**Non Partisan**

1. Claim- Video footage of crowd hooting at PM Mahinda Rajapaksa in Italy.

Fact- Background sound of the official footage published by PM’s FB page and few other media channels, had been intensified and mixed with an audio feed from a two-year-old incident in which a group of UNP MP’s were hooted by the crowd at the occasion of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa’s oath taking ceremony.

Synopsis-A lot of concerns were raised over the PM and group of delegates' visit to Italy and few Sri Lankan groups had staged protests also at various parts in Italy. In this backdrop a video shared when PM and his wife coming out of a hall, had the background sound of crowd hooting in Sinhala. However the analysis showed the audio feed was digitally manipulated using the audio feed of a 2 year old incident.

Fact Check Link-

<https://srilanka.factcrescendo.com/english/audio-feed-altered-to-portray-that-crowd-hooted-at-pm-in-italy/>
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2. Claim- The infamous couple who had made a pornographic video at a tourist destination – Pahanthudawa falls

Fact- This is not the couple who were arrested over the Pahanthudawa incident.

Synopsis- Pahanthudawa became a sensation after a pornographic video shot at the tourist destination went viral. After much public unrest over these scenes, the couple responsible for the video were arrested. Police media spokesman confirmed the couple arrested over the incident was not the couple whose images went viral on social media. The victims, Kushan and his wife had visited Pahanthudawa falls in 2019 and the image of his wife getting widely shared related to Pahanthudawa keyword, led to this confusion. The couple had lodged a police complaint and had taken legal action against defamatory claims

Fact Check Link-

<https://srilanka.factcrescendo.com/2021/09/03/photo-of-an-unrelated-couple-misused-in-creating-false-allegations-linking-to-pahanthudawa-incident/>

3. Claim- A Muslim meditation house called in Sri Lanka by the name “Fatima” (in Sinhala same pronunciation for “Fatima/Fathima”, where Fathima considered as a common Muslim name)

Fact- Our Lady of Fatima retreat house in Kandy, which is a catholic retreat house, seen in many parts of the world as well.

Synopsis- Shared over 66K times since 2018 this post created lot of hatred comments towards Muslim community, and towards SL administration, for allowing a meditation place for Muslim community. After contacting the present and previous Catholic priests in charge of the “FATIMA” retreat house and using Google Street view we confirmed that due to this misunderstanding a cross had been placed behind the name board to symbolize it’s a catholic retreat house, which is common in many parts of the world.

Fact Check Link-

<https://srilanka.factcrescendo.com/2021/04/11/image-of-fatima-catholic-retreat-house-in-kandy-shared-in-a-misleading-manner/>

4. Claim- This video is about two people being killed in public.

Fact- The video shared with the post is not of a murder committed to real but during the shooting of the film.

Synopsis- A video was going viral on social media. In which two people can be seen being shot. The video was going viral in the name of live murder in Veraval, Mumbai area. With the help of Google Map, we geolocated it at Goa. Then it turned out that it was a film shooting.

Fact Check Link-
<https://gujarati.factcrescendo.com/film-shoot-clip-from-mapusa-goa-viral-as-real-life-incident-from-dongri-mumbai/>

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5. Claim- The youth was caught tampering with an EVM machine during the Bihar Assembly elections.

Fact- This video was from the by-elections held in Haryana and it was the voter slip printing machine.

Synopsis- A video of a group of people heckling a boy accusing him of hacking EVM went viral during the Bihar State elections. We found that this was an old video from another state. Later it turned out that it was the voter slip printing machine.

Fact Check Link- <https://gujarati.factcrescendo.com/video-from-haryana-viral-as-alleged-evm-fraud-in-bihar-elections/>

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6. Claim-Islamophobic priest makes false claim of Crescent marks found on private parts of 'Love Jihad Victims'

Fact- Kerala police also dismissed all the allegations.

Synopsis- In an interview to a YouTube Channel, a Christian priest made a startling claim that post mortem reports of eight non-Muslim women who committed suicide after marrying a Muslim showed Crescent inscribed on their private parts. The priest attributed this misinformation to Mr. Jacob Job IPS who was an SP in Kerala Police. This sensational claim had caused tensions between communities in Kerala and also found a way into some national platforms as well. Tracking and speaking to Mr. Jacob Job was difficult since he had retired, but we were able to contact Mr. Job who refuted the allegations made by the priest and informed us that he will take legal action against the priest. Kerala police also dismissed all the allegations.

Link: <https://www.malayalam.factcrescendo.com/priest-falsely-claims-former-ips-officer-made-shocking-revelation-about-love-jihad/>

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7. Claim- Congress Party Hiring Actors in Kerala

Fact- Two photos of different women with different leaders in different cities of Kerala of the Indian National Congress were shared to claim that the Congress party is using paid actors to campaign for them in the elections.

Synopsis- Two photos of different women with different leaders in different cities of Kerala of the Indian National Congress were shared to claim that the Congress party is using paid actors to campaign for them in the elections. It was a difficult job to identify and locate both the women as they were normal workers of the party. But our fact checker located both the women using her journalistic endeavours and ascertained their identities and debunked the claim.

Link: <https://www.malayalam.factcrescendo.com/did-woman-worker-impersonate-during-the-protest-for-the-candidature-of-congress-leaders/>

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8. Claim- Malayalam Wire Agency Provides Fake News to Malayalam Media

Fact- Fact Crescendo found the news to be misleading.

Synopsis-

A Malayalam news wire agency had wrongly translated the speech by WHO chief Dr. Tedros Adanhom Ghebreyesus and published a news article with a lurid headline saying WHO chief harshly criticized India for COVID-19 mismanagement. The local Malayalam media portals published the news without any modifications or verification. We verified the news using the video of Dr. Ghebreyesus's speech and its transcript and found the news to be misleading. Our fact check prompted many reputed media organizations like India Today and Twenty Four News to recheck and correct their article.

Link: <https://www.malayalam.factcrescendo.com/twenty-four-news-misconstrues-who-dg-statement/>

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9. Claim- Series of houses built in Cambodia for Vietnamese immigrants.

 Fact- The houses were built by Cambodia’s government for veteran soldiers, retied and disable military officers in Chik Dei village, Andong Trabek commune, Svay Rieng’s Romeas Haek district

# Synopsis- A viral claim on social media said a photo shows houses that were built for Vietnamese immigrants after their floating houses were dismantled from rivers. The project started few years ago was initiated by the Cambodian government to provided houses for military veterans, soldiers and disabled military officers.

Fact Check Link- <https://cambodia.factcrescendo.com/were-the-houses-built-for-vietnamese-immigrants-in-cambodia/>

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10. Claim- Video shows a man executed by the Taliban by hanging him onto a black hawk helicopter

Fact- The man seen in the video is a Talibani militant who was trying to hoist a flag on a flag post inside the premises of Kandahar provincial government building.

Synopsis- The man seen hanging to a black hawk helicopter in the viral video is alive and he was a Talibani militant trying to hoist a flag inside the premises of Kandahar Provincial Government Building. As claimed in the narratives doing rounds of social media he is not an innocent being persecuted by the Taliban. We identified the names written in Pashto language which translated to a radio station named Tabassum radio in Kandahar. We contacted the head of the radio station who confirmed to us that the video was shot by him. He also narrated to us the entire incident.

Fact Check Link- <https://english.factcrescendo.com/2021/08/31/man-seen-hanging-in-viral-video-is-a-talib-trying-to-hoist-a-flag/>

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