

# Tech companies must ensure safety of AI products: US President Biden

U.S. President Joe Biden recently said that Artificial Intelligence (AI) could be dangerous, but emphasised that technology companies had a responsibility to ensure their products were safe before making them public. He told US science and technology advisers during a meeting of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) that AI could assist in addressing disease and climate change, but it

was crucial to address potential risks to society, national security and the economy.

Biden added that social media had illustrated the harm that powerful technologies can do without the right protective measures. Last year, the Biden administration released a blueprint "Bill of Rights" to help ensure users' rights are protected as technology companies design and develop AI systems.



## NASA announces the first woman and first African-American astronaut on manned moon mission

NASA has recently announced the names of the four members who will be joining the latest mission around the Moon on Artemis II: Commander Reid Wiseman, Pilot Victor Glover, Mission Specialist 1 Christina Hammock Koch and Mission Specialist 2 Jeremy Hansen. This makes Christina Hammock Koch the first woman astronaut and Victor Glover the first African-American astronaut to be assigned to an official NASA lunar mission.



Christina Koch is an electrical engineer who has worked on NASA's first three all-female spacewalks, and was the flight engineer in the NASA space stations for Expeditions 59, 60 and 61. Victor Glover, an experienced US Navy pilot, was part of NASA's 2013 class of NASA Astronauts and was the pilot for NASA's SpaceX Crew-1 mission.

Jeremy Hansen, the first Canadian chosen for a NASA moon mission, was a fighter pilot before joining the Canadian Space Agency. He currently works with NASA on training astronauts. Reid Wiseman, also a former US Navy pilot, previously lived and worked abroad at the NASA International Space Station as a flight engineer in 2014. He had previous experience in commanding research missions and has served as Chief of the NASA Astronauts.

According to NASA, Artemis II - scheduled to launch in late 2024 - will be the debut of a crewed flight since the previous Apollo program, which aims to return astronauts to the surface of the moon.

## Netflix to release fewer movies on its platform

Netflix will release fewer films in the future, according to a report by Bloomberg. The streaming service plans to restructure its movie business this year, departing from its schedule of releasing at least one film every week for the previous two years.

As part of the new plan, the team that makes mid-budget movies with a budget of US \$30 million to US \$80 million will collaborate with the Netflix film division to work on projects with a US \$30 million or less budget. According to reports, Netflix Film Chairman Scott Stuber, who has prioritised reducing the number of title releases to guarantee the production of high-quality movies, was the one who shifted the company's strategy. Recent Netflix productions have failed to garner praise, register big streaming numbers, or have a significant cultural impact, resulting in the change of strategy.

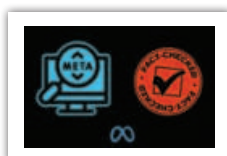


## Meta introduces fact-checking course in Bangladesh

Meta has recently introduced a free introductory fact-checking course for journalists in Bangladesh as well as in the Asia Pacific region, along with the International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN) of Poynter Institute. Composed of three modules focusing on fact-checking, verification and debunking and health misinformation, the course will prime journalists on how to find fact-checkable claims, the methodology for

fact-checking and tools and techniques to assist in their journey.

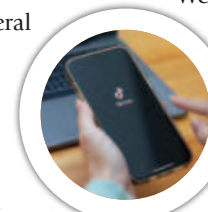
This self-paced course is currently available in 15 languages, including English and Bangla, and is designed to be completed in 2 to 3 hours. All participants who complete the course will receive a certificate. To take the course in Bangla, visit: [www.poynter.org/courses/fact-checking-fundamentals-Bangla](http://www.poynter.org/courses/fact-checking-fundamentals-Bangla)



## TikTok banned on Australian government devices

The Australian government has recently banned the popular short-video-sharing app TikTok from all federal and government-owned devices. This new ruling was put in place due to security concerns regarding TikTok stealing personal information from its users.

The ban underscores growing worries that China could use the Beijing-based company, owned by ByteDance Ltd, to harvest users' data to



advance its political agenda, undermining Western security interests. TikTok said it was extremely disappointed by Australia's decision, calling it "driven by politics, not by the fact". The ban will come into effect "as soon as practicable", Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus said in a statement, adding that exemptions would only be granted on a case-by-case basis and with appropriate security measures in place.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

### Gifts that keep on giving

Who doesn't like receiving gifts from loved ones? Whether it's from friends, family members or that random colleague from work, gifts are a great way of showing someone you care. As such, today's two-page Cover Story is all about affordable gadgets you can give as gifts to the people you care about - maybe for this upcoming Eid? As always, remember that when it comes to giving gifts - it's the thought that counts, not the price tag!

As for other pages, we have an infographic on what kinds of jobs AI is taking over, a guide on what kind of skills you should put in your CV and a list of some hidden features in Facebook you probably didn't know about.

Stay safe everyone. Have a great weekend.

**Shams Rashid Tonmoy**  
Sub-editor & Feature Writer

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