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TOGGLE

WEEKEND LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

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WORK
MYTHS/FACTS

ILLUSTRATION:
ZARIF FAIAZ

TikTok rolls out tools to bulk delete and report comments, block users

TikTok is introducing a feature that will allow creators to deal with online abuse in an easier way. The company is launching new tools that will allow creators to bulk delete comments and block users, instead of having to moderate comments one-by-one.

The new bulk delete feature may allow creators to clean up their comment section and block trolls quickly enough that they can re-establish some semblance of control over their profile.

To use the new feature, users can long-press on a comment or tap the pencil icon in the upper-left corner to open a window of options. From here, they can select up to 100 comments or accounts instead of going one by one, making it easier to delete or report multiple comments or block users in bulk.

TikTok says the new feature is rolling out first to Great Britain, South Korea, Spain, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam and Thailand, and will continue to expand to other markets globally in the weeks to come, including the US.

Apple launches an affiliate program for paid podcast subscriptions

Apple is introducing a new program that will help podcast creators grow their subscriber base: affiliate marketing. The company's "Apple Services Performance Partner Program," which already exists to help market other Apple services like Apple TV, Apple News and Apple Books, is today expanding to include paid podcasts.

The new program — "Apple Services Performance Partner Program for Apple Podcasts" will be open to anyone. When users convert by clicking through one of the links and subscribe to a premium podcast, the partner will receive a one-time commission at 50% of the podcast subscription price, after the subscriber accumulates their first month of paid service. Podcast creators can also use the affiliate links to promote their own paid programs, which would allow them to generate incremental revenue.

While anyone can apply to join the affiliate program, there is an approval process involved. This is mainly about keeping spammers out of the program, and ensuring that those signing up do have at least some marketing channels where they can distribute the links. The sign-up form asks for specific criteria — like how many channels are available and how the partner intends to use them to promote the affiliate links, among other things.

The program will be made available to anyone in the 170 countries and regions where paid podcasts subscriptions are being made available.

Google launches AI-powered health tool to identify skin conditions

Google's is introducing a web tool that uses artificial intelligence to help people identify skin, hair, or nail conditions. The company hopes to launch a pilot later this year.

The team trained the model on millions of images of skin problems, thousands of images of healthy skin, and 65,000 images from clinical settings. The model takes factors like age, skin type, sex, and race into account when suggesting possible conditions. When it was tested on around 1,000 images of skin problems from a diverse range of patients, Google claims that it identified the correct condition in the top three suggestions 84 per cent of the time. It included the correct condition as one of the possible issues 97 per cent of the time.

People can use their phone's camera to take three pictures of the problem area and answer a series of questions about their skin type and other symptoms. The tool then gives a list of possible conditions from a set of 288 that it's trained to recognise. It's not intended to diagnose the problem, the company said in a blog post.

Walton launches new gaming smartphone

Walton has launched its new smartphone 'Primo R8'. The mid-range device comes with attractive features like a powerful processor, large display, dual camera, powerful battery, RAM-ROM and Type-C charging port.

Priced at BDT 10,699, Primo R8 comes in Ocean Green, Gradient Purple and Magic Blue. The phone is available at all Walton Plazas, brand and retail outlets across the country as well as at Walton's own online shop E-Plaza.

The phone features a 6.5-inch 20.9 ratio dew-drop display with 1600 by 720 pixels HD Plus screen resolutions. The capacitive touch screen smartphone with IPS Incell technology also has dust and scratch-resistant 2.5D curved glass.

Running on the Android 10 operating system, it uses a 2.3 GHz 12nm Helio G35 SoC octa-core processor with hyper engine technology, 4 GB RAM and PowerVR GE8320 graphics. The internal memory of the phone is 64 GB that can be expandable up to 128 GB via a micro SD card.

The device also comes with an f/1.8 aperture AI dual camera with PDAF technology and LED flash.

Customers will get a 30 days' instant replacement facility along with a one-year service warranty for the 'Made in Bangladesh' smartphone.

Crafting a perfect resume:
THE BASICS

AFNAN FARUK

One day while going through your Facebook or LinkedIn feed, you come across a hiring post. It's in the company you have been obsessing over for the last few months. You spend a whole day thinking about what to put in your resume. You finally finish it and send it out. One week passes, one month passes. But you don't get a response back. Feel disappointed?

