

Advisory

**Advisory regarding fake news and
rumors related to COVID-19 coronavirus
pandemic**



Office of the Special Inspector General of Police,
Maharashtra Cyber
World trade Centre , 32 Floor, Cuffe Pared, Mumbai

Office of the Special Inspector General of Police,
Maharashtra Cyber
World trade Centre , 32 Floor, Cuffe Pared, Mumbai

It has been noticed that certain malicious elements are spreading fake news and vicious rumors regarding the COVID-19 pandemic on online communication channels, internet, social media and various messaging platforms to cause panic, commit crime and disturb the public order in the state. In the time of such an epidemic, it is the duty of every citizens to stay informed and be responsible with what they share on social media.

The Maharashtra cyber department is advising any persons or organization to refrain from engaging in spreading fake news and rumors on various social media platforms and also traditional media sources and mischievous and harmful behavior which will disturb the public order. If it comes your notice about any person/ organization is involved in spreading/creating/publishing rumors / fake news or misinformation on any forms of media or messaging platform, it is encouraged to report it to the nearest police station/ cyber police station or lodge complaint at www.cybercrime.gov.in. Maharashtra Cyber police will take stringent action against those found spreading fake news / rumors or misinformation about the Corona virus disease.

As per the notification of Government of Maharashtra, Public Health Department dated 14th March 2020, "The Maharashtra COVID-19 Regulations 2020" has been released. This advisory is in lines to the The Maharashtra COVID-19 Regulations 2020 and any person / Institution / organization is found indulging in such activity, they will be held responsible and necessary action will be taken under

Section 3 of THE EPIDEMIC DISEASES ACT, 1897

"Any person disobeying any regulation or order made under this Act shall be deemed to have committed an offence punishable under section 188 of the Indian Penal Code ,1860 "

In light of the global pandemic, we urge the citizens to rely on official sources for all the information related to the COVID-19 for reliable and updated information.

A list of few official websites is given below-

- Ministry of Health, Government of India-
The official website of the Ministry of Health, Government of India provides detailed information on the do's and don'ts related to the virus, travel advisories, safety measures, quarantine guidelines, and other useful information.
<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/>

- World Health Organization-
The official website of the World Health Organization hosts all the global updates related to the disease.

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

We request everyone to follow the guidelines described on the above websites to stay safe of the coronavirus pandemic.