

THE ASIAN AGE

Delhi | Mumbai | Kolkata | London

2:56 PM, Friday Apr 17, 2015



an initiative of Deccan Chronicle

 Search

Horoscope

Select your sign

- Home
- India
- Metros
- International
- Business
- Opinion
- Sports
- Entertainment
- Life & Style
- Newsmakers
- Books
- E-Paper
- Science + Health
- Travel
- Parties
- Health & Fitness
- Dining
- Arts
- Kids and teens
- Yoga

Home » Life and Style » Ideas

Forget typing, go live-stream

Apr 03, 2015 - Nandini D. Tripathy

Share Tweet

Share Like Be the first of your friends to like this.



Still from The Big Bang Theory. Picture is used for illustrative purpose only.

Why type when you can live-stream what you're upto. Smartphone users can now live-stream videos of themselves to multiple audience via apps such as Meerkat, Camio and Periscope

Ever felt too restricted by the 140-character limit on Twitter? Or at a loss for enough words that could make your Facebook status clear enough? Or found Instagram too slow in posting one image at a time when you're trying to illustrate a process through a whole series that you were too lazy to collage? Independent smartphone apps like Meerkat and Camio came up with a solution to all these problems and more last month, letting users live-stream videos of themselves — doing anything from exploring a new city to walking their dogs. With Twitter now joining in with Periscope, their own official live-streaming app, the trend of services enabling users to live-stream in audio-visual format what they would otherwise be typing or clicking about, is taking social media the world over by storm.

"This is by far the coolest addition to my smartphone," says Delhi-based event management professional Abhinav Raut. He goes on, "I have friends and family in the US who've been Meerkating — yes, that is a recognisable verb now by the way — really fun videos of themselves every time they go out someplace interesting. And the best part of Periscope now is that they can see reactions from the people following them while they stream, in real time! It's almost like having an actual conversation with many people at once, giving them a direct window into your life without them physically encroaching into your space. If you use such an app intelligently, I think it can be a great addition to social media in general, bringing people even closer and keeping them even more connected with their friends and family than the text or image format does."

Ambedkar University student Prativa Goswami points out a potential occupational hazard for those who work ceaselessly to capture that perfect selfie. "This is like posting a video selfie after all, and could be a dream-come-true for all my selfie-obsessed friends who can't get enough of pouting and posing wherever they go. They'll have to figure out more movement-oriented poses now though...maybe the next step will be choreographed live-streams, since you can't edit them later like you can edit and perfect selfies. Oh wait, on second thought, can you imagine what this might do to all the people who click 20 selfies to get that one perfect snap? They'll only have the one chance to get that perfect video. What a nightmare!" she laughs.

Delhi University student Sanjana Gupta takes a slightly more serious look at the apps' implications as she says, "The question foremost on my mind is, to what extent do we want the world to look into our lives? I came across a video a few days ago, for example, of a lady live streaming herself boiling pasta. I mean, seriously? Looked at one way, it's a revolution in itself that social media is

India

If someone wants to holiday, it's their right: BJP on Rahul Gandhi's sabbatical

Separatist leader Masarat Alam arrested in Srinagar ahead of planned march in Valley

CBI may seek US help over Antrix-Devas

Geeta Johri promoted to DGP rank

Three judge bench in Teesta Setalvad's case

Most Read Most Commented Most Emailed

- Rojo, Angel Di Maria take a trip
- Cool down for a hot price!
- The land of solitude
- An American cow's Indian dream
- Avoid inner eyelid eyeliners
- Astronaut will drink own sweat and urine
- With OTG USB sticks data transfer becomes an easier and faster process
- No Articles Found
- Art authentication gun to owner's head
- Long sitting hours as bad as smoking
- Diabetes increases risk of TB
- After 70 years, voices and tales of Holocaust survivors fading
- Forging a new design route
- The myth of 'Greater China'
- RBI: Balance inquiry app is not ours

Columnists

Bakshi! Bakshi! Burning bright?



Pinaki Roy

When William Blake published his *The Tyger* in 1794, he carefully replaced the usual "i" of "Tiger" with a "y" in order to suggest the extraordinariness of the apocalyptic beast.

Modi's 'Yugantar' moment



Claude Arpi

Official visits by heads of state or government are like vital surgical operations — if you come out of the operation theatre alive and are back in your room, it is deemed a success.

letting us have a more intimate glimpse into each others' lives in real time. But then, how intimate a glimpse do we really want? Also, into how much detail of a person's daily rigmarole? If someone live-streamed a stroll on a hill with a pretty view, maybe that would be worth a look. But if they live-streamed a stroll from their kitchen to their loo...? And there are people who would do that, I kid you not. I have some of them in my own friend list! Besides, isn't it a little ridiculous how you might want to let complete strangers into fairly banal aspects of your daily routine? The urge to do that doesn't make sense to me, so I'm one of those whom you'll never see using any of these apps. I'm not against them. I just don't understand their point, sorry."

Cyber expert Pavan Duggal, on his part, send out a word of caution to Indian users in particular. "With live video streaming services or apps, there is going to be a huge amount of personal data that could be potentially accessed by anyone with hacking skills while it is being streamed from your system to a secure server. With a lot of apps now coming in that allow you to stream videos directly from your phone, a lot of locational information is also being collected. For example, almost all smartphones today capture your latitude-longitude location. People need to be extremely careful because expecting the social media layer to protect your security when you're doing live-streaming is not a legitimate expectation. I think people need to be sensitised also about the legal ramifications of this phenomenon. It looks cool to live stream, but it can have security ramifications and the law is far, far behind in India. It hasn't reached the point where it can protect you from breaches in this context. Here, if your sensitive data gets exposed on account of live-streaming, you'll find that the IT Act is completely silent on the issue. The call of the hour would then also be for us to revisit our laws and update them. Till such time that happens, it is up to users to protect and safeguard themselves," he concludes.

Post new comment

Your name: *

E-Mail Address: *

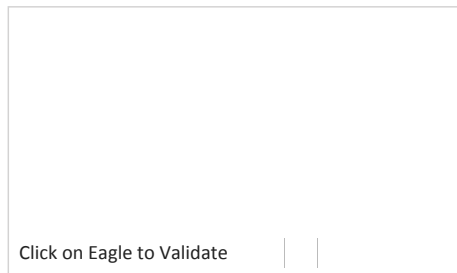
The content of this field is kept private and will not be shown publicly.

Comment: *

Input format

CAPTCHA

This question is for testing whether you are a human visitor and to prevent automated spam submissions.



Click on Eagle to Validate

Save

Search

Home India Metros International Business Opinion Sports
Entertainment Life & Style Newsmakers Books E-Paper
Science + Health



About Us Contact Us Career Feedback

Copyright © 2011 The Asian Age. All rights reserved.