

**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**  
**(IPHW Division)**

Dated: 28.04.2023

No.W/25/2023-IPHW

To,

Indian Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA)  
Manufacturers' Association for Information Technology (MAIT)

**Subject: Advisory on inbuilt FM Radio receiver feature in mobile phones – reg.**

It has been brought to the notice of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) that during the last 4/5 years there is a drastic fall in mobile phones with FM tuners feature, thereby affecting not only the ability of the poor to get free FM Radio services, but also the Government's ability to disseminate real time information during emergencies, disasters and calamities.

2. The FM broadcast is a robust and reliable communication system. FM stations serve as important communication links between the local authorities and people in times of natural disasters (i.e., in catastrophic situations). As per International Telecommunication Union (ITU) - *"In times of emergencies and disaster, Radio broadcasting is one of the most powerful and effective way of delivering early warnings and alerting the public to save lives"*. Further, there is need for speedy, timely, and reliable communication via FM enabled mobile phones (apart from regular standalone Radio sets and car receivers) during disasters as this can save precious lives, livelihood and also prepares us better to deal with the disasters. The availability of vast network of FM transmitters and FM radio in the country played a key role in India's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. In view of the above, it should be ensured that wherever the mobile phone is equipped with an inbuilt FM Radio receiver function or feature, that function or feature is not disabled or deactivated but is kept enabled / activated in the mobile phone. Further, it is advised that if the FM Radio receiver function or feature is not available in the mobile phones, it may be included.

4. The industry associations viz. ICEA and MAIT are requested to circulate this advisory among all the mobile phone manufacturers / brands on priority basis.



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