Now let's switch roles. You want to hire someone for a specific role. You put up a post on LinkedIn. By the end of the week, you get 50 responses. Your job now is to go through all of these resumes and call only 5 for an interview. You have only 24 hours to do so. Now, what do you look for in resumes? What do you do when multiple people have similar qualifications or previous experience? Are you sure you went through all the resumes properly?

In a country like ours where one out of every three graduates are unemployed, it is very common for a huge pool of people to apply for one job. In a situation like this, the question shifts from are you qualified enough to do the job to have you caught the attention of the person who is going to go through your resume.

What to include
The first thing to add to your resume is your name and contact details. Phone number and email address are mandatory for contact details. Although the address was also included in the earlier days, it is optional now. Links to social media accounts, especially LinkedIn, add value to your resume. After the name and contact details, a personal profile or professional summary can be added. For those who have had no prior work experience, it is better to ditch this section.

After this comes the most important section: education qualification, work experience, and extracurricular activities. If you have not graduated or chosen your major yet, add the expected year of graduation and your intended major. Don't just mention the places you have worked in, mention some of the key activities or achievements from there. Extra-curricular activities are supposed to be extra. Only include the ones that are relevant and don't worry if you don't have any. Finally, you can add skills and an interests section. The objective of this section is to show how well you fit with the job and the organization. Make it concise, make it relatable!

What not to include
There are only two things you do not have to include in your resume: your personal information and references. Although personal information like age, date of birth, religion, marital status was added in the earlier days. But such information does not affect one's ability to do a job and is not required. Adding references to your resume is not standardised anymore. One line you can add is 'references available upon request'.

Formatting guide
Recruiters have to go through a lot of resumes while hiring. Thus, they do not have the time to find out what part of your resume is important or relevant to them. It is your job to highlight the right qualities or abilities. Firstly, always add headers for each section to be distinguishable. Secondly, be as concise as possible. Keep enough free spaces and don't make your resume too long. An ideal resume should be one-page long. Even if it is a CV, it should not be more than two pages. Thirdly, make your fonts readable. The font size for headers should be 14 to 18 and for the body should be 10 to 12. Use standard fonts like Arial/Calibri/Times New Roman or any font that is clearly readable. Finally, be consistent with your formatting. Use the same font, same line spacing, the same format of headers, same borders, and same one/two colours.

Remember that adding photos in a resume is not the standard practice anymore. Recruiters don't want to succumb to any conscious or unconscious bias and moreover, adding a photo distracts them from focusing on your skills and background. A picture is not ATS (applicant tracking system) friendly either.

All about keywords and relevance
The reason for not getting called most of the time is not having the right skills but not being able to highlight them properly. The functionality of your resume precedes any other factor. Search for keywords by looking at the job description and other similar job listings. Find the most important ones and integrate them into your resume. Add quantitative descriptions as much as possible. Tell your story and be relevant.

You don't have to mention all of your work experience and extracurricular activities. Mention only the ones that are relevant. Address how you have contributed and impacted in your previous jobs. Be as objective as possible and most importantly do not lie on your resume.

Final thoughts
One of the most important factors before sending out a resume is customizing it to the needs of the job. Always filter out information that are not important and highlight the ones which are. Structure your experience and activities to fit the role. The functionality of your resume matters more than anything.

2021 Mahindra XUV 300 W8
All options included

RAHBAR AL HAQ

When we reviewed the XUV 300 W6 a few months back, our overall conclusion was that it was a great bang for the buck with a few concessions. Well, the folks at Rancon Autos took notes and brought in the top of the line W8, which addressed all of our criticism and then some.

In case you missed it, the Mahindra XUV 300 is a subcompact 2+3 front-wheel-drive crossover loosely based on the SsangYong Tivoli.

TOP OF THE LINE
Being the all-optioned out model, the W8 is fitted with a lot shinier stuff. Parts of the front grille that used to be blacked-out plastic are now given a chrome finish, while part of the rear bumper has been painted silver. Alloy wheels are now standard and have been upsized to 17 inches. Updates in the lighting department include the introduction of LED DRL and integrated fog lamps, while the fender turn signals have been relocated to the side mirrors.

