

Misinformation, fake news spark India coronavirus fears | Al Jazeera

By Kunal Purohit

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India's battle against the coronavirus has many obstacles – large crowds, a stretched health system and inadequate infrastructure – as the number of infections rose to 43 on Monday.

But beyond these, familiar foes are rearing their heads: misinformation and fake news.

Through its vast social media networks, a wave of inaccuracy is spreading on coronavirus, which causes an illness known as COVID-19.

From offering unverified home remedies to tackle the virus, to floating fake advisories asking people to avoid foods such as ice cream and chicken, and sharing conspiracy theories, Indians' phones are being flooded with misinformation.

On Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was forced to appeal to citizens, asking them to not heed to rumours surrounding COVID-19.

[...]

Source: [Misinformation, fake news spark India coronavirus fears | India News | Al Jazeera](#)