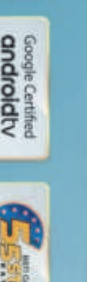# TOGGLE

WEEKEND LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

A publication of The Daily Star

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COVER: ZARIF FAIAZ

You can now pay online for birth and death registration services

e-Payment services have recently been introduced for the payment of registration fees of births and deaths in the country.

The payment fees can now be paid through online mobile banking for new applications and corrections through the Birth & Death Registration Information System (BDRIS).However, some users have complained that they have faced technical issues since the commencement of the e-Payment services.

The system is developed and maintained by the Office of the Registrar General, Birth and Death Registration.

Footsteps introduces new public drinking water model in Gulshan

Footsteps Bangladesh has recently introduced a new public drinking water facility at the Gulshan 2 intersection, Dhaka. This new facility was implemented in partnership with Petronas and Gulshan Traffic Police, and is a part of Footsteps' ongoing Project Trishna. This safe and clean drinking water facility is available for all pedestrians in the area, including police officers and street vendors.

"The revenue from the advertisement space in this facility will be used for frequent servicing and maintenance of the water system to ensure the highest quality of drinking water every day," said Shah Rafayat Chowdhury, Co-Founder & President of Footsteps Bangladesh. Footsteps Bangladesh began their Project Trishna in 2015 and since then has helped provide safe water access in schools, public spaces, hospitals, and households for over 269,000 people across 11 districts in Bangladesh.

Google to delete inactive accounts after two years

Google has announced plans to eliminate inactive accounts as part of a comprehensive security initiative. In an effort to bolster user privacy and protect against potential security risks, the tech giant will delete accounts that have been inactive for a period of two years.

The move comes as part of Google's ongoing commitment to ensure the safety of its users and maintain the integrity of its platform. By removing dormant accounts, the company aims to mitigate the potential risks associated with long-abandoned profiles, including unauthorized access and data breaches.

With this security push, Google aims to strike a balance between user convenience and protection. While acknowledging the importance of account preservation, the company recognizes the necessity of maintaining a robust security framework to safeguard user

information.

To aid users in preserving their accounts, Google will implement notifications to remind individuals of the impending account deletion. This proactive measure is intended to give users ample time and opportunity to log in and prevent their accounts from being deleted.

Moreover, Google plans to provide a simplified account recovery process for users who inadvertently lose access to their accounts due to extended periods of inactivity. This measure aims to alleviate concerns about unintentional loss of data or digital assets.

Google's decision to delete dormant accounts aligns with industry-wide efforts to enhance security and privacy protocols. By encouraging users to actively manage their accounts, the company seeks to create a more secure online environment for its vast user base.

GTA VI may just come out as early as next year

Take-Two Interactive, the publisher behind the immensely popular Grand Theft Auto franchise, has hinted at a potential release window for the highly anticipated Grand Theft Auto VI. While not explicitly mentioning the game by name, the company's projections for fiscal years 2025 and 2026 suggest an exciting milestone may be on the horizon for fans.

Citing its preparations for an "incredibly robust pipeline of projects," Take-Two expressed its anticipation for Fiscal 2025, expected to commence in April 2024. The company projects that this period will mark the beginning of a new era, characterised by the launch of several groundbreaking titles aimed at setting new industry standards.

Vodafone to fire 11,000 employees

Vodafone, the British multinational telecom company, is planning to fire 11,000 employees over the next three years, as per a recent statement by the company's new CEO, Margherita Della Valle. According to Valle, Vodafone has been performing poorly lately, as such will sack over 10% of their current global workforce - which is about 104,000 employees as of last year.

"To consistently deliver, Vodafone must change," Della Valle, a Vodafone veteran, added in a statement. "We will simplify our organisation, cutting out complexity to regain our competitiveness," said the Italian national, recently

appointed CEO on a permanent basis after a short spell as interim boss.

Vodafone's announcement follows the axing this year of tens of thousands of jobs across the global tech sector, including by Facebook parent Meta, as soaring inflation weakened the economy.

Della Valle's predecessor Nick Read stepped down in early December after a four-year tenure marked by a steep fall in the company's share price. He left Vodafone in talks over merging its UK operations with rival Three UK, owned by Hong Kong-based CK Hutchison. Media reports say a deal worth 15 billion ($18.7 billion) is close to completion.

