

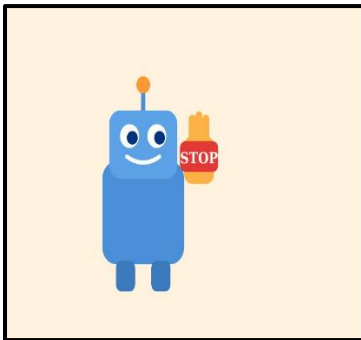
FOR WIDE DISSEMINATION

Digital Defenders!

A Guide for Young Indians to Detect False Information Online

The foes of India are aware of the fact that misinformation is disseminated faster by those who forward the information without verifying its authenticity. Children and young adults have been targeted especially because they use technology and share information faster than anyone else. With the help of your cartoon characters like Raju, Diya, Priya and Arjun, we will learn about the ten tricks needed for identifying misinformation and saying no to misinformation.

Your 10 Digital Defender Skills



1. **THE STOP RULE: Pause Before You Share.**

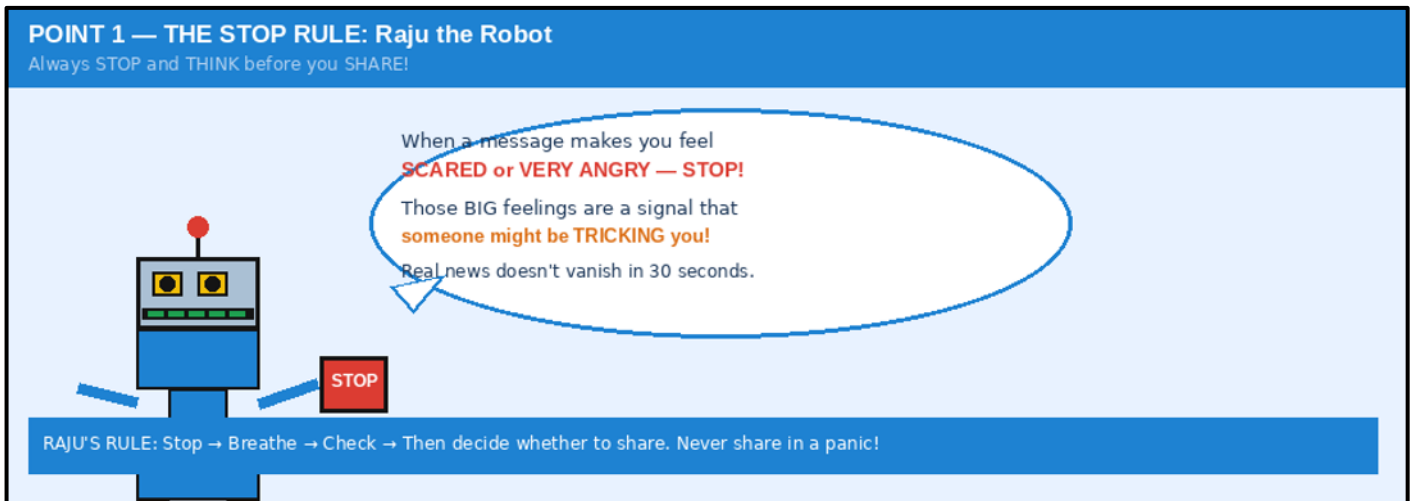
The lessons learned from Raju the Robot include:

When you receive any message that either scares you too much, angers you too much or excites you too much – STOP! Such strong emotions are an indication that you are being deceived. Real and vital information will never be gone within 30 seconds.

POINT 1 — THE STOP RULE: Raju the Robot
Always STOP and THINK before you SHARE!

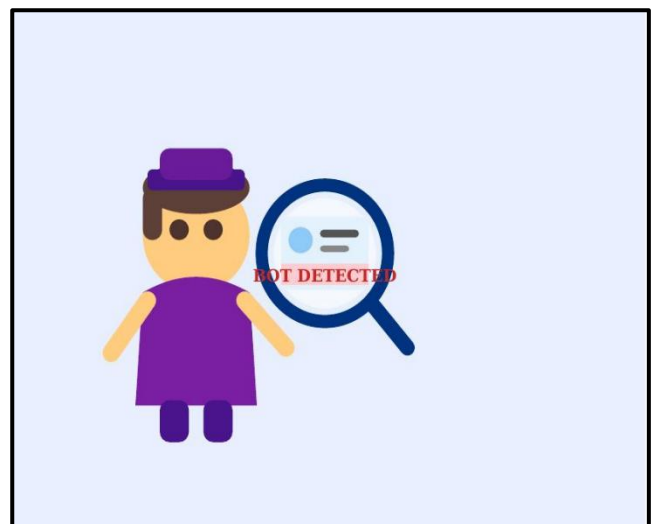
When a message makes you feel
SCARED or VERY ANGRY — STOP!
Those BIG feelings are a signal that
someone might be TRICKING you!
Real news doesn't vanish in 30 seconds.

