

1. **CLAIM:** [Coconut water is safe to use as a replacement for intravenous fluids](#)

FACT: False claim as no evidence to suggest that this was a safe practice

EXPLANATION: We searched for available material regarding coconut water being used as replacement for human plasma in the past and came across anecdotal references without any credible evidence. Also we found medical literature which said the opposite of what was being claimed in the viral post. This article was the most read on our website in the week that it was published.

2. **CLAIM:** [At a rally in Tamil Nadu, BJP Chief JP Nadda claimed that “95% work for AIIMS Madurai was over” and that around ₹1225 crores had been spent on it.](#)

FACT: At the time of writing the fact check, we found that

- a. The construction work for AIIMS Madurai had not even commenced, pre-investment work was 92% complete, not 95%.
- b. Out of the ₹1264 Crores allotted for this project, only ₹12.3 crores had been released.

EXPLANATION: After the claim by BJP Chief JP Nadda, it was shared online by the official social media handles of the BJP, and some of its leaders. We first examined the original recording of JP Nadda’s speech to clarify the exact terminology used. Further, we looked at government data regarding money allocated for this project and how much was released so far. We found relevant media reports and official responses by the Health Minister and MoS Health. On analysing publically available data we found that only 2% of allocated funds were released. Further, using geolocation OSINT and speaking to locals in the area, we confirmed that no construction work had started.

3. **CLAIM:** [A video shared by a Twitter handle associated with the Congress party claimed that there was a “flood of people” who came to attend the Bharat Jodo Yatra in Indore](#)

FACT: While the video does actually show people attending the Bharat Jodo Yatra, it is not from Madhya Pradesh’s Indore but it is from Raichur, Karnataka

EXPLANATION: Indore, considered the most populous and largest city in Madhya Pradesh, has been largely governed by BJP Chief Ministers over the last 15 years. This video alleged that when the Bharat Jodo Yatra was passing through Indore, there was a *jan-sailaab*, or a flood of people, to participate- indicating the support it received on the ground. On closely analysing publicly available videos, we found that the visuals were actually from a different rally in Karnataka. We inspected multiple tweets and closely analysed visual cues in screengrabs taken from these videos We conducted frame-by-frame comparisons to reach our conclusion.

4. **CLAIM:** [Ahead of elections in Gujarat, an image of an AAP poster suggests people should read namaz and not follow Hindu prayer rituals.](#)

FACT: The image of the poster had been edited

EXPLANATION: Through reverse image search, we found the original image with the following text “now Gujarat will change”. In the viral image, it had been edited to read “now Gujarat will read namaz”. In addition, in the edited image, the photo of an AAP leader, Gopal Italia was changed and the image of a Muslim cleric was added with the words “now stop reading *bhagwat saptah* and *satyanarayan paath*”. This was one of the many false claims debunked by us ahead of the Gujarat state elections in 2022

5. **CLAIM:** [Newspaper report says according to a new law, BJP Govt In UP Levies 6% GST On Sunday Church Mass Collection](#)

FACT: Newspaper clipping has been edited. Image was manipulated.

EXPLANATION: We first looked for official sources for updates on new laws and did not find such an announcement. By carefully examining the viral post and by using keywords from other articles seen in the viral TOI newspaper clipping, we established that the other content on the page was at least 20 years old. We used this as a cue and looked at the archives of TOI available online. We found all the other news reports one can see in the viral picture in the archives. However, the claim that we were checking on whether collections made at the Sunday Church Mass were taxed, was not in the archived edition in 2010. GST was introduced in India in 2017. Through investigation, we found a different story of former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda carried in 2010 on the front page of TOI in the spot that had been edited to make it look like the GST story.

6. **CLAIM:** [Massive protests in Dubai against the ouster of Imran Khan](#)

FACT: Manipulated video shared to claim outpouring of support for Imran Khan in UAE after his ouster.

EXPLANATION: This claim was very viral among English and Urdu language social media users. Our first objective was to confirm the location, which we successfully demonstrated using geolocation tools like Google Street View. Further, we tracked down locals living in the area who confirmed that no such protest had taken place. By analysing multiple rally videos we found the same audio track heard in the viral video to make this video look like a political rally. While locals told us the original video shows Dubai locals leaving after attending an event at a venue nearby, we were unable to confirm when the original video was recorded.

7. **CLAIM:** [Drinking pineapple mixed with hot water cures cancer](#)

FACT: No evidence to indicate this. Doctors have opposed claims made in the post

EXPLANATION: We looked up medical literature regarding pineapple and cancer treatment and went through multiple studies but did not find anywhere that it can single-handedly cure cancer. While studies and doctors agreed it was good for health, there is no conclusive evidence regarding its role in curing cancer. We spoke to oncologists who told us the claims made in the long message were not true.

8. **CLAIM:** [Under a new rule made by the government, tenants will have to pay 18% GST on rent for residential properties](#)

FACT: New rule applies to those using a residential property for commercial purposes

EXPLANATION: With the announcement of additional goods and services brought under the ambit of taxation, there was a lot of confusion and misinformation on its impact on the general public. Poorly reported media articles added to the confusion. We went through the details of the new rules and also spoke to two different taxation experts on the impact of the new rules on tenants of residential properties. We included media reports that offered more information regarding the new rules and a clarification from the government's Press Information Bureau.

9. **CLAIM:** [Home minister Amit Shah claimed that UP's crime rate had "reduced dramatically" by quoting multiple data points in a rally speech ahead of elections in the state.](#)

FACT: Incidents of crime, as well as the UP's prevalent crime rate, have steadily risen both under the Samajwadi Party as well as the incumbent Bharatiya Janata Party.

EXPLANATION: For this fact check, we conducted an in-depth analysis of publicly available government data and media reports on the issue. We also spoke to some NCRB officials who helped us understand the data better. The minister had stated specific statistics which we compared to the data available regarding the performance under the previous government in power to debunk each data set individually. This was sort of a report card on the performances of the state under different political parties ahead of the assembly elections in UP. Our findings are as below:

- Total cognizable crimes (IPC) have gone up by 43% and are not down by 60%
- Dacoity has gone down by 54% and not by 70%
- Murders went down by 19.67% and not 30%
- Dowry deaths are up by 1.73% and not down by 22.5%

10. CLAIM: [Pakistani flag raised in Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra](#)

FACT: Flag of state political party IUML was falsely shared as Pakistan's Flag.

EXPLANATION: On reverse searching keyframes, we found the official source of the video. On close examination and comparison with Pakistan's national flag, we determined that the two flags were not identical. The flag belongs to IUML, a political party recognised by the Election Commission of India, and a member of the UDF alliance currently led by the Congress in the Kerala assembly. We spoke to primary sources for further context and clarification.

11. CLAIM: [Gautam Adani's new scheme, a cryptocurrency auto-trading program has terrified banks and the government, it can make people rich overnight](#)

FACT: Imposter website was promoting a scam by pretending to be The Indian Express website

EXPLANATION: A careful analysis of the website and its stories revealed discrepancies. The image of a family named a "beneficiary of the scheme" in the story was on a stock photo website- which can be downloaded and used by anyone after paying a fee. We clarified that no such interview was reported by either NDTV or the news anchor quoted on the website. We followed the links mentioned on the website as they led to a page asking for bank details, vague descriptions of funding, and requests to register quickly, all signs pointing to a scam. Also, we found a denial from Indian Express saying this is not their original website.

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