Speaking of the mirror, they are now heated—meaning they don't fog up on a rainy day—and close automatically when you lock the car, saving you the trouble of second-guessing yourself every time you park it.

EXTRA PADDING WITH A DASH OF SUNLIGHT
The interior of the W8 has been finished in leatherette and features additional padding on the armrest. The new 17.78cm infotainment system features wired android auto and apple car play, as well as limited voice command functionality. The new dual-zone climate control is automated, though it lacks dedicated vents for the rear passengers. The front row is the place to be on this car, as they have access to the powered sunroof, USB charging ports and illuminated vanity mirrors to look at themselves.

Rear passengers also get some exclusive goodies, such as a dedicated cabin light and an armrest with built-in cup holders. Both row occupants are protected by an array of ten airbags, while front-seat seatbelts are equipped with pretensioner and load limiter. Another feature both rows get to enjoy is the car 4 speaker sound system, which is now backed up with two tweeters.

DRIVING
Although the mechanical underpinning—and overall driving experience—of the W8 remains largely similar to its W6 brethren, there have been a few quality-of-life upgrades. The steering wheel and the gear lever are now wrapped in stitched leather, making them nice to touch. There is now a sunglass holder to store your foggy glasses while the automatic wipers save you the trouble of fiddling with the wiper control stalk on a rainy day. When it comes to parking, the camera is now built into the infotainment system and is backed up with front and rear parking sensors.

However, the two most important updates of the W8 features over its predecessor is the introduction of the cruise control and hill start assist, the latter of which should help the car navigate our highly sloped ramps more easily.

VERDICT
The XUV 300 W8 is a significant step up from the W6 in every conceivable way. If you liked the W6, you will fall in love with this one. The car contains almost all of the modern amenities desired in a family vehicle and it offers it for a price bump equal to that of a well equipped 165cc motorcycle. Our previous verdict stands, any family looking for a cheap to run, well-equipped and safe car on a budget should consider this.

SPECS
Engine: 1.5-liter Turbo Diesel (85.8 kW, 300 Nm)
Transmission: Six-Speed-AMT, FWD
Safety: ABS, EBD, hill start assist, 10 airbags, TPMS, parking camera, front and rear sensors, automatic wiper and headlamp.
Features: Cruise control, automatic door locks, multifunction leather steering wheel, 17.78cm infotainment system, front USB Charging port, LED Daytime Running Light, dual-zone climate control, powered sunroof.

PRICE: 28,50,000 LAKH
Photo: Ayan Rahman Khan
For details, contact Rancon Autos Ltd.

Myths and facts that you should know before starting a side hustle

JINAT JAHAN KHAN

Have you ever thought of looking for a supplementary income source or a way to enjoy your passion besides your regular job? Either way, the perfect buzzword for you is 'side hustle'. Side hustles are some gigs outside of your 9 to 5 job, which can lead you to some additional income. And for those who don't require such supplementary income sources, these side gigs can be their passion projects, opportunities to try their luck in a new career path, or just a way to do something satisfactory in their perspective. If you want to try your hand at any side hustle, here are five myths about it to be aware of.

Myth: *Everyone must have a side hustle*

Fact: The notion of 'being your own boss' seems like a dream come true, along with a bunch of advantages. You can enjoy your hobby as a side hustle, save extra money for any big purchase, clear your debts, and so on. Though it seems to be worth giving a try from the outset, side hustles can also put you in the pool of stress and take chunks out of your leisure. You will need to make a lot of sacrifices and can juggle multiple challenges at a time. So if you are happy with your current job, feel financially secure, and have no particular entrepreneurial passion, there is no need to take unnecessary stress and spend hours of hard work on a side hustle.

Myth: *A side hustle can solve your money woes*

Fact: Having multiple streams of income makes you more financially sound. However, it is not a rare case for side hustlers to lose more money to keep their business afloat than earning it. There are some extra expenses to run a business or to be out of the red. But these costs are often overlooked while preparing a budget for it. Make sure that you know about these additional fees and have a proper plan to recover these costs from your side hustle. If the losses need to be covered by a significant part of your primary income, then it is not worthwhile to continue, and it can eventually exaggerate your financial problems.

