Quarterly Report on EMF Monitoring January-March 2023





Bhutan InfoComm and Media Authority Royal Government of Bhutan

April 2023

Table of Contents

1. Background	2
2. Monitoring	3
3. Objective of the Monitoring	3
4. Details of the Equipment used for EMF Compliance Test	4
5. Specification of the Equipment/ Instrument	4
6. Measurement Parameter	4
7. Methodology	5
8. Reference Standards and Regulation/ICNIRP limits	5
9. Findings and Permissible limits of Electric Field and Power Density	6
10. Satellite View of the Measurement Location/Telecom site	6
Annexure 1 (Measurement Results)	7
Annexure 2 (Satellite View of Location of Monitored Sites)	19

1. Background

Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Emissions are the electric and magnetic fields that are produced by radios, microwaves, mobile phones and base stations (mobile towers). Telecommunications transmitters generate electromagnetic fields at radio and microwave frequencies. Transmitters have proliferated with siting of wireless communication networks often co-located among other transmitters and the transmitter used in contact with human bodies. If the EMF exposure is prolonged there may be issues of possible health risks. Such risks must be managed and prevented. Currently International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) standards and various other standards are adopted on the assessment and compliance of the exposure levels radiated from different electromagnetic spectrum sources according to the permissible levels in order to protect the people from exposure to higher RF radiations. The most sources of exposure include the cellular network using GSM, WCDMA, LTE and others which occupy the VHF, UHF, L and S band frequencies.

The Bhutan InfoComm and Media Authority have always been monitoring and measuring the EMF radiation level of each Telecommunication Base Transceiver station (towers) in the country based on the EMF emission standards. The Authority also certifies the EMF compliance of the mobile towers in the country mainly in urban areas and satellite towns areas.

The EMF emission standard is derived from the EMF radiation threshold developed by ICNIRP and the Authority has standardized the threshold level of EMF radiation exposure based on the regional threshold.

2. Monitoring

The Authority has monitored the EMF from January to March, 2023 in following places;

Sl.No	Name of the Monitored Places	Number of towers Monitored
1	Phuentsholing	8
2	Gomtu	3
3	Dorokha	2
4	Samtse	9
5	Gelephu	9
6	Panbang, Zhemgang	3
7	Zhemgang	2

The Authority will continue to monitor and measure the mobile towers in the country and will be issued with the certificate of EMF threshold compliance respectively.

3. Objective of the Monitoring

The main objective of the EMF measurement monitoring is:

- To ensure the safe and reliable communication services.
- To test the exposure levels produced by any transmitter or emitter such as telecommunication facilities and mobile telephone base stations for safety purposes and maintain the EMF emission within the standard threshold.
- To ensure that all telecommunication equipment is safe and secure.

4. Details of the Equipment used for EMF Compliance Test

The details of existing EMF monitoring equipment of the Authority are as mentioned below:

Equipment Make/Model:	Rohde & Schwarz
Type of the Antenna:	Isotropic Antenna/Type (3-Axis)
Spectrum Analyzer:	FSH8
Calibration details:	Calibrated on 21-12-2022 and valid up to 2 to 3 years

5. Specification of the Equipment/ Instrument

The specification of the above equipment are as mentioned below:

- 3-axis, E-field antenna 30 kHz to 3 GHz
- Spectrum analyzer covering 9 kHz to 8 GHz
- RFEX Software package
- A 1.5 meter cable to separate the antenna from the meter
- Tripod to hold the antenna



Figure 1: Isotropic Antenna/Type (3-Axis)



Figure 2: Spectrum Analyzer FSH8

6. Measurement Parameter

The following quantities are measured while monitoring:

- Electric Field strength E in **V/m**
- Power density in (µW/cm²)

7. Methodology

The following methodology processes are followed while carrying out the monitoring:

- The measurement is done around 10 meters to 20 meters away from the sectoral antenna's BTS towers facing towards the measurement equipment which is based on the ICNIRP standards measurement.
- The measurement result is taken as the average over a time period of 10 to 15 minutes.
- The measurement is done by Frequency selective method. The selected frequency is for 2G, 3G, and 4G for both the operators.
- Measurement values will be recorded and compare the measurement values with the reference level as per the international standard ICNIRP.

