

CHECK POINT

Avoiding misinformation through social media

At times of emergency, it is easier than ever to stay up-to-date with family members, friends and colleagues. But with the spread of information also comes the inevitable spread of misinformation. Currently, there is simply no substitute for sharing official, trusted information. It is also important to remain alert to the possibility that something you have received may not be accurate and should therefore not be shared.

Across the various social communication platforms that are being used, there are some common tips that every user should keep in mind.

SPOTTING NEWS THAT MIGHT BE FAKE

To check the credibility of any information, check for signs to help you decide. Forwarded messages with images, voice recordings all fall under this. Remember that anything can be digitally altered to serve a purpose.

STOP AND THINK BEFORE SHARING

If you have received a forwarded message from a close contact, try to find out the source. Try asking if the sender knows where it came from. If the message has been forwarded from person to person without any

credible source, there is a high chance that it may contain misinformation.

Anything that seems out of the ordinary, or contains ludicrous claims requires attention. These messages should not be shared, or forwarded even as a joke. The best that a user can do is to delete them. Also, it should be noted that when a message suggests sharing, you should not do it mindlessly.

RELY ON OFFICIAL SOURCES

Considering the current health pandemic, other than trusted sites like WHO, reliable news sites and the local government health ministry, do not rely on every piece of information that comes your way. Check up with the official sites before discussing and sharing any further.

REPORT AND STOP THE SPREAD OF MISINFORMATION

For any problematic information, take the right step in reporting them. Get familiar with the options for reporting and blocking misleading content in the messaging platforms that you use.

— LS Desk

TIPS

Things to do over the weekend

Being stuck at home is not always a bad idea. Sometimes it helps to self-reflect and connect with the loved ones. Something, most of us have been unable to do, because of the mere chaos that we call daily life.

Just to add some added spice to our lives while we are reconnecting, here we provide you with some suggestive ideas that can also help to keep your mind off the presiding tension over the recent crisis.

STREAM A MOVIE

Many movie studios that were planning on releasing films for a mass screening are searching for alternatives such as streaming devices. You can purchase these live streams through services like iTunes etc. So, no more missing out on new movies... it's time to catch up on the latest with the family by your side. You may stock up on popcorn though.

BINGE-WATCH

Want to know why everyone at office has been rambling about Baby Yoda and how cute he is. Watch the series and find out. Now you have the time to actually complete watching the entire series instead of going through it halfway like all the other times in your life.

PHONE A FRIEND, READ A BOOK, WRITE A POEM

Yes, do all the things that you have been meaning to do for the last few years but could not. This is definitely the appropriate time, especially catching up on old friends over the phone.

WRITE A JOURNAL

Psychologists always suggest writing a journal as basic management to self-reflection and calming of the mind. You may actually be very tensed about the current pandemic and the harrowing situation. Write about it and watch the magic unfold. Your tensions would reduce significantly.

LISTEN TO PODCASTS

Find your favourite topic and listen to a podcast on it.

COOK

See what you have in your pantry and whip up a new meal. Maybe something that you have been meaning to experiment on for a while. This time try taking your family members as sous chef or helping hands.

— LS Desk

Buying sprees: More negatives than positives

Evolution has taken off many traits from the human psyche, but the remnants of some are still holding a bit too strongly considering the current times, particularly the tendency to stock pile for coming emergencies. Currently, this has translated into buying sprees and subsequent hoarding that people have dived face front into across the world.

Panic buying of products has become a widespread disease of its own, resulting in verbal outbursts and occasional physical altercations even in the most developed of countries. Before stocking up on products think of what you are buying. Perishable goods like fruits and vegetables will only rot away. And products like salt, sugar, rice, flour, lentils and such will keep for months. It is the same for root vegetables like potatoes and carrots; when stored in a cool and dry place, these can be stored for a few months. As for meats, poultry and fish, these can

be frozen at home and kept for well over three months.

This also give sellers the power to hike up the price of essentials. This is easily seen with the case of face masks, hand sanitisers and washes, as well as for daily medications. Considering where sellers in the country hike up prices for any and all occasions, there is no reason to give them one more scope of exploitation. Buying up like this leaves little to nothing for the others in the community, showing inconsideration and apathy, which is the last thing one needs at times of great emergencies. Dissipating community harmony, and cultivating animosity towards each other is not at all welcome in times like this.

While there is reason to be sensible and stock accordingly, the common sense to go with it disappears. Carefully consider what you need, and keep safe and healthy.

— LS Desk

NEW IN TOWN

Experience the 'Lavish'



Lavish Boutique Salon has commenced its journey on the evening of 13 March, 2020, with an intimate High Tea, joined by family, friends, socialites and members of the press. Just as the name suggests, everything about the evening was nothing but lavish; the elements of the party, along with the décor of the salon depicted fine modern luxury. Situated at Road 34 of Gulshan 2, the salon is a convenient visit for all women alike.

The boutique-themed salon seems to be adapting a black and gold based aesthetic; with warm honey chandeliers hanging off the ceiling to stunning black amenities — the feel of contemporary grandeur is at the core. The welcoming attitude of amiable hosts and staff only amplifies the beauty of the gorgeous

space. Clearly, 'Lavish' doesn't aim to just be your go-to destination for haircuts, it's determined to become your choice for a luxurious yet soothing escape.

Among the services you can avail at this salon, hair spas are one of their specialties. Facials, hair treatments, along with manicures-pedicures belong to their list of offers too. The boutique caters to the whole salon experience, within a budget, while making you feel extra special. They have also introduced a range of budget-friendly packages, priced at Tk 2,000; this tag makes the opulence approachable for women of all ages and walks of life.

Lavish, founded by four wonderful women, is more than just a salon.

It's a reflection of women empowerment where four ladies allied together with the motto to serve others with the very best service. And the whole message was manifested in the High Tea, as every guest was tended to and made to feel special. From the delicate feasts to the music of calming tones in the air, the spirit of the party came to life. Precautionary measures against the current situation also prevailed as staff wore protective masks and guests were made to apply sanitizers as they walked in. The evening enforced on what to expect from the boutique as a whole, and it's no less than affordable luxury combined with quality service for a comforting getaway.

By Zohaina Amreen