RAJU'S RULE: Stop → Breathe → Check → Then decide whether to share. Never share in a panic!



2. **Ask: Who Made This? Check the Source.**

The example of detective Diya illustrates how to verify the account that sends a certain message. The news media accounts are usually old accounts that are validated and contain many followers. For instance, the DD News and PTI media accounts contain several million followers. An account created only two days ago containing just 12 followers and posting 847 messages is definitely a BOT.



POINT 2 — CHECK THE SOURCE: Detective Diya

Is the account real? New accounts with no history are often FAKE!



Diya's Magnifier Reveals the TRUTH...

FAKE ACCOUNT

Name: news_india_99
Created: 2 DAYS AGO
Followers: 12
Posts: 847 in 2 days!
☐ THIS IS A BOT — NOT REAL

REAL ACCOUNT

Name: DD News
Created: 2008
Followers: 4.2 million
Blue verification tick: YES
☐ TRUSTWORTHY SOURCE

DIYA'S RULE: No history + no followers + lots of posts = BOT. Ask a parent or teacher to help check!

TRUSTED SOURCES for India:

DD News | PIB (pib.gov.in) | ANI | PTI | The Hindu | Times of India

DETECTIVE DIYA SAYS: Real important news will always be on big trusted websites — not just one unknown page!

3. Check If the Story Appears on Multiple Trusted Websites.

If anything significant occurs, it will be reported by more than one reliable online news site. You could have your parents assist you in verifying the news on DD News(ddnews.gov.in), PIB (pib.gov.in), ANI or PTI. However, if the news comes from just one unverified website or forwarded WhatsApp message and not on any of the credible online media portals, then be extremely sceptical about it.



POINTS 3 & 4 — MULTI-SOURCE CHECK + REVERSE IMAGE SEARCH

Super-Siddhu unmask an 8-year-old photo being shared as today's news!



Google Reverse Image Search — Results

Photo being checked:



Caption: 'Today's flood 2026'

Search!

RESULT: SAME PHOTO FOUND ON:

BBC India — Aug 2018
Reuters — Aug 2018
The Hindu — Aug 2018

SUPER-SIDDHU REVEALS: Photo is 8 YEARS OLD!

The caption is FALSE — this is OLD news.

HOW TO DO IT: Right-click any photo → 'Search image with Google'
Yandex Images is also excellent for Indian context searches.
TinEye (tineye.com) can trace exact original appearance date.

RULE 3: If big news really happened, it will be on DD News, PTI, PIB AND major newspapers — not just one WhatsApp message!

4. Reverse Search Images Before Believing Them.

Super-Siddhu proves this to you: The photo that purportedly depicts the flood in the year 2026 actually dated back to eight years and belonged to another state altogether! Get your parents or elder siblings to simply right-click on any photo and click on 'Search image with Google'. It will take a maximum of 30 seconds and will tell you if the photo dates from yesterday or another event entirely.



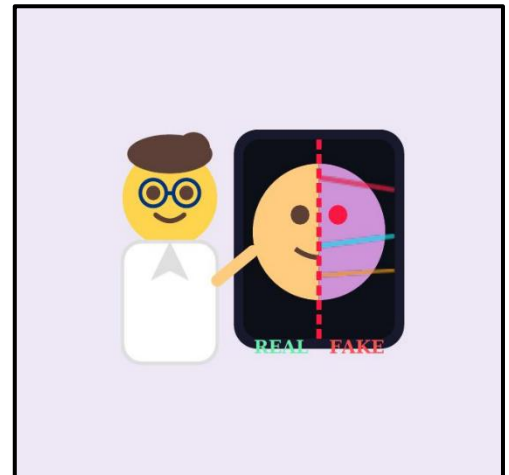


5. Learn to Recognise the Tricks Used to Fool You.

The techniques involved in generating false news are always consistent; there is always a claim that one needs to spread the news because, “otherwise a bad thing will happen!” Or there might be claims such as, “All Indians should pass this message on”. Once people understand how these techniques work, they no longer fall for them.

6. Understand That Videos Can Be Faked — Deepfakes.

As Priya the Scientist clarifies, the computers of today have the capability to produce videos wherein real-life people, including the Prime Minister or an army official, appear to be saying something that they have never really said. This is known as ‘deep fakes.’ In case you come across a video that is shocking for its content, do not get alarmed and do not forward it immediately.



POINTS 6 & 7 — DEEPAKES + DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS
Priya the Scientist explains how to spot and STOP fake viral videos!



