

Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 47/2014)

For Immediate Release

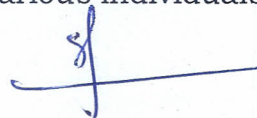
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Information paper on “Effects of Electromagnetic Field Radiation from Mobile Towers and Handsets”

New Delhi, July 30, 2014: TRAI today issued an information paper on “Effects of Electromagnetic Field Radiation from Mobile Towers and Handsets”.

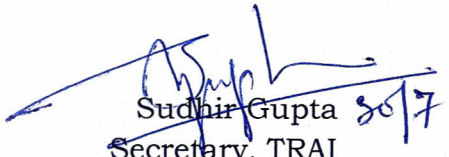
There is growing public concern about possible health hazards from Electro Magnetic Field (EMF) exposures from mobile phones or their base stations. Concerns have also been raised that continuous exposure to EMF radiation emanating from telecom towers causes harmful thermal and non-thermal health effects. The effects of exposure to EMF radiation have generated an active scientific debate among the research agencies across the globe. It is to note that every day we are exposed to many sources of EMF radiation in our daily life viz., X-rays used in hospitals, wireless phones, computers, TV sets, microwave ovens, extension cables, electric cooking ranges, refrigerators, freezers, and other electrical home appliances. Some of the other sources of EMF radiation are power lines, cable and satellite communications, power stations, electric transportation vehicles (electric trains, trams and trolley buses), security scanners, TV and radio repeaters.

2. This information paper seeks to clear the air and apprise all stakeholders about EMF radiation. It elaborates the various aspects of radiations emanating from mobile towers and mobile handsets including the norms prescribed by various international bodies. The paper also contains a write-up on sources of exposure, effects of EMF exposure on humans, absorption of energy from EMF and International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) Guidelines for Emissions from Base Stations. The paper also has information on various studies published on effects of EMF radiations and stands taken by various individuals/ bodies.



3. The information paper also explains that guidelines for EMF radiations from Base Transceiver Station (BTS) and mobile handsets in India are very stringent when compared to developed countries. In case of EMF radiation from BTS, the prescribed values are 1/10th the ICNIRP guidelines and they are better than the standards adopted by some of the developed countries like USA, Canada, Japan and Australia. Also for radiation from handsets, the Specific Absorption Rate values prescribed are no more or same as that in developed countries like USA, Canada, Japan and Australia.

4. The information paper on "Effects of Electromagnetic Field Radiation from Mobile Towers and Handsets" is available on TRAI's website www.trai.gov.in. For any further clarifications please contact Mr. A. Robert J. Ravi, Advisor (CA&QOS) on 011-23230404 or e-mail: advqos@traigov.in.


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Secretary, TRAI