Myth: *Your side hustle needs an insane amount of time and attention of yours*

Fact: Balancing a full-time job and a side hustle is a big deal. While trying to give your best, you can feel burnt out on both jobs. And it is not even necessary to allocate more hours to your side gig. It's not about how much you do, but what you do. Make a comprehensive outline on how to proceed with your side hustle, and take the help of someone or a team if possible. For example, if you are running an online business, you can appoint someone to manage the page inbox and write down necessary details, and you'll just oversee all the activities. In this way, you don't need to stress over every single thing and can think of more creative ideas to expand your side gig.

Myth: *Monetising your passion is a dream side hustle*

Fact: You can have one or multiple passions at a time. But turning your every passion into a business may not provide you with the satisfaction that you have earlier. For example, you may love to cook or bake. But when you start a side gig out of it, the matter is not only about cooking or baking anymore. You need to update your strategies to expand your business, deal with bulk orders or different requirements of customers. Among all these issues, you may no longer enjoy your passion. Instead, choose something as a side hustle that you can do repetitively and won't feel that the fun or satisfaction is out of it for you.

Myth: *Side hustles hate their main jobs*

Fact: There can be various reasons for taking up a side hustle, such as financial issues, enjoying passions, or even looking for new opportunities in their career. The idea of doing a side gig is quite different for every person. Sometimes side hustlers do such gigs despite their likeness towards their regular job. They may just need this leap to try their luck in a different field and ignite a new career passion. Not necessarily, side hustlers want to or must take this gig as the primary job in the future. They can reap the benefits of such new experience and skills in their current position along their optional income stream.

Best laptops under
BDT 65,000

ABDUS SALAM SHAWN

Walton Tarmarind EX10 Pro

Acer Aspire 3 A315-56 i5 10th gen

With PC parts prices skyrocketing due to production falling short of demand as people are investing more in home offices during the Covid–19 pandemic, more and more people choose a prebuilt system such as the laptop.

It can provide enough horsepower to help you do your work remotely or attend online classes without emptying your bank account. Some are even powerful enough for light gaming and media production. Consequently, laptops are rushing out of the stores fast, leaving fewer and fewer choices. Here is a list of the best laptops you will find under BDT 65,000.

Acer Aspire 3 A315-56 i5 10th gen
PRICE: BDT 56,990
-Intel Core i5-1035G1
-15.6″ Full HD 1920 x 1080 LCD
-8GB DDR4 RAM
-1 TB HDD
-Intel UHD Graphics

Acer Aspire 3 A315-57G

Dell Vostro 14 3400 Core i5 11th Gen

This laptop is a bang for the buck because of its tremendous upgradability and low price. The laptop is great as is, but throw in another ram stick and an NVMe SSD and you have got yourself a powerhouse. On top of that, it comes with 8 GB of dual-channel RAM installed from the factory which will hugely increase your RAM bandwidth. Intel's 10th gen processor coupled with UHD graphics can also handle some photo and video editing and light gaming. At 1.9 kilograms, it is not heavy either. It is a seriously good deal, and anybody would be happy with the performance it delivers.

Dell Vostro 14 3400 Core i5 11th Gen
PRICE: BDT 62,500
-Intel Core i5-1135G7
-14.0-inch FHD (1920 x 1080) LCD
-4 GB DDR4
-1TB HDD
-Intel Iris Xe Graphics
The Dell comes with Intel's latest 11th generation processor with a dedicated graphics processor. The new processor is much more powerful than the outgoing 10th gen, and the dedicated graphics processor should boost graphical performance in Photoshop

rendering and light video editing. Weighing 1.59 Kilograms and with a compact form factor with thin bezels, this laptop is made with portability in mind. The display is a crisp full HD, anti-glare LCD panel. For many, this will be all the computer they need.

