



Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications
O/o Additional DGT
Ground Floor, Sanchar Bhawan, Jhalana
Institutional Area, LSA, Rajasthan Jaipur – 302004



No.-RJ-R1/SBC Meetings/2023-24/79

Date: 03.09.2024

Minutes of Meeting

The 11th Meeting of State Broadband Committee (SBC) was held on 23rd August 2024 at 12:30 PM under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, GoR to review the progress under National Broadband Mission (NBM). The list of participants is attached at **Annexure-I.**

At the outset, the Chairman emphasised that Telecom Infrastructure is an enabler for various other sectors and results in overall development of the State and the Nation as a whole. The State must endeavor to facilitate the deployment of the Digital Infrastructure and address any pending issues pertaining to the sector in a time bound manner.

The Meeting's Agenda was presented and discussed in detail vis-a-vis the compliance of decisions taken during the 10th SBC Meeting held on 24th June, 2024. The gist of the discussion and the actionable points enumerated during the meeting are as under:

1. Pendency of RoW applications on State RoW Portal -

It was intimated by DoT, GoI that presently 687 RoW applications are pending since July 2023 with State departments namely Revenue, LSG and UDH Out of the 1193 RoW applications which pending during the last SBC held on 24th June 2024, 506 have been disposed. There has been remarkable reduction in RoW pendency in some districts namely Bikaner, Sirohi, Tonk, Barmer and Ajmer. Maximum applications (i.e. 656) are pending with the Revenue Department, specially in districts of Jaipur, Udaipur, Churu, Didwana-Kuchaman, Santhore, Jodhpur(Rural), Alwar, Beawar, Dholpur and Jhunjhunu districts.

It was further informed that the main reason for this pendency is that these applications were submitted before July 2023 when the offline mode of submission was used. After July 2023, applications and payments for the same are made through the online portal. The older applications are pending at the level of SDM.

In order to expedite the disposal of Pending RoW cases of 2022 & 2023, DoT suggested that central verification of applications may be done by Revenue Department. Revenue Department agreed to the suggestion and requested to provide the list of such applications with GRN no. and other relevant details.

The Chief Secretary, GoR also agreed to the suggestion made by DoT for early disposal of the cases pertaining to 2022 & 2023 and also instructed the concerned departments to expeditiously process & dispose the delayed applications in a time bound manner.

(Action by: Revenue/UDH / LSG)

2. Onboarding of leftover Departments on State RoW Portal -

DoT informed that presently only three departments namely Revenue, LSG and UDH are onboard on the State RoW Portal. There is need for other departments such as Energy, PWD, Industry (RIICO), Krishi Upaj Mandi etc. to be onboarded, so that all RoW permissions/intimations are issued online. All the other concerned Departments were requested to integrate with State RoW Portal.

It was informed by DoIT&C that nodal officers have been appointed by Energy / Industry (RIICO) / Krishi Upaj Mandi for onboarding onto the State RoW Portal and this exercise is being carried out in coordination with Nodal Officers of respective Departments.

The Chief Secretary, GoR directed all concerned Departments to be onboarded on State RoW Portal at the earliest. In case of any technical assistance, DoIT&C, GoR can be contacted.

(Action by: Energy/PWD / Industry/ Agriculture /DoIT&C)

3. Alignment of State RoW Guidelines with amended Central RoW Rules,2022 & 2023 -

DoT submitted that the present RoW charges under State RoW Policy are not aligned with Central RoW (Amendment) Rules, 2022.

It was further apprised that Central ROW(Amendment) Rules, 2023 has a provision for temporary laying of overhead OFC for 60 days in lieu of the damaged underground telegraph structure but there is no such guideline in State RoW Guidelines.

Meanwhile, Agriculture Department, GoR has recently issued a letter dated 13-07-2024 regarding RoW charges for Krishi Upaj Mandi which are on the higher side compared to State Guidelines dated 13-01-2023. DoT is of the view that the same should be reviewed as there should be uniform rates in the State. Krishi Upaj Mandi officials assured that they would follow the State RoW Guidelines.

During the last SBC Meeting, it was informed by UDH Department that the matter related to RoW charges is required to be resubmitted to the Hon'ble Minister for consideration. The matter is pending for decision.

It was informed by DoT that The Telecommunications Act, 2023 has been notified on 24th December 2023. Subsequently, Draft RoW Rules, 2024 have also been notified by DoT on 9th July, 2024. The Rules are likely to be notified soon. It was requested that State RoW Guidelines be aligned with the Central RoW Rules for the provisions.

The Chief Secretary, GoR reiterated that establishment of Telecom Infrastructure should not be viewed as source of revenue by the Urban Local Bodies and directed UDH to align the State RoW Guidelines with the Central RoW Rules expeditiously within a month. There should be a uniform RoW Guidelines/Policy in the State.

(Action by: UDH / Agriculture)

4. Uniform Restoration Charges of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) –

DoT requested to have uniform restoration charges for OFC laying in the State of Rajasthan to facilitate automatic generation of demand notes on RoW Portal and expedite grant of RoW permissions.

It was further informed that PWD, Rajasthan has recently issued uniform restoration rates vide its order dated 10th June 2024. The State RoW Order dated 13.01.2023 mentions consideration of State PWD rates for restoration (clause 4(iii)).

