

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:3

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2012

RADIATION FROM MOBILE TOWERS AND HANDSETS

Kumar Shri Shailendra;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has set up any committee to study the hazards posed by non-ionised radiations including electromagnetic from mobile towers and handsets;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the composition of the committee;
- (c) whether the committee has submitted its report;
- (d) if so, the salient features thereof and the details of the guidelines issued by the Government thereon;
- (e) whether the Government has taken note of failure of telecom operators in adhering to the norms fixed by the Government in regard to radiation limit in installation of towers and maintaining of proper distance from residential and public places; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the erring telecom operators, operator-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 3 FOR 8TH AUGUST, 2012 REGARDING "RADIATION FROM MOBILE TOWERS AND HANDSETS"

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) consisting of officers from Department of Telecommunications, Indian Council of Medical Research (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare), Department of Biotechnology and Ministry of Environment and Forest was constituted on 24.08.2010 to examine the effect of Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Radiation from base stations and mobile phones.

(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. IMC has inter-alia recommended for lowering of the Base Transmitting Station (BTS) Radio Frequency (RF) exposure limits to 1/10th of the existing International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) prescribed limit and reduction of Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) level for mobile handsets from 2 Watt/Kg to 1.6 Watt/Kg. These recommendations of IMC have been accepted by DoT and the following directions for implementation have been issued:

(i) Directions for lowering of the mobile towers EMF radiation to 1/10th of the existing prescribed limits has been issued to the Mobile Operators vide DoT letter dated 30.12.2011. These directions are effective from 01.09.2012.

(ii) Directions for reduction of SAR value from 2 Watt/Kg to 1.6 Watt/Kg for Mobile Handset have been issued to Mobile Handset Manufacturers vide DoT letter dated 25.01.2012. These directions are effective from 01.09.2012.

(e) & (f) All the Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS)/ Unified Access Service (UAS) licensees are submitting the compliance of the existing reference limits/ levels by way of submission of self certification of their BTS to the respective Telecom Enforcement Resource & Monitoring (TERM) Cells of DoT. As on 30.06.2012, TERM Cells have carried out the testing of radiation levels for 28,862 BTSs and found that the radiations levels are in compliance of the prescribed levels in all the tested BTSs.