

1	2	3
12	Karnataka	3.75+3.75 MHz (3 carriers)
13	Kerala	2.5+2.5 MHz (2 carriers)
14	Madhya Pradesh	3.75+3.75 MHz (3 carriers)
15	Maharashtra	1.25+1.25 MHz (1 carrier)
16	NE Region	7.5 + 7.5MHz (6 carriers)
17	Orissa	6.25+6.25 MHz (5 carriers)
18	Punjab	1.25+1.25 MHz (1 carrier)
19	Rajasthan	Nil
20	Tamil Nadu	2.5+2.5 MHz (2 carriers)
21	UP (E)	2.5+2.5 MHz (2 carriers)
22	UP (W)	3.75+3.75 MHz (3 carriers)
23	West Bengal	5.0 + 5.0 MHz (4 carriers)

P.S. - Availability of CDMA carriers are subject to no Inter-Operator guard band.

Installation of telephone towers

3308. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any norms and guidelines have been fixed by Government for installation of telephone towers;

(b) if so, whether Government has considered the residential areas, schools and hospitals near which the telephone towers should not be installed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Sir, Mobile Towers are being installed by the Telecom Service Providers and Infrastructure Providers Category-I based on their Radio Frequency Network

Planning and after obtaining siting clearances from Wireless Planning and Coordination (WPC) Wing of Department of Telecommunications (DoT). WPC issues siting clearance for installation of mobile towers for each and every site from the point of view of interference with other wireless users, aviation hazards and obstruction to any other existing microwave links. The siting clearance is issued without prejudice to applicable bylaws, rules and regulation of local bodies such as Municipal Corporation/Gram Panchayat etc. Accordingly, before installation of towers, Service providers are required to obtain necessary clearances from concerned Municipal Authorities/local bodies, wherever required.

(b) to (d) There is no bar for installation of mobile towers near residential areas, schools and hospitals. DoT has adopted the International Commission on Non-ionization Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) guidelines for limiting reference levels of Electromagnetic radiation from Mobile towers. As per ICNIRP guidelines, there is no bar for installation of tower near residential areas, schools and hospitals.

Further, an Inter-ministerial committee consisting of officers from DoT, Indian Council of Medical Research, Ministry of Health, Department of Biotechnology and Ministry of Environment and Forest was constituted to examine the effect of EMF Radiation from base stations and mobile phones. In its report, the inter-ministerial committee has recommended to impose restrictions on installation of mobile towers near high density residential areas, schools, playgrounds and hospitals. The report of the Committee is under consideration and yet to be approved by the Government.

Poverty among farmers

3309. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether more than 70 per cent of farmers are living in abject poverty in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the per capita average income per month is less than Rs. 500/- in case of more than 70 per cent farmers and this is the main reason for suicide of more than 2 lakh farmers during last one decade;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;