

Research Article

Digital Financial Inclusion of Street Vendors through PM SVANidhi Scheme: A Descriptive Study towards the Vision of Viksit Bharat 2047

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Abstract: Financial inclusion has emerged as one of the most important policy priorities for achieving inclusive and sustainable economic development in India. Street vendors constitute a considerable segment of the urban informal economy and contribute substantially to employment generation and local economic activity. However, due to irregular income patterns, lack of collateral, and limited financial awareness, street vendors have historically remained excluded from the formal banking system. In response to the economic challenges faced by street vendors during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of India launched the Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme in June 2020. The scheme provides collateral-free working capital loans, interest subsidies, and digital transaction incentives to street vendors with the objective of enhancing financial inclusion and promoting digital transactions. The present study examines the progress, implementation, and effectiveness of the PM SVANidhi scheme in promoting financial inclusion and digital financial participation among street vendors in India. The study adopts a descriptive and analytical research design and is based entirely on secondary data collected from government reports, the PM SVANidhi portal, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs publications, RBI reports, and research articles. Statistical tools such as growth rate analysis, Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), trend analysis, and comparative analysis have been used to evaluate the scheme's performance. The findings of the study indicate that the PM SVANidhi scheme has substantially improved access to formal credit among street vendors and has encouraged the adoption of digital payment systems such as UPI and QR-code-based transactions. By 2025, more than one crore loans amounting to approximately ₹17,115 crore had been disbursed under the scheme, while millions of vendors became digitally active participants in the formal financial ecosystem. The study concludes that PM SVANidhi has emerged as a transformative policy initiative contributing to financial inclusion, digital empowerment, livelihood security, and the broader vision of Digital India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and Viksit Bharat 2047.

Keywords: PM SVANidhi, Financial Inclusion, Street Vendors, Digital India, Digital Transactions, Viksit Bharat 2047, Informal Economy.

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INTRODUCTION

The informal sector plays a vital role in the Indian economy by generating employment opportunities and supporting the livelihoods of millions of people. Street vendors form an important component of the urban informal economy and contribute considerably to the supply of affordable goods and services in urban areas. They provide employment opportunities to economically weaker sections and support local economic activity at the grassroots level. Despite their economic contribution, street vendors often remain financially vulnerable due to low and irregular income, lack of social security, and limited access to institutional credit.

Traditionally, street vendors have relied heavily on informal borrowing sources such as moneylenders, friends, and relatives for meeting their working capital requirements. Dependence on informal credit often exposes them to high interest rates and financial exploitation. In addition, limited financial literacy and inadequate access to banking services further increase their

financial exclusion.

The COVID-19 pandemic severely affected the livelihoods of street vendors across India. Restrictions on movement, temporary market closures, and reduced consumer demand led to a sharp decline in their earnings and business operations. Recognizing the need to support this vulnerable segment, the Government of India launched the Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme in June 2020 under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

The PM SVANidhi scheme was designed as a micro-credit initiative to provide collateral-free working capital loans to street vendors for restarting and sustaining their businesses. The scheme initially offered loans up to ₹10,000 with provisions for higher loan amounts upon successful repayment. It also introduced incentives such as interest subsidies and cashback rewards for digital transactions, thereby promoting digital financial inclusion among beneficiaries.

Over the years, the scheme has evolved beyond a relief measure into a broader financial inclusion and livelihood support initiative. The government has extended the scheme until 2030 and introduced several reforms such as increased loan limits, UPI-linked RuPay credit cards, and integration with social welfare schemes. These developments indicate the growing importance of PM SVANidhi in promoting inclusive economic development and supporting the national vision of Digital India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and Viksit Bharat 2047.

The present study attempts to analyse the role of PM SVANidhi in enhancing financial inclusion and digital participation among street vendors through a detailed examination of secondary data and policy indicators.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (2021)

According to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the PM SVANidhi Scheme was launched in June 2020 to support street vendors affected during the COVID-19 pandemic through collateral-free working capital loans. The ministry highlighted that the scheme was designed not only to provide financial assistance but also to integrate street vendors into the formal financial ecosystem through digital transactions, interest subsidies, and credit-linked incentives. Official reports indicated that the scheme contributed considerably towards livelihood restoration and urban informal sector recovery. The ministry further emphasized that PM SVANidhi aligns with the objectives of Digital India and inclusive urban development.

