

18-10/2008-IP
Government of India
Ministry of Communications & IT
Department of Telecommunications
Investment Promotion

1209, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated: 17th August 2012

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) value for Mobile Phones

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Department's O. M. of even number dated 25th January, 2012 vide which revised SAR value of 1.6 W/Kg (averaged over 1 gram tissue) was notified for compliance by mobile phone manufacturers w.e.f. 01 September, 2012.

2. This department has received various representations from stakeholders seeking clarifications for compliance to revised SAR value of mobile phones. It has been requested to permit the existing designs of mobile handsets which are complying with International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) norms to co-exist with the newly designed and introduce mobile handsets as per the new norms. For complete transition to the new norms, additional time was requested.

3. The Government has carefully considered the demand and supply position of mobile phones with revised SAR value, time required to launch new models of mobile phone and phasing out of existing model; and in continuation of the above said O. M. dated 25th January, 2012, clarifies the instructions to the extent mentioned below for implementation of revised SAR value:

- a) All the new design of mobile handsets shall comply with the SAR values of 1.6 W/kg averaged over 1 gram tissue w.e.f. 1st September 2012. However, the mobile handsets with existing designs which are compliant with 2.0 W/Kg averaged over 10 gram tissue, may continue to co-exist up to 31st August 2013.
- b) From 1st September, 2013, only the mobile handsets with revised SAR value of 1.6 W/kg would be permitted to be manufactured or imported in India for domestic market.

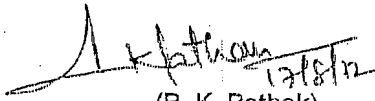
4. It is to state that instructions issued vide O. M. No. 18-10/2008-IP dated 25th January 2012 will continue to be applicable with following clarifications:

- i) SAR value to be displayed on the handset like (International Mobile Equipment Identity) IMEI display.
- ii) All the handsets sold in India shall support hands free operation.

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- iii) Mobile handsets manufactured and sold in India or imported from other countries shall be checked for compliance of applicable SAR limits. Self declaration of Manufacturers for conformity to SAR level of mobile handsets and testing in ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation) accredited labs shall continue to be enforced.
- iv) Manufacturer's booklet shall contain safety precautions.

5. All the mobile handset manufacturers, both indigenous and imported, shall provide a self declaration in respect of SAR value based on certificate from internationally accredited labs (ILAC accredited labs) or accredited by Telecom Engineering Centre (TEC), India to TEC with a copy to this department for necessary action. Such self declared SAR limits shall be subjected to TEC audit as and when required.


 (R. K. Pathak)
 Deputy Director General (IP)

To,

1. All the Mobile Manufacturers
2. The National President, Indian Cellular Association, New Delhi. {For wide publicity for compliance}
3. Director General, TEMA, New Delhi. {For wide publicity for compliance}

Copy for information to:

- (i) PS to Hon'ble MOC&IT,
- (ii) PS to Hon'ble MOSC&IT
- (iii) PPS to Secretary(Telecom)/Member(T)/Member(S)/Member(F)/Advisor(T)
- (iv) Sr. DDG (BW), DoT, Sr. DDG, TEC, Khurshidial Bhawan, New Delhi
- (v) JS(T)/JS(A)/CVO/All DDsG
- (vi) Dir (IT) for posting on DOT website and also creating a link with TEC SAR value page.

Forwarded
21/8/12

No. 18-10/2008-IP
Government of India
Ministry of Communications & IT
Department of Telecommunications
Investment Promotion

1209, Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashok Road,
New Delhi - 110001.

Dated January 25, 2012

Office Memorandum

Subject: Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) value for Mobile Phones

You are aware that Government had adopted International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) Guidelines for mobile phones according to which the specific observations rates value for mobile phones was 2 Watts per Kg averaged over 10 gram tissue.

2. Further, an Inter-Ministerial Committee was constituted by the Department of Telecommunications consisting of officers from the Department, Indian Council of Medical Research, Ministry of Health, Department of Bio-technology and Ministry of Environment and Forests to examine the effect of EMF Radiation from mobile phones and base stations. The Committee had given some recommendations on EMF radiations from mobile phones, which were under consideration of this Department.

3. I am directed to convey that as a precautionary measure, this Department has accepted the following recommendations regarding mobile phones:-

- i) SAR level for mobile handset shall be limited to 1.6 Watt/Kg, averaged over a mass of 1 gram of human tissue.
- ii) SAR level shall be displayed on the handset.
- iii) All Cell-phone handsets sold in the market in India shall comply with relevant BIS standards and shall be with hand free devices.
- iv) SAR value information of the mobile handsets shall be available on the manufacturer's website and in the handset's manual. The information on SAR values shall be made available to the consumer at the point of sale.
- v) Mobile handset manufactured and sold in India or imported from other countries shall be checked for compliance of SAR limit.
- vi) The manufacturers in India shall provide self declaration of SAR value of the handset. In respect of imported handset from other countries, manufacturers apart from self declaration of SAR shall specify the SAR information in their documents for verification by the appropriate authority. Suitable amendments in the Indian

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Telegraph Rule under Indian Telegraph Act 1985 shall be enacted for strict compliance.

- vii) Manufacturer's mobile handset booklet shall contain the following safety precautions:
- Use a wireless hands-free system (headphone, headset) with a low power Bluetooth emitter.
 - Make sure the cell phone has a low SAR.
 - Keep your calls short or send a text message (SMS) instead. This advice applies especially to children, adolescents and pregnant women.
 - Use cell-phone when the signal quality is good.
 - People having active medical implants should preferably keep the cell phone at least 15 cm away from the implant.
- viii) List of SAR value of different mobile phones shall be uploaded on DOT/TEC website.

4. Keeping in view the above, I am directed to instruct you to make necessary changes in the design, software and packaging for compliance to above instructions on or before 1st September, 2012. All the manufacturers, indigenous as well as imported will provide a self declaration in respect of SAR value of 1.6 Watt per kg averaged over 1 gram tissue based on certificate from internationally accredited lab or accredited by Telecom Engineering Centre (TEC), India directly to TEC with a copy to this Department for necessary action. Such self declared SAR limits shall be subjected to TEC audit as and when required.



(Rajesh Kumar Pathak)
Deputy Director General (IP)
Tel: +91 11 23717542
www.dot.gov.in

To

- All the Indigenous Mobile Manufacturers
- The National President, Indian Cellular Association, New Delhi.
- Director General, TEMA, New Delhi.

Copy to:

- Sr.DDG, TEC, Khurshidlal Bhawan, New Delhi.
- SrDDG(BW) for information please.
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