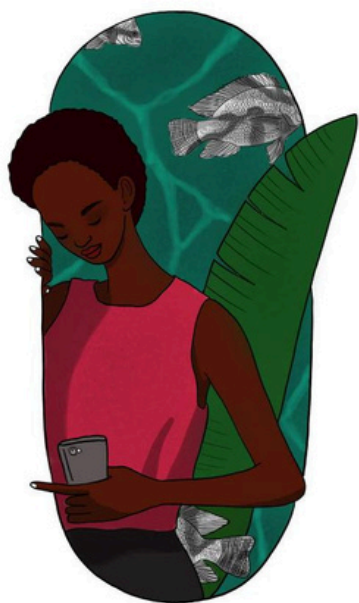


factcheck india

"सच पर विश्वास करें, हमेशा > क्योंकि अंत में, सच मायने रखता है।"



TRUST THE TRUTH, ALWAYS

because

"TRUTH MATTERS"

**GUIDE
BOOKLET**

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WHAT IS FAKE NEWS?

FAKE NEWS REFERS TO FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION PRESENTED AS NEWS. IT CAN APPEAR IN ARTICLES, IMAGES, VIDEOS, OR SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS. UNLIKE SIMPLE MISTAKES, FAKE NEWS IS OFTEN DESIGNED TO MANIPULATE BELIEFS, PROVOKE EMOTIONS, OR INFLUENCE BEHAVIOR.

TYPES OF FAKE NEWS:

- COMPLETELY FALSE STORIES: FABRICATED NEWS WITH NO BASIS IN FACT.
- DISTORTED INFORMATION: REAL NEWS TWISTED TO FIT AN AGENDA.
- SATIRE OR PARODY: MEANT TO ENTERTAIN BUT OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD.
- CLICKBAIT HEADLINES: EXAGGERATED OR MISLEADING TITLES TO ATTRACT ATTENTION.
- FAKE CONTEXT: REAL IMAGES OR VIDEOS USED IN MISLEADING WAYS.

MISINFORMATION VS. DISINFORMATION VS. MALINFORMATION

IN TODAY'S FAST-MOVING DIGITAL WORLD, NOT ALL FALSE OR HARMFUL INFORMATION IS THE SAME. UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MISINFORMATION, DISINFORMATION, AND MALINFORMATION IS ESSENTIAL IF WE WANT TO FIGHT FAKE NEWS EFFECTIVELY.

1. MISINFORMATION – WRONG INFORMATION SHARED BY MISTAKE

MISINFORMATION HAPPENS WHEN FALSE OR MISLEADING CONTENT IS SHARED WITHOUT THE INTENT TO DECEIVE. THE PERSON SHARING IT OFTEN BELIEVES IT TO BE TRUE.

EXAMPLE: YOUR RELATIVE FORWARDS A MESSAGE ABOUT A “MIRACLE CURE” FOR COVID-19 THAT HAS NO SCIENTIFIC BASIS, BUT THEY GENUINELY THINK IT WILL HELP.

KEY POINT: IT'S ACCIDENTAL — BUT STILL HARMFUL.

2. DISINFORMATION – FALSE INFORMATION SHARED ON PURPOSE

DISINFORMATION IS DELIBERATELY CREATED AND SPREAD TO MISLEAD, MANIPULATE, OR CAUSE HARM. THIS IS OFTEN DONE FOR POLITICAL, FINANCIAL, OR IDEOLOGICAL GAIN.

EXAMPLE: A FAKE NEWS WEBSITE PUBLISHES A FALSE STORY CLAIMING A POLITICIAN COMMITTED A CRIME TO DAMAGE THEIR REPUTATION BEFORE AN ELECTION.

KEY POINT: IT'S INTENTIONAL AND OFTEN WELL-PLANNED.

3. MALINFORMATION – TRUE INFORMATION USED TO HARM

MALINFORMATION INVOLVES SHARING REAL, FACTUAL INFORMATION, BUT IN A WAY THAT CAUSES HARM — OFTEN BY TAKING IT OUT OF CONTEXT OR RELEASING IT AT THE WRONG TIME.

EXAMPLE: LEAKING A PERSON'S PRIVATE MEDICAL RECORDS TO EMBARRASS OR SHAME THEM, EVEN THOUGH THE DOCUMENTS ARE GENUINE.

KEY POINT: THE FACTS ARE REAL, BUT THE PURPOSE IS MALICIOUS.

WHY THE DIFFERENCE MATTERS

- MISINFORMATION CAN BE STOPPED WITH AWARENESS AND BETTER VERIFICATION HABITS.



Why People Believe

In a world drowning in noise, trust is rare. People believe I because my words aren't borrowed—they're earned. Every line is built on fact, not favour. I don't bend stories to please power; I strip them to the truth. Belief isn't demanded, it's proven. My readers know I'll question the untouchable, challenge the convenient, and never trade honesty for applause. They believe I because I stand where others step aside—unshaken, accountable, and real.

When I speak, I mean it. And in times like these, that's enough.



Combating Fake News

In today's digital rush, truth often struggles to keep pace with the lie. Fake news doesn't just mislead. It divides, manipulates, and erodes the very foundation of public trust. Combating it isn't a choice; it's a responsibility.

The fight begins with awareness. Every share, every click, is a vote for the world we live in. Fact-checking, credible sources, and critical thinking aren't luxuries—they're shields against the chaos of misinformation.

As journalists, our job isn't just to report—it's to protect the integrity of the information we deliver. Combating fake news means standing guard over truth, even when it's inconvenient, and even when it challenges what people want to hear.

In the end, truth doesn't spread itself. It needs defenders. And every one of us has a role to play.

THE LAST WORD

FAKE NEWS THRIVES WHEN TRUTH STAYS SILENT. IN THE BATTLE FOR FACTS, EVERY CITIZEN IS A FRONTLINE SOLDIER—ARMED NOT WITH WEAPONS, BUT WITH AWARENESS. WE CANNOT WAIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO FIX THE PROBLEM; IT STARTS WITH THE STORIES WE QUESTION, THE SOURCES WE TRUST, AND THE LIES WE REFUSE TO PASS ON.

COMBATING FAKE NEWS IS MORE THAN A MEDIA MISSION—IT'S A CIVIC DUTY. THE STAKES ARE NOTHING LESS THAN THE CREDIBILITY OF OUR CONVERSATIONS, THE STABILITY OF OUR DEMOCRACY, AND THE FUTURE OF AN INFORMED SOCIETY.

TRUTH HAS NO SHORTCUTS. IT DEMANDS VIGILANCE, COURAGE, AND A REFUSAL TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY. THE CHOICE IS OURS: SCROLL PAST THE FALSEHOOD, OR STAND UP FOR THE FACT.



THANK YOU

A booklet is a small printed publication typically containing a limited amount of information or content. It is usually compact in size and consists of a small number of pages, often folded and stapled together.