

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Home Department

Civil Secretariat, Jammu

Subject: Temporary suspension of Telecom Services-directions reg;

Reference: i. Letter No. KZ/PS/Restoration/840-41 dated 11.05.2020 from IGP, Kashmir.
ii. Letter No. 21/IGP/PS-Camp dated 11.05.2020 from IGP, Jammu.

Government Order No: Home - 48 (TSTS) of 2020

Dated: 11.05.2020

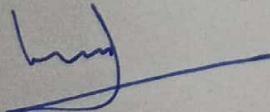
Whereas, over the past two weeks, there has been a sharp increase in terror related incidents – ranging from isolated attacks on civilians, hurling of grenades in public places, indiscriminate firing and attacks on the security forces' personnel deployed on Naka duties to enforce restrictions to contain COVID-19, increased presence of terrorists in the thickly populated areas and engagements with Security Forces leading to killing of terrorists and recovery of arms and ammunition; and

2. Whereas, it has been reported that there have been concerted efforts by the Pak handlers to cause incitement among the general public, particularly youth, through circulation of varied nature of propaganda audios, videos and photographs, while continuing with attempts to spread mis-information and fake news. Despite serious concerns related to spread of COVID-19, there have even been instances of stone pelting at terrorist encounter sites; and

3. Whereas, reports indicate that high speed mobile internet is likely to be used for coordinating acts of terror – both within and from across the border; and

4. Whereas, in view of elimination of some dreaded terrorists of Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, a banned terrorist organization, in an encounter with security forces on 06.05.2020 in Pulwama, the authorities were compelled to snap down mobile cellular services i.e. voice/sms as well as internet services, across the Kashmir valley to ensure maintenance of public order. There are credible inputs from intelligence agencies that terrorists may make desperate attempts to avenge the reverses in the recent past; and

5. Whereas, on examining the reports of the field agencies and the prevailing security situation, there is apparent necessity to take suitable steps to prevent misuse of internet for incitement and propagation of terror activities. Given the availability of fixed line internet connectivity without any speed related



restrictions and taking cognizance of the fact that mobile internet connectivity at 2G speed does not cause any impediment in taking measures concerning control of COVID -19, it is considered appropriate that while the mobile internet is restored in the Kashmir Valley excluding Pulwama and the adjoining district of Shopian, it is restricted to 2G speed.

6. Accordingly, I, Principal Secretary to the Government, Home Department, being satisfied that, it is absolutely necessary to do so in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the Security of the State and for maintaining public order, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 5 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the sub-rule (1) of rule 2 of the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017 hereby direct as under:

A. Mobile data services..

- i. The Mobile data services shall be restored forthwith in the Kashmir Valley, except in the districts of Pulwama and Shopian. The internet speed shall, however, remain restricted to 2G only across the UT of J&K.
- ii. While the post paid sim card holders shall continue to be provided access to the internet, these services shall **not** be made available on pre-paid sim cards unless verified as per the norms applicable for post-paid connections.

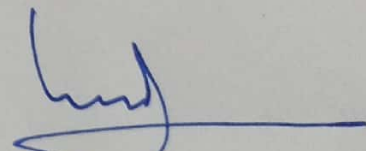
B. Fixed line Internet connectivity:

Internet connectivity shall continue to be made available with Mac-binding.

7. The IsGP, Kashmir/Jammu shall ensure communication of these directions to the service providers with immediate effect and ensure their implementation in letter and spirit.

8. The aforesaid directions shall be effective from 12.05.2020 and remain in force till 27.05.2020, unless modified earlier.

By Order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.



(Shaleen Kabra) IAS,

Principal Secretary to the Government.

Dated: 11.05.2020

No: Home/TSTS/2020

Copy to the:

1. Director General of Police, J&K.

2. Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
3. Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir/Jammu for n/a.
4. Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, Jammu
5. Inspector General of Police, Kashmir Zone, Srinagar.
6. Director Information, Department of Information and Public Relations, J&K, for information and with the request to give wide publicity to the same through publication in the leading dailies, one each of Kashmir & Jammu.
7. All Deputy Commissioners/ SSPs.
8. Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums.
9. General Manager, Government Ranbir Press for publication in the extraordinary issue of the Gazette.
10. Pvt. Secretary(ies) to Hon'ble Advisor(s) (S), (F) & (B) to the Lieutenant Governor.
11. Pvt. Secretary to the Chief Secretary, J&K.
12. Pvt. Secretary to the Principal Secretary to Government, Home Department.
13. I/c website, Home Department.
14. Government Order file (w2sc).

Copy also to the:

1. Joint Secretary (J&K), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
2. Pvt. Secretary to the Special Security Advisor, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.