

Digitisation of Land Records in India: Modernising Land Resource Management

The Government of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has prioritised the modernisation of land resource management through the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP). This initiative aims to digitise land records, integrate cadastral maps, and create a transparent, accessible, and secure system of land ownership. Nearly 96% of rural land records have already been digitised as of 2024. The government has set a target of December 2025 to complete full digitisation across India, excluding certain North-Eastern states and Ladakh. This transformation will provide clear ownership rights, reduce disputes, and enhance ease of access to credit and services. Prime Minister Modi has repeatedly stressed the importance of digitisation in governance. He emphasised that modernising land records is vital for transparency, reducing corruption, and empowering rural citizens with secure property rights. The Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development is spearheading this mission. Initiatives like the SVAMITVA scheme have already distributed millions of property cards, mapping rural land parcels using drone surveys. This paper reviews the progress of digitisation, highlights government schemes, and reflects on the Prime Minister's vision of a transparent and efficient land management system.