

No.F.7(3)-E(Coord)/2003
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure

New Delhi, the 14th January, 2004.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Facility of Mobile Phone in respect of entitled categories of Government employees.

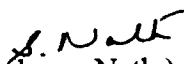
This Ministry, vide O.M. No.7(6) E.Coord./95 dated 26.9.1995, had imposed a ban on purchase of Cellular Phones/pagers for official use in Government. This was done in view of the cost of initial investment on purchase of the instruments as well as the higher rate of tariff where both the incoming and the outgoing calls were charged. The position has changed since then and the tariff rates of mobile phones have come down considerably. It has accordingly been decided that individual departments/ministries may allow all officers of the rank of Joint Secretary and above the facility of mobile phone under the WLL phone schemes of MTNL/BSNL for their personal use in addition to the land line connection. This facility will, however, be subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Monthly expenditure on the telephone call charges shall not exceed Rs.500;
- (ii) mobile phones under WLL shall be taken on rent from MTNL/BSNL who are giving such phones on rent as part of their ongoing schemes;
- (iii) all the expenditure on this account shall be met within the existing budget for "Office Expenses-Telephones" of the concerned Ministry/Department/Organization and no additional funds shall be provided for the expenditure head "Telephones";
- (iv) the officer allotted the mobile phone connection would be responsible for proper maintenance of the hand set which will remain Government property. The concerned officer will have to make good any damage/loss to the hand set which will need to be surrendered at the time of handing over of the charge.

2. These orders shall take effect from the date of their issue and all cases, where mobile phones have already been provided to the concerned officers, shall also henceforth be regulated in accordance with these orders.

3. None of the provisions of this O.M. shall apply to the O.M. No.5(3)/E.Coord./2002 dated 1.1.2003 governing grant of facility of cellular phone to Secretary level officers of the Central Government and O.M. No.5(1)/E.Coord./2002 dated 6.8.2003 regarding facility of cellular phone for use of Members of the Union Council of Ministers.

The Hindi version of these orders is attached.


(Sushama Nath)
Joint Secretary to Government of India

To

All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.