Society & Social Justice · GS - II

Technology-enabled policing can improve women's safety, but it cannot substitute for institutional accountability and gender-sensitive urban planning. Examine.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 17/11/2026	GS - II	Society & Social Justice

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

CCTV surveillance, ERSS-112, safe public spaces, gender-sensitive urban planning, police responsiveness, privacy, street lighting, public transport, community participation, accountability.

Model Answer

Introduction

Women's safety requires both effective law enforcement and urban environments that reduce vulnerability. CCTV networks, emergency helplines and specialised police units can strengthen preventive and responsive policing.

Role of Technology and Policing

- **Surveillance:** CCTV cameras can support crime prevention, monitoring and investigation.
- **Emergency response:** ERSS-112 facilitates access to emergency assistance.
- **Mobility:** Dedicated patrol vehicles and women-led response teams can improve police accessibility.
- **Evidence-based policing:** Mapping unsafe locations helps authorities prioritise interventions.

Limitations and Institutional Reforms

Technology alone cannot address unsafe transport, poor street lighting, social attitudes or inadequate police accountability. Excessive surveillance also raises concerns regarding privacy and data protection.

A comprehensive approach should include regular safety audits, well-lit streets, reliable public transport, gender-sensitive policing, time-bound investigation and community participation. CCTV deployment must follow safeguards on data access, retention and accountability.

Conclusion

Women's safety must be treated as a right rather than merely a policing objective. Technology, responsive institutions and inclusive urban planning must work together to create safer public spaces.

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