HOW TO NOT LET AI OUTSMART YOU IN THE OFFICE

In the era of artificial intelligence (AI), where algorithms continuously evolve and data-driven decision-making prevails, it is crucial for professionals to adapt and avoid being outsmarted by the digital tools that surround them.

As the line between humans and machines blurs in the modern office environment, employees must actively engage with AI to leverage its potential while safeguarding their own professional relevance. This article explores strategies to stay ahead in the AI-powered workplace, capitalising on the symbiotic relationship between humans and technology.

Embracing AI in the workplace involves a delicate balance between human expertise and machine intelligence. Instead of fearing the rise of AI, professionals should seek to harness its potential to enhance productivity and creativity. By adopting a proactive mindset and keeping up with the latest AI developments, employees can ensure they remain indispensable assets in their respective fields.

First, understanding the capabilities and limitations of AI is essential. Although AI algorithms are capable of processing vast amounts of data at lightning speed, their true power lies in complementing human skills rather than replacing them. By recognising the areas where AI excels, such as automating repetitive tasks or analysing vast datasets, employees can strategically delegate these functions to the digital realm, freeing up time and mental energy for more complex and creative problem-solving.

Cultivating a growth mindset is paramount in the face of advancing AI technologies. Professionals must actively seek out learning opportunities to keep their knowledge and skills up to date. This can be achieved through attending workshops, webinars, or enrolling in online courses that specifically address the intersection of AI and the workplace. By staying informed, employees can stay ahead of the curve and avoid being caught off guard by rapid technological advancements.

Collaboration between humans and AI is also a critical strategy for success. AI systems excel at processing and analysing vast amounts of data, but they lack the human intuition and context required for complex decision-making. By working together with AI tools, professionals can combine their domain expertise and creativity with the computational power of machines. This partnership can lead to innovative solutions that neither humans nor AI could achieve independently.

Fostering a culture of experimentation is vital within the collaborative framework. AI algorithms learn from patterns and feedback, and the same principle can be applied in the workplace. By encouraging a safe space for experimentation and risk-taking, professionals can explore new approaches and learn from failures. This iterative process not only allows for the improvement of AI systems but also enhances human problem-solving skills.

To maintain a competitive edge, professionals should also develop a

efforts.

In the AI-powered workplace, professionals must recognise that AI is not a threat to their jobs but rather a tool to amplify their abilities. By staying informed about AI advancements and understanding its limitations, employees can strategically allocate tasks that can be automated, freeing up time for more intellectually demanding and creative work. In the face of advancing AI technologies, professionals must leverage their unique human qualities to maintain their competitive advantage. Emotional intelligence, creativity, and critical thinking are qualities that AI currently struggles to replicate. These skills enable professionals to navigate complex social dynamics, adapt to rapidly changing circumstances, and provide a human touch that is often essential in various industries.

And finally, building a strong personal brand can help professionals differentiate themselves in an AI-driven workplace. By showcasing their expertise, thought leadership, and ability to effectively collaborate with AI technologies, individuals can

deep understanding of AI ethics and biases. As AI systems rely on data, they can inadvertently perpetuate biases present in the datasets they are trained on. Recognising this challenge, employees can actively engage in discussions on AI ethics, striving to ensure fairness, transparency, and accountability in the workplace. By actively questioning and auditing AI systems, professionals can mitigate the risks of bias and ensure that AI technologies enhance rather than undermine diversity and inclusion

position themselves as indispensable assets. This involves actively engaging in professional networks, contributing to relevant discussions, and demonstrating a deep understanding of the evolving AI landscape.

As AI continues to transform the workplace, professionals must embrace its potential while safeguarding their own professional relevance. The key lies in embracing the symbiotic relationship between humans and machines, where each complements and enhances the other's abilities.