Acer Aspire 3 A315-57G
PRICE: BDT 65,000
-Intel Core i5-1035G1
-15.6″ (1920x1080) display
-8GB DDR4 RAM
-1TB HDD
-Nvidia MX330 2GB GDDR5

Although it has a generation-old processor, it's still a solid system with more ram and less weight; 1.9 Kilograms to be precise. It's more of a ready to go machine. Moderate gaming and media production should benefit from the dedicated graphics card. It is easily capable of handling an average user's day to day chores and then some. Moreover, considering the speed of computing hardware running out, this might become your best bet for the budget.

Walton Tarmarind EX10 Pro
PRICE: BDT 64,550
-Intel Core i7-1065G7
-14.0″ (1920x1080) display
-8GB DDR4 RAM
-512 GB SATAIII SSD
-Intel Iris Plus Graphics
Representing our motherland, is an ultra-light, thin-bezel beauty from Walton. Weighing at only 1.3 Kilograms, this is the lightest laptop on our list. The i7 is an older processor but without a doubt, a powerful one. With its dedicated graphics processor, gaming and editing performance should be impressive. To keep the user experience swift and fluid, they have included a 512 GBs SSD. You can add more ram and swap out the SATA SSD for an NVMe one but out of the box, this laptop is no slouch.

Lenovo Ideapad Slim 3i i5 10th Gen
PRICE: BDT 64,000
-Intel Core i5-1035G4
-15.6″ FHD (1920x1080) TN
-8GB DDR4 RAM
-1 TB HDD
-Nvidia GeForce MX330 2GB GDDR5 Graphics
The Lenovo Ideapad is a popular series that blends performance with portability and the 3i is no exception. It packs a powerful Intel processor and 2 Gb of dedicated GeForce graphics. This should power you through moderate media production as well as gaming. The 8 GB of RAM can be upgraded up to 16 GB, and for faster storage, you can add an SSD whenever you please. The Lenovo is a stylish laptop with plenty of power and an ignorable 1.8-kilogram heft.

At a budget of 65 thousand, there will always be trade-offs no matter which machine you choose. It all comes down to your
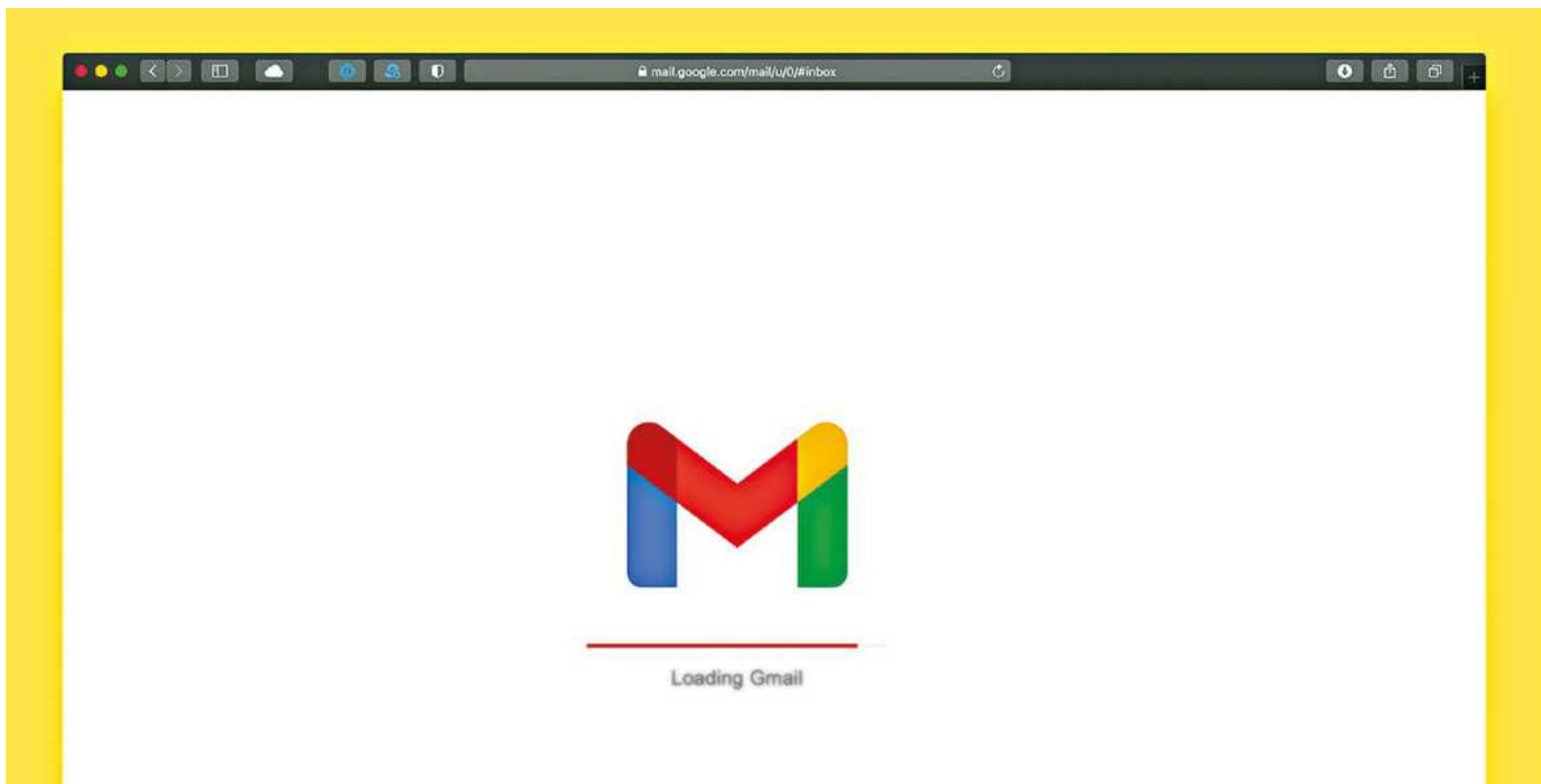
Lenovo Ideapad Slim 3i i5 10th Ge

