Telecom Industry Alerts Public Against Frauds Relating to Mobile Tower Installation

New Delhi, 04th **July 2022**: The telecom industry, represented by DIPA and COAI, the apex representative bodies of telecom infrastructure providers and telecom service providers respectively, have cautioned the public against the fraud related to the installation of mobile towers on their properties.

The public is cautioned against certain companies, agencies, or individuals who are fraudulently approaching people and asking them to deposit money in their personal or company accounts in the name of government tax for leasing their premises for installation of mobile towers. The same individuals are additionally offering fake "No Objection Certificates" from the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology for the installation of towers.

Mobile towers are installed either by Telecom Service Providers (TSP) or Infrastructure Providers (IPs). People are requested to verify authenticity by visiting the websites of TSPs or IPs before accepting any offers for tower installation. An updated list of approved TSPs and IPs is also available at www.dot.gov.in

Mr. T R Dua, DG, DIPA, said, "The mobile towers are installed by the Telecom Infrastructure providers like Indus Towers, American Tower Corporation, Summit Digital Infrastructure, Ascend Telecom, Tower Vision. IPs are taking several steps to caution the public about the frauds and have devised various modes to collect the information about potential locations through various channels such as toll-free number, website, e-mail etc. Besides this, as a responsible association, DIPA has also been publishing public notice in newspapers for alerting public about the tower frauds."

"Mobile towers are quintessential to ensure uninterrupted connectivity, support various critical services and maintain communication across the states. The public suffers gravely owing to the fraud related to mobile towers. This is causing a trust deficit and a sense of insecurity towards the team personnel working on the ground to build a robust communication network. The telecom industry remains committed to providing the best quality of services to its customers. Hence, we have collaborated with DIPA to build the required robust infrastructure. Also, we are issuing notices on various platforms to ensure that consumers are aware of these fraudulent practices." said Lt. Gen. Dr. SP Kochhar, DG, COAI.

Members of the public can call on the national consumer helpline from anywhere in India by dialling 14404 or 1800114000 for more information on this matter.

About COAI: COAI was constituted in 1995 as a registered, non-governmental society. The Association is dedicated to the advancement of modern communication through the establishment of world-class mobile infrastructure, products and services and to delivering the benefits of innovative and affordable mobile communication services to the people of India. Read more: https://coai.com/

About DIPA: Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (Erstwhile Tower and Infrastructure Providers Association) was constituted in 2010 as an industry representative body registered under the Indian Society Registration Act, 1860. Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA) represents the India's digital infrastructure industry that develop, build, own and operate the nation's wireless infrastructure. From infrastructure providers and equipment manufacturers to EV charging infrastructure and fibre deployers, we bring together a dynamic group of companies that enable consumers to lead a 21st Century connected life. Read more: https://dipa.co.in/

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