

Daily Editorial Analysis

20 Aug 2021



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Slanting posts: On social media and level playing field

The article at hand takes into account Twitter's banning of the Twitter handles of some of the most prominent leaders of the opposition. A Sensitive issue, brought forth by a petition seeking legal action against Rahul Gandhi, pointed out that one of his posts has violated the constitution, besides violating Twitter's terms of usage.

Since then, Congress has criticized Twitter and accused it of being partial. In this regard, the author believes that Congress' behaviour was not up to the mark and that It should have used better social media standards for its social media campaigns.

In the past, Twitter has also flagged Twitter handles of various BJP leaders intending to target Congress. And while the BJP and the police claimed that only they have the tools to manage and alter content dissemination on social media, Twitter claims it has its own mechanism.

The author finds it conflicting that both the state and the private companies think they can control information flow in a democratic society in a better way. However, no such protocol to do so is present with either of them. The state has shown incompetence in dealing with these issues, and both them and the private players should understand the need to use control over free speech in a better way.

Words to look out for

Umbrage:

- **Synonyms:** offence, pique, resentment
- **Antonyms:** like, pleasure, admiration
- **Word usage:** His umbrage towards the government policies increased after the government decided to sell public sector companies.

Transgress:

- **Synonyms:** violate, trespass, infringe
- **Antonyms:** comply, respect, abide
- **Word usage:** The mischievous kid always transgressed the teacher's orders.

Allege:

- **Synonyms:** claim, assert, maintain
- **Antonyms:** disclaim, contradict, deny
- **Word usage:** The prosecutor alleged that his client was put under enormous pressure by the police.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/slanting-posts-the-hindu-editorial-on-social-media-platforms-as-level-playing-field/article35903211.ece>

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China's sanctions: Doing business with Beijing is becoming a risky proposition across the board

The article at hand, written against the backdrop of worsening business ties between China and the European Union (EU), explains why doing business with China is not a wise move right now.

Over the last week, China and the EU have imposed various sanctions on one another despite starting the new year with a new investment deal.

It all started when various western nations sanctioned Chinese officials for gruesome human rights violations in Xinjiang. This prompted China to hit back with its own sanctions on the European countries.

As things stand, the China-EU investment deal looks to be under serious threat. The EU parliament is yet to verify the deal, and things could worsen if China refuses to move away from its aggressive stance.

China's lack of adherence to fair and equitable business practices makes it difficult to do business with, and the author believes it is better to look for alternatives to China.

Words to look out for

Jeopardy:

- **Synonyms:** danger, risk, threat
- **Antonyms:** safety, security, protection
- **Word usage:** The tornado put everyone's life on the ship in jeopardy.

Brook:

- **Synonyms:** tolerate, allow, stand
- **Antonyms:** ban, prohibit, bar
- **Word usage:** No one should brook injustice unravelling in front of their eyes.

Egregious:

- **Synonyms:** shocking, appalling, bad
- **Antonyms:** marvellous, extraordinary, astonishing
- **Word usage:** China's egregious claims regarding its stance on democracy are sinister, to say the least.

Article Link <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/chinas-sanctions-doing-business-with-beijing-is-becoming-a-risky-proposition-across-the-board/>

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