8. Reference Standards and Regulation/ICNIRP limits

According to Section 10(1), and 10(2) of the "Standard for the Establishment of Telecommunications Tower"

- 10 (1): All telecommunication and broadcasting sites shall ensure compliance with the ICNIRP Procedures and Standards for general public exposure and take immediate actions to rectify any non-compliant Sites.
- 10(2): Antennas in all sites shall not emit the EMF radiation more than the standards shown in the table below;

Frequency range	Electric field-stren	ngth (V/m)	Equivalent plane wave powe density S _{eq} (W/m ²)				
	general public	occupational	general public	Occupational			
0.1 - 30 Hz	300/(10 ^{0.5} *f ^{0.7)} MHz)	600/(10 ^{0.5} *f ^{0.7} MH z)	NA	NA			

>30 - 400 MHz	27.7/10 ^{0.5}	61/10 ^{0.5}	0.2	1
>400 - 2000 MHz	(1.375f ^{0.5} (MHz))/10 ^{0.5}	(3f ^{0.5} (MHz))/10 ^{0.5}	(f/2000)	(f/400)
>2 - 300 GHz	19.289	43.323	1	5

9. Findings and Permissible limits of Electric Field and Power Density

The EMF measurement of the BTS tower was carried out in Phuentsholing, Samste, Gelephu and Zhemgang. It is found that the maximum exposures around all of the base stations are **very low** than exposure limits. The detailed measurement readings, findings, electric field and Power Density results are attached below in **Annexure I**.

10. Satellite View of the Measurement Location/Telecom site

The satellite view of the measurement location of each telecom site or transmitter is attached in **Annexure 2.**

Annexure 1 (Measurement Results)

The detailed measurement readings of Electric Field and Power Density are attached below;

1. Phuentsholing (Bhutan Telecom Limited)

SL. No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
1					5121	900 MHz	13.044	0.56879	0.0450	
	Phuentsholing Exchange	Phuentsholing	26.859622	89.386829	21	850 MHz	12.676	0.7950	0.0500	Below the Limits
					232	1800 MHz	18.44	0.3365	0.0300	
2	Tinkilo Densifying Site	Phuentsholing	26.856051	89.393653	180	1800 MHz	18.44	1.88796	0.6575	Below the Limits
3	Pemaling Densifying Site	Phuentsholing	26.857033	89.385168	229	1800 MHz	18.44	1.13862	0.2383	Below the Limits
4	Zangdoperi	Phuentsholing	26.861854	89.381881	241	1800 MHz	18.44	1.00076	0.2245	Below the Limits
					5421	900 MHz	13.044	0.15907	0.0067	
					485	850 MHz	12.676	0.47500	0.0598	Below the Limits

5	Dantak	Phuentsholing	26.863975	89.378916	485	2100 MHz	19.925	0.31326	0.0260	
					227	700 MHz	11.504	0.63007	0.1053	
					223	1800 MHz	18.44	0.35998	0.0344	

2. Phuentsholing (Tashi InfoComm Limited)

SL.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequenc y Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
1	Toorsa Phuentsholing 26.86645317	26.06645217	00.2740/277	1821	900 MHz	13.044	0.69179288 086	0.2676	Below the Limit	
1		Phuentsholing	26.86645317	89.37486267	33161	850 MHz	12.676	0.67615	0.2751	Linta
					11	1800 MHz	18.00	1.0741	0.3060	
			ng 26.85998917		1464	900 MHz	13.044	0.37937868 233	0.0382	– Below the Limit
2	Phuntsholin g - 3	Phuentsholing		89.3826828	3385	850 MHz	12.676	0.50051966	0.0665	
					21	1800 MHz	18.00	0.91952	0.2243	

2	3 Phuntsholin	Phyontsholing	26.96626162	00 00000000	3323	900 MHz	13.044	0.16823905 875	0.0075	Below the
5	g TX	Phuentsnoling	20.80030102	89.38285828	33171	850 MHz	12.676	0.44178385 595	0.0518	Limit
					25	1800 MHz	18.00	0.43794214 291	0.0509	

3. Gomtu, Samtse (Bhutan Telecom Limited)

Sl.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
					5261	900 MHz	13.044	0.30681410279	0.0250	
					388	850 MHz	12.676	0.34439139696	0.0315	Below the Limits
1	Gomtu	Samtse	26.813665	89.194034	145	700 MHz	11.504	0.36411383306	0.0352	
	Exchange				141	1800 MHz	18.44	0.31248631838	0.0259	
					5271	900 MHz	13.044	0.17650838466	0.0083	Below the
2	Gomtu Town	Samtse	26.814766	89.189574	179	850 MHz	12.676	0.20825417588	0.0115	Limit