2. Reserve Bank of India (2022)

Reserve Bank of India in its financial inclusion reports highlighted the importance of digital financial services and institutional credit access for economically weaker sections, including street vendors. The report observed that government-supported micro-credit initiatives such as PM SVANidhi played a critical role in increasing financial participation among informal sector workers. The RBI noted that digital payment adoption among small vendors increased substantially after the introduction of government-supported fintech and UPI-based systems. The report emphasized that digital financial inclusion can improve economic resilience and reduce dependence on informal borrowing practices.

3. National Institute of Urban Affairs (2022)

National Institute of Urban Affairs conducted policy discussions and urban livelihood assessments relating to PM SVANidhi and observed that the scheme emerged as one of the most considerable urban micro-credit interventions in post-pandemic India. The study highlighted that street vendors who accessed institutional loans demonstrated better business continuity and improved financial stability compared to those dependent on informal credit sources. The report also emphasized the importance of digital literacy and financial awareness for effective implementation of the scheme.

4. Kalra and Sharma (2025)

Kalra and Sharma (2025) conducted an empirical study to examine the socio-economic impact of PM SVANidhi Yojana among street vendors in Indore. The study revealed that the scheme substantially improved access to working capital, reduced dependence on informal moneylenders, and strengthened livelihood sustainability among beneficiaries. The authors observed that many beneficiaries experienced improved business continuity and financial confidence after receiving institutional loans. The study further highlighted that digital transaction incentives encouraged greater adoption of online payment systems among street vendors. However, the researchers also identified challenges such as limited awareness, documentation barriers, and low digital literacy among certain beneficiaries.

5. Kalra and Sharma (2025)

In another study focusing on the economic growth impact of PM SVANidhi, Kalra and Sharma (2025) found that the scheme contributed positively towards micro-business expansion and income generation among urban street vendors in Indore. The researchers observed that repeat loan facilities under the scheme enhanced business stability and encouraged timely loan repayment behaviour among beneficiaries. The study concluded that PM SVANidhi plays an important role in promoting inclusive economic development and strengthening the objectives of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047.

6. Press Information Bureau (2025)

According to official releases published by the Press Information Bureau, PM SVANidhi has emerged as one of India's largest financial inclusion initiatives targeting the urban informal sector. Government reports indicated that more than one crore loans had been disbursed under the scheme by 2025, with a substantial increase in digital transaction volumes among beneficiaries. The PIB further highlighted that the scheme was extended till 2030 to strengthen financial inclusion, digital empowerment, and livelihood sustainability among street vendors.

7. India Brand Equity Foundation (2025)

India Brand Equity Foundation reported that PM SVANidhi considerably contributed towards financial inclusion and digital transformation among small urban vendors. The report highlighted that digitally active vendors under the scheme recorded increasing usage of UPI-based payments and formal banking channels. The study emphasized that the integration of financial incentives with digital transactions created a sustainable model for promoting inclusive growth among vulnerable urban populations.

Research Gap

A review of existing literature indicates that several studies have examined the role of financial inclusion in improving the socio-economic conditions of informal sector workers. Earlier research has highlighted the challenges faced by street vendors in accessing formal financial services and the importance of micro-credit initiatives in improving their livelihoods. Some recent studies have also analyzed the implementation and socio-economic impact of the PM SVANidhi scheme at regional levels.

However, several important research gaps still remain. Most studies primarily focus on income generation and credit accessibility, while limited attention has been given to the role of the PM SVANidhi scheme in promoting digital financial inclusion among street vendors. In addition, many studies are based on localized survey data and small regional samples, which restrict broader policy-level analysis. There is also limited research examining the long-term growth trends and statistical performance of the scheme using national-level secondary data.

Furthermore, inadequate scholarly attention has been given to the relationship between PM SVANidhi and broader national development initiatives such as Digital India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and Viksit Bharat 2047. Therefore, the present study attempts to bridge these gaps by using secondary data and statistical analysis to examine the role of PM SVANidhi in promoting financial inclusion, digital participation, and inclusive economic development among street vendors in India.

Objectives of the Study

- To examine the progress and implementation of the PM SVANidhi scheme in India.
- To analyze the role of PM SVANidhi in promoting financial inclusion among street vendors.
- To evaluate the impact of the scheme on digital financial transactions among beneficiaries.
- To assess the contribution of PM SVANidhi towards inclusive economic growth and the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Research Questions

How has PM SVANidhi contributed towards financial inclusion among street vendors in India?

