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Application of Smart technologies in the planning for livability in technocentric zones - A Case of Kazhakootam, Thiruvananthapuram

Urbanisation has accelerated the economic development on one hand and adversely affected the quality of life on the other hand. The issues associated with urban regions like environmental degradation, traffic congestions, inadequate infrastructure services, unhygienic streetscapes etc., are making them unpleasant to live in. Indian cities have witnessed similar impacts due to this phenomenon and the most affected aspect is the quality of life. Hence, it is important to plan for livability in an area so as to improve the quality of life. Livability parameters have been developed at global and national scale. In this study, the physical parameters of livability have been used to assess the extent of livability at Kazhakootam. Urbanisation has affected the quality of life in technocentric areas. Technocentric developments are technology-based firms that are nodes in the global economic grid. They emerged after economic liberalization in 1990s and, are characterized by clusters of global firms with shared infrastructure. So, Kazhakootam, a technocentric zone is delineated in order to plan for livability. Smart technologies are usually adopted to enhance the livability and quality of life in an area. Different smart technologies were studied from international case studies and these smart technologies can be used to improve the livability of the area. Kazhakootam has been assessed and solutions have been proposed to improve livability using smart technologies.

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