



## Vishvas News Organizes Workshop 'Tools Review 2023' for Empowering Fact-Check Community

~The workshop conducted on International Fact Checking Day saw participation from various South Asian Fact Checkers across the globe.~

**April 3rd, 2023, New Delhi:** Vishvas.News, the fact-checking and media literacy training division of Jagran New Media, organized a workshop on April 2nd, 2023, titled 'Tools Review 2023' to empower fact checkers with the latest tools to combat misinformation. The workshop was conducted on the occasion of International Fact Checking Day 2023 and saw participation from various South Asian Fact Checkers across the globe.

The introductory session was presided over by Mr. Rajesh Upadhyay, Editor-in-Chief, Vishvas.News who addressed the participants about Vishvas.News' intervention in the realm of information literacy. The session was joined by Mr. Ferdi Ferhat Özsoy, IFCN Interim Director, and Mr. Govindraj Ethiraj, IFCN Board Member, who also shared their views on the importance of fact-checking in today's media landscape.

**Mr. Rajesh Upadhyay, Editor-in-Chief, Vishvas.News and Jagran New Media, said**, "In recent years, concerns over the standards of journalistic integrity have risen. There have been wider shifts in news resourcing, which exerts influence on public trust in mainstream media. At Vishvas.News, we are committed to promoting information literacy and educating the media fraternity on ways to deal with ambiguity. Thus, the workshop was organized as our valiant attempt to equip fact-checkers with various tools that enhance their skills to identify and curb fake news."

In the words of a renowned journalist **Mr. Craig Silverman**, "The tools and tactics used for digital manipulation and disinformation continue to evolve. It's essential that we scale fact checking and media literacy efforts to meet the needs of the public. It was an honor to help fact checkers across South Asia keep their skills and knowledge up to date, and to assist them in their efforts to provide credible information."

**Mr. Ferdi Ferhat Özsoy, Interim Director, IFCN,** remarks, "International Fact-Checking Day reminds us of facts' vital role in informing our decisions and shaping our world. In a time when misinformation is rampant, and the facts are often obscured, we must commit ourselves to elevating the facts and promoting credible sources."

About 50 participants from IFCN-accredited organizations in South Asia gathered to foster their understanding and know-how of the specificity of disinformation, and the tools required to ascertain the factual accuracy of information. This workshop, therefore, aimed to supplement the value of existing journalism, integrating a fact-checkinag perspective to understand where the line lies between fact and fake news.

## About Vishvas.News

Vishvas.News is India's leading fact-check and verification portal with a dedicated editorial team to identify, verify and authenticate news. It is available in 12 languages including Hindi, English, Punjabi, Urdu, Assamese, Marathi, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, Oriya, Bengali, and Gujarati. Vishvas.News is a signatory of the International <u>Fact-Checking Network</u> (IFCN), which puts the site among a handful of prestigious global media portals that have received the esteemed international certification. Vishvas.News checks the authenticity of any news or misinformation purely on the basis of facts without any fear or prejudice. A Google News Initiative India Network-trained Editor and the team follows a policy of non-partisanship and fairness in this fact-checking and verification exercise. Under the umbrella of Jagran New Media, Vishvas.News brings to the fore issues which impact the lives of individuals, communities, and the whole nation at large. The platform provides stories that come from genres including politics, sports, health, sanitation, law and justice, education, environment. employment, innovation, science, and socially and ethnically disadvantaged groups.

## About Jagran New Media:

<u>Jagran New Media</u> is the digital arm of <u>Jagran Prakashan Limited</u> - India's leading media and communications group with its interests spanning across Print, OOH, Activations, Radio, and Digital.

Jagran New Media has a reach of 84.5 Million users (Comscore MMX Multi-Platform; February 2023) and 67.18 Million Video Views (YouTube, June 2022) and consolidated its position amongst the top 10 news and info publishers in India. The company publishes multimedia content which includes over 7000 stories and 40 videos in a day. JNM has an array of offerings under the media & publishing category and has been a pioneer in providing real-time content across genres, with news and politics being the primary drivers, education, lifestyle, health, auto, and technology are also significant contributors. The company has dedicated websites covering news & politics which include www.jagran.com. www.naidunia.com. www.inextlive.com. www.punjabijagran.com, www.gujaratijagran.com, and english.jagran.com. A leading health website www.onlymyhealth.com, women focus portal www.herzindagi.com in 3 languages, and a focused website for education www.jagranjosh.com. A leading fact-checking website www.vishvasnews.com in 12 languages and a gaming vertical www.jagranplay.com, also contribute to the offering.

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