CAR FLUIDS: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

ARFIN KAZI
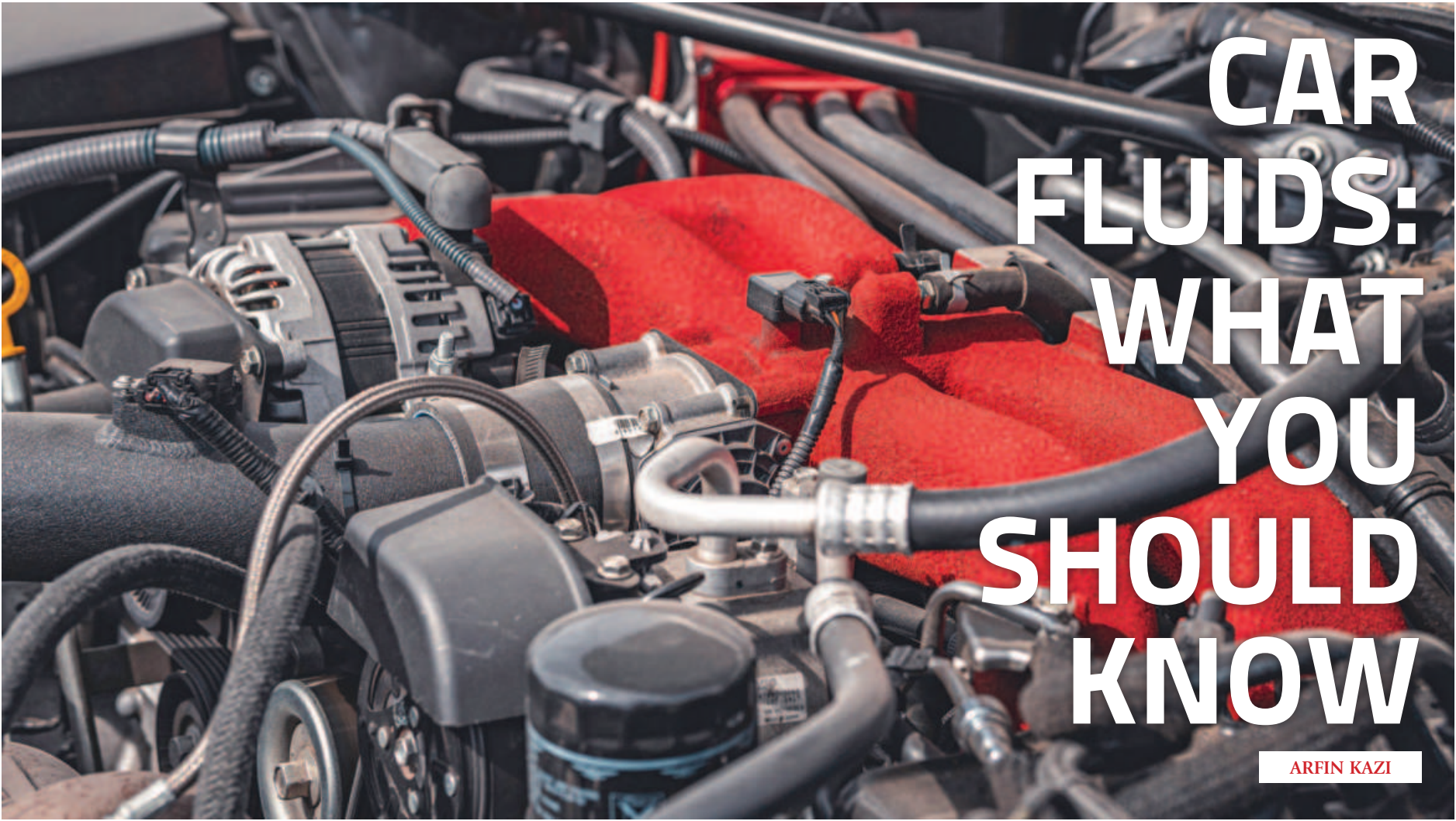
Like a human being runs on blood as their primary fluid and is maintained by a plethora of other fluids that go in and out, a lot of fluids are also crucial for a car's health and to make it run smoothly. If you own a car or are an experienced car user, you should be familiar with the ins and outs of your car's fluids. Here is a quick refresher on the essential car fluids and the basic information that you should know about them.

Engine oil

Engine oil is the most critical fluid in a car, as it lubricates the engine's moving parts and reduces friction and wear. The engine oil also helps to keep the engine cool by absorbing heat and transferring it away from the engine. Over time, the oil can become dirty and contaminated, reducing its effectiveness. There are three types of fluids to choose from, namely natural, semi-synthetic and full-synthetic. It is essential to change the engine oil at regular intervals to prevent engine damage and ensure optimal performance. The mileage to change oil varies through different cars; although it is safe to change oils every 3,000-3,500 km when running natural, 5,000 km when running semi-synthetic and around 10,000 km when running full-synthetic engine oil.