priorities. We would suggest you hurry up and get yourself one as soon as possible because stocks are running out as we speak.

All the laptops listed here are available readily in local retailer shops and flagship outlets of the respective brands. You can also check out local ecommerce sites for latest deals on these models. Watch out for this article in our online version to get an updated list of available deals online.

Reducing digital carbon footprint
Why the world needs you to pay attention to your inbox

VERONICA GOMES

While people all around the globe are actively adopting sustainable and environment-friendly alternatives, monitoring carbon footprints has become more crucial than ever. Thus arises a question- are there sources of carbon emissions around us that we can easily control but are unaware of?

While managing our flight times, driving the right kind of environment-friendly cars and using the most sustainable products is on the rise, a relatively unexplored source of carbon emissions that demands our immediate attention is emails. According to the research on digital carbon footprints conducted by Lancaster University (UK), the average carbon dioxide emission of a single email amounts to 4 grams. If the email contains pictures or files attached to it, the number rises to 50 grams. In the case of spams, they create less than 0.5 grams of emissions and are often automatically deleted and thus are less concerning. These are measured according to the amount of electricity used to facilitate its transfer, whereby the larger the size of the email, the greater the carbon emission.

Although the impact of individual emails on climate change remains negligible, its user base of around 4.1 billion people makes the cumulative impact alarming. The impact continues to increase as people keep upgrading to bigger phones with more advanced specs. A report by BBC states that emails transmitted around the world account for emitting carbon dioxide equivalent to 7 million cars per year.

As the global contributor is slowly gaining the traction it deserves, organizations are already stepping up and paying attention to their emails. Some examples of big corporations taking initiatives to decrease the deteriorating impact of emails are the Huffington Post CEO, whose organization developed an in-house software that automatically deletes emails to employees who are away, where the senders can resend the email later if need be. Furthermore, LinkedIn's CEO makes it a rule to limit the number of emails he sends and receives, only making them permissible when truly necessary.

If you're still wondering why this is important, it is to be noted that the process of reducing the emissions caused by emails is simple, requires zero cost and can be done by anyone, anywhere. On the bonus side, it allows you to alleviate your mental health, as the stress of an unnecessarily clogged up inbox is also lowered. Thus the following is a list of suggestions that can guide you to start being more accountable for your digital carbon footprint.

