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Comparative Approaches to Urban Technology in India and Japan

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Abstract: Cities worldwide are embracing technology to tackle challenges like sustainability, efficiency, and quality of life. India and Japan, two leading Asian economies, showcase different but valuable approaches to smart urban development. Japan's Society 5.0 vision focuses on blending digital innovation with social welfare through strong collaboration between government, industry, and research, creating smart cities centred on human needs. India's Smart Cities Mission, on the other hand, emphasizes inclusive, scalable solutions that address rapid urban growth, infrastructure gaps, and public participation. Comparing these models highlights how each country's unique governance, culture, and priorities influence their strategies. Japan's integrated innovation-driven framework complements India's people-focused, adaptable approach. Together, they offer important lessons on combining technology, policy, and community to create cities that are not just smart, but also resilient, inclusive, and sustainable

Keywords: India, Japan, Smart Cities, Society 5.0, Smart Cities Mission (India), Sustainable Urban Development, Digital Innovation, Urban Governance

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