

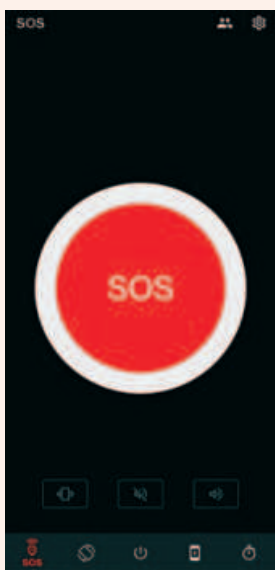
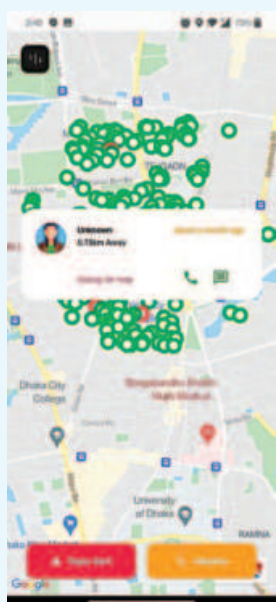
# 5 SAFETY APPS to keep on your phone

FAIJA TASFIA

In today's world of dependence on technology, keeping safety apps on your phone might seem like a no-brainer. There is always danger lurking in the corner, and even aside from the worst-case scenarios, it is always a good idea to keep yourself equipped with handy tools to enhance your personal safety while responding effectively to emergencies. As such, here are 5 helpful apps that will provide assistance to you in a pinch while helping you immediately reach out to your emergency contacts.

## Bachao

Bachao was created to prevent sexual abuse and rape in Bangladesh. They have divided the workplace into districts and sub-districts as they rely on their volunteer system. People can register in the app as volunteers; when they travel in their area, it alerts the volunteer. The volunteers can see the victim's location in live GPS. The 'Rape Alert' option will text your registered emergency contact. After issuing the alert, if the victim doesn't respond within 20 minutes, the police are alerted with the victim's location and contact number. If you ever feel uncomfortable, it is always better to issue an alert. If everything is fine, you can change it to the 'Safe now' option.

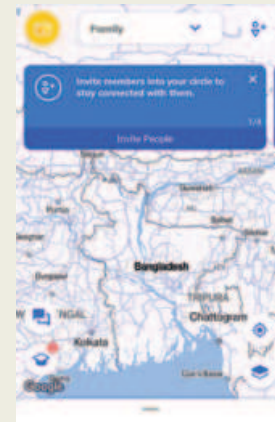
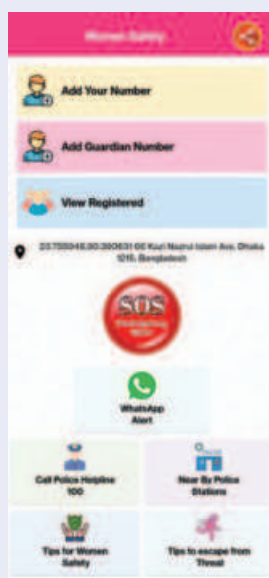


## Red Panic Button

As the name suggests, this app is basically a panic button. All you need to do is list your emergency contact, and, in case of emergencies, you click the big red button on the app. The app will then send a message to your emergency contact with your location. A smart way of using this app is to keep it on your desktop or pinned apps so you don't have to manually go through all of your apps to find it - a trick that will help for all of these apps in this list if you want to access them in a pinch. Red Panic Button can also be used for medical emergencies. It is also useful if you are travelling alone, which will alert your selected contact if you are stuck somewhere.

## Women Safety App

The Women Safety app will send a message to your registered number when you click the SOS emergency alert button containing your name, contact number, and address. There is also a WhatsApp alert that will send the same message to any of your selected contacts. They have the police helpline right below the left button and the address of nearby police stations. The app is free to use. You must input your emergency contact and your registered cell number.

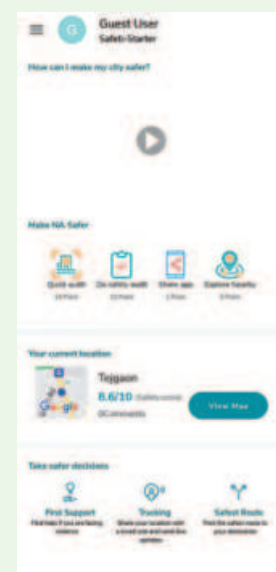


## Connected

Connected is a family locator app. To use it, you have to add your family members and friends in one 'circle'. You can then receive and send live updates and help alerts in emergencies to the contacts in the 'circle'. Apart from that, there are other features like travel history, which stores your circle's travel history of the last 30 days, drive reports to check how your circle members are treating their car, and notifications to know when they reach home or their desired destination. There is a premium version available for Tk. 220 per month, which opens your features to every member of the circle. The free version restricts this option to one or two members. Through this app, you can reach more people in case of emergencies. The circle is private, with only the members you add. It helps you stay in touch even when you are not around.

## My Safetipin

As one of the most popular safety apps, My Safetipin provides GPS trackers, directions to safe routes, and lets you add emergency contacts. If you find yourself stranded, just switch on the GPS location. Even if it doesn't show the exact location, the app will still help you find your way out. Moreover, the app will also let you alert emergency contacts in dire cases. One of its most helpful features is showing your safe locations based on transport available for women's density.



To note, these apps might not always show the exact location. There might be mistakes in pinpoint accuracy, but these apps will work soundly as precautionary steps - a tool protecting you and alerting people

about your whereabouts and situation. You should take them out whenever you feel danger might be following you. Moreover, something as simple as a safety app can potentially scare the attacker, knowing you

have a way to instantly alert people.

All of the apps mentioned above work with just a simple click. During emergencies, there might be situations where you don't get a chance to reach your phone out. Despite that,

these apps can come in clutch. Additionally, consider keeping pepper sprays and a power bank in your bag at all times - it never hurts to be too safe. All these apps are available for free in the Google Play Store and Apple App Store.