

# BRAINWARE NEWS

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## WhatsApp: How to stop fake news

*Debkanya Banerjee*

No more forwarding messages to many. The American freeware, Crossplatform messaging and voice over internet protocol (VOIP) owned by Facebook, has recently announced its limit to forwards of frequently forwarded messages to just one chat to stop the spread of misinformation about Covid-19. This will be managed with controls in India. This latest limit imposed by WhatsApp is a step to stop virality and to curb ways in which people send messages.

During this lockdown phase people are communicating through different messaging platforms, whatsapp being the biggest one. Whatever comes in it way people hardly give it a think and with the tapping mode, messages get forwarded more than one time. Spreading of the virus COVID19 seems to be less than spreading of misleading stories, videos and messages now-a-days. WhatsApp has come in the spotlight for spreading misleading informations on COVID-19. WhatsApp says that forwards are down 25 percent around the world in the past year.

WhatsApp promoted a bot made by the World Health Organization that conveys information about the disease that has been examined by healthcare professionals. The app has been used by more than 10 million people. WhatsApp also donated \$1 million to the International Fact-Checking Network. We still however come across many people, who post and forward helpful informations, messages, videos through the social media platforms.

## Brainware University contributes Rs.10 lakhs to CM's Corona Relief Fund

*Dolly Mallick &  
Jyoti Bhattacharya*

Brainware University has donated rupees ten lakhs to the Chief Ministers relief fund to combat the Corona epidemic. Brainware University has been remarkably active in its participation against this epidemic from the very start. Be it social awareness or hand sanitizer preparation, Brainware University has not been found lagging.

The universities battle against Covid-19 requires a lot of money. On one hand the lockdown has meant a closure of all offices, factories and business. As a result the govt as well as the common man has no money in reserve. Amid such a crisis the state govt has appealed to



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all to help the govt. It is an appeal to the common man to donate whatever they can to the Emergency Fund to combat Corona. Rs. Ten lakhs was donated by Brainware University on April 3 for the cause. The university has also

offered its the buildings to be used as a quarantine centre if required, said university authorities.

Brainware University has been involved in many social welfare programmes from the very start and has given a helping hand to the society. It has adopted five neighbouring villages, organised blood donation camps, Rain water harvesting and further converting it to drinking water. Free legal advice to locals is also among the many welfare activities carried out by the University. Apart from being an Educational Institution, Brainware University at Barasat has contributed substantially to the welfare of the Area. The university believes in being in touch with the local people.

## Lockdown is good, Environmentalists say

*Yash Sharma*

Coronavirus has now claimed over 100,000 lives and 1.4 million people have been tested positive for Covid-19. Because of the current situation a third of the global population is on coronavirus lockdown. The lockdown might be bad for the economy but it is a blessing in disguise for our planet. The lockdown has shut down vehicles, factories and industries. This has improved the air quality significantly. Cities across the world have seen pollution levels go down as people have spent less time in vehicles, offices and factories and



Clean Water Flowing in Yamuna

more time at home. Delhi has reduced pollution levels by 71% and citizens of Delhi are breathing fresh air for the first time in years. The water of river Yamuna has become cleaner, the river which has been plagued by pollution over the years can be seen cleaner. The residents of Jalandhar had a view of the Himalayan mountain ranges

that are 213 km from the city for the first time in 30 years. This has happened because of reduced pollution. If we talk about wildlife dolphins have returned in greater numbers to the Italian port of Cagliari. A similar story in Mumbai as dolphins were spotted off the coast after several years all thanks to the absence of cruise ships and fishing boats. Reindeers were seen roaming free in the streets of Haridwar. The other side of the story is animals that have come to rely on humans may actually miss our care.



Source- Ministry of Family and Health Welfare Govt. of India, till 11th April 2020

## New jobs amidst lockdown! Brainware makes it possible

Madhurim Ghosh &  
Jyoti Bhattacharya

Amidst the nationwide lockdown due to the Corona, three students of Brainware University were placed in a private company. Two of them from the B.com Department, one from the BCA Department.

The functioning of Brainware University has not stopped even while the entire country is homebound and in the middle of nationwide lockdown. Mr Mrinal Bhattacharya, Head of Placement cell, Brainware University said "Even in difficult times such as these, this task was

made possible through the virtual campus drive". He further said, Brainware university has already organised five such virtual campus drives, which will enable their students to appear in interviews from their homes. The first step is registration; thereafter the various companies will conduct online interviews of the students as per their requirement.

