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MAGAZINE NOTES

PAI 2.0 and 6 Years of SVAMITVA: The Panchayat Report Card

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PAI 2.0 and 6 Years of SVAMITVA: The Panchayat Report Card


PIB Special Features Chapter 4 · 2 min read ·

Source: PIB explainer (April 29, 2026) and New India Samachar Vol 6, Issue 20; PAI 2.0 released April 24, 2026 (National Panchayati Raj Day)

Two Panchayati Raj Day milestones anchor this feature: the **Panchayat Advancement Index 2.0**, a report card on over 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats, and **six years of SVAMITVA**, the drone-survey scheme giving rural India legal property cards.

PAI 2.0: HOW PANCHAYATS SCORED

- Coverage: **2,59,867 Gram Panchayats** across 33 States/UTs (97.30 percent participation), for FY 2023-24
- Framework: **150 objective indicators, 230 data points**, aligned to the nine themes of Localisation of SDGs

GRADE	SCORE BAND	RESULT
Achiever	90+	0 panchayats
Front Runner	75-89	3,635
Performer	60-74	1,18,824 (45.72 percent)
Aspirant	40-59	bulk of the rest
Beginner	Below 40	residual

The zero-Achiever result is the headline: no Indian panchayat yet clears the 90-mark bar, making PAI a development map rather than a celebration.

SVAMITVA AT SIX

Launched **April 24, 2020** by the PM under the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (drone mapping with Survey of India), SVAMITVA issues record-of-rights for inhabited (abadi) rural land. As of March 11, 2026:

- 31 States/UTs participating; **3.45 lakh+ villages notified; 3.29 lakh drone-surveyed**
- **3.10 crore property cards prepared; 2.65 crore+ distributed**

- The constitutional hook cited: **Article 40** (organisation of village panchayats)
- Why it matters economically: cards work as loan collateral (the feature cites a Rs 9 lakh bank loan secured against a card in Nagpur)

MAINS ANGLE

PAI's value: evidence-based devolution: states can target funds and training at Aspirant/Beginner panchayats instead of spreading thin. **The caveat:** index scores depend on self-reported data quality, and devolution of the three Fs (funds, functions, functionaries) varies so widely across states that panchayat scores partly measure state policy, not village effort. **Way forward:** tie Finance Commission performance grants to PAI improvement and audit a sample of indicators independently.

★ FACTS CORNER — KNOWLEDGEPEdia

PAI 2.0 (FY 2023-24, RELEASED APRIL 24, 2026):

2,59,867 GPs assessed; 150 indicators; 9 LSDG themes

0 Achievers; 3,635 Front Runners; 1,18,824 Performers (45.72 percent)

SVAMITVA (AS OF MARCH 11, 2026):

Launched April 24, 2020; Ministry of Panchayati Raj + Survey of India

3.29 lakh villages drone-surveyed; 2.65 crore+ property cards distributed

Article 40: organisation of village panchayats

National Panchayati Raj Day: April 24 (73rd Amendment came into force April 24, 1993)

Sources: [PIB](#), [Ministry of Panchayati Raj](#)



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