The Chief Secretary, GoR agreed that uniform restoration rates across the State among different Departments will facilitate the establishment of Telecom Infrastructure. He asked UDH and PWD Department to finalize uniform restoration charges for the State of Rajasthan expeditiously.

(Action by: UDH/PWD)

5. Charges for multiple cables erected on the poles –

DoT requested for finalisation of the charges for multiple cables erected on the poles to be included in State Guidelines.

The Chief Secretary, GoR instructed UDH department to expedite the matter relating for approval of the competent authority.

(Action by: UDH)

6. Effective usage of Call Before u Dig (CBuD) Mobile App -

DoT informed that CBuD app was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 22nd March 2023. This App is beneficial to all stake holders namely States/Departments, digging agencies as it provides a common platform for intimation prior to digging, avoiding wasteful expenditure on account of restoration and avoiding disruption of services.

Presently, eight State Departments are onboard as asset owners (total no. 3130) and 2699 excavators are registered on the App. However, the number of enquiries/intimations generated are minimal (627 intimations in last 17 months) even though multiple digging activities are being carried out in the State. States like Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh have much higher CBuD usage compared to the State of Rajasthan. It was further apprised that The Telecommunication Act, 2023 mandates prior notice to avoid damage/interrupt/interfere with the Telecommunication Network.

In view of the above, DoT requested

- To incorporate the mandatory registration and usage of CBuD App in the tender conditions and work order issued by concerned authorities.
- To include CBuD review in the agenda of District Level Telecom Committee (DLTC) which will require creation of DLT user Id by all districts for monitoring purpose.
- To conduct awareness workshops by concerned line Departments (around one per month).

The Chief Secretary, GoR agreed to include registration and usage of CBuD in the tender and subsequent work order and directed departments to take up the same. Further, the line departments were directed to conduct awareness workshop to sensitize and enhance the usage of CBuD App.

(Action by: PWD/Energy/UDH/DoIT&C/LSG/Panchayati Raj/PHED/WRD)

7. Street Furniture Mapping on PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) Portal -

Industry and Commerce Department informed that mapping of 833424 electric poles under street furniture has been done since last SBC held in June 2024 in the PM Gati Shakti NMP Portal. Now, mapping of street lights is pending. Industry and Commerce Department is coordinating with LSG/UDH for the purpose.

DoT reiterated that the mapping is required to install 5G small cells on street furniture and its roll out to enhance coverage of 5G network. The street furniture items are required to be updated on regular basis.

The Chief Secretary, GoR directed the Industry and Commerce Department to coordinate with concerned departments in this regard.

(Action by: Energy /UDH/LSG/Industry)

8. Digital Communication Readiness Ranking (DCRR) -

DoT informed that DCRR framework has a 56 points Questionnaire for which information is required to be submitted by the States. Out of these 56 indicators, the response of 02 is awaited, these pertain to Cyber Crime. DoT requested for early submission of response to the pending points of the Questionnaire.

It was further informed that Secretary (Telecom) has desired to involve ITI's/Polytechnic to provide telecom skill development courses on emerging job roles in 5G/IoT/AI etc. as per Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC) and Qualification Packs(QP) under National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF).

The Chief Secretary, instructed the Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Department to have a coordination meeting with DoT, Rajasthan, GoI and other concerned departments to ascertain the skill development TSSC Courses aligned with existing courses and decide further modalities for inclusion of these courses under skill development.

(Action by: School Education/ SCRB/Skill, Development & Entrepreneurship/DoIT&C)

9. PRAGATI Issues (BSNL 4G Saturation & Airtel 502 USOF, DoT Funded Project) -

DoT informed that presently there are two mobile projects funded by USOF, DoT(GoI) namely BSNL 4G Saturation and Airtel 502 Project covering 1354 and 61 sites respectively.

CGM, BSNL informed that 22 cases for allotment of revenue land and 9 cases pertaining to Forest and Wildlife are pending under BSNL 4G Saturation Project for installation of towers funded by USOF, DoT in different districts, majority of which are from the District of Sikar.

It was further informed that 173 demand notes for electrical connections required for Telecom towers are pending against 1217 electricity connections applied by BSNL. Further provisioning of 443 Electricity connections is also pending against payment made for 745 demand notes.

The Chief Secretary, GoR asked the Energy Department to issue the pending demand notes and release electricity connections immediately for BSNL 4G Saturation Project. Further, the other Departments shall dispose of applications pending on account of Revenue land and Forest & Wildlife expeditiously.

(Action by: Revenue/Forest/Energy)

10. Common Duct Policy –

As discussed in 10th SBC held in June 2024, UDH Department is requested to take necessary action in consultation with various stake holders to bring out a Common Duct Policy in the State. The tariff for the same can also be deliberated during the consultations.

(Action by: UDH)

11. Implementation of Composite Billing for Telecom Service Providers –

It was apprised that Composite Billing for Telecom Service Providers has been implemented in remaining JdVVNL (Jodhpur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited) and AVVNL (Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited) also wherein it was pending earlier. Now the three Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited's namely JVVNL, JdVVNL and AVVNL have provisioned for Composite Billing.

12. Implementation of The Electricity (Promoting Renewable Energy Through Green Energy Open Access) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2023 and consideration of Industrial Tariff instead of Commercial Tariff for Telecom Industry -

DoT informed that presently the State has not aligned its Open Access Policy with The Electricity (Promoting Renewable Energy Through Green Energy Open Access) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2023 notified by Ministry of Power, GