



Internet and SMS Services Suspended in Nuh

Why in News?

The Haryana government has [suspended mobile internet](#) and bulk SMS services in Nuh district for 24 hours as a precautionary measure to prevent unrest, maintain public peace, and curb the spread of misinformation.

Key Points

- **About the Order:**
 - The Haryana Home Department issued the suspension directive under:
 - **Section 20** of the [Telecommunications Act, 2023](#), and
 - Rule 3 of the [Telecommunications \(Temporary Suspension of Services\) Rules, 2024](#).
 - The **order suspended** mobile internet services (2G/3G/4G/5G/CDMA/GPRS), bulk SMS services (except those related to banking and mobile recharge), and dongle-based internet access.
 - Essential communication channels such as **voice calls, broadband internet, and corporate lease lines remain operational** to minimize disruption to the public.
- **Telecommunications (Temporary Suspension of Services) Rules, 2024:**
 - **Mandatory Publication:** All orders suspending telecom services, including internet shutdowns, must be published with **specific reasons, geographical area, and duration**.
 - The suspension duration cannot exceed **15 days**.
 - **Competent Authority:** The suspension order can only be issued by the "competent authority," which is the **Union Home Secretary** for the **central government and the State Home Secretary for states**.
 - **Review Mechanism:** A **review committee** is required to meet within **5 days** of an order's issuance to review its validity.
 - The central review committee is chaired by the [cabinet secretary](#), while the state committee is chaired by the [chief secretary](#).
 - **Nodal Officers:** Licensed service providers must appoint a **nodal officer** per service area **to receive and implement suspension orders**.
 - **Secure Communication:** Only officers ranked **superintendent of police** or higher can communicate these orders, in **writing or via secure electronic means**.

Note: In the *Anuradha Bhasin v. Union of India, Case 2020*, the [Supreme Court](#) emphasized that government-imposed **restrictions on Internet** access must be **temporary, limited, lawful, necessary, and proportionate**.