Side by side the students of the Multimedia Department are also undergoing virtual industrial training, which includes placement assistance. The nation is in lockdown to counter corona. Naturally the

employment market is also affected. Amid this lock down, this entire placement via online interview has stunned and surprised the staff and the students of the University.

"I don't have words to express my happiness; this is my first job" said Shruti Ghosh a B.Com student, relieved at landing a job in such troubled times.

B.com student Komal Sinha and BCA student Tithi Mondol were also successfully placed. Brainware's Shruti, Tithi and Komal are an inspiration to the students of the university in such trying times.

## Kala Chasma



Dona Bose

At the time of crisis, the world has come to a screeching halt as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. Actors from different film industries in India came together for a short film 'Family'. The film is meant to stress the importance of staying at home, staying safe, maintaining hygiene, working from home and maintaining social distancing.

The film is a part of Bachchan's 'We Are One' initiative, supported by Sony Pictures Entertainment and Kalyan Jewellers. The program will provide ration to 1 lakh daily wage labourers of the All India Film Employees Confederation. Due to the 21 days nationwide lockdown the industry is facing a loss of Rs. 800-1000 crore. Film production and shooting are held back. The worst-hit are the industry's workers and daily wagers. The film starts with the megastar Amitabh Bachchan who is looking for his sunglasses or 'Kala Chasma'. That is when Diljit Dosanjh & Ranbir Kapoor go on to find the glasses. South superstar Rajnikant and many more stars like Chiranjeevi, Prosenjit Chatterjee, Alia Bhatt and more made an appearance. The film was shot at their respective house none of them stepped out said Big-B. Didn't you watch it yet? it's trending on twitter. It is available on YouTube as well. Why don't you give it a try.

## Heroes of the Corona pandemic

Vandana Singh

WHO celebrates the World Health Day on April 7 every year to show gratitude towards the health staff include Doctors, Nurses and other health care workers. Each year there is a specific theme for the day and this year the theme was to "Support Nurses And Midwives". WHO choose the theme to show their gratitude towards nurse and midwives because at a time when the whole world is facing a health crisis because of the Corona pandemic. The doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers are con-

tinuously fighting with this virus by putting their own health at risk. At same time the healthcare workers have to face many problems because of the current situation. Doctors and medical workers in India are being evicted from their homes and are being forced by their landlords to sleep in hospital over fears they may be carrying the Coronavirus.

Some people are accusing the healthcare workers of spreading the Coronavirus because of this there have been attacks on the healthcare workers in some places.

Many doctors who have saved unlimited no of patients are not able to save his/her life. According to WHO, health is essential for human happiness and welfare.

This day is an opportunity to highlight the significance of healthcare workers in making the world healthy. It is important that the people understand the sacrifice of healthcare workers because they are real heroes of the world. If we cannot support them then at least give some respect who are the real strength of our country.

## FELUDA TO COMBAT CORONA

Shreya Dana

Will Feluda solve the Corona crisis? Sounds naive? Not really. Two Bengali scientists Debojyoti Chakraborty and Souvik Maity have claimed that Feluda might have an answer, though this Feluda is not Prodosh Mitter, a Satyajit Ray creation. Feluda in this case is a technique used to control COVID-19 infection, which is FnCas9 Editor Linked Uniform Detection Assay, in short FELUDA. The two scientists from Delhi Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology have claimed that this technique doesn't require any skilled or technically qualified manpower, or training. This test



Team Feluda: (Left to right) Dr Debojyoti Chakraborty, Dr Souvik Maity, Rhythm Phutela, Mohd Azhar and Manoj Kumar have worked around the clock to produce the rapid paper-strip test kit

can be done at any small pathological lab within 400 - 500 rupees. But how does it work? The Scientists have claimed that the first step involves conversion of COVID-19 RNA to DNA. Thereafter a PCR instrument is used to make multiple copies of the DNA. This DNA is then combined with Crisp-er Cas9 Bacterium protein. A

(FELUDA) Test paper strip will show a distinct line with the saliva of an infected person. The scientists have stated that the results which till now, take up to a day or more with foreign techniques, will be possible within 2-3 hrs. It remains to be seen how effective FELUDA is at a time when India is facing substantial economic uncertainty.