

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

