

## **Recovery of mobile phones:-**

A Mobile / Cell Phone is an electronic device by which we can make and receive telephone calls making use of radio signals while moving around a wide geographic area.

The following are different services offered by mobile phones and such services provide different kinds of electronic evidences pertaining to the offences committed with the use of mobile phones.

- Make phone calls
- Store contact information
- Send text messages and MMSs
- Make task or to-do lists
- Keep track of appointments and set reminders
- Use the built-in calculator for mathematic calculations.
- Play audio and video
- Take photos & videos
- Play games
- Browse Internet
- Send or receive e-mail
- Get information (news, entertainment, stock quotes) from the Internet
- Watch TV
- Use it for social media communications like Facebook, WhatsApp etc

There will be instances where mobile phones are to be recovered from the scene of offence under cover of observation-cum-seizure panchnama / report or from the scene of offence at the instance of the accused in pursuance of confession-cum-seizure panchanama / report. In such scenarios also care shall be taken while recovering them.

- The mobile phone must be isolated from the mobile network if the phone is switched-on it can never be switched off, it can be kept in flight mode, and Bluetooth, GPRS & InfraRed services are closed, and it can be placed in a shielded secure container or faraday bag so that undesirable changes are not caused, and further, the phone shall be forwarded to the forensic science laboratory (FSL) as soon as possible for further analysis. If possible the phone may be supplied with portable battery backup keeping the phone in switched-on mode.
- If the mobile is already switched-on then while recovering Mobile Handset, the details like outer appearance, manufacture, model, colour may only be noted in the seizure note.

It shall be kept in mind that removal of SIM requires removal of battery then the date and time of the device may be lost. This would also be caused if the battery is allowed to discharge.

- If the mobile is already switched off then while recovering Mobile Handset, the details like outer appearance, manufacture, model, colour and IMEI (GSM) / ESN (CDMA) number of the handset may be noted. Further the details of SIM Card like Integrated Circuit Card Identifier (ICCID), name of the service provider that is printed on the SIM and memory card details like manufacture, type (SD / Mini SD / Micro) and capacity of Memory Card may be noted in the seizure note.
- The switched-off mobile phone shall be packed in hard card box while forwarding to FSL so that its safety can be taken care of.

## **Flowchart in the preservation phase of mobile phone**

**START**

**CORDON THE CRIME SCENE**

**EXCLUDE ALL UNAUTHORISED PERSONS FROM THE CRIME  
SCENE**

**COLLECT THE PHONE DEVICES**

**IF THE DEVICE IS ON PUT THE DEVICE IN RADIO ISOLATED  
CONTAINER OR PUT IT IN FLIGHT MODE**

**DOCUMENT ALL THE STEPS**

**TRASPORT THE CONTAINER / PHONE TO THE FORENSIC LAB**

**END**

	<p>A Faraday bag or Faraday shield is an enclosure used to block electric fields. It is formed by conductive material or by a mesh of such materials. Faraday cages are named after the English scientist Michael Faraday, who invented them in 1836. Play media.</p>	
		
	<p>An antistatic bag is a bag used for storing electronic components, which are prone to damage caused by electrostatic discharge (ESD).</p>	
		