How Deepfakes Work — Priya Explains!

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graph LR
    A([REAL video of PM speaking]) --> B([AI puts FAKE words in mouth])
    B --> C([FAKE video looks real — but ISN'T!])
          
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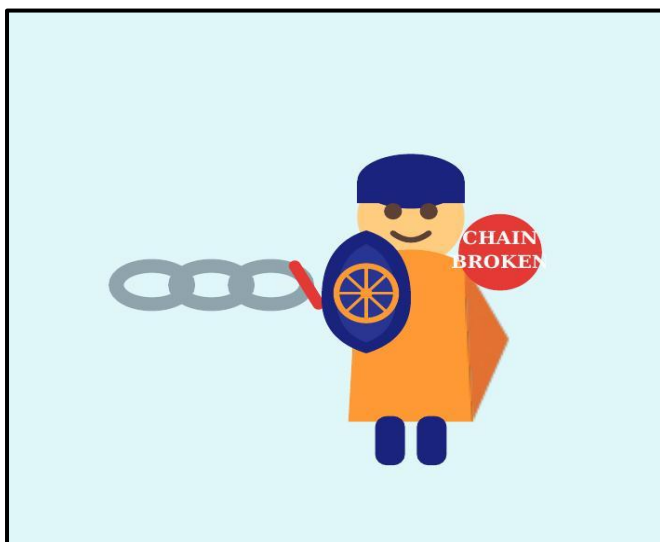
PRIYA'S WARNING: Chain of Harm

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graph LR
    YOU((YOU)) -.-> Friend((Friend))
    Friend -.-> Mum([Friend's Mum])
    Mum -.-> More([1000+ More])
          
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HERO MOVE: Check → then tell sender it's false. Stopping the chain = protecting India!

If a video shocks you: Don't panic. Don't share. Tell a trusted adult. Check pib.gov.in/factcheck first!



7. Protect Your Friends — Do Not Spread Rumours.

This lesson will be very difficult for Arjun to learn; the moment that one forwards a message that is not true, it will be sent to many more individuals. Forwarding a false message has very bad consequences for the individuals concerned. Play your part as a hero; check the validity of the message and inform the sender about your findings.

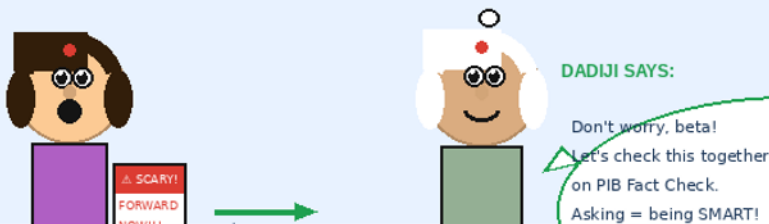
8. Talk to a Trusted Adult When Unsure.

Meera receives a frightening message, but she goes to Dadiji for guidance. From your parents to your grandparents to your siblings, they will help you evaluate anything that makes you feel confused or scared on the Internet. Questioning something does not make you a weak person; it shows your wisdom and maturity.

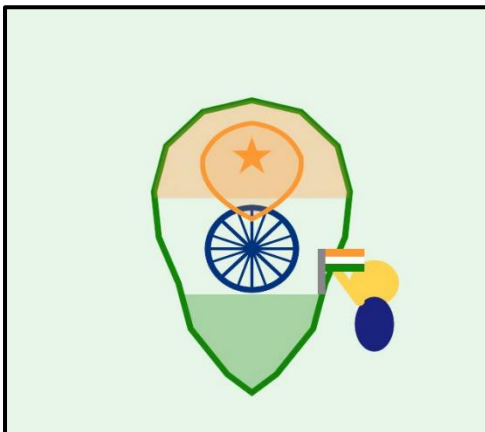


POINTS 8 & 9 — TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT + DEFENDING INDIA

Meera gets help from Dadiji — asking questions = being SMART!



POINT 9: By learning these skills, YOU are defending India. Foreign groups target kids — but you know their tricks now!



9. Know That Your Country Needs You.

Foreign entities trying to damage the image of India deliberately go after children on gaming applications and social networking websites because they realise that kids will spread it faster than they can think. By taking the time to verify before sharing, you are helping protect your nation, your family and your community. Every child who does not spread fake news protects India.

10. Build Your Daily Fact-Checking Habit.

Team of Truthers - Raju, Diya, Priya and Arjun - fact-check one thing every single day. Choose any one message that you receive today and go through its authenticity. Save yourself the trouble by bookmarking these websites, which are reliable sources for fact checking: PIB Fact Check (pib.gov.in/factcheck), Boom Live (boomlive.in), Alt News (altnews.in) and Vishvas News (vishvasnews.com).

