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Daily Editorial Analysis
20 July 2021

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Sensitive and precise: On anti-trafficking bill

The article at hand takes into account the draft of Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Care and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2021, which have been critiqued by activists for its failure to identify the causes leading to trafficking.

The Bill, which will shortly be introduced in Parliament, aims to prevent and counter trafficking in persons, particularly women and children, to provide for the care, protection, and rehabilitation to the victims while respecting their rights and creating a supportive legal, economic, and economic social environment for them.

This is Bill's second iteration; the first was passed in the Lok Sabha in 2018. The government plans to implement the provisions of the law via anti-trafficking committees at state, national, and international levels.

At this point, the criticisms of the bill are varied, from criminalizing consensual sexual activity for commerce and consumption of pornography to straying from federalism by making the NIA responsible for the investigation. Critics have also flagged penalties for non-reporting and mention of the death penalty, urging the government to scan the bill further to maintain preciseness.

Words to look out for

Pernicious:

- **Synonyms**: harmful, injurious, baneful
- **Antonyms:** benevolent, good beneficial
- **Word usage:** The teacher scolded Raman for indulging in a pernicious act along with his friends.

Nuance:

- **Synonyms**: shade, refinement, gradation
- **Antonyms**: roughness, blatancy, imprecision
- **Word usage**: The critics liked the movie due to its various nuances.

Vociferous:

- **Synonyms**: noisy, loud, boisterous
- **Antonyms**: quiet, subdued, calm
- **Word usage**: The vociferous kid was expelled from the class.

Article Link: https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/sensitive-and-precise-the-hindu-editorial-on-anti-trafficking-bill/article35398372.ece

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Stronger safeguards: Spyware is an insidious tool. Democracies, including India, have a stake in setting standards

The article at hand talks about the Pegasus spyware that has resurfaced after a gap of two years. And this time, it has been accused of spying on famous activists and journalists.

While it remains unclear whether government agencies were using the spyware, it is being maintained that governments, on or off Pegasus list, have been known to use cutting edge software tools for snooping. This includes mass surveillance by the USA's National Security Agency.

This has prompted democracies to take a collective decision banning the use of private spyware to safeguard against potential abuse of power without compromising lawful security needs.

The data protection bill introduced in the Indian Parliament in December 2019 is still under consideration and has two basic flaws that need to be corrected. Firstly, in a data breach, a service provider will need to inform the proposed regulator, who will take further decisions. The bill also proposes to exempt government agencies under a national security clause.

Words to look out for

Credible:

- **Synonyms**: believable, plausible, reasonable
- **Antonyms:** improbable, ludicrous, unreliable
- **Word usage:** His credible nature got him duped many times.

Snoop:

- **Synonyms**: spy, sneak, pry
- **Antonyms**: ignore, neglect, disregard
- **Word usage**: The thief was caught snooping inside the trader's house.

Vital:

- **Synonyms**: essential, crucial, critical
- **Antonyms**: unimportant, unnecessary, needless
- **Word usage**: The strategic partnership between the two sides was crucial to get the deal done.

Article Link: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/stronger-safeguards-spyware-is-an-insidious-tool-democracies-including-india-have-a-stake-in-setting-standards/

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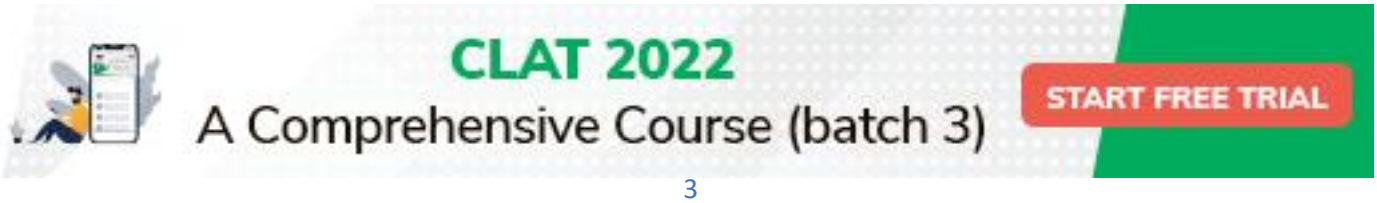

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