		114	1800 MHz	18.44	0.74177173884	0.1459	

4. Gomtu, Samtse (Tashi InfoComm Limited)

Sl.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm ²)	Remark
1	Gomtu	Samtse	26.81428909	89.19554901	2151	900 MHz	13.044	0.2275616797	0.0137	
			7	7182	850 MHz	12.676	0.23205862417	0.0143	Below the Limits	
					21	1800 MHz	18.44	0.28340582808	0.0213	

5. Duphucheen, Samtse (BTL)

SI. No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm ²)	Remark
-----------	--------------	----------	----------	-----------	---------	-------------------	---------------	--------------------------	--	--------

1	Dorokha	Samtse Samtse	26.991972	89.20643	62	1800 MHz	18.44	0.316393371 496042	0.0266	Below the Limits

6. Dhopochen, Samtse (TICL)

Sl.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
1	Dorokha	Samtse	26.993914	89.206622	23	1800 MHz	18.44	0.35989350 8164688	0.0344	Below the Limits

7. Samtse (BTL)

Sl.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
-------	--------------	----------	----------	-----------	---------	-------------------	---------------	--------------------------	------------------------------	--------

					150	900 MHz	13.044	0.37039	0.0364	
1	Samtse Exchange	Samtse	26.899524	89.0965	15	850 MHz	12.676	0.61449545 709	0.1002	Below the Limits
					96	1800 MHz	18.44	0.40495455 74	0.0435	
						900 MHz	13.044	0.50608672 8631713	0.0679	
					5472	850 MHz	12.676	0.16371012 188	0.0071	Below the Limit
2	Samtse Town	Samtse	26.900751	89.093393	105	700 MHz	11.504	0.42583328 422	0.0481	
					113	1800 MHz	18.44	0.62288480 223	0.1029	
3	Samtse BPC Colony D-Site	Samtse	26.8983367 8	89.0973742	424	1800 MHz	18.44	0.58262653 556	0.0900	Below the Limit
4	Samtse Checkpost D- site	Samtse	26.896508	89.094451	49	1800 MHz	18.44	0.65844056 838	0.1150	Below the Limit
					5571	900 MHz	13.044	0.33116093 76	0.0291	Below the Limit
					410	850 MHz	12.676	0.25560783 4924244	0.0173	

5	Tendu	Samtse	27.1241996	88.8749977	87	700 MHz	11.504	0.18256139 92	0.0088	
	Exchange				95	1800 MHz	18.44	0.26733254 976	0.0190	
6	Tendu RGH Densifying Site	Samtse	27.115911	88.875033	224	1800 MHz	18.44	0.77951716 185	0.1612	Below the Limit

8. Samtse (TICL)

Sl.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
					6411	900 MHz	13.044	0.632231 60249	0.1060	
1	Samtse Town	Samtse	26.90074921	89.09594727	6191	850 MHz	12.676	0.140118 2507630 21	0.0052	Below the Limits
					11	700 MHz	11.504	0.156494 36848	0.0065	
					22	1800 MHz	18.44	0.779307	0.1611	

								09562		
2	Garreton	Garreton	26 2020220	20.0022010	3441	900 MHz	13.044	0.147092 26335	0.0057	Below the Limit
2	Samtse Tx	Samtse	26.893082°	89.098381°	23	1800 MHz	18.44	0.560402 40930	0.0833	
3	Tendu	Samtse	27.127589	88.875775	3213	900 MHz	13.044	0.312091 50306	0.0258	Below the Limit
					22	1800 MHz	18.44	0.272202 32091	0.0197	

9. Gelephu (BTL)

Sl.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
		9	26.060207	00 400020	4171	900 MHz	13.044	0.339988 92017	0.0307	
1	Exchange	Sarpang	26.869297	90.488038	221	850 MHz	12.676	0.776532 81642	0.1599	Below the Limits
					334	1800 MHz	18.44	1.166464 98736	0.3609	
2	Fishery Outdoor	Sarpang, Gelephu	26.870903	90.492272	31	1800 MHz	18.44	0.841496 8793524	0.1878	Below the Limit

