SVANidhi Samman Awards 2026: credit to 81 lakh street vendors, MP-UP-Andhra lead

Urban development • Microfinance | GS-II/GS-III | News reference: 20 November 2026 (awards ceremony)
Prelims: PM SVANidhi, SVANidhi se Samriddhi


मौलिक प्रतीकात्मक चित्र: pcsmantra.com

Why in news

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (Department of Urban Development) held the **SVANidhi Samman Awards 2026** on 20 November 2026 at the Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi. Union Minister Manohar Lal gave away **52 awards and 5 special recognitions**; **Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh** were among the leading States, while Assam, Sikkim, Mizoram and Tripura were awarded among north-eastern and hilly States. The Minister described street vendors as "Street Wonders".

PM SVANidhi in numbers

- Since its June 2020 launch, about **81 lakh** street vendors have accessed over **1.21 crore loans** worth around **₹20,000 crore**.
- After the scheme's restructuring in August 2025, 22 lakh loans (₹6,294 crore) went to 10.6 lakh new beneficiaries in the first year.
- **UPI-linked RuPay Credit Card**: eligible beneficiaries who have repaid the second tranche get a credit limit of up to ₹30,000.
- **SVANidhi se Samriddhi**: socio-economic profiling of over 52 lakh beneficiary families, resulting in more than 1.62 crore sanctions under eight Central welfare schemes.
- Development of 50 Street Food Hubs and food safety and hygiene training.

The awards system

Assessment covered 35 States/UTs, over 4,900 urban local bodies and more than 120 lending institutions on category-specific KPIs; among lenders, SBI, Bank of Baroda, Punjab National Bank and Union Bank were recognised. Post-restructuring performance was assessed for 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026.

Prelims practice questions

Question 1: Consider the following statements:
Statement 1: The PM SVANidhi scheme was launched in June 2020
Statement 2: Under the scheme, the UPI-linked RuPay Credit Card offers eligible beneficiaries a credit limit of up to ₹30,000

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

▼ Answer and explanation

Answer: (c) Both statements are correct.

Question 2: With reference to the SVANidhi Samman Awards 2026, choose the correct statement:

(a) The awards were given only to lending institutions

(b) Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh were among the leading States

(c) Urban local bodies were not an award category

(d) Only north-eastern States were assessed

▼ Answer and explanation

Answer: (b) MP, UP and Andhra Pradesh led; awards spanned States/UTs, ULBs, lending institutions and partner organisations.

FAQ

In short: 52 awards were given at the SVANidhi Samman Awards 2026; PM SVANidhi has so far enabled 81 lakh street vendors to access over 1.21 crore loans worth about ₹20,000 crore.

Q: What is "SVANidhi se Samriddhi"?

An initiative that profiles beneficiary families socio-economically and links them to eight Central welfare schemes - profiling of over 52 lakh families is complete.

Q: What was the assessment period for the restructured scheme?

Post-restructuring performance was assessed from 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026; overall performance from inception to 31 August 2026.

Q: Which categories received awards?

Awards were given across 35 States/UTs, over 4,900 urban local bodies and over 120 lending institutions on category-wise KPIs - 52 awards and 5 special recognitions in all.

Sources

1. PIB/Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, SVANidhi Samman Awards 2026 (20 November 2026): https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetailm.aspx?PRID=2339164&lang=2&reg=48