To what extent has the scheme promoted digital financial transactions among beneficiaries?

How does PM SVANidhi support inclusive economic growth and the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present study is descriptive and analytical in nature and is based entirely on secondary data. The study examines the progress and effectiveness of the PM SVANidhi scheme in promoting financial inclusion and digital transactions among street vendors in India.

- Sources of Data
- Secondary data has been collected from:
 - PM SVANidhi official portal
 - Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs reports
 - Government Open Data Platform
 - Reserve Bank of India reports
 - Press Information Bureau releases
 - Parliamentary reports and policy documents
 - Research journals and published articles
- The collected data has been analyzed using:
 - Percentage analysis

- Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR)
- Trend analysis
- Comparative analysis
- Tabular presentation

OVERVIEW OF PM SVANIDHI SCHEME

The PM SVANidhi scheme was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in June 2020 with the objective of supporting street vendors whose livelihoods were affected during the COVID-19 pandemic. The scheme provides collateral-free working capital loans to street vendors to help them restart and expand their businesses.

The scheme initially offered loans up to ₹10,000 with provisions for higher loan amounts in subsequent cycles based on successful repayment behavior. Beneficiaries also receive a 7% interest subsidy on timely repayment and cashback incentives for digital transactions.

The scheme was later extended until 2030 with a financial outlay of ₹7,332 crores and a target of covering 1.15 crore beneficiaries. The government also introduced reforms such as increased loan limits, UPI-linked RuPay credit cards, and integration with welfare schemes under the SVANidhi Se Samriddhi initiative.

The major objectives of the scheme include:

- Promoting financial inclusion among street vendors
- Encouraging digital payment adoption
- Reducing dependence on informal credit sources
- Supporting self-employment and livelihood security
- Integrating vendors into the formal financial ecosystem

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1 Year-wise Loan Disbursement under PM SVANidhi Scheme (2020–21 to 2022–23)

Financial Year	Loans Disbursed	Amount Disbursed (₹ Crore)
2020–21	20.58 lakh	2,039
2021–22	10.73 lakh	1,252
2022–23	12.43 lakh	2,041

Open Government Data Platform India; MoHUA.

Table 2 Cumulative Progress of PM SVANidhi Scheme (As on 2025)

Indicator	Value
Total Loans Disbursed	More than 1 crore
Total Amount Disbursed	₹17,115 crore
Digitally Active Vendors	47 lakh
Digital Transactions	557 crore
Transaction Value	₹6.09 lakh crore

Source: PIB, MoHUA, PM SVANidhi Portal (2025).

Interpretation

The data presented in Table 1 and Table 2 collectively highlights the considerable progress and expanding impact of the PM SVANidhi Scheme in promoting financial inclusion, livelihood support, and digital empowerment among street vendors in India. The year-wise data from 2020–21 to 2022–23 demonstrates that the scheme emerged as an important financial relief mechanism during and after the COVID-19 pandemic by providing collateral-free working capital loans to vulnerable urban informal workers. In 2020–21 alone, more than 20.58 lakh loans amounting to ₹2,039 crores were disbursed, reflecting the urgent need for financial assistance during the pandemic period. Although the number of loans declined in 2021–22, the scheme continued to maintain substantial outreach, and the subsequent rise in 2022–23 indicates strengthening implementation and wider acceptance among beneficiaries. The cumulative progress data up to 2025 further reveals the large-scale success of the initiative, with more than one crore loans disbursed amounting to approximately ₹17,115 crores across India. The scheme has also considerably contributed towards digital financial inclusion, as evidenced by nearly 47 lakh digitally active vendors and more than 557 crore digital transactions valued at around ₹6.09 lakh crore. These trends indicate that PM SVANidhi has not only improved access to institutional credit among street vendors but has also encouraged their integration into the formal digital economy. Overall, the scheme has emerged as a major policy initiative supporting inclusive economic growth, Digital India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and the broader vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Table 3: Approx Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR)

Indicator	Initial Value	Final Value	Years	CAGR
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Loans Disbursed under PM SVANidhi	20.6 lakh	1 crore	5	37.2%
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CAGR= (final value/initial value)^{1/n} - 1, Where n is no. of years

Interpretation

The Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of approximately 37.2% in loans disbursed under the PM SVANidhi Scheme indicates strong and sustained expansion of the scheme between 2020 and 2025. The high growth rate reflects increasing outreach, wider acceptance among street vendors, and effective implementation of financial inclusion initiatives by the government. The consistent rise in loan disbursement demonstrates the growing integration of urban informal workers into the formal banking and digital financial ecosystem.

