

Govt. of India
Ministry of Communications & IT
Department of Telecommunications
713, Sanchar Bhawan, 20-Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.
(Carrier Services Cell)

No. 17-63/2011-CS-III

Dated: 27.02.2014

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Report of the Committee constituted in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad, Lucknow Bench on issues relating to Electromagnetic Field (EMF) radiation --- Acceptance and decisions regarding:

In compliance to the directions of Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad, Lucknow Bench vide its order dated 10th January, 2012, the Committee was setup by the Government which has submitted its Report on 17.01.2014 on issues relating to EMF radiations from cell phone towers and mobile handsets. In consideration to the Report of the Committee, the following decisions are hereby conveyed:-

1) The present prescribed norms for the EMF radiation limits are as follows:

a) **Limits/levels for antennae (Base Station) EMF Emissions for general public exposure :**

Frequency Range	E-Field Strength (Volt/Meter (V/m))	H-Field Strength (Amp/Meter (A/m))	Power Density (Watt/Sq. Meter (W/Sq.m))
400MHz to 2000MHz	$0.434f^{1/2}$	$0.0011f^{1/2}$	$f/2000$
2GHz to 300GHz	19.29	0.05	1

(f = frequency in MHz)

The above prescribed limits for EMF radiations from Base Station in India are one-tenth (1/10th) of internationally prescribed limits (ICNIRP).



b) For Mobile Phones:

Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) levels for mobile handsets adopted in India are 1.6 Watt/Kg averaged over a mass of 1gram of human tissue.

The Department of Telecom has already prescribed stricter precautionary limits for EMF radiation from mobile tower as well as from mobile handset/phones applicable as on date.

After due consideration of the human health concerns on account of EMF radiation recently being raised in public and the Report of the Committee, it has been decided that the present prescribed precautionary EMF safe exposure limits are adequate and need no further change at this stage.

- 2) Department of Telecom has already taken adequate steps in regard to granting of permission for siting of mobile towers in its recent guidelines to State governments and Telecom Enforcement, Resource & Monitoring (TERM) cells in different licence service areas effective from 01-08-2013. In order to make the deterrence stronger, the penalty for violation of prescribed stricter EMF norms from BTS tower by telecom service providers has been increased from Rs. 5 Lakhs to Rs. 10 Lakhs per BTS, per incidence per operator w.e.f. 20th November, 2013.


In order to ensure compliance to the prescribed stricter precautionary norms of EMF from BTS tower, the extensive audit of comprehensive self-certificates and sites for compliance to EMF radiations safe limits being submitted by telecom service providers shall be carried out by TERM Cells of DoT for the purpose of limiting the EMF radiation exposure and keeping general public areas in the vicinity of towers safe, as per the procedure prescribed from time to time in their respective License Service Areas.

- 3) The Department of Science and Technology and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) shall carry out / facilitate extensive studies, on the Indian conditions with special focus on prolonged use of mobile phone, to conclusively determine sensitivity of EMF Radiation / possible health hazard risk of EMF radiation, which at present is not proven. These Indian specific scientific studies should aim at generating scientifically credible data and evidences by involving Ministry of Science and Technology, ICMR, Ministry of Environment & Forest, DoT and other relevant organisation. The Government of India shall make available funds to ensure

extensive long term/short term research and studies on possible health effects of EMF radiation on life (Human, Living organism, Flora & Fauna & Environment).

- 4) Concerned departments of Government like Department of Telecom, Health, Environment etc. shall step up efforts to spread public awareness on EMF and above precautions regarding mobile phones (Handsets) to allay undue apprehensions in regard to possible health effects of EMF radiation largely caused due to misinformation being peddled by certain sections in public. This can be done through print media/electronic media and other communications channels and tools along with conducting market research / survey, workshops and seminars etc.
- 5) Annual discussion, meetings/seminars shall be conducted by the Government by inviting experts from various academic and research institutions for continual evaluation of scientific evidence published worldwide with an aim to monitor the progress in research on the effects of EMF radiation.
- 6) In order to get latest updates on EMF radiation related issues, DoT will actively participate in the deliberations of various International standards bodies, including WHO, involved in the study of EMF radiation.
- 7) Department of Telecom will create national EMF web portal to provide public access to the status of compliance, of the prescribed EMF norms, of all BTSs/ mobile towers in the country and related relevant information.

This issues with the approval of MOC&IT.


(Sanjeev Kumar Sharma)
Director (CS-III)

Copy to:

- I) PS to Hon'ble MOC&IT
- II) PS to Hon. MOS (C&IT)-D
- III) PS to Hon. MOS (C&IT)-P
- IV) PPS to Secretary (T), DoT
- V) PSs to Member (T)/Member (F)/ Member (S)
- VI) PS to Addl. Secy.
- VII) Advisor (Technology)