

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/987-88 dated 27.05.2020 from IGP, Kashmir.
ii. letter No. JZ/CS/Mont/2020/351 dated 27.05.2020 from IGP, Jammu.

Government Order No: Home -56 (TSTS) of 2020
Dated: 27.05.2020

Whereas, the following restrictions on access to internet are in force, across the UT of J&K, w.e.f. 12th May, 2020 till today the 27th May, 2020:

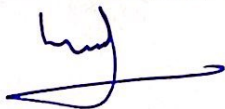
I. Mobile data services:

- i. The internet speed is restricted to 2G only.
- ii. While the post-paid sim card holders can access the internet, availability of these services is restricted on pre-paid sim cards, unless verified as per the norms applicable for post-paid connections.

II. Fixed line Internet connectivity:

Internet connectivity is made available with Mac-binding; and

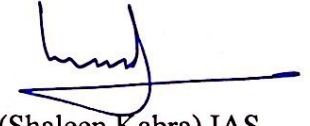
2. Whereas, during this period, the mobile internet services and even mobile cellular services- voice and SMS, had to be suspended, although for limited periods of time and in specific areas, in view of a number of encounters and terror incidents, specific instance being that of Nawakadal, a highly populated residential area of downtown Srinagar, where restrictions had to be imposed for three days due to likelihood of misuse of the data services by the anti-national elements for mobilizing the crowds and creating law and order situation; and
3. Whereas, there have also been multiple instances of terrorist acts including attacks on security forces -leading to even death of the SF personnel, and attempts to encourage terrorism through uploading and circulation of provocative videos and false propaganda - largely relying on internet connectivity, to disturb the public order; and
4. Whereas, reports suggest rise in infiltration of terrorists during the coming weeks due to the onset of summer and melting of snow, which gets facilitated through use of Voice on Internet Protocol (VOIP) and encrypted mobile communication, being used by the operatives/anti-national elements to communicate with their handlers from across the border; and
5. Whereas, the internet speed restrictions have not posed any hindrance to COVID-19 control measures including use of mobile apps, accessing online educational content or carrying out business activities, but has effectively checked the unfettered misuse of social media for incitement and for propagation and coordination of terror activities.



6. Now therefore, on consideration of the overall security scenario and the reports of the law enforcement agencies *inter-alia* bringing out the necessity of speed related restrictions on mobile data services to prevent misuse of internet, and upon assessment of the available alternatives, 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 order that the directions/restrictions indicated at para 1 above shall continue to remain in force till 17th June, 2020, unless modified earlier.

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.

By Order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.



(Shaleen Kabra) IAS,

Principal Secretary to the Government.

Dated: - 27.05.2020

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.