

5 YEARS OF SVAMITVA SCHEME - POLITY

NEWS: SVAMITVA Scheme has completed five years with an extension till 2025-26 for Universal Coverage.

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

National Panchayati Raj Day – Overview

1. **Date of Observation:** Celebrated annually on **24th April**, marking a pivotal step in India's democratic decentralization process.
2. **Historical Significance:** Commemorates the **enactment of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992**, which gave **constitutional status to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)** from 1993 onwards.
3. **First Celebration:** The Government of India officially **declared 24th April as National Panchayati Raj Day in 2010** to acknowledge the foundational role of Panchayats in democratic governance.
4. **Objective:** Aims to **strengthen participatory democracy, empower rural communities, and promote community-led, grassroots development** in the spirit of *Gram Swaraj*.

SVAMITVA Scheme – Introduction

1. **Full Form:** Stands for **Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas**.
2. **Type of Scheme:** It is a **Central Sector Scheme**, fully funded by the Government of India.
3. **Launch Date:** Formally launched on **National Panchayati Raj Day, 24th April 2021**, symbolizing a reform in land governance at the village level.
4. **Purpose:** Seeks to provide **rural households legal ownership of residential properties**, paving the way for property-based economic empowerment.



भारत सरकार
Government of India



SVAMITVA Scheme: Transforming Rural India, Empowering Millions

The Road Ahead



6.2 lakh villages to be covered in four years (Apr'20 – Mar'24)



Create accurate land, reduce property related disputes and increase liquidity of land parcels



Will streamline planning & revenue collection and ensure clarity on property rights in rural areas



To establish nearly 300 Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS) across the country



Land parcels in rural inhabited areas are mapped using drone technology & CORS



The scheme will enable creation of better-quality Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs)

Dated: 11 October, 2020



Key Objectives of the SVAMITVA Scheme

1. **Creation of Land Records:** Generate accurate and authoritative **land records** to aid rural development planning and resolve land-related disputes.
2. **Credit Access:** Enable villagers to **monetize their property** by accessing formal financial services like loans using their property cards.
3. **Property Taxation:** Facilitate **property tax assessment** by Gram Panchayats, enhancing local revenue generation and governance sustainability.

4. **Planning Support:** Support preparation of **GIS-based maps** for improved implementation of **Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs)** across sectors.

Key Components of the SVAMITVA Scheme

1. **Drone-based Mapping:** Use of drones for **large-scale, high-resolution mapping** of village *Abadi* (inhabited) areas.
2. **CORS Network:** Setting up **Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS)** to ensure geo-referencing accuracy and consistency.
3. **IEC Campaigns:** Extensive **Information, Education, and Communication** campaigns to raise awareness among rural citizens about the scheme and its benefits.
4. **Gram Manchitra Integration:** Incorporation of data into the '**Gram Manchitra**' **spatial planning platform** for improved data-driven village development.
5. **Digital Monitoring:** Utilization of an **online dashboard** and **dedicated project management units** for tracking implementation and performance in real time.

Four Broad Impact Areas of SVAMITVA

1. **Inclusive Society:**
 - Legally recognizes the **property rights of rural residents**, especially the vulnerable and marginalized.
 - Enhances their **dignity, security, and access to welfare and finance**.
2. **Land Governance:**
 - Accurate digital maps help in **resolving long-standing land disputes**, a major cause of rural conflicts.
 - Enhances **legal clarity** and **reduces litigation** over land titles.
3. **Sustainable Habitats:**
 - Facilitates **planned development** of rural infrastructure such as schools, clinics, roads, and water supply systems using high-resolution spatial data.
4. **Economic Growth:**
 - Property owners can **access credit and financial schemes**, contributing to **local entrepreneurship and self-reliance**.

- Supports **property tax systems**, improving local revenue and ease of doing business.

Success Stories Demonstrating Impact

1. Land Dispute Resolution:

- *Smt. Sunita* from Himachal Pradesh resolved a **25-year-old land dispute** with a neighbor after receiving her property card.

2. Access to Formal Credit:

- *Sh. Sukhlal Pargi* from Rajasthan used his SVAMITVA property card to secure a **loan of ₹3 lakh**, boosting his family's financial resilience.

Implementation and Partnerships

1. **Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Panchayati Raj** is the lead authority overseeing the implementation.

2. Implementation Partners:

- **State Revenue and Panchayati Raj Departments** – local execution.
- **Survey of India** – drone-based mapping and geo-spatial data.
- **NICSI** – technology and digital support.

Major Achievements

1. **Property Cards Distribution:** Over **2.42 crore property cards** distributed in **1.61 lakh villages**, legally empowering millions.
2. **Drone Survey Coverage:** Completed drone mapping in **3.20 lakh villages**, covering **68,122 sq. km.**
3. **State Participation:** **31 States/UTs signed MoUs**, with full implementation in **Delhi, Ladakh, UP, and Chhattisgarh.**
4. **Global Recognition:**
 - Presented at the **India International Trade Fair 2024.**

- Featured at the **International Workshop on Land Governance** attended by delegates from **22 countries**.

Significance for Rural Governance and Self-Reliance

1. **Financial Inclusion:** Property cards enable **access to institutional credit** and economic security.
2. **Dispute Resolution:** Accurate mapping and documentation lead to **faster and fairer settlement** of property-related conflicts.
3. **Empowered Panchayats:** Enhanced land data strengthens the **role of Panchayats** in planning, service delivery, and revenue collection.
4. **Transparency and Accountability:** The use of drones and digital platforms fosters **openness and tech-driven governance**, setting global benchmarks.

Future Roadmap (Till FY 2025–26)

1. **Universal Village Coverage:** Complete **mapping and property card issuance** in all remaining villages across India.
2. **Strengthening Planning Tools:** Further integrate **GIS tools into local development planning** for smart and data-driven decisions.
3. **Capacity Building:** Train **elected Panchayat representatives and local officials** in the use of **spatial tools and digital governance**.
4. **International Cooperation:** Promote **India's SVAMITVA model globally** as a replicable best practice for rural land governance and empowerment.

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