

Authorities crack down on Illegal Mobile Network Boosters in Mathura

Illegal Mobile Signal Boosters lead to increased incidence of call drops and lower data speeds thus degrading service experience for majority of customers in the area

Mathura, November 25, 2020: Wireless Monitoring Organization, Department of Telecom (DoT) along with a joint team of local administration and mobile operators, raided several locations in Mathura, under the direction of Mr. R K Saxena, Director, Wireless Monitoring Organization, DoT. The raid was conducted to take down illegal mobile signal repeaters installed in homes, shops and other commercial establishments and to take legal action against the individuals who installed them.

The joint team conducted raids at Chowk Bazar, Kachhi Sadak, Barapura, Govindnagar, Sunarwali Gali, Vrindavan Dwar, Mandi Ramdas Gali, Sarafa Market, and at other places in Mathura. A total of 40 illegal repeaters were removed and 26 notices were given to remove the identified ones with immediate effect.

Speaking on the inspection **Mr. GK Reddy, Engineer in Chief, Wireless Monitoring Organisation, DoT** said, "Our drive is a continuous campaign against illegal mobile signal boosters. In this year alone, we have removed more than 400 such devices and our campaign will continue in the days ahead. The use of such unauthorized electronic equipment is just like illegal pumps sucking water from the main water supply line, leading to shortage for all others. Shortages and calls cause drop problems. Therefore, we advise people not to use any illegal repeaters as this is causing huge disruption in the mobile network.

He further adds that the industry had recently put out a public notice in local publications to spread awareness on the issue. Online platforms have also been issued notices to remove listing of such illegal repeaters from their website and such companies have responded positively.

According to Wireless Monitoring Organisation (WMO) of DoT, installation, possession or selling of illegal repeater is punishable offence as per Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 and Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. Heavy fines may be imposed on owners of several premises who have installed these illegal repeaters.

Illegal mobile signal repeaters have become a major nuisance and are one of the biggest reasons for customers facing network issues like call drops and low data speeds. These illegal repeaters are installed by individuals/establishments at homes/offices/PG/Guest houses to boost mobile signals. These illegal equipment interfere with all mobile networks, impacts signal quality and degrades network experience in the entire area. Mobile operators invest heavily in acquisition of spectrum & network rollout to enhance customer experience however the illegal boosters cause interference with the mobile network. Authorities were called to crack down on these installations and take strict action.

Source:

<https://dot.gov.in/sites/default/files/WMO%20public%20notice%20for%20boosters.pdf>

For more information please contact:

Nishi Singh: 9999828059, 9999684536, nsingh@coai.in