


Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecom
Wireless Planning & Coordination Wing
6th Floor, Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110003

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PUBLIC NOTICE IN REGARD TO MISUSE OF 446 MHz LICENSE-FREE RADIO:

1. Vide Gazette Notification No. G.S.R. 1047(E) dated 18.10.2018 Personal Mobile Radio (PMR) devices are permitted to work without any license in the frequency band 446.0-446.2 MHz with a maximum transmit power of 500 mW e.r.p. Such PMR devices mean hand-held portable radio with no base station or repeater use and operates in peer-to-peer mode. However, such license-exempt PMR devices (popularly known as license free walkie-talkie, or 446 MHz license-free radio etc.) require type approval from the WPC Wing, Department of Telecom (DoT).
2. During a recent spectrum monitoring drive undertaken by the Wireless Monitoring Organisation (WMO), DoT it has been observed that few of such PMR devices (Smart Talky- M/s Vertel, Aspera, Beta B-9 LF, PCOM etc.), though type approved, but are being operated with higher (than permissible) transmit power of around 5 Watt, in violation with the relevant rules/ Gazette Notification.
3. Users of 446 MHz license free radios/ devices are hereby warned that use of such non-complaint radios/ devices is illegal and may invoke legal proceedings as per the relevant provisions of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 (Section 20) and Indian Wireless Telegraph Act (Section 6.1(A)). Such users are therefore advised that due care be adopted and precautionary measures be taken by them before buying such devices/ radios and it must be ensured that the radios being purchased are compliant to the relevant rules. They may take an assurance in writing from the seller that the radios/ devices are compliant to the relevant rules.
4. If any violation, as mentioned above, comes to the notice of anyone, the same may be informed to Wireless Monitoring Organisation, Department of Telecom.


(Ashim Dutta)
Dy. Wireless Adviser