								9		
3	Zhaming D- site	Gelephu, Sarpang			239	1800 MHz	18.44	1.026755 22839	0.2796	Below the Limit
4	Hospital Outdoor	Gelephu, Sarpang	26.8746	90.488435	18	1800 MHz	18.44	0.909594 88901	0.2195	Below the Limit
~	NY 11 1		26.064620	00 40/104	8241	900 MHz	13.044	0.188053 31905	0.0094	
5	Namknaling	Sarpang	20.804038	90.486184	301	850 MHz	12.676	0.249522 97538	0.0165	Below the Limit
					447	1800 MHz	18.44	0.651619 9225	0.1126	
					4192	900 Mhz (2G)	13.044	0.152	0.0062	
6	Rabdiling	Gelephu	26.880703	90.492509	253	850 MHz (3G)	12.676	0.01429	0.0001	Below the Limit
					365	1800 MHz (4G)	18.44	0.24818	0.0163	

10. Gelephu (TICL)

SI No	Sito	Location	Latituda	Longitudo	Call	Enguaran	Limita	Field Strongth	Dowon	
SL.NO	Site	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell	Frequency	Limits	Field Strength	Power	

	Name				ID		V/m	V/m	Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
				00 40 411 5 6	11711	900 MHz	13.044	0.2899848103 9	0.0223	
1	Gelephu Tx	Gelephu, Sarpang	26.87028313	90.4841156	11328	850 MHz	12.676	0.5714048994	0.0866	Below the Limits
					12	1800 MHz	18.44	0.5185501953 6	0.0713	
2	Tali	Gelephu,	26.883681	90.486647	11713	900 MHz	13.044	0.0148453614 8	0.0001	Below the Limits
2	Dratsnang	Sarpang			21	1800 MHz	18.44	0.6223682713 7	0.1027	2000 // 000 200000
3	Gelephu	Gelephu,	26.883681	90.486647	11955	850 MHz	12.676	0.3930550550 3	0.0410	Below the Limits
	Office	Sarpang			23	1800 MHz	18.44	1.0085484824 2	0.2698	

11. Pangbang, Zhemgang (BTL)

V/m ($\mu W/cm^2$)	Sl.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
------------------------	-------	--------------	----------	----------	-----------	---------	-------------------	---------------	-----------------------	------------------------------	--------

1	Zhemgang Town	Panbang, Zhemgang	26.85001 65	90.961743 9	227	1800 MHz	18.44	1.7122592349 9	0.7777	Below the Limits
					7031	900 MHz	13.044	1.8748869389	0.9324	
2	Galabi	Panbang, Zhemgang	26.84706 4	90.964182	343	850 MHz	12.676	0.3947881125 1	0.0413	Below the Limit
					227	1800 MHz	18.44	0.9011859169 6	0.2154	
					446	1800 MHz	18.44	0.5725455852 5	0.0870	

12. Panbang, Zhemgang (TICL)

Sl.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequency band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm²)	Remark
					1101	900 MHz	13.044	1.7748869389	0.9324	
1	Panbang Drungkhag	Panbang, Zhemgang	26.8470287 3	90.9642181 4	12702	850 MHz	12.676	0.6947881125 1	0.0413	Below the Limits
					22	1800 MHz	18.44	0.8725455852 5	0.0870	

13. Zhemgang	(BTL)
--------------	-------

Sl.No	Site Name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID	Frequen cy Band	Limits V/m	Field Strength V/m	Power Density (µW/cm ²)	Remark
					7142	900 MHz	13.044	0.83513612774	0.1850	
1	Zhemgang Town	Zhemgan g	27.215355	90.659337	456	850 MHz	12.676	0.7299234777	0.1413	Deleus the Linsite
					227	850 MHz	12.676	2.66114906233	1.8784	Below the Limits
					459	1800 MHz	18.44	1.4964201192	0.5940	
					447	1800 MHz	18.44	0.99332328371	0.2617	

14. Zhemgang (TICL)

Sl.No	Site Name					Frequency Band		Field	Power	
		Location	Latitude	Longitude	Cell ID		Limits	Strength	Density	Remark

							V/m	V/m	(µW/cm ²)	
1	Zhemgang	Zhemgang	27.2151660	90.6587066	12771	900 MHz	13.044	0.935136127 7	0.1850	Below the Limits
1	Town		9	7	12701	850 MHz	12.676	0.629923477 7	0.1413	
					22	850 MHz	18.44	1.993323283 7	0.5940	

Annexure 2 (Satellite View of Location of Monitored Sites)

The following are the satellite view of the measurement location of the each Telecom site transmitter;

