

Hiding API Key by Adding Custom Environment Variables | Complete React Course in Hindi #37

Earlier, we customized the Newsmonkey application by adding some features. In today's video, we will be learning how to hide the API key by adding the Custom Environment variable. So, without further ado let's begin-

API Exhausted issue

Well, thank you everyone for exhausting the API key of the NewsMonkey application. As a result, we are facing an error in our application. Thus, we would be hiding the API key with the help of the environment variable.

Hiding the API key

Firstly, we will define the environment variable in the ".env" file. Remember that, by default, the ".env.local" file is included in the ".gitignore". After that, we would be fetching the API key from the ".env" file in an API key variable. In the end, we would be passing the apiKey variable as a prop in the news update and FetchMoreData function of NewsComponent.

1. Defining Environment variable

Firstly, create a ".env.local" file, and let's define an environment variable inside it. Remember, whenever you start any environment variable, It must be prefixed with REACT_APP_ then only you get access to that variable in your React Application. Here's how we are going to define the permanent environment variable in the ".env" file.

```
REACT_APP_NEWS_API= "dslkhpdsioher32sdgsoihg3oisdf"
```

Note: We would be adding our original API key in place of the fake code and obviously we would not like to make it public.

2. Fetching the API key

Now, we have to fetch this API key as an object in "app.js". To do so we would simply add the below code in our "app.js". Remember that, You can access your environment variable by using "process.env.prefix".

```
apiKey = process.env.REACT_APP_NEWS_API
```

3. Passing the API key as Prop in NewsComponent

Now, to use the API key we have to first pass the "apiKey" variable in the NewsComponent as shown below:

Passing the API key as a Prop in the NewsComponent



```
<Switch>
  <Route exact path="/"><News setProgress={this.setProgress} apiKey={this.apiKey} key="general" pageSize={this.pageSize}
country="in" category="general"/></Route>
  <Route exact path="/business"><News setProgress={this.setProgress} apiKey={this.apiKey} key="business" pageSize={this.
pageSize} country="in" category="business"/></Route>
  <Route exact path="/entertainment"><News setProgress={this.setProgress} apiKey={this.apiKey} key="entertainment"
pageSize={this.pageSize} country="in" category="entertainment"/></Route>
  <Route exact path="/general"><News setProgress={this.setProgress} apiKey={this.apiKey} key="general" pageSize={this.
pageSize} country="in" category="general"/></Route>
</Switch>
```

Figure 1.1: Passing the API key in NewsComponent

4. Using the API key

Earlier, we used the API key in the 'updateNews' and 'FetchMoreData' function. But this time, we would be using the API key as a prop as shown below:

```
const url = `https://newsapi.org/v2/top-headlines?country= ${this.props.country}&category=${this.props.category}&apiKey=${this.props.apiKey}`;
```

Result: Hence, we have **successfully** hidden the API key of the News Monkey application. Here's the look at our application:

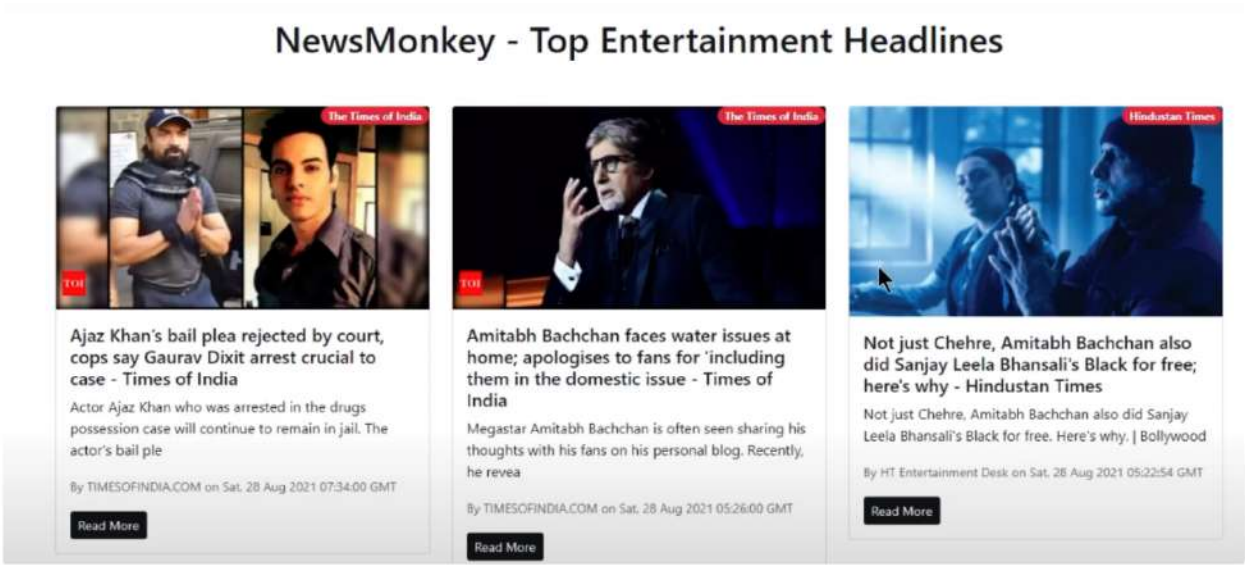


Figure 1.2: NewsMonkey Application