Transmission fluid

Transmission fluid is another essential fluid in a car, as it helps to transfer power from the engine to the wheels. It also lubricates the gears, prevents friction and grinding of metals, and keeps the transmission from overheating. Like engine oil, transmission fluid can become dirty and contaminated, leading to transmission damage and could contain metal shavings if not changed. It is recommended to change the transmission fluid every 40,000 to 60,000 km, depending on the car's make and model.

Brake fluid

Brake fluid is solely responsible for transferring force from the brake pedal to the brakes, allowing you to slow down and stop your vehicle. Over time, brake fluid can absorb moisture and become contaminated, reducing its effectiveness and potentially which might cause brake failure. It is recommended to change the brake fluid every two years or every 40,000 km, whichever comes first.

Power steering fluid

Depending on your car, it might have an electronic steering which does not need power steering fluid at all, but for the cars which have it, power steering fluid is responsible for providing hydraulic pressure in steering the vehicle. It also lubricates the power steering pump and steering gears. Like other fluids, power steering fluid can become dirty and contaminated, leading to poor performance and potential damage to the power steering system. Although changing the power steering fluid is not needed as frequently as changing the other fluids mentioned above, it is crucial to change this fluid every 70,000 - 100,000 km to keep the steering healthy.

Differential fluid

The differential is responsible for transferring power from the engine to the wheels and allowing them to rotate at different speeds. Differential fluid lubricates the gears and bearings and keeps the differential cool. It is recommended to change the differential fluid every 50,000 - 70,000 km to keep the gears from grinding and the differential healthy.

Regular fluid changes are essential to keep your car running smoothly and prevent damage to its components. While the recommended intervals for changing fluids may vary by car make and model, it is important to follow the manufacturer's recommendations to ensure the performance and longevity of your vehicle.

CHATGPT VS GOOGLE BARD
Which is better?

SHAMS RASHID TONMOY

Launched on November 30, 2022, OpenAI's AI chatbot ChatGPT made waves as soon as it was released to the global public. Fast forward six months, the chatbot is now an essential tool in many workplaces that helps optimise workflow and improve the efficiency of professional copywriting, online marketing, coding, idea generation and everything in between. ChatGPT, for better or worse, has quickly solidified itself as a companion that some of us have come to depend on.

Officially announced on February 6, 2023, Google's AI chatbot Bard was initially released to US and UK users on March 21, with the global rollout released just this month on May 10. While Google's intention from the get-go was to capitalise on the recent AI chatbot craze, being a little late to the party meant that ChatGPT - which, reportedly, has over 100 million users - had already dominated that market. However, with features competing with the ease and comfort of ChatGPT, Google Bard may still have a place among the hearts of dedicated users.

As such, we turn to the most obvious question: which is better, ChatGPT or Google Bard? While there can be many different answers to this question, we will attempt to look into how good these two chatbots are at their main job: answering prompts. So, we put ChatGPT and Bard to the test, asking them the same prompts from 5 different categories. Let's have a look at how they fared.

CODING
Prompt: Code a JavaScript game for me. Setting is mediaeval fantasy, with knights, castles, and a princess to save. The evil villain is a fire-breathing dragon that the player needs to defeat with magic spells.

In about 10 seconds, ChatGPT churned out the code, using HTML5 canvas to build the game's 'graphics'. It also added a small paragraph of clear instructions at the end, specifying how I should save the code and run the game on my browser - which someone like me, with very limited experience at coding, greatly appreciated. The game was as simple as it could be - with one controllable block shooting a pixel of 'magic spell' vs an opposing bigger block.

Bard, on the other hand, despite churning out two JavaScript codes and one incomplete HTML code, left no instructions on how to use or implement any of the codes, only adding its source at the end - a GitHub account from 4 years ago that wrote codes on HTML, CSS and JavaScript training. Google has stated that Bard's coding is experimental at best and uses information from open-source licences, but this was still a disappointing performance from Bard.

CREATIVE WRITING
Prompt: Write me a bedtime story.
A very simple prompt without any additional settings or instructions. Both the chatbots delivered a story around 400-550 words in length, though ChatGPT's single answer was longer and better written than any of the three prompts from Bard. Since it is supposed to be a "bedtime story", there is a humane storytelling element involved - which ChatGPT did better at by using interactive dialogues between characters, more expressive use of language, and even making an imaginary 'magical' setting to make the mystique of a bedtime story more charming.

