Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) Portal

***Prelims**: Public policy| Government Initiatives | Current events of national and international importance.*

Why in news?

Telangana has emerged as the top-performing state in India in recovering lost or stolen mobile phones through the CEIR portal, with over 78,000 devices recovered as of May 2025.

- **CEIR Portal** – It is a crucial digital tool designed to recover mobile phones by blocking, tracking and managing lost or stolen devices.
- **Launched by -** Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- **Purpose -** To combat mobile phone theft and loss by blocking, tracking, and managing lost or stolen devices through their IMEI numbers.

Key Features of CEIR Portal

- **IMEI Blocking -** The portal enables blocking of mobile phones by blacklisting their unique IMEI numbers.
- Once blocked, these devices become unusable on any cellular network in India, regardless of SIM card changes.
- **Centralized Database -** CEIR maintains a centralized database accessible to all telecom operators, ensuring consistent enforcement of device blocking and tracking nationwide.
- **Device Status Lists -** The portal manages three lists -
    - **White List -** Devices allowed on networks
    - **Black List -** Lost, stolen, or unauthorized devices banned from networks
    - **Grey List -** Devices with pending status for verification
- **Tracking Lost Phones -** CEIR integrates advanced tracking technology to aid in locating and recovering lost or stolen mobile phones.
- **Coordination with RPF and Police -** The Railway Protection Force (RPF) and other law enforcement agencies can use CEIR to block stolen devices quickly, reducing illegal resale and possession.
- **Citizen-Friendly Reporting -** Users can report lost or stolen devices via the CEIR portal or integrated police portals, facilitating swift action and recovery.

Reference

The Indian Express| CEIR portal



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