

Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications
(Security Assurance Wing)

No. 13-15/2021-UDS

Dated the 27th October 2022

To

- (1) Shri Rajesh Sharma
Executive Director & Principal Advisor
India Cellular & Electronics Association
New Delhi
- (2) Col. AA Jafri, Retd.
Dy. COO (Acting Director General)
MAIT, New Delhi

Ref.: (1) ICEA letter no. ICEA/DoT/2022/247 dated 06.10.2022.
(2) MAIT letter no. MAIT/PY/2545 dated 06.10.2022.
(3) Samsung email dated 12.10.2022.

Subject: Request for clarifications on the prevention of tampering of the Mobile Device Equipment Identification Number (Amendment) Rules, 2022.

Sir

Please refer to letters/email under reference on subject above. The para-wise clarifications on various points are as under:

- (i) The development work for updation of the Indian Counterfeited Device Restriction portal (<https://icdr.ceir.gov.in>) to cater the requirement of locally manufactured Mobile phone IMEI registration etc. is under progress. The industry suggestions will be implemented in the updated portal appropriately before making live the updated portal.
- (ii) The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)/ User Manual is under preparation and the same will be shared shortly with the industry. The industry suggestions will be incorporated in the SOP/User Manual appropriately.
- (iii) The manufacturer shall register the international mobile equipment identity number of every mobile phone manufactured in India, meant for sale in India as well as meant for exports.
- (iv) The inbuilt redundancy, capability and robustness to ensure 24X7 operations, 365 days a year of the ICDR system will be ensured. Further, the details of officers/officials to collaborate on any concern with respect to the ICDR portal will be published on ICDR portal.
- (v) The industry is required to generate the IMEI certificates for locally manufactured IMEI registration as well and keep the same for records. However, these IMEI certificates are not to

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be submitted to any Government Authority as of now. The IMEI certificates may require to be produced during inspection/ surveillance.

(vi) The clause 6.7 of the SOP (Version 1.1) for “Implementation of Central Government notification prohibiting import of mobile phones with duplicate, fake and non-genuine International Mobile Equipment Identity”, released by the DoT vide Office Memorandum No. 5-2/2018/UDS dated 04.07.2022 (available on DoT’s website), is applicable for the mobile handsets carried/imported by the individuals. The clause 6.7 is reproduced below for ready reference:

“Self certification by the individual that Mobile handset carried/imported has genuine IMEI will suffice for the following:

- *Mobile phones (new/used) imported as passenger baggage.*
- *Import of Mobile phones on repair and return basis.*
- *Mobile phones (new/being used) carried by the passenger while coming into India or going out of India.”*

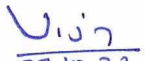
Such individual users are not required to register their handsets as of now.

(vii) The provisions for registration by the brand owners, manufacturers and the third parties duly authorised by brand owners will be available on the ICDR portal.

(viii) GSMA IMEI Allocation and Approval Process has a provision for allocation of test IMEI to test prototype Mobile Equipment (ME) on networks before placing the equipment on the market. Test IMEIs are allocated as an 8-digit TAC code per manufacturer and uniquely identifies the manufacturer. The Reporting Bodies authorised by GSMA may allocate a Test IMEI. The TAC for such prototype ME starts with 00 followed by reporting body identifier, manufacturer code etc. The Indian Counterfeited Device Restriction System (ICDR) system has the facility for registration and generation of IMEI certificate for test/prototype mobile devices also. In view of above, there is no requirement of IMEI certificate exemption for mobile phones/other sample devices imported for Testing or Research and Development (R&D) purpose.

(ix) The clarifications on the various points have been provided as above and the rule 4 (1) of the prevention of tampering of the Mobile Device Equipment Identification Number (Amendment) Rules, 2022 shall come into force with effect from January 1, 2023.

This has the approval of competent authority.


27.10.22
(Vijay Agrawal)
Director (UDS)

Copy on DoT’s website for wider publicity

Copy also to: ED, C-DOT