Table 4: Trend Analysis of Loan Disbursement

Year	Loans Disbursed (in lakh)	Trend Index (2020–21 = 100)
2020–21	20.6	100
2021–22	31.3*	152
2022–23	43.7*	212
2023–24	69.7*	338
2024–25	100	485

* Figures represent approximate cumulative loan disbursement progress based on official PM SVANidhi updates.

Trend Index=(Current Year Value/ Base Year Value)×100

Where Base Year (2020–21) = 20.6 lakh loans = 100

Interpretation

The trend analysis of loan disbursement under the PM SVANidhi Scheme indicates a strong and continuous upward growth trajectory between 2020–21 and 2024–25. Taking 2020–21 as the base year with a trend index value of 100, the index increased steadily to 485 by 2024–25, reflecting nearly five times growth in loan disbursement over the period. The increasing trend demonstrates the expanding outreach and acceptance of the scheme among street vendors across India. The growth also indicates improved implementation efficiency, greater awareness among beneficiaries, and enhanced institutional support for financial inclusion initiatives. Furthermore, the rising trend highlights the growing integration of urban informal workers into the formal banking and digital financial ecosystem. Overall, the trend analysis confirms that PM SVANidhi has evolved from an emergency pandemic relief measure into a considerable long-term financial inclusion initiative supporting inclusive economic growth and the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Table 5: Digital Financial Inclusion Indicators under PM SVANidhi Scheme (As on 2025)

Indicator	Value
Digitally Active Vendors	Approximately 47 lakh
Total Digital Transactions	More than 557 crore
Total Transaction Value	Approximately ₹6.09 lakh crore
Common Digital Platforms Used	UPI, QR Codes, Mobile Wallets

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), PM SVANidhi Dashboard, Press Information Bureau Reports (2024–2025), and India Brand Equity Foundation Reports.

Interpretation

The data presented in Table 5 highlights the substantial progress made by the PM SVANidhi Scheme in promoting digital financial inclusion among street vendors across India. The presence of approximately 47 lakh digitally active vendors indicates that a considerable proportion of beneficiaries have adopted formal digital payment systems after joining the scheme. The recording of more than 557 crore digital transactions valued at approximately ₹6.09 lakh crore reflects the increasing integration of street vendors into India’s expanding digital economy. The growing use of UPI, QR-code-based payments, and mobile wallet transactions demonstrates a notable behavioral shift from cash-based informal transactions towards formal digital financial practices. The digital cashback incentives and transaction-linked rewards provided under the scheme have further encouraged beneficiaries to adopt digital modes of payment and repayment. Overall, the findings indicate that PM SVANidhi has contributed not only towards financial inclusion but also towards strengthening Digital India initiatives, improving transaction transparency, enhancing financial accessibility, and supporting the broader vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Table 6: Digital Adoption Index under PM SVANidhi Scheme (As on 2025)

Indicator	Value
Total Beneficiaries / Loans Disbursed	More than 1 crore (100 lakh)
Digitally Active Vendors	47 lakh
Digital Adoption Index	0.47

Digital Adoption Index= Digitally Active Vendors/ Total Beneficiaries

Interpretation

The Digital Adoption Index of 0.47 indicates that nearly 47% of PM SVANidhi beneficiaries have adopted formal digital payment systems such as UPI, QR-code-based transactions, and mobile wallets. This reflects a substantial transformation among street vendors who traditionally depended primarily on cash-based transactions within the informal economy. The increasing level of digital adoption demonstrates the effectiveness of digital cashback incentives, financial literacy initiatives, and government efforts to integrate informal workers into the formal digital financial ecosystem. The findings suggest that PM SVANidhi has contributed considerably towards enhancing digital financial inclusion, promoting transaction transparency, and supporting the objectives of Digital India and Viksit Bharat 2047.

Table 7: State-wise Distribution of PM SVANidhi Beneficiaries (Approximate Cumulative Beneficiaries up to 2025)

Rank	State	Beneficiaries (Approx. in Lakhs)
1	Uttar Pradesh	14.5
2	Madhya Pradesh	8.2
3	Telangana	7.1
4	Maharashtra	6.7
5	Gujarat	5.3

* These are rounded cumulative beneficiary estimates because exact live dashboard values change continuously. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs PM SVANidhi dashboard, and state-wise PM SVANidhi progress reports (2024–2025).

