COMPASSIONATE CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM

LECTURE ON

SOCIAL MEDIA – FAKE NEWS

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Pilot Project By

COVA
Peace Network

In Collaboration With SCERT (Telangana State)

SOCIAL MEDIA – FAKE NEWS

Social Media

Introduction

- The one thing that does not require an introduction in the modern world.

A definition:

- *"the means of interactions among people in which they create, share, and/or exchange information and ideas in virtual communities and networks*"

Examples:

Google, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp….

…*and many more!!*

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Changes that it Brought to the World

- Social Media has changed the lives of many people
- It has changed the way politics is working.
- It brought good degree of transparency that is enabling people to make better decisions in democracy.

- It changed the way many industries work
- Transformed marketing totally
- Changed the way of talent acquisition.
- Changed the way people play games.

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More Changes that Social Media Brought to the World:

- Social media has revolutionized the speed of spreading news.
- But also exponentially speededup the spread of fake news.
- It changed the war Intelligence.
- It revolutionized activism. • e.g. : Black Lives Matter.
- It brought people and different cultures closer.
- It has brought new career opportunities.
- It is also Increased Conflicts in Society through Fake News Leading to violence and Riots

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Uses

- Education & Learning
- Platform for Talent
- Eliminated Controlled media
- People Connectivity
- Social Funding for products

  and for people in need.

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Harms

- **Types of Online Frauds**
  - online scams, spam, identity theft,
    a scammer buying products online
    from your account without your knowledge,
    identity spoofing, scam pop-up alerts,
    chain letter scams, etc.
- **Examples of Online Frauds and Scams**:
  - Frauds using online sales plaforms
  - Frauds due to the use of unknown/unverified mobile app
  - ATM Card skimming
  - Frauds using screen-sharing apps / Remote Access
  - Impersonation on Social Media
  - Refer to RBI's document for more on Online Frauds
- **Link to Number of Online Banking Frauds Reported across India in 2021, by State**

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THE FAKE NEWS PROBLEM IN ONE CHART

Is peer opinion filling a void left by failling trust in mass media?

Traffic sources

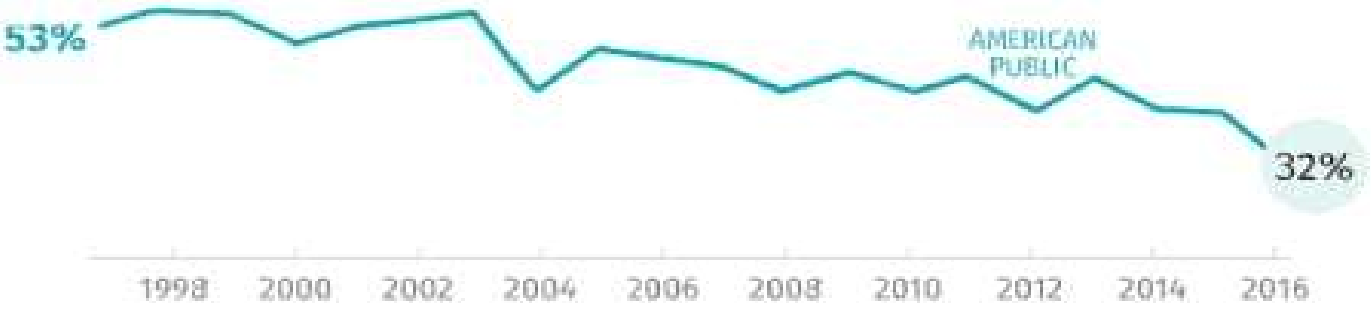
Low barriers to social media and hyperpartisanism have been blamed for the proliferation of so-called **"fake news"**.

Fake news gets **4x** more of its traffic from social media than established news websites.

Trust in mass media

% Great deal / fair amount of trust

But is social media the only source of blame? Trust in mass media as a whole is declining rapidly across the board.



With trust in media at an all-time low of **32%**, it's no surprise that people are turning to alternative sources for news.

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- **Fake News- Main Types:**
  - Political Fake News
  - Communal Fake News
  - Job Frauds
  - Health Frauds
  - Fake News causing Grave consequences

Bullying : Several people lost their life after severe bullying by netizens. Many become depressed and faced psychological issues because of online bullying

Show-off: Several people lost their lives while trying to impress netizens with their stunts

