B2 FIRST TRAINING

Reading & use of English

Read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line.

Spread of coronavirus fake news causes hundreds of deaths

1 _____ about the coronavirus has led to the deaths to at least some 800 people and possibly more, a **2** _____ published study in the American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene showed.From losing their eyesight to the loss of life, the spread of rumors, stigma and conspiracy theories exacerbated the **3** _____ of thousands of citizens across the globe. **INFORM** **NEW** **SUFFER**

A team of **4** _____ scientists from various countries, such as Australia, Japan and Thailand, looked at data compiled between December 2019 and April 2020 as part of the study."We followed and examined COVID-19-related rumors, stigma, and conspiracy theories circulating online, including fact-checking websites, Facebook, Twitter, and online newspapers, and their impacts on public health," the study said. **NATION**

The results revealed that roughly 800 people died from drinking highly-concentrated alcohol in the hope of **5** _____ their bodies, while 5,900 citizens were hospitalized after consuming methanol, with 60 people going blind as a result. **INFECT**

False info on Indian social media caused a number of citizens to drink cow urine or eat dung, in order to prevent infection, while in Saudi Arabia, camel urine with lime was hailed as a protection against the coronavirus.

The scientists also looked into other rumors, such as eating garlic, wearing warm socks and spreading goose fat on one's chest, as **6** _____ for the potentially fatal virus. Conspiracy theories were also monitored, such as the notion that it's a bio-weapon funded by Bill Gates to further vaccine sales. **TREAT**

"During the pandemic, there have been repeated accounts of verbal and physical abuse against people of Asian descent, and those involved in healthcare activities," the **7** _____ noted. "Stigmatized people are vulnerable to social avoidance or rejection, poor health-seeking behavior, and physical violence." **SEARCH**

As a result of their findings, the scientists urged governments and international **8** _____ to better scrutinize the spread of so-called fake news. They called on them to "cooperate with social **ORGANISE**