

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2972
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH MARCH, 2020**

LAW FOR MOBILE TOWERS

†2972. SHRI MAHABALI SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has enacted any law to set up mobile towers in view of public health concern related to radiation exposure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the extent to which the said law has addressed the health concern of human beings and animals?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS,
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)**

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has taken necessary steps and adopted stricter norms for safety from Electromagnetic Field (EMF) emission from mobile towers.

With regard to impact of EMF emissions from mobile towers on health, World Health Organization (WHO), has referred to approximately 25,000 articles published around the world over past 30 years, and based on an in-depth review of scientific literature, has concluded - *“current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to low level electromagnetic fields”*.

The main conclusion from the WHO review is that EMF exposure below the limits recommended in the International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) international guidelines do not appear to have any known consequence on health.

In India, norms for exposure limit for the Radio Frequency Field (Base Station Emissions) has been fixed 10 times more stringent than the safe limits prescribed by ICNIRP and recommended by WHO. The present emission norms as laid down for Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) installed at various mobile towers in India are as follows:

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

(*f* is frequency in MHz)

In 2014, a Committee, comprised of members from Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) Kharagpur, Kanpur, Delhi, Roorkee, Bombay and from other scientific institutions of the country including Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) Delhi, was setup at the behest of High Court Allahabad, Lucknow bench. The Committee, in its report, has noted, inter-alia, that “*there are no conclusive evidence to establish any causal link between the effect of EMF radiation from BTS with biological effects described in cell models, animals or humans, and any possible resulting health effects.*”
