



DG/COAI/2021/129
May 15, 2021

Shri Vijai Vardhan, IAS
Chief Secretary,
Government of Haryana,
Room No. 4, 4th Floor,
Haryana Civil Secretariat, Sector-1, Chandigarh.
Email: cs@hry.nic.in

**Subject: Demystifying the Misinformation being spread linking
5G technology and testing with the COVID-19 pandemic**

References:

- 1) **Media Article:** <https://www.facebook.com/gurnamsinghcharunibku/videos/504747450706525/>
- 2) **Other Media Reports Copy enclosed**

Dear Sir,

1. At a time when India is ready to enter a new era in telecommunications through the implementation of the 5G services, it has been brought to our notice that misinformation and rumors are being spread linking the testing of the 5G services with the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Some miscreants are incorrectly spreading misinformation that the fatalities and the health problems faced by people due to the COVID-19 disease is due to the testing of 5G tower and not coronavirus.
3. We would hereby like to highlight that these types of rumours have spread over the past two weeks, mainly in semi-urban and rural areas. **There has been a rise in such misinformation in the state of Haryana. There are number of incidences wherein in the state of Haryana the farmer groups are getting agitated due to this myth of linking the COVID-19 pandemic with the 5G services being spread by some miscreants.**

14, Bhai Veer Singh Marg, New Delhi – 110 001
tel: +91-11-23349275 fax: +91-11-23349276 email: contact@coai.in website: www.coai.in



4. In this regard, as an Industry Association, we would like to state that such misinformation / rumors being spread are baseless and there is no evidence or facts to suggest that there is any harmful effect of the 5G services w.r.t COVID-19.
5. We would hereby like to mention that this issue had surfaced last year as well, wherein there were several social media posts and videos linking the emergence of COVID-19 to the launch of 5G, either suggesting that 5G causes the illness or that the illness is a cover to disguise 5G related symptoms.
6. Various International agencies including WHO, ICNIRP has debunked such claims and false rumors. As per these International agencies:

a) World Health Organization (WHO):

“Viruses cannot travel on radio waves/mobile networks. COVID-19 is spreading in various countries which do not have 5G networks”

b) ICNIRP:

“These claims are not supported by any evidence (not even extremely weak evidence), and the large body of scientific knowledge regarding the EMFs relevant to 5G demonstrates that those claims are not feasible...”

7. List of the organizations debunking such claims are highlighted in **Annexure -1**
8. Also, Department of Telecommunication (DoT) in its Press Statement dated 10th May 2021 has stated that: **(Copy of the Statement is enclosed as Annexure-2)**

“The claims linking the 5G technology with the COVID-19 pandemic are false and have no scientific basis. Moreover, it is informed that the testing of the 5G network has not yet started anywhere in India. Hence, the claim that 5G Trials or networks are causing coronavirus in India is baseless and false.”

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9. Considering the above, we request your good office to kindly:

- a) **Issue statement debunking this misinformation being spread linking 5G technology and testing with the COVID-19 pandemic.**
- b) **Instruct the District Magistrate/District Authorities/Police to safeguard telecom Infrastructure and related assets and take coercive action against miscreant's spreading such misleading campaigns.**

We hope our above request would merit your kind consideration and support.

With Regards,

Yours faithfully,

Lt. Gen. Dr. S. P. Kochhar
Director General

Email id: dg@coai.in

Mobile No.: +91 9871554400

Enclosures: As mentioned in the letter

Cc:

1. Shri Anshu Prakash, Secretary, (DoT)
2. Shri T K Paul, DG (T), (DoT)
3. Shri Rajeev Arora, Addl. Chief Secretary Home, (Haryana)
4. Shri. Manoj Yadava, DGP, (Haryana)

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