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New radiation rule on mobile handsets effective from Sept 1

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NEW DELHI: Companies manufacturing or importing mobile phones for sale in India will have to ensure that the handsets are compliant with new radiation norms that will be effective from September 1.

As per the new rule put in place by Telecom Ministry, the exposure of radiation emitted from a mobile phone over a gram of human tissue should not be more than 1.6 watt if a consumer uses it for six minutes.

All companies will have to display radiation emitted from mobile phones on the handset in terms of SAR (specific absorption rate) unit.

"With the new SAR norm, India would become one of few countries that are following the most stringent norm of 1.6 watt per kg average over six minutes period on 1 gram of human tissue. All legal and ethical companies doing business here are compliant to it," Indian Cellular Association's National President Pankaj Mohindroo said.

He said that ICA has requested the commerce ministry early this month to put restrictions on imports of non-compliant handsets.



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According to a Department of Telecom official, old stock of handsets available in Indian market can be sold but no fresh stock of non-compliant mobile phones will be allowed to be sold from September 1.

Bureau of India Standards is also working on certain norms which are expected to provide clause for seizure of non-compliant handsets, the official said.

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