

Smart Cities in India: Existing Facilities and Indicators of Development

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Abstract

The paper examines the quality of life in smart cities versus all cities and towns in India. This is pursued based on a number of indicators including housing characteristics, access to basic amenities and assets, which when combined are termed as deprivation index. This is then examined in relation to certain indicators of development. Though within the group of the smart cities the deprivation index does not indicate wide variation compared to all urban centres, the objective of inclusive urbanisation does not seem to have been achieved significantly. However, the other programmes (e.g., AMRUT) available to larger number of cities are expected to mitigate inequity issues. On the positive side, the smart cities programme is one of the pioneering attempts of the government to recognise the economic efficiency of large cities. After all it is equally important to create and showcase space which is of international standard and can attract both domestic and foreign investment to enhance growth.