



Government Instant Messaging System

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Why in News

Government Instant Messaging System (GIMS) is a prototype of an Indian equivalent of popular messaging platforms, such as WhatsApp and Telegram for secure internal use.

- GIMS seeks to replace existing platforms like WhatsApp, Telegram and Signal which are being used by a majority of government departments and organisations.
- It will be used by **employees of Central and state government departments and organisations for secure intra and inter organisation communications.**
 - It employs **end-to-end encryption for one-to-one messaging.**
 - The **server** hosting GIMS is installed **within the country** and the information stored would be in the government-based cloud – NIC-operated data centres that are only meant for use by the government and its departments.
 - **GIMS Portal** will **administer and monitor** the working of an app.
 - Besides, **one-to-one messaging and group messaging** it also provides for **documents and media sharing** in keeping with the hierarchies in the government system.
 - GIMS is designed and developed by the **Kerala unit of National Informatics Centre (NIC).**
- The launch of the new app comes after the recent controversy over the WhatsApp breach of some Indian users' mobile devices due to Pegasus.

Source: IE