

Editorial Analysis

5 April 2022



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The Guardian view on second homes: put main homes first

The article at hand takes into account the issue of growing housing inequality in England in the wake of many homes being turned into holiday destinations. Since the pandemic came into being, we have witnessed the rise of various kinds of inequalities across the globe. However, the author did not believe it would extend to housing as well.

As enterprises like Airbnb crumbled, more and more property became available for a long-term settlement of people. However, some policies came into effect, resulting in a property boom.

While it might be argued that demand for second and holiday homes is not the only reason behind the inflated housing market, it certainly is a crucial factor. This has forced local people to vacate areas that are in demand in the holiday homes segment.

The author believes that while this is not a new problem, the pandemic has made things worse. Well-off city dwellers, who have saved money working from home, have turned to these houses. This has resulted in hugely jacked-up prices. This, in turn, has become a nightmare for adults without any inherited wealth.

And while it is beneficial to support the expansion of domestic tourism, we need to ensure homes for locals. That way, we'll be able to bridge the gap of increasing injustice here.

Words to look out for

Hallmark:

- **Synonyms:** seal, stamp, trademark
- **Word usage:** This product was the hallmark of the company.

Venture:

- **Synonyms:** undertaking, scheme, hazard
- **Antonyms:** protection, safety, security
- **Word usage:** The venture was big, but so was the reward.

Resemble:

- **Synonyms:** match, parallel, similar
- **Antonyms:** different, contrast, distinct
- **Word usage:** They were probably the only twins who didn't resemble even a bit.

Article Link: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/jun/21/the-guardian-view-on-second-homes-put-main-homes-first>

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Policy creep: On e-commerce and overregulation risks

The article at hand takes into account the union government's attempts at tightening the screws over the e-commerce segment as the author highlights the negative repercussions it can have on the industry.

Eleven months after the government came up with consumer protection rules 2020, the consumer affairs department has recently come up with some adjustments to protect consumer rights.

In this regard, the author believes that all these alterations aim to tighten scrutiny over the e-commerce segment. Besides, the Centre looks willing to go deep in its fight against Flipkart and Amazon over the allegations of unfair business practices.

And while the government has clarified that it exclusively targets those who are engaged in limiting consumer choices, the author is not on the same lines. By looking to improve consumer rights, it seems the government has gone overboard, and the author believes it could hurt the e-commerce segment in the long term.

Words to look out for

Hitherto:

- **Synonyms:** previously, yet, before
- **Antonyms:** currently, thenceforward, recently
- **Word usage:** He has **hitherto** done some quality work in the field of graphic designing.

Enforcement:

- **Synonyms:** implementation, execution, administration
- **Antonyms:** dismissal, arraign, departure
- **Word usage:** The law enforcement team was set up to make sure people follow the lockdown rules.

Discernible:

- **Synonyms:** visible, apparent, obvious
- **Antonyms:** indistinct, invisible, faint
- **Word usage:** His writing was discernible, and hence, the teacher gave him a bad grade.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/policy-creep-the-hindu-editorial-on-e-commerce-and-overregulation-risks/article34918839.ece>

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