Interpretation

The state-wise distribution of PM SVANidhi beneficiaries indicates that the scheme has achieved substantial outreach across different regions of India, particularly in states with large urban informal economies. Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest number of beneficiaries with approximately 14.5 lakh street vendors covered under the scheme, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Telangana. The high concentration of beneficiaries in these states reflects strong implementation mechanisms, greater awareness among vendors, and active participation by urban local bodies and financial institutions. The data also suggests that PM SVANidhi has played an important role in expanding financial inclusion and livelihood support among urban informal workers across geographically diverse regions of India.

Government Initiatives and Future Policy Directions

The Government of India has undertaken several policy initiatives to strengthen the implementation, outreach, and long-term sustainability of the PM SVANidhi Scheme. The scheme has gradually evolved from a pandemic relief measure into a broader financial inclusion and digital empowerment initiative for urban street vendors.

9.1 Extension of Scheme till 2030

The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the PM SVANidhi Scheme beyond its initial implementation period to further strengthen financial inclusion among street vendors. According to recent official updates published by Press Information Bureau and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the scheme has been extended with enhanced financial support and revised operational provisions. The extension reflects the government's long-term commitment towards integrating street vendors into the formal financial ecosystem and supporting inclusive urban economic development. As per the revision:

- PM SVANidhi officially extended till March 31, 2030
- Total outlay: ₹7,332 crore
- First loan increased to ₹15,000
- Second loan increased to ₹25,000
- Third loan remains ₹50,000
- UPI-linked RuPay Credit Card officially approved
- Coverage expanded to 1.15 crore beneficiaries

9.2 Progressive Loan Structure and Increased Credit Access

The scheme follows a progressive loan cycle structure designed to encourage repayment discipline and long-term financial participation among beneficiaries. Street vendors initially receive a collateral-free working capital loan of ₹10,000 (revised to ₹ 15,000.) Upon timely repayment, beneficiaries become eligible for a second loan of up to ₹20,000 (revised to ₹ 25,000.) and subsequently a third loan of up to ₹50,000. This structured credit progression strengthens credit behaviour, business continuity, and institutional financial engagement among vendors.

9.3 Digital Financial Inclusion Initiatives

To promote digital financial participation, the government introduced digital transaction incentives and QR-code-based payment systems under the scheme. Beneficiaries are encouraged to adopt UPI-based digital transactions through cashback rewards and transaction-linked incentives. In addition, selected beneficiaries are being integrated with formal banking products including RuPay-enabled financial services and digital banking platforms to strengthen financial inclusion and

cashless transaction practices.

9.4 PM SVANidhi Se Samriddhi Initiative

The PM SVANidhi Se Samriddhi initiative was launched to provide holistic socio-economic support to street vendor families by linking them with various central welfare schemes. The initiative facilitates access to health insurance, pension schemes, food security programs, skill development initiatives, and social protection measures. The objective is to improve the overall quality of life and social security coverage of beneficiary households.

9.5 Promotion of Digital Transactions

The government continues to encourage digital transactions among street vendors through awareness campaigns, QR-code distribution drives, digital onboarding support, and transaction-based cashback incentives. These initiatives aim to increase formal financial participation and strengthen the integration of small vendors into India's digital economy.

10. Challenges in Implementation

Despite the substantial progress achieved under PM SVANidhi, several implementation challenges continue to affect the effectiveness and outreach of the scheme.

10.1 Limited Financial Literacy

A considerable number of street vendors possess limited awareness regarding banking procedures, formal credit systems, interest subsidies, and digital financial management practices. This affects effective utilization of financial services under the scheme.

10.2 Documentation and Eligibility Issues

Many vendors face challenges in obtaining vending certificates, identity proof, and address-related documents required for loan applications. Vendors operating informally without official recognition may encounter additional procedural difficulties.

10.3 Digital Divide and Technological Barriers

Limited access to smartphones, internet connectivity, and digital infrastructure continues to restrict digital payment adoption among certain beneficiary groups, particularly economically vulnerable vendors.

10.4 Institutional and Administrative Coordination Challenges

In some regions, delays in loan processing, banking formalities, and coordination gaps between financial institutions and urban local bodies affect the smooth implementation of the scheme.

10.5 Income Instability and Repayment Vulnerability

Street vendors often experience irregular earnings and economic uncertainty due to market fluctuations, weather conditions, inflation, and local restrictions, which may affect repayment capacity and business sustainability.

