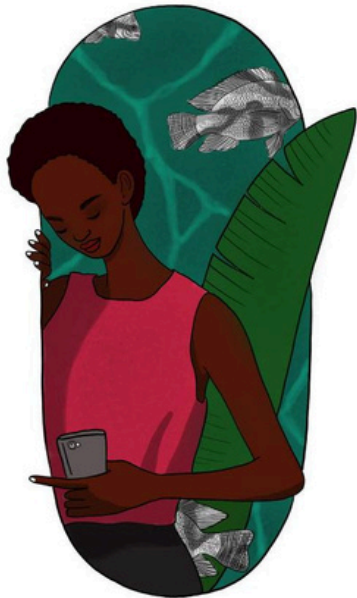


factcheck india

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



TRUST THE TRUTH, ALWAYS

because

"TRUTH MATTERS"

GUIDE BOOKLET
PART 3

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Media Literacy in the Age of Misinformation

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- What is Misinformation?

Misinformation refers to false, misleading, or inaccurate information spread regardless of intent. It differs from disinformation, which is deliberately deceptive, and malinformation, which is factual but used maliciously. Misinformation can spread through various sources, including social media, news outlets, and word of mouth, often influencing public perception and decision-making.

2. Why Do We Need Misinformation to Be Defined?

Defining misinformation is crucial because it impacts society in multiple ways, from shaping political opinions to influencing public health and security.

Deep Dive into the Definition of Misinformation

Understanding Misinformation: A Comprehensive Definition

Misinformation is false, misleading, or inaccurate information spread without malicious intent. Unlike disinformation, which is intentionally deceptive, misinformation can be shared by individuals or organizations who believe it to be true. It is often unintentional but still has far-reaching consequences, influencing public opinion, decision-making, and even social stability.

Key Components of Misinformation

To fully grasp the definition, we must break it down into its core elements:

- False or Inaccurate Information
 - The primary characteristic of misinformation is that it contains incorrect, incomplete, or misleading content.
 - Examples: Incorrect facts, distorted statistics, misattributed quotes.
- Lack of Malicious Intent
 - Unlike disinformation, misinformation is not deliberately created to deceive.
 - It is often spread due to misunderstanding, misinterpretation, or failure to verify sources.

Amplification Through Various Channels

Misinformation spreads through social media, traditional media, word of mouth, and even official reports.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. MISINFORMATION IS NOT ALWAYS DELIBERATE, BUT IT CAN STILL CAUSE HARM.

2. DISINFORMATION IS DELIBERATE AND MANIPULATIVE, MAKING IT MORE DANGEROUS.

3. UNDERSTANDING THESE DISTINCTIONS IS CRUCIAL FOR IDENTIFYING AND COMBATING FALSE INFORMATION IN TODAY'S DIGITAL LANDSCAPE.



Key Reasons for Defining Misinformation:

To Protect Democracy – False narratives can manipulate elections, distort policies, and undermine trust

4. Study Of Patterns in Misinformation

Example of factcheck from 12/02/2024

Source: FactCheck India (factcheckindia.in / factcheckindia.co.in)

FACT CHECK: Fake Claim Alleging Canada to Request FATF to Blacklist India Goes Viral

Claim:

A viral claim circulating on social media, particularly from Pakistan-based accounts, alleges that “Canada is likely to request the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to blacklist India for terrorism on foreign soil.” This misinformation gained traction after being shared on X (formerly Twitter), accompanied by images of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, seemingly to add credibility.



One such post by a user named Asad Nasir stated, “According to unofficial reports, Canada is likely to request FATF to blacklist India for terrorism on foreign soil.” Another user, Ironclad, also amplified this false claim with similar language, further fueling confusion and speculation.

Fact:

This claim is completely false and lacks any factual basis.

Evidence:

To verify the authenticity of this claim, the Factcheck India’s fact-checking team conducted an in-depth investigation:

Keyword Search & Media Analysis:

A comprehensive keyword search was carried out across credible international and national media platforms.

The investigation found no official reports, diplomatic statements, or credible news articles to support the claim that Canada has approached or intends to approach FATF with such a request against India.

Additionally, there is no official acknowledgment from Canadian government authorities, FATF, or any international body regarding such an action.

Contradictory Information:

Contrary to the viral claim, a recent report by News18 highlighted that after FATF relaxed its scrutiny over Pakistan's military, Pakistan is now planning to release terrorists from proxy outfits operating in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK)—a direct violation of FATF guidelines.

This indicates that Pakistan's own compliance with FATF regulations is under question, making the claims against India even more dubious.

Patterns of Misinformation:

The accounts spreading the misinformation appear to have a history of posting anti-India content, raising suspicions of a coordinated disinformation campaign.

The tactic of using prominent political figures' images, such as Modi and Trudeau, is a common strategy to manipulate public perception and make false claims seem credible.



Why This Matters:

The FATF (Financial Action Task Force) is an intergovernmental body that sets international standards to combat money laundering, terrorist financing, and other related threats. Being blacklisted by FATF can severely impact a country's financial stability, global reputation, and international relations.

India, being an active member of FATF, has played a crucial role in supporting global anti-terrorism efforts and strengthening financial regulations.

Canada and India have faced diplomatic tensions in recent times, but there's no evidence to suggest that Canada would take such a drastic diplomatic step against India, especially without substantial proof.

Conclusion:

After a detailed investigation, it is clear that the viral claim alleging that Canada is planning to request FATF to blacklist India for terrorism on foreign soil is completely fake.



No official reports, credible news outlets, or diplomatic channels have supported this claim.

The misinformation appears to be part of a larger propaganda effort originating from Pakistani social media handles to target India's international standing. Always verify such claims with credible sources before sharing.

Study of patterns from this factcheck

Patterns of Misinformation:

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The tactic of using prominent political figures' images, such as Modi and Trudeau, is a common strategy to manipulate public perception and make false claims seem credible.

Posting misinformation to set authority and credibility in particular topic on social media and also to find the TA for the particular topic as people who want to learn more or get similar information will find these accounts to be influenced in a long run and form perception and agenda in one's mind so as to follow on pattern of information that is deiminated in a continuous period of time.



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.