DECLUTTER
Much like your room which needs that one day-long cleaning spree, your inbox needs the same. Start by unsubscribing from the countless newsletters you never read but never got around getting rid of. Unlink your email from websites that constantly send you updates that you would prefer not to receive. Make it a daily practice to delete unnecessary emails from your inbox and keep only the important ones that you'll require in the future.

ALTERNATIVES
Before drafting an email, consider whether you can resolve this issue using another medium. If it can be done face-to-face or through SMS, do so. Sometimes issues can wait, and if there is already a scheduled meeting with your to-be email recipient, consider waiting till the time arrives instead of sending an unnecessary email. This not only decreases an additional 4 to 50 gram of CO2 emission but further allows the recipient to avoid being clogged up with yet another redundant email.

HYPERLINKS
While attaching photos or files to emails multiplies its carbon emission to 50g, the same information can be conveyed by using hyperlinks instead of attaching the actual file in question. Use google drive links or other cloud services to transfer your data. It not only proves to be more environmentally friendly but also provides the recipient with a more convenient form of data storage.

REVIEW
Before sending out an email, make sure to proofread sufficiently. Make sure all the information is provided in the email itself and that the message you are trying to convey is successfully communicated through your email. Eliminate the need for further follow-up emails by making sure the first email is sufficient.

RECIPIENT
Make sure the people you send the email to are the ones actually in need of it and benefit from it. Emails with multiple recipients and people on CC often contain unnecessary personnel who probably don't need to see the email. Be selective regarding who your recipients are and reduce carbon emissions accordingly.

All in all, it doesn't always require big revolutionary acts to change the world. Rather it is important to seek out how and where you can make an impact, be it small, daily and spread the word to start the next big change cumulatively. While saving the world remains number one on the agenda, let's start small- one email at a time.

ARMY OF THE DEAD
Zack Snyder's new zombie flick is ridiculously fun to watch

ZARIF FAIAZ

It's 2021, and shooting a zombie in the brain is still fun. Throw in a little Dave Bautista, a dash of mindless action, and a bit of slo-mo, and you have Zack Snyder's latest Netflix flick, Army of the Dead.

Army of the Dead starts with an intriguing plot. Zombies have overtaken the strip of Las Vegas, which is now an abandoned, walled-off city. A mysterious Hiroyuki Sanada reaches out to Dave Bautista, a retired marine now flipping burgers, to assemble a team for a heist. Their mission: to break into a vault in LA that's housing billions of dollars in cash and get it out.

Bautista assembles a smart team of veterans and breaks into zombie-infested Las Vegas. This is when we are introduced to the three types of zombies: Zeus, who's the leader, the alphas and the shamblers. Zeus is the mysterious leader who creates the alphas, stronger, smarter, faster zombies, who in turn raise an army of the dead by biting regular people and turning them into shamblers, who are regular, mindless walking corpses. There's also a zombie tiger, which is, well, a tiger. It's revealed that Zeus, who will remind you of the Night King from Game of Thrones, actually has a mission: to create an entire zombie kingdom.

We expected a typical, Snyder style, dark and broody, very serious zombie movie. To our surprise—and our

pleasure—it was actually very refreshing, both as a Snyder film and a zombie flick. Unlike typical heist movies, Army of the Dead doesn't end up on a feel-good victorious note either. The movie tends to not take itself very seriously and plays to its strength. There are still a few unnecessary slo-mo shots, a few pointless mythical elements, and maybe the run-time of nearly two hours and thirty minutes is a bit too long—everything that will annoy a Snyder critic and intrigue a fan. So there's that fine balance.

The plot of the movie is handled well. The action sequences are a treat to the eyes and Junkie XL's score doesn't disappoint, as always. What does disappoint, is Snyder's attempt to turn it into a franchise, with a hinted sequel and a slated prequel animated show. What could have been a fun, solo action flick, now risks being stretched out to the point of obnoxiousness in typical Hollywood style.

Army of the Dead is super fun to watch. Put it on your Thursday night watch list and you won't be deprived of good entertainment. But perhaps the biggest takeaway from the movie is that Zack Snyder has finally decided to part with his dark colour palette.

And in case you were wondering, Netflix has confirmed that this is the 'Snyder Cut' of the film. Phew.