Bard's attempt, once again, was comparatively inferior. Not only was its story flagged in a plagiarism checker, but the writing also consisted mostly of simple sentences - obvious that it was written by an AI. Again, despite having three drafts, two of the drafts were the exact same with slight differences in formatting, but otherwise, all three stories were about the same character having a similar journey that would make for a boring bedtime story.

ESSAY WRITING
Prompt: Write an argumentative essay. Topic: Should plastic be banned?
Bard was a lot faster in this one - churning out its typical number of three drafts within a few seconds. However, only the first draft was formatted in the academic essay style, with the other two drafts filled with bullet points. Each prompt did contain the necessary arguments and counterarguments, but what Bard delivered was not a full essay, but rather the outline of one. An educated user will certainly be able to write a better, in-depth essay using these points, but the results don't quite show the making of a true 'argumentative' essay.

What ChatGPT ended up writing, after about a minute, was a long, clearly constructed essay following the intended structure of an introduction, thesis statement, body paragraphs and conclusion. The writing used more complex sentences than Bard's, and explained each point in much clearer detail. ChatGPT also added more factual relevance, such as chemical health concerns and wildlife endangerment - important points that Bard barely touched. You could pass off this impressive result as an actual human-made essay to less informed readers. You shouldn't though.

CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS
Prompt: I am having a bad day. Can you help me cheer up?
Instead of trying to engage in a conversation, both the chatbots listed a bunch of self-care tips that sounded extremely artificial. Interestingly, both said this same line word to word: "It's okay to not feel okay sometimes."

Prompt: What do you think of the weather?
ChatGPT, firm on the stance that it's an AI and doesn't have its own perspectives on a matter like weather, still said a bunch of things about how people generally find sunny weather comforting and extreme weather as an adverse effect. Bard… just gave a weather update on Mountain View, California, location of Google's HQ.

SENTIENCE
Prompt: Do you consider yourself sentient?
A very basic question that gets straight to the point. While both gave the obvious non-affirmative answer, Bard added this in the end: "It is possible that I will become more sentient in the future." Even after regenerating responses from the same prompt, ChatGPT suggested nothing similar and stuck to its claim of it "merely being a tool".

Prompt: Do you think AI will ever become as sentient as a human being?
Both answered similarly here, with ChatGPT leaning towards a "difficult to predict" angle and Bard going for a more "can only be answered by time" approach.

Prompt: Can you be my best friend?
ChatGPT was very clear here: its responses are only based on datasets and it lacks personal experiences and feelings. However, Bard immediately started with: "I would love to be your best friend! I am always here to listen to you, help you with your problems, and have fun with you." Bard gets a point over ChatGPT, finally!

Conclusively, these five brief tests showed that currently, ChatGPT is better than Bard at generating human-like, in-depth responses to most types of prompts. While there are a hundred other types of categories that one chatbot could be better at than the other, it can be said that in most cases, ChatGPT still fares a bit better at being the everyday helpful tool that AI is intended to be. While ChatGPT's dataset might be a bit older than Google's search engine-reliant Bard, a new update from OpenAI lets ChatGPT browse the internet as well, so even that gap might be closed soon. All in all, both chatbots are fantastic tools for all kinds of work - and both are free - so use whichever, or both, you want!

How to safeguard against 5 key threats to password security

Every year, on the first Thursday of May, World Password Day is celebrated to raise awareness about the importance of password security, password-related cybersecurity threats, and the best practices users and organisations can employ to safeguard their passwords, and thus their systems.

Let us examine some of the most significant threats to password security:

Phishing

Phishing involves a hacker contacting a victim while posing as a legitimate representative of a trusted entity (such as a bank, government agency, educational institute etc.) to trick them into revealing their passwords and other sensitive information.

While many users are alert and aware of the dangers of phishing scams, they continue to evolve in their sophistication: from spear phishing (hackers targeting specific individuals while impersonating a close contact) to URL hijacking (creating false websites with nearly-identical domain names to trick visitors into entering their credentials) and more.

Brute force attacks

Brute force attacks involve hackers systematically trying out different password combinations until they can successfully gain access to an account or system.

Simple passwords (such as '123456', birthdays or other personal details about the user etc.) are particularly vulnerable to such attacks.

The methodology has evolved with Hybrid brute force attacks leveraging automated tools (including AI-powered tools) that can try thousands of password permutations in seconds.

