July 8, 2026

DOT

Radio equipment makers, importers, sellers need DoT authorization

G.S.R. 592(E) sets who may get an authorization to possess radio equipment for manufacture, sale, hire, repair or testing, with fees, terms and exemptions.

THE DEPARTMENT OF Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, issued notification G.S.R. 592(E), dated July 8, 2026, making the Telecommunications (Radio Equipment Possession Authorisation) Rules, 2026. It was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 534, dated July 8, 2026, and the rules come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette. The Central Government made them under section 56(1) and (2)(a), read with section 3(1)(c), of the Telecommunications Act, 2023, after considering the comments on the draft published as G.S.R. 154(E), dated February 27, 2025. The rules are signed by Devendra Kumar Rai, Joint Secretary, under F. No. 24-03/2025-UBB.

KEY FACTS

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Notification G.S.R. 592(E), the Telecommunications (Radio Equipment Possession Authorisation) Rules, 2026

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A person may apply for an authorization to possess radio equipment if it intends to "deal with such radio equipment through manufacture, purchase or import for sale, let for hire, repair or testing or demonstration thereof", or to "import or purchase or hire radio equipment only for the purposes of testing or demonstration". Four categories are eligible: a company or limited liability partnership, with any foreign direct investment in line with the Central Government's policy and applicable law; a person, including a partnership firm or sole proprietorship, holding a licence, permit or registration under applicable law to carry on a trade or business; the Central Government, a State Government or an agency either designates; and a holder of a licence under the Indian Wireless Telegraphy (Possession) Rules, 1965. Applications are made on the portal with the documents it specifies, including the make, model and quantity of the equipment, and an application for equipment that blocks telecommunication must include the permission obtained under section 48 of the Act. By S.O. 3719(E) of the same day, the Central Government notified DoT's "Telecom eServices Portal" as the portal for the rules.

The application fee is ₹1,000, non-refundable. The Central Government may inquire into eligibility and, for an authorization to deal in radio equipment, carry out security vetting as specified on the portal. If it is satisfied that the applicant is eligible, it may issue a letter of intent that sets the requirements, including authorization fees paid for the whole term: ₹10,000 a year to deal in radio equipment, and ₹2,000 a year, or a proportionate amount for less than a year, with a minimum of ₹500, for testing or demonstration only. An authorization to deal runs for at least one year and up to five years, and one for testing or demonstration only for up to twelve months. The authorization states the make, model and quantity of the equipment, the address where it is kept, and the procedures for testing and demonstration. An authorization to deal may be modified on an application with a ₹1,000 fee, and renewed on an application made no later than one month before it expires; on a written request, the Central Government may accept a later application if there was sufficient cause, on payment of late fees it specifies.

An authorized entity must keep the equipment in secure premises, meet the eligibility criteria throughout, use the equipment only for the authorized purpose, conform to standards the Central Government notifies, keep its inventory and records as the portal specifies, allow physical

verification, and report loss, theft or suspected misuse on the portal. Testing and demonstration of equipment that is non-radiating or radiates up to 100 milliwatts must cause no interference to other authorized entities and gets no protection from theirs; above 100 milliwatts, the terms of a spectrum assignment apply. The Central Government may restrict testing and demonstration near the international borders, the Line of Control and the Line of Actual Control. A holder of an authorization to deal may give possession only to a person under rule 10 or another authorization holder, and a holder for testing or demonstration only may give possession to no one. An authorization cannot be transferred without the Central Government's permission. Equipment must be disposed of within three months of expiry without renewal, and within two months of an accepted surrender, of ceasing to qualify under rule 10, or of a suspension, curtailment or revocation order. A breach of the terms and conditions is a breach under section 32 of the Act, for which an authorization may be suspended, revoked or curtailed.

Under rule 10, no authorization is needed by a person who holds a licence, registration or permission under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 or the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 and continues to operate under it under section 3(6) of the Act; holds an authorization under other rules under the Act whose terms and conditions do not require an authorization under section 3(1)(c) of the Act; holds an exemption under section 3(3) and an exemption from the requirement of assignment under section 4(6); holds an exemption for possession under section 3(4) or 4(7); has spectrum assigned under section 4(4), (8) or (9); holds an Amateur Station Operator Certificate under the Telecommunications (Amateur Services) Rules, 2024; possesses radio equipment that can accommodate not more than four subscriber identity modules; or is a user with proof of subscription to a telecommunication service of an authorized entity. These persons may not manufacture, sell or let for hire the equipment. An application for a licence under the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 made before the rules began lapsed if no licence had been issued by then; the applicant may apply under the new rules, and fees already paid may count toward the application fee, with any shortfall paid. The rules do not list types of radio equipment, set a renewal fee, or say how long security vetting or a decision takes.

Issued by	Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications
Document	Notification G.S.R. 592(E), the Telecommunications (Radio Equipment Possession Authorisation) Rules, 2026
Dated	July 8, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 534, July 8, 2026
Takes effect	On publication in the Official Gazette; the Gazette issue is dated July 8, 2026
Legal basis	Section 56(1) and (2)(a), read with section 3(1)(c), Telecommunications Act, 2023

Draft	G.S.R. 154(E), February 27, 2025, as the Telecommunications (Radio Equipment Possession Authorisation) Rules, 2025
Applies to	Persons who possess radio equipment to deal with it through manufacture, purchase or import for sale, let for hire, repair or testing or demonstration, or who import, purchase or hire it only for testing or demonstration
Application fee	₹1,000, non-refundable; the same fee to modify an authorization to deal
Authorization fees	₹10,000 a year to deal; ₹2,000 a year, minimum ₹500, for testing or demonstration only; paid for the whole term
Duration	One to five years to deal; up to twelve months for testing or demonstration only
Conditions	Secure premises, eligibility throughout, notified standards, inventory and records, physical verification, reports of loss, theft or suspected misuse; security vetting may apply to an authorization to deal
Not required	Rule 10: existing licence, registration or permission holders under the 1885 and 1933 Acts, holders of other authorizations, exemptions or assigned spectrum under the Act, amateur station operators, holders of equipment for not more than four SIMs, and subscribers
Pending applications	Licence applications under the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 with no licence issued before the rules began lapsed; fees paid may count toward a new application
Related	S.O. 3719(E), July 8, 2026, Gazette CG-DL-E-09072026-274302: DoT's "Telecom eServices Portal" notified as the portal under rule 15
Signed by	Devendra Kumar Rai, Joint Secretary
File number	F. No. 24-03/2025-UBB

Authorizations to possess radio equipment (rules 4 to 7)

Authorization for	Application fee	Authorization fee	Duration	Renewal
Dealing through manufacture, purchase or import for sale, let for hire, repair or testing or demonstration (rule 4(1)(a))	₹1,000, non-refundable	₹10,000 a year, for the whole term	At least one year, up to five years	Apply no later than one month before expiry

Importing, purchasing or hiring only for testing or demonstration (rule 4(1)(b))	₹1,000, non-refundable	₹2,000 a year, or proportionate for less than a year; minimum ₹500	Up to twelve months	None in the rules

The notification (PDF, 1.2 MB)

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