DISCUSSION

The findings of the study indicate that PM SVANidhi has emerged as one of the most considerable financial inclusion initiatives targeting the urban informal sector in India. The steady increase in loan disbursement and beneficiary coverage demonstrates the growing outreach and acceptance of institutional credit among street vendors. The scheme has played a crucial role in reducing dependence on informal moneylenders and improving access to formal financial services among economically vulnerable urban workers.

The promotion of digital transaction incentives has further contributed towards behavioural transformation among beneficiaries. The increasing adoption of UPI-based payments, QR-code transactions, and formal digital financial systems indicates gradual integration of street vendors into India's expanding digital economy. This transformation is particularly important because the informal vending sector traditionally relied predominantly on cash-based transactions.

The progressive loan cycle mechanism under PM SVANidhi encourages repayment discipline and strengthens the creditworthiness of beneficiaries by linking future credit eligibility with repayment performance. This model supports long-term financial participation and business sustainability among street vendors.

At a broader policy level, the scheme aligns closely with national development initiatives such as Digital India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, financial inclusion programs, and the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. By integrating informal workers into formal banking and digital financial systems, PM SVANidhi contributes towards inclusive economic growth, urban livelihood promotion, and socio-economic empowerment.

Findings of the Study

- PM SVANidhi has considerably expanded formal institutional credit access among street vendors across India.
- The scheme has achieved substantial cumulative growth in loan disbursement since its launch in 2020, reflecting increasing outreach and beneficiary participation.
- PM SVANidhi has promoted digital financial inclusion through cashback incentives, QR-code-based payments, and UPI-linked transaction systems.
- A substantial proportion of beneficiaries have adopted formal digital payment platforms, indicating behavioural transformation within the informal vending sector.
- The progressive credit cycle structure encourages repayment discipline, financial participation, and business continuity among beneficiaries.
- The scheme has contributed towards reducing dependence on informal moneylenders and strengthening financial stability among street vendors.
- PM SVANidhi supports broader national objectives relating to Digital India, inclusive economic growth, financial empowerment, and Viksit Bharat 2047.

Suggestions

- Financial literacy and digital awareness programs for street vendors should be further strengthened through targeted training and outreach initiatives.
- Documentation and loan application procedures should be simplified to improve accessibility for informal vendors lacking formal records.
- Coordination among banks, urban local bodies, and implementing agencies should be improved for faster loan processing and grievance resolution.
- Digital infrastructure and internet accessibility in urban informal market areas should be enhanced to support digital transaction adoption.
- The government may consider introducing additional financial products and credit support mechanisms for successful repeat borrowers.
- Integration of PM SVANidhi beneficiaries with social security, insurance, pension, and welfare schemes should be expanded to ensure comprehensive socio-economic support.

Limitations of the Study

The present study is based entirely on secondary data collected from government reports, official portals, and published literature. Since the study does not include primary survey-based investigation, the findings are limited to policy-level and descriptive analysis. In addition, certain live dashboard figures under PM SVANidhi are continuously updated, which may result in minor variations in cumulative statistics over time.

CONCLUSION

The PM SVANidhi Scheme has emerged as a transformative policy initiative aimed at promoting financial inclusion, livelihood restoration, and digital empowerment among street vendors in India. Through collateral-free working capital loans, interest subsidies, progressive credit cycles, and digital transaction incentives, the scheme has considerably contributed towards integrating urban informal workers into the formal financial ecosystem.

The findings of the study indicate substantial expansion in loan disbursement, beneficiary participation, and adoption of digital payment systems under the scheme. The increasing integration of street vendors into formal banking and digital transaction platforms demonstrates the effectiveness of PM SVANidhi in reducing financial exclusion and strengthening economic participation among vulnerable urban populations.

The scheme also contributes meaningfully towards broader national development initiatives such as Digital India, financial inclusion, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. By promoting self-employment, financial stability, and digital participation among informal workers, PM SVANidhi supports inclusive economic growth and urban livelihood sustainability.

Although implementation challenges such as financial literacy gaps, documentation barriers, digital divide issues, and administrative coordination problems continue to exist, ongoing policy support and future expansion initiatives indicate strong governmental commitment towards strengthening the socio-economic position of street vendors in India.

Overall, PM SVANidhi represents a considerable step towards achieving inclusive urban development, sustainable financial empowerment, and greater formal economic integration of street vendors across the country.

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