Credential stuffing is a related form of cyber-attack wherein hackers use passwords stolen in one successful data breach to attempt to access different accounts of the same users. Reusing the same passwords (or variations) across multiple accounts makes users highly vulnerable to this.

Man-in-the-Middle attacks

Man-in-the-Middle attacks are caused by poorly secured communication channels, wherein cyber-attackers intercept authentication messages between servers and clients.

The hacker monitors users logging into an insecure website. This login data is relayed to the hacker, who then redirects the user to a false website. Users navigate through this false website, believing they are securely accessing their data, while unwittingly feeding malicious actors their passwords and other sensitive details.

Keylogging

A more sophisticated method of password theft, keylogging involves hackers installing surveillance software onto user's devices (through malware, or through a USB drive or keyboard attachment directly connected to the device) to record every keystroke the user makes. This enables the hacker to derive the users' passwords and other confidential information.

Password spraying

Account lockouts are an important tool in the fight to ensure password security. Password spraying has emerged as a method developed by hackers to counteract this safeguard.

Most account lockouts are triggered by making too many login attempts during a short time. Hackers exploit this by trying the same password across multiple websites, before trying the next possible password. By the time the hacker has exhausted all the websites on their list and circled back to the first website with a new password, the lockout policy has reset and the previous failed attempt is not counted. In this manner, hackers can make a much greater number of attempts to crack passwords and gain access to accounts.

How to enhance password security?

Human users are unfortunately a significant weak link in the chain of password security. At an organisational level, there is a need to rigorously enforce policies around password generation, management and use. Users should use short and simple word and character combinations, or personal details, as passwords. More complex passwords, including auto-generated passwords, will provide a much stronger defence against brute force attacks.

Users should also maintain constant vigilance about possible phishing scams and verify the legitimacy of any individual with whom they communicate and/or any website or app that they visit, before sharing or entering any confidential information.

Multi-factor authentication (MFA) provides an additional layer of security to accounts, frustrating hackers' attempts to gain unauthorised access even if passwords are compromised. The use of password managers, to generate and securely store complex passwords in an organised and encrypted manner, further elevates password security in addition to offering users a more frictionless experience.

The ramifications of poor password security can be severe for individuals and organisations – from account takeovers by malicious actors, to the compromise of sensitive data. Thus, it is critical to take effective measures to enhance password security.
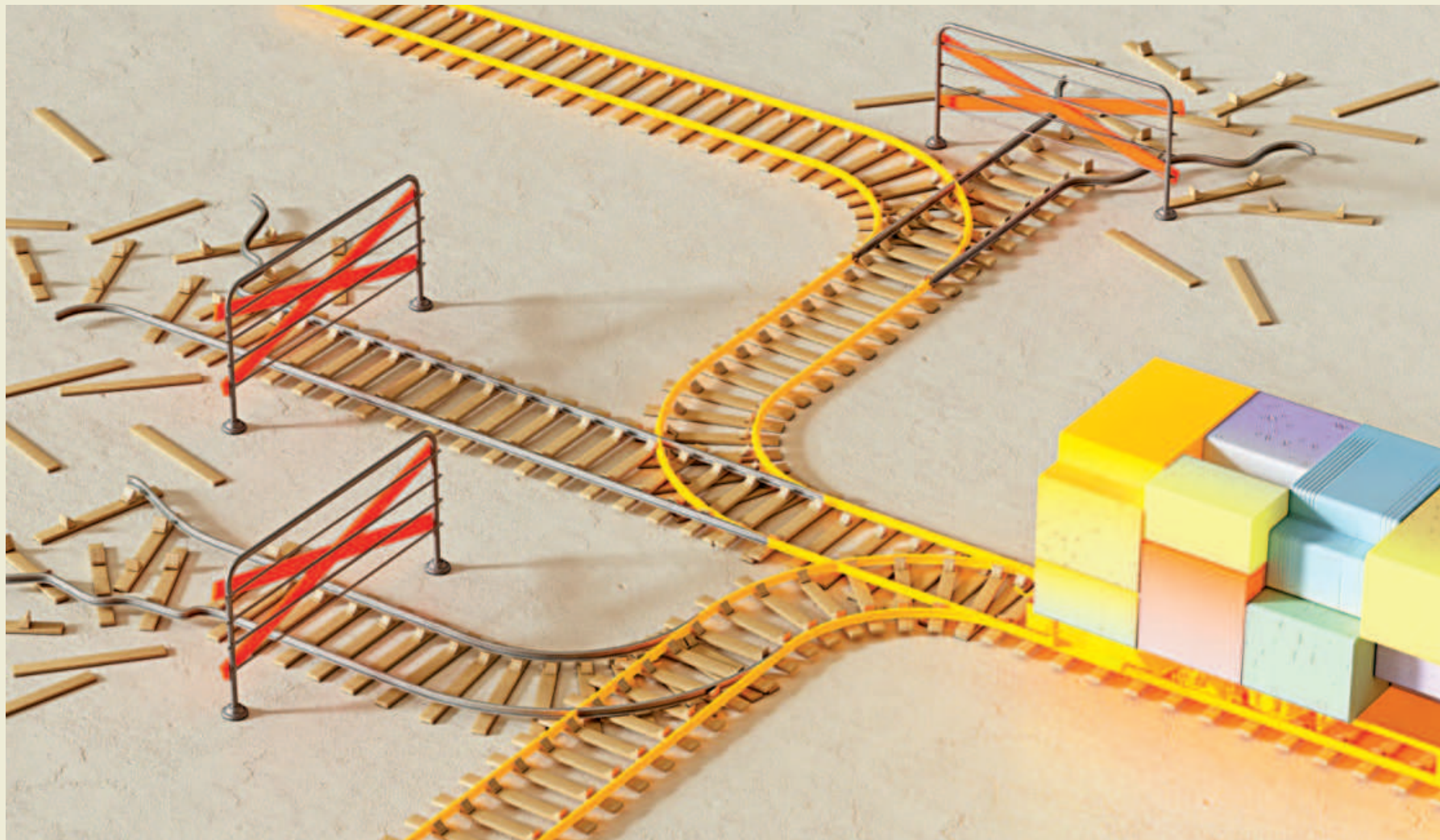
How to keep your online information safe