26.899524,89.0965



Figure 3: Samtse Exchange BTS (BTL)

26.900751,89.093393



Figure 4: Samtse Town BTS (BTL)

26.896508,89.094451



Figure 5: Samtse Checkpost D-site BTS (BTL)

26.8933678,89.0973742



Figure 6: Samtse BPC Conony D-site BTS (BTL)

27.124517,88.874916



Figure 7: Tendu Exchange BTS (BTL)

27.115911,88.875033



Figure 8: Tendu RGH Densifying Site BTS (BTL)





Figure 9: Samtse Town BTS (TICL)

26.893082,89.098381



Figure 10: Samtse Tx BTS (TICL)

27.127589,88.87575



Figure 11: Tendu Town BTS (TICL)

26.993914,89.206622



Figure 12: Dorokha BTS (TICL)



26.869297,90.488038



Figure 14: Gelephu Exchange BTS (BTL)

Figure 13: Dorokha BTS (BTL)

26.8746,90.488435



Figure 15: Hospital BTS, Gelephu (BTL)

26.864638,90.486183



Figure 16: Namkhaling BTS, Gelephu (BTL)

26.870473,90.483800



Figure 17: Rabdiling BTS, Gelephu (BTL)



Figure 18: Gelephu Tx BTS, Gelephu (TICL)



Figure 19: Tali Dratshang BTS, Gelephu(BTL)

26.883681,90.486647



Figure 20: Gelephu Office BTS (TICL)



Figure 21: Phuentsholing Ex BTS (BTL)

26.856051,89.393653



Figure 22: Tinkilo BTS (BTL)

26.857033,89.385168



Figure 23: Pemaling Densifying Site(BTL)

26.861854,89.381881



Figure 24: Zangdopelri D-site (BTL)



Figure 25: Dantak BTS (BTL)

Figure 26: Toorsa BTS (TICL)

26.85998917,89.38268...



Figure 27: Phuntsholing - 3 BTS (TICL)

26.86636162,89.38285...



Figure 28: Phuntsholing TX BTS (TICL)



Figure 29: Gomtu Exchange BTS (BTL)

26.814766,89.189574



Figure 30: Gomtu Town BTS (BTL)

26.81428909,89.19549...



Figure 31: Gomtu Tx BTS (TICL)



Figure 32: Galabi BTS (BTL), Panbang



Figure 33: Zhemgang Town BTS (BTL)



Figure 34: Zhemgang town BTS (TICL)

Annexure 3 (Image of Monitored BTS)

The following are the images of the each Telecom BTS transmitters;



Figure 35: Phuentsholing Exchange (BTL)



Figure 37: Pemaling Densifying Site (BTL)



Figure 36: Tinkilo Densifying Site (BTL)



Figure 38: Zangdopelri Densifying Site (BTL)



Figure 39: Dantak, Phuentsholing (BTL)



Figure 40: Hospital, Phuentsholing (BTL)



Figure 41:Toorsa, Phuentsholing (TICL)



Figure 42: Phuentsholing-3 (TICL)



Figure 43: Phuntsholing TX (TICL)



Figure 45:Gomtu, Samtse (TICL)



Figure 44: Gomtu Exchange, Samtse BTL



Figure 46: Dorokha, Samtse (BTL)



Figure 47:Gomtu Town, Samtse (BTL)



Figure 49:Samtse Check post D-Site (BTL)



Figure 48:Samtse BPC Colony D-Sit (BTL)



Figure 50:Samtse Town (TICL)



Figure 51:Samtse TX (TICL)



Figure 52:Samtse Exchange (BTL)



Figure 53:Tendu RGH Densifying Site (BTL)



Figure 54:Tendu Town (TICL)



Figure 55:Gelephu Exchange (BTL) (BTL)



Figure 56: Fishery Outdoor, Gelephu





Figure 57 : Zhamling D-site (BTL)



Figure 59:Namkhaling, Gelephu (BTL)



Figure 58: BPC Densifying Site (BTL)



Figure 60:Rabdeling, Gelephu (BTL)



Figure 61:Gelephu Tx (TIL) (TICL)



Figure 63: Gelephu Office (TICL)



Figure 62:Tali Dratshang, Gelephu



Figure 64: Zhemzang Hospital (BTL)



Figure 65:Trong, Zhemgang (TICL)



Figure 67: Panbang Town

Figure 66:Zhemgang Town (BTL)



Figure 68:Galabi (BTL)