1. Introduction

SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) Scheme is a Central Sector scheme launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister of India on National Panchayat Day i.e 24th April 2020. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) is the Nodal Ministry for implementation of the scheme. In the States, the Revenue Department / Land Records Department will be the Nodal Department and shall carry out the scheme with support of State Panchayati Raj Department. Survey of India shall work as the technology partner for implementation. The scheme aims to provide an integrated property validation solution for rural India. The demarcation of rural abadi areas would be done using Drone Surveying technology. This would provide the ‘record of rights’ to village household owners possessing houses in inhabited rural areas in villages which, in turn, would enable them to use their property as a financial asset for taking loans and other financial benefits from Banks.

The scheme envisages mapping the land parcels in rural inhabited area using Drone technology and Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS). The survey will be done across the country in a phased manner over the period 2020 -2025.

2. Need for the Scheme

- Absence of a legal document in the rural inhabitation areas and outdated survey of rural land data.
- Need to provide legal right to the owner of the property in a cost effective, timely and transparent manner.
- Creation of durable record of property through high resolution and accurate image base maps to resolve any property disputes by providing a visual aid both to the revenue officials and the landowners.

3. Objectives

The scheme seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- Creation of accurate land records for rural planning.
- 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.
- 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 in preparation of better-quality Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) by making use of GIS maps.
- To reduce property related disputes and legal cases.
4. Coverage
The Pilot phase of SVAMITVA had been approved with Budget Outlay of Rs.79.65 crore. During the Pilot Phase, the scheme is being implemented in 9 States viz. Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Punjab, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. Till 31st January, 2021 Drone Survey has been completed in about 23,300 villages. Property Cards have been prepared and distributed/under distribution to about 2.30 lakh property holders of about 1,432 villages. Likewise, 210 CORS are being set up in the States of Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh.

A provision of Rs.200 crores has been made for the scheme-SVAMITVA in the budget 2021 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 through survey of village areas with help of drone technology by Survey of India. 16 States will be covered targeting 2.30 lakh villages.

Towards the roll out of the Scheme (FY 2021-2024), States of Goa, Gujarat, Kerala and Odisha have conveyed approval for the implementation of Scheme in the next Phase. Chhattisgarh and Tripura have already signed a memorandum of understanding with the Survey of India. States of Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh and Tamil Nadu are actively considered to initiate the preparatory activities for the implementation of Scheme.

The scheme covers multifarious aspects viz. facilitating monetisation of properties and enabling bank loan; reducing property related disputes; comprehensive village level planning.

5. Activities under the Scheme
- Establishment of Continuous Operating Reference System (CORS) network.
- Large Scale mapping using Drones of Rural inhabited (abadi) locations by Survey of India using drone Survey.
- Awareness program to sensitize the rural population about surveying methodology and its benefits.
- Setting of Programme management unit at National and State level
- Development/ Maintenance of Scheme Dashboard and integration of drone survey Spatial data/maps with Ministry’s Spatial planning application to support in planning at local level
- Documentation of best practices/ conducting National and Regional workshops

6. Stakeholders
The scheme will be implemented involving key stakeholders e.g.:
- Ministry of Panchayati Raj, GoI – Nodal Ministry
- Survey of India – Technology Implementing Agency
● State Revenue Department
● State Panchayati Raj Department
● Local District Authorities
● Property Owner
● Gram Panchayat (GP)

7. Benefits:
● Enable rural households to monetize their property for availing loans and other financial benefits.
● Streamlining planning and revenue collection in rural areas and ensuring clarity on property rights.
● Increase in liquidity of land parcels in the market.
● Increase in credit availability to villages.
● Protect rights of the villagers by issuance of property cards.
● Prevention of encroachment of public as well as private land.
● Enable creation of better-quality Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs), using the maps created under this programme.

8. Financial Outlay and Budget for 2020-21
A provision of Rs.200 crore has been made for the scheme. For the pilot phase of the scheme (2020-21), a budget outlay of Rs.79.65 crore has been approved.

9. Monitoring
The following four-layer mechanism is envisaged for monitoring the scheme:

i. National Level
   ● National Steering Committee (NSC)
   ● National Project Management Unit (NPMU)

ii. State Level
   ● State Steering Committee
   ● State Project Management Unit (SPMU)

iii. District Level
   ● District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC)

iv. Panchayat Level
   ● Panchayat Monitoring Committee

10. Project Management
The scheme will be implemented through the regular departmental mechanisms, which will be assisted by Programme Management Units at the National and State level.

i. National Programme Management Unit (NPMU) will be set up at the National level for overall management, monitoring of various activities under
Scheme and to provide support to States and Survey of India. The NPMU will have qualified and experienced experts from the relevant domain.

ii. **State Programme Management Unit (SPMU)** will be set up at the State level for overall management, monitoring of various activities under the Scheme and to provide support to State Revenue Department, District officials, GP functionaries and Survey of India. The SPMU will have qualified and experienced experts from the relevant domains.