has already achieved exemplary milestones.

SVAMITVA : Objectives



Creation of accurate Abadi area land records for rural planning and reducing property-related disputes.

To bring financial stability to the citizens in rural India by enabling them to use their property as a financial asset for taking loans and other financial benefits.

Proper assessment of the property based on accurate area leading to increased own source of revenue for the determination of property tax, which would accrue to the GPs directly in States where it is devolved or else, add to the State exchequer.

Creation of survey infrastructure and GIS maps that can be leveraged by any department for their use.

To support the preparation of a better-quality Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) by making use of GIS maps.

Achievements of the Scheme

- ❖ Distribution of **57 lakh SVAMITVA property cards** across **46,351 villages** in 10 States (Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh) and 2 Union Territories (Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh) on 27 December 2024.
- ❖ Under the SVAMITVA Scheme with the objective to provide the '**Record of Rights**' to village household owners possessing houses in inhabited rural areas in villages and issuance of Property cards to the Property owners, **31 States/UTs have on-boarded the Scheme**.
- ❖ Drone survey has been completed in **3.17 lakh villages**.
- ❖ Drone survey has been **completed** in the UTs of Lakshadweep, Ladakh, Delhi, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, and Daman & Diu, and the states of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ So far, **2.19 crore property cards** have been prepared for nearly **1.49 lakh villages**.
- ❖ Property Cards of **all the inhabited villages of Haryana, Uttarakhand, Puducherry, Tripura, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Goa** have been generated.
- ❖ A **centralized online monitoring and reporting dashboard** enables real-time tracking of implementation progress. Property cards are seamlessly accessible to beneficiaries through the **DigiLocker app**, allowing them to view and download their cards digitally.
- ❖ The scheme also employs survey-grade drones coupled with the **Continuous Operating**

Referencing System (CORS) network to produce high-resolution maps swiftly and accurately, revolutionizing the process of rural land demarcation.



Areas of Impact

Beyond the quantifiable results, SVAMITVA has made considerable impact on the lives of people across the country. The main areas of influence include:

Inclusive Society: Throughout history, scholars and development specialists have linked ‘Access to Property Rights’ with ‘Improvement in socio-economic standards of vulnerable population in villages.’ The SVAMITVA Scheme aims to enable the same.

Land Governance: Land is an essential resource for any economic activity aimed at creation of material wealth in the world. Lack of clearly demarcated Abadi area has led to high number of land conflicts cases. As per reports, millions of people suffer the impact of land conflicts across India and the world. The SVAMITVA Scheme aims to address the root cause for disputes at local level.

Sustainable Habitats: Creation of High-resolution digital maps for better Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP) leading to improvement across infrastructure like schools, community health centers, rivers, street light, roads etc. through efficient allocation of funds and increased accessibility.

Economic Growth: The key outcome is to help people monetize their property as collateral. Furthermore, it gives a boost to India’s economic growth through streamlining of property tax in States where it is levied leading to increase in investments and ease of doing business`.

Success Stories

The SVAMITVA Scheme has emerged as a transformative initiative, reshaping rural governance and empowering communities through its innovative approach to property validation and land management. These examples underscore the scheme's role in driving rural progress and fostering self-reliance.

Dispute Resolution: Hon'ble High Court of Uttarakhand duly recognized SVAMITVA Abhilekh/Property Card and granted relief to property owners in **Bheemawala village**, Dehradun District against evacuation notice by Uttarakhand Jal Vidyut Nigam to remove “encroachment”.

Women Empowerment: Smt Kokilaben Babaji Vaghela, a woman from a rural village in Gujarat, received her SVAMITVA property card, marking a significant milestone in her life. The property card, issued under the SVAMITVA scheme, gave her legal ownership of her ancestral residential land, empowering her to access loans and build a better future for her family.

Financial Inclusion: Banks are now recognizing SVAMITVA property cards as valid collateral for asset monetization and mortgaging the property. This enables property owners to secure loans and leverage their land for financial support and development. **Rajaram Gour** used the SVAMITVA property card to secure a bank loan, which he used to repair his house and buy a Maruti Suzuki Ecco for his son. This income helps repay the loan while supporting the family's finances and improving access to education for local children.

Increased Own Source of Revenue: The SVAMITVA Scheme has greatly benefited Ekhatpur Gram Panchayat (GP) of Pune district, Maharashtra by providing property cards to household owners, which has minimized property disputes and streamlined land ownership records. This initiative has enabled the GP to address encroachments on public spaces within the village Abadi area and resolve property-related conflicts. As a result, there has been a **25% increase in properties listed in the Property Register**. The scheme has also helped identify open spaces, facilitating better planning for community development. The updated property registers, based on digital maps, have improved the GP's own source revenue (OSR).

Leveraging SVAMITVA maps for Panchayat Planning: The SVAMITVA Scheme, with digitized property records, GIS maps, and high-resolution data, has made spatial planning possible for **Kalonda Gram Panchayats of Gautam Buddha Nagar of Uttar Pradesh**. Accurate property records have reduced disputes and clarified ownership, ensuring optimal land use for various activities. GIS maps and data have enabled Panchayats to delineate boundaries, analyze land use, and plan infrastructure like roads and water supply efficiently

The SVAMITVA Scheme is reshaping the story of rural India—transforming age-old land ownership challenges into opportunities for growth and empowerment. By marrying innovation with inclusivity, it breaks barriers, resolves disputes, and turns property into a powerful tool for economic progress. From high-tech drone surveys to digital property cards, the scheme isn't just about maps and boundaries; it's about dreams and possibilities. As villages embrace this change, SVAMITVA emerges as more than a government initiative—**it's a catalyst for self-reliance, smarter planning, and a stronger, unified rural India.**

References

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