Several people were **imprisoned** doing something inappropriate

Reduced face to face interaction

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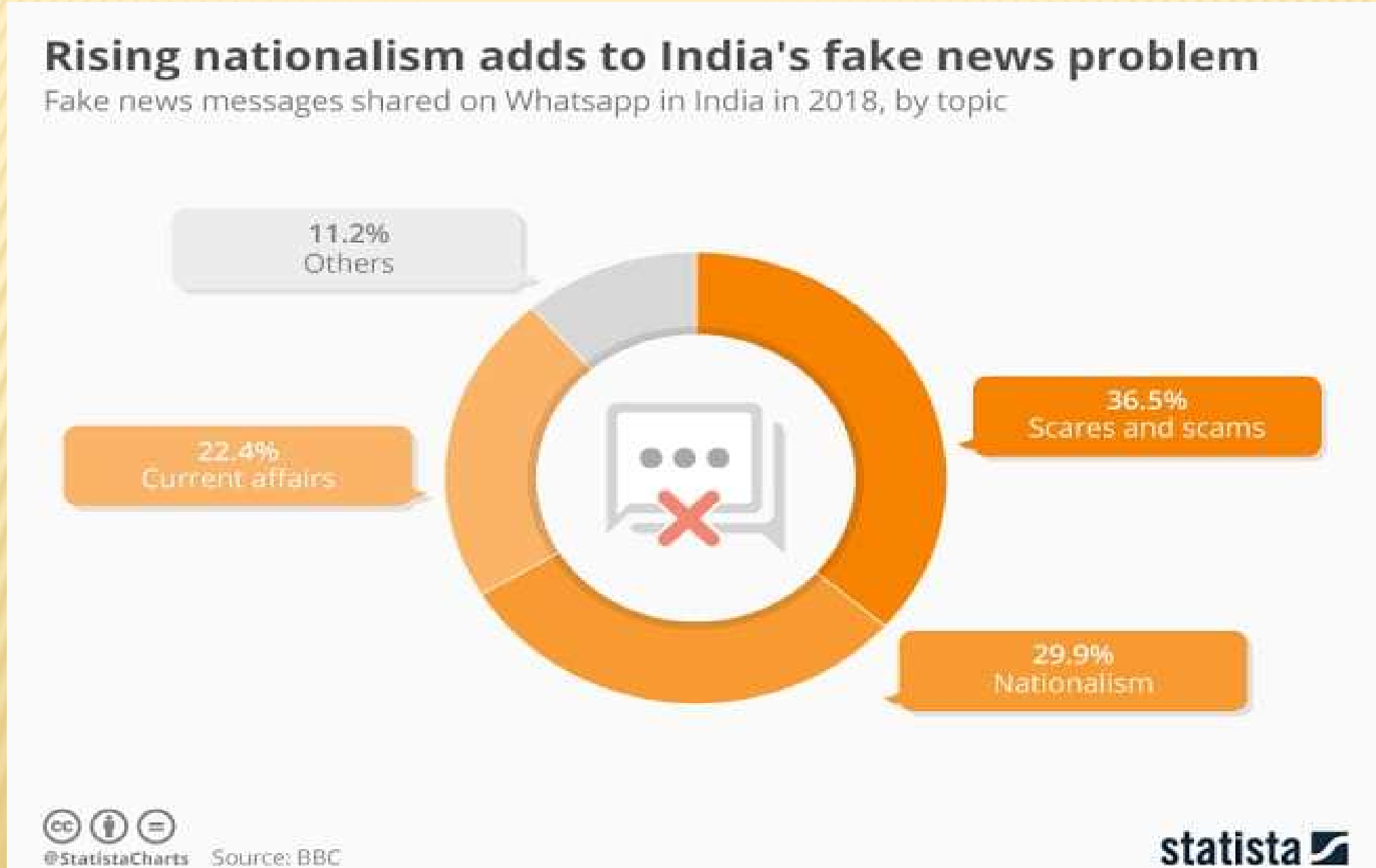

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Harms

- **Swatting** in **Online Gaming Community**

  Swatting is a dangerous criminal harassment tactic of deceiving an emergency service into sending a police or emergency service response team to another person's address.

- **The companies are stealing people's time and trying to monetize it.** (as shown in the documentary “Social Dilemma”.)
- **Digital Assets**.
  - Online Wallets like PayTM, PaisaPe which hold money
  - Cryptocurrency Wallets (e.g., TrustWallet) which hold cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, Etherium, etc

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- **Do's**
  - Have proper balance. Adding salt would add taste to a recipe, but adding excess would spoil it
  - Entertainment and social life is essential for life, but improper proportion would spoil the life
  - Do use social media for professional network building
  - Share knowledge you acquired in your profession. It would help others as well as you to attain heights in your career
  - Disconnect from negativity
  - Unfriend or block those who continuously post negative comments on you or on others.

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- **Don'ts**
  - "Likes" by others of your posts are not achievements. Go after the real achievements in the life
  - Don't believe everything you read and watch
  - Don't share any confidential information in social networks
  - Don't trust unknown people
  - Don't scan QR codes from unknown source. It could hack your mobile and bank accounts.

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Suggested Reference:

The Social Dilemma – Netflix

It’s a 2020 movie on how social media's design nurtures addiction to maximize profit and its ability to manipulate people's views, emotions, and behavior and spread conspiracy theories and disinformation.

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Project Works

Possible Issues- Subjects for interviews - Questions

Subjects for Interviews:

- Students, youth, teachers, housewives, members from different sections of society, Police, IT Experts

Issue: Knowledge about Fake News

Possible Questions: Have they heard about Fake News. How?

Do they think they can recognize Fake News when they see one

What are the different types of Fake News like about Jobs, Health etc

Five ways in which Fake News can harm

How can Fake News be stopped

Issue: Forwarding Fake News

Possible Questions: Do they try to understand what they have received is Fake News of Genuine

Reasons why they forward posts

Do they forward even when they know it could be Fake News

Why?

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Project Works

Possible Issues- Subjects for interviews – Questions

Issue: How to Use Social Media Positively

Subjects for Interviews: IT Experts

Possible Questions: Different purposes for which Social Media can be used

What are the best social media platforms for students

How can Fake News be detected

What can one do after receiving Fake News

Issue: Cyber Crimes

Subjects for Interviews: Police Department

Possible Questions: What are different types of Cyber Crimes

How Police Solves Cyber Crimes

Most interesting cybercrime they have come across. Could they solve it

What can people do to be safe from Cybercrimes

Start thinking of Issue you will select, Subjects you will interview, Questions you will ask and one action you will take to address the Problem.

Experts will help you with your Project Work.

Time to Act

Think of one thing that you can and will do to check Fake News

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Questions for Social Media

1. How did it affect you?
2. Did you incur any financial loss?
3. Do you know anyone who was a victim of fake news?
4. What loss / damage did they suffer?
5. What do you do with something you suspect to be fake news?
    1. Read and ignore
    2. Delete it
    3. Forward it anyway
6. If you forward fake news, then why do you do so? Explain briefly:

Note: Please think of other such questions you may ask for individual interviews. Experts will help you finalise the Questionnaires for starting Project Works

Thank You