



Ban on Chines Apps: Need and Impact

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India is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of natural and human resources. We have abundant availability of skilled and most efficient human resources especially in the field of IT sector. So, we can develop Science and technology and innovate the required things without depending much on other countries. And we the Indians are living on the Principles of vasudhaiva kutumbakam and national sovereignty and integrity and considering soldiers are the backbone of the country.

Novel coronavirus has spread all over the world which is ordinated from Wuhan, China in December 2019. The Pandemic covid-19 has significantly affected all the sectors and the world economy.

Need to ban Chinese apps

After the LPG there was a free movement of goods and services among the countries with a view to promote foreign trade as per the WTO rule.

We Indians were using many Chinese apps such as TikTok, SHAREIt, UC Browser, Cam Scanner, Helo, Weibo, WeChat and Club Factory etc. for entertainment and other purposes. But during this pandemic the Indian government had decided to ban 59 Chinese apps for citing data security and national sovereignty concerns.

List of 59 Chinese apps banned in India

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| 1. TikTok | 21. UC News | 41. DU Cleaner |
| 2. UC Browser | 22. Xender | 42. DU Browser |
| 3. Shareit | 23. ES File Explorer | 43. Hago Play With New Friends |
| 4. Clash of Kings | 24. QQ Mail | 44. CamScanner |
| 5. Likee | 25. QQ Music | 45. Sweet Selfie |
| 6. Shein | 26. QQ News Feed | 46. Wonder Camera |
| 7. Kwai | 27. Bigo Live | 47. Photo Wonder |
| 8. YouCam makeup | 28. Parallel Space | 48. DU Privacy |
| 9. Helo | 29. Mail Master | 49. We Meet |
| 10. Baidu map | 30. SelfieCity | 50. Clean Master - Cheetah Mobile |
| 11. DU battery saver | 31. Mi Video Call — Xiaomi | 51. Baidu Translate |
| 12. Mi Community | 32. WeSync | 52. U Video |
| 13. CM Browser | 33. Weibo | 53. QQ International |
| 14. ROMWE | 34. Viva Video — QU Video Inc | 54. QQ Security Center |
| 15. APUS Browser | 35. Meitu | 55. QQ Launcher |
| 16. Virus Cleaner | 36. Vigo Video | 56. Vmate |

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|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 17. Club Factory | 37. New Video Status | 57. V fly Status Video |
| 18. WeChat | 38. DU Recorder | 58. Mobile Legends |
| 19. Beauty Plus | 39. Vault- Hide | 59. QQ Player |
| 20. Newsdog | 40. Cache Cleaner DU App studio | |

The reason behind is in the wake of the face-off with Chinese forces on the India-China border in Ladakh, and a violent clash on June 15 that left 20 Indian soldiers dead. The ban has been imposed under section 69A of the IT Act with relevant provisions of the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking of Access of Information by public) Rules 2009.

The Ministry of Electronic and Information Technology had received many complaints from various sources, including several reports about misuse of some mobile apps available on Android and iOS platforms for stealing and surreptitiously transmitting users' data in an unauthorised manner to servers which have locations outside India. The Ministry said it had decided to lock the 59 apps to safeguard the sovereignty and integrity of India.

There is a need for banning the Chinese apps due to the tension happening at the line of control due to the Chinese army. The order was issued in the public interest. But there has been a mixed reaction to this decision, some are supporting it while others have not supported.

Alternatives to Banned 59 Chinese apps

The sudden ban of Chinese applications, Indian users are now looking for alternatives to replace these Chinese apps. The following are some of the alternatives to these Chinese applications.

- 1) For TikTok, Helo, Big Live, Vigo Video, VMate and Kwai- We can use Indian apps like Mitron and Chingari
- 2) For UC Browser, DUBrowser, CMBrowser and APUSBrowser- We can use Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox and these are two of the best alternatives to all the Chinese app browsers. Because both the apps constantly add new features and are very safe options. Alternatively, we can also try Jio Browser. It is one of the most popular Indian mobile browsers that offers a fast and secure internet surfacing experience to users. It also offers an experience similar to UC Browser in news and entertainment content.
- 3) YouCam Makeup, Beautyplus and Photo Wonder- We can use B612 Beauty and Filter Camera as alternatives to the above apps.
- 4) SHAREit and Xender- We can use SuperBeam as an alternative to file sharing apps like SHAREit and Xender. We can use Wifi Direct, NFC or QR codes for sharing large files.
- 5) 360 Security- To replace 360 security on the phone and secure against viruses and malware, we can use Bitdefender Mobile Security and Antivirus which is considered as one of the best alternatives.
- 6) AppLock- The Norton AppLock is the perfect alternative to the popular Chinese app AppLock. It allows users to set a secure password or pattern lock screen to keep Android smartphones secure and private.
- 7) CamScanner- Adobe Scan PDF Scanner with OCR is one of the most trusted apps that we can use as an alternative to CamScanner.
- 8) ES File Explorer- Files by Google Clean up Space on your phone and File Commander File manager and Free Cloud are the best applications that carry the same functionality and features as ES File Explorer.

- 9) Shein- Shein is a popular app for women's fashion which features a wide collection of trendy clothes. One of the perfect alternatives is Myntra, which also happens to be the biggest fashion retailer in India.
- 10) Mi Video Call- Whats app is the most popular alternative to this Chinese app.

Impact on banning of Chinese apps

The impact of banned 59 Chinese applications by the Indian government can be studied from the view point of both China and India. The ban significantly narrows a top growth market for Chinese technology firms and may embolden other governments to shut them out. The ban may affect one of China's ambitious goals of becoming the digital superpower of the 21st century.

Ban of Chinese applications is a great opportunity for the Indian scientists and technologists and they need to meet the strong demand for similar products. The ban has only created a supply imbalance in the market which will attract and encourage the Indian start-ups to ahead. Also, our technological research has reached a level wherein designing such products indigenously should not be a challenge at all.

Need for developing Alternatives

The ban of Chinese apps initiated by the Indian government leads to need for developing alternatives. The Government has too quickly provided alternatives to billions of users. The recent ban is a good opportunity for Indian entrepreneurs to quickly rise to fill market gaps.

During this pandemic today the whole world recognizes that the next source of economic growth lies in the digital economy therefore there is an enormous scope for research and development activities in the field of IT sector. India must speed up indigenisation, research and development and frame-up a regulatory architecture to claim data sovereignty.

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