

# SVAMITVA Scheme

[UPSC Notes]

## What is SVAMITVA Scheme?

The full form of SVAMITVA is Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas. SVAMITVA Scheme was launched on April 24, 2020, which is also celebrated as National Panchayat Day. Ministry of Panchayati Raj would be the Nodal Ministry for this Scheme.

- The SVAMITVA Scheme is being implemented with the efforts of state Panchayati Raj Departments, State Revenue Departments, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, and Survey of India.
- This scheme would provide an integrated property validation solution for the rural areas of the country.
- Under the scheme, SVAMITVA Property Cards will be provided to the landowners by Government authorities. This card will help them present an official document to financial organizations in case of using their land as an asset for loans in the future.
- This scheme will help the owners possess their houses in the inhabited areas. They can use these areas as an asset for loans when required.
- Starting from 2020 to 2024, the mapping of areas using drones will be carried out in all villages.
- SVAMITVA Scheme is only applicable for 6 states currently- Maharashtra, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.
- For the pilot phase of the SVAMITVA Scheme, Rs.79.65 crores have been allotted. This scheme is funded by the Central Government of India.

## Present Status of SVAMITVA Scheme

- In more than 1,10,000 villages digital mapping through Drones has been completed.
- Digital mapping is completed in all the villages of Daman & Diu, Haryana, and Dadra Nagar Haveli.
- 36 property cards have been distributed, and nearly 41 lakh property cards have been prepared.

## Activities Under SVAMITVA Scheme

The major activities under the SVAMITVA Yojana are as follows:

- Continuous Operating Reference System (CORS) will be established under this scheme. CORS is a network that supports accurate ground-truthing, Geo-referencing, and demarcation of lands.
- With the help of a drone survey, the inhabited places in the Rural area would be mapped. This would help in generating high-resolution, and accurate maps to grant ownership property rights. On the basis of the data, property cards will be issued to the household owners,
- Under the SVAMITVA Yojana, a Program management unit will be set up at the state and national levels.
- Awareness programs will be carried out to sensitize the rural population about the methodology of surveying and its benefits.
- Documentation of conducting regional and national workshops.

## Objectives of the SVAMITVA Scheme

The main objectives of the SVAMITVA Scheme are given below.

- Property or land can be used as an asset to get financial benefits or loans which
- will improve the financial stability of the people living in rural areas.
- Determination of the property tax would be easier.
- With the help of the SVAMITVA Scheme, accurate rural planning, and land records can be created.
- With the use of GIS maps under the SVAMITVA Scheme, the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) will get support as well.
- One of the major problems in the rural areas is property-related disputes, but with the help of the SVAMITVA Scheme, these cases will be resolved easily.
- There are various government departments that would be largely benefitted from the GIS Maps.

## Significance of SVAMITVA Scheme

SVAMITVA Yojana has many benefits such as:

- The digitization of the land records will provide tamper-proof evidence of the ownership of the land.
- SVAMITVA Scheme will use digital mapping which will promote the drone ecosystem in the country.
- With the increasing use of drone technology, the manufacturing industries, and drone pilots will be highly benefited.
- It will also drive the start-upsc and MSMEs in India.
- SVAMITVA Yojana will bring various employment opportunities,
- Digitized maps can be used in various sectors for a better future.
- It would restrict the illegal attempt to grab someone's else property which is common in rural areas.

- SVAMITVA Property Card can be used as a temporary identity for all the landowners in rural areas.

## Need for SVAMITVA Scheme

In the past, the government has taken many initiatives for the development of rural areas of India. The Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA) is also expected to do the same.

- With the success of the pilot project, over 6 lakhs of rural people will be benefitted from the scheme.
- The SVAMITVA Yojana also facilitates the monetization of the rural residential asset for various financial services and credit.
- "Record of Rights" would be provided through the property registrations done through the SVAMITVA Scheme.

## SVAMITVA Scheme- Way Forward

All the villages in India will be covered in the SVAMITVA Yojana. The implementation of this scheme will take time which is likely more than 4 years. This is a great initiative taken in the direction of Gram Swaraj and creating ArmaNirbhar Rural India. This scheme is likely to become a tool for empowerment and is expected to reduce social strife on the account of discord over properties.