

# Editorial Analysis

## 8 March 2022



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## Fitful approach: On WhatsApp privacy policy and need for data protection laws

The article at hand takes into account the Central government's recent notice to WhatsApp, ordering it to withdraw its updated privacy policy as the author explains why it is inappropriate for the government to intervene in this issue.

As things stand, those who agree to WhatsApp's updated privacy policy will not be able to stop the app from sharing data with Facebook. When this idea was introduced initially, it faced a lot of backlash among users who threatened mass departure to rival apps.

In its defense, WhatsApp has stated that users are free to delete their accounts if the users feel their privacy is compromised. The author too believes that since WhatsApp has stated that since it is not forcing users to do so and that it is ready to bear the consequences of users leaving the platform, why is the government intervening in the process?

On the other hand, the government believes that the app has discriminated against its Indians, as opposed to the scenario in Europe. However, the author believes that European citizens are protected by strong data protection laws, something which is not the case in India.

WhatsApp has also reported that its policies are not different from the like of Google, BHIM, etc... Hence, the author believes that such intermittent actions will not be of much help to India's approach towards data integrity and protection.

### Words to look out for

#### Fitful:

- **Synonyms:** intermittent, sporadic, erratic
- **Antonyms:** regular, constant, continuous
- **Word usage:** When you prepare for a national level entrance exam, you need to ensure you take fitful breaks from study.

#### Exodus:

- **Synonyms:** departure, exit, migration
- **Antonyms:** arrival, appearance, entrance
- **Word usage:** The mass exodus of seasonal birds from the bird sanctuary hints towards the change of weather.

#### Legitimate:

- **Synonyms:** real, genuine, valid
- **Antonyms:** invalid, fake, illegal
- **Word usage:** The king's son had a legitimate claim to the throne.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/fitful-approach-the-hindu-editorial-on-whatsapp-privacy-policy-and-need-for-data-protection-laws/article34617901.ece>

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## Fragile truce: Middle East still needs to resolve its mother conflict

The article at hand takes into account Israel and Hamas' agreeing to a ceasefire arranged by various nations as the author highlights the need to set up direct talks between the battling nations to ensure peace in the region.

The recent Israel-Hamas conflict, which took the lives of hundreds of people, could have gone out of control had Israel armed forces launched a ground operation in Gaza. Besides, the conflict with Hamas was also beginning to affect Israel domestically and politically as well.

But now that peace has been set up, the focus must shift to the restoration of Gaza. At the same time, we also need to make sure the peaceful environment remains intact. But having said that, the conflict once again highlighted the issues that have marred the region for so long.

As things stand, it is clear that the only solution is an independent Palestine and Israel living side by side in harmony. And this can be achieved only if the other nations make sure direct peace talks are held between the conflicting nations, even though both the nations remain engaged in issues of their own.

### Words to look out for

#### Truce:

- **Synonyms:** ceasefire, peace, armistice
- **Antonyms:** war, fight, struggle
- **Word usage:** The truce between Taliban and Afghanistan needs to be kept intact.

#### Bedevil:

- **Synonyms:** confuse, throw, fox
- **Antonyms:** clarify, explain, describe
- **Word usage:** The bedeviled student took a lot of convincing from the sales team.

#### Concord:

- **Synonyms:** unity, peace, accord
- **Antonyms:** discord, struggle, chaos
- **Word usage:** The two countries now live in concord.

Article Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/fragile-truce-middle-east-still-needs-to-resolve-its-mother-conflict/>

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