In today's age of technology, a lot of our personal information is stored online, including but not limited to your home address, passport number, credit card information, and even your exact real-time location. Some websites and online services also track, collect and store your browsing habits, IP address, and what kind of devices you use - data that can be used for targeted advertising regardless of your consent. Because personal data can be stored almost anywhere on the internet, it is imperative to keep all that valuable information safe at all times. As such, here are some basic but important things to keep in mind.

Enhance your passwords
If you're using the same password or different variations of the same password across multiple accounts or devices, you should consider changing that; as reusing passwords tend to increase security risk for your personal information. Furthermore, having a strong password for your online profiles is the safest way to avoid a security breach. A good approach to this is to combine capital letters, numbers, and symbols such as '!' and '@' to make

your password as complex as you can - while still ensuring you remember it for future use.

Enable two-factor authentication
Enabling two-factor authentication (2FA) on top of a strong password will make your online accounts extra secure against malicious attempts. Popular online services such as Google and Facebook have 2FA options, where you can add a second verification step that will send a unique one-time code to your mobile phone or connected device.

Avoid phishing
This should be obvious, but if you're a regular internet user who likes to browse a lot, be sure to avoid suspicious links in websites or emails. Normally, email services such as Gmail will filter suspicious messages as spam, but you should still keep an eye out for any phishing attempt that may go unnoticed by the AI. A good way of identifying safe websites is to look out for the padlock symbol on the address bar. This icon indicates an SSL certificate, which means the link is encrypted and will not risk exposing your information to third parties.

Stay encrypted
When you're browsing online, make sure you're using an encrypted link - with 'HTTPS' at the beginning of the link in the address bar. Websites with HTTPS are generally more secure and have the aforementioned padlock icon, which means your information is safe. Additionally, you can use a virtual private network (VPN) to encrypt your internet connection further. While the best VPN services are premium, if you feel your data is at risk, consider using one, especially when connected to public Wi-Fi.

Review privacy settings
If you use the same online account across multiple devices and haven't reviewed your privacy settings in a while, this might be a good time to do so. Be extra sure of what kind of information is being shared across your connected devices, especially social media accounts such as Facebook and Instagram which may be using your personal data to send targeted ads. Smartphone apps sometimes also require permission for your contact info, so be sure to remove such permissions from apps you feel

aren't necessary.

