

In Brief: India eyes tighter wireless verification

May 5 2006

Indian officials have announced they intend to crack down on the verification of wireless subscribers.

The Department of Telecommunications this week sent a letter to wireless operators scolding them for allegedly not following rules for the verification of the identities of customers who sign up for wireless service.

A May 8 meeting of DoT officials and company representatives has been scheduled to discuss the matter, which security agencies say is necessary to trace the owner of a cell phone.

In the DoT's letter, Secretary JS Sarma pointed out that verification through an identification card or proof of residence is a requirement of government-issued wireless licenses.

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