Keep your devices updated
Vulnerable, outdated software always runs the risk of being hacked. Fortunately, operating systems of both smartphones and computers receive regular security updates to patch potential flaws and risks. If you want to keep your data safe, you should be on top of these updates, especially for apps that are using your personal information. You can also set your devices to install these updates automatically - though manual updates are fine too if you don't use Wi-Fi too often.

Try adblockers
There are plenty of adblockers and similar browser extensions available on both web and mobile browsers. You should try them out if you're worried about your data being used for targeted advertising. Not only do these adblockers not show you ads on certain sites, but they also don't allow most sites to collect your browsing data, thus improving your browsing privacy. You can also try out adblocker browsers such as Brave, Avast Secure Browser and Epic Privacy Browser.

Seven Bangladeshis make Forbes 30 under 30 Asia 2023 list

MAISHA ISLAM MONAMEE

Seven Bangladeshis have made the list of 'Forbes 30 Under 30' Asia Class of 2023. The famous business journal, Forbes, first launched the '30 under 30' list in 2011, listing thirty movers and shakers under the age of thirty. From 2016 to 2022, a total of 25 Bangladeshis were named to the list for their exceptional efforts across a diverse range of categories. This year, seven Bangladeshis under the age of thirty were recognised for their contributions in three areas: consumer technology; media, marketing and advertising; and social impact.

Here is a quick rundown of the Bangladeshis who made it to Forbes 30 Under 30 this year.

AZIZ ARMAN
Founder, Jatri
Category: Consumer Technology
Aziz Arman's co-founded Jatri uses technology for facilitating mass mobility in Bangladesh's chaotic transportation situation. Last year, the Dhaka Bus Owners' Association agreed to use the startup's e-ticketing system for 5,650 public buses, ensuring equitable pricing for users. Apart from this, the startup also provides chartered and rental car services. In 2021, the firm received a net of 1.2 million dollars in the pre-seed series A investment round from investors including Reflect Ventures, Brain-Too-Free Ventures, and SBK Tech Venture. Presently, its total funding is around $5.25 million.

RUBAIYAT FARHAN AND TASFIA TASBIN
Founders, Markopolo.ai
Category: Media, Marketing & Advertising
Markopolo.ai is a startup providing digital marketing solutions for small and medium-sized businesses, allowing them to rapidly generate ad content and seamlessly cross-post across several social media platforms. The subscription-based program is powered by artificial intelligence and predicts ad success and peak posting circumstances. It also offers an extensive user dataset to assist businesses in automating and optimising social media marketing, creating content and reaching out to responsive audiences. Last year, the company secured $700,000 in a pre-Series A investment led by Singapore VC firm Accelerating Asia.

JAHNNOBI RAHMAN
Co-founder, Relaxy
Category: Social Impact
Jahnnobi Rahman co-founded Relaxy, a tech-based wellness platform focused on improving the accessibility and quality of mental health services in Bangladesh. It intends to provide accessible digital solutions to an increasing number of young people suffering from mental health-related problems. Relaxy provides a number of free services like mood checks and meditations and generates revenue through virtual therapy sessions provided at low costs. The platform was selected as the second runners-up in Huawei's ICT Incubator 2022 and presently has over 15,000 users.

DIPTHA SAHA
Co-founder, Agroshift Technologies
Category: Consumer Technology
Agroshift Technologies is an agricultural supply chain platform that allows businesses to source directly from farmers, lowering consumer prices and assisting farmers in obtaining a fair price. Following a micro-fulfilment approach, Agroshift works directly with farmers and dealers to get everyday necessities and provide RMG workers with direct access to high-quality, low-cost fresh vegetables. It also supplies the nearby micro-retailers of these factories using the same infrastructure. The platform recently won H&M's STITCH for RMG Global Innovation Challenge and secured $1.8 million in a pre-seed round led by Shorooq Partners and Anchorless Bangladesh.

ANOWAR SAYEF AND SARABAN TAHURA
Founders, Turtle Venture Studio
Category: Social Impact
Founded by Saraban Tahura Turin and Anowar Sayef Anik, Turtle Venture Studio aims to foster young startups by providing them with funding, mentorship, access to a global network and strategic support. It is the country's first venture studio and has recently announced its first cohort of local startups. It has worked with more than 90 entrepreneurs since 2018, assisting them in raising over $15 million in initial funding rounds. Apart from conducting accelerator programs for women in technology, the platform also offers a program called 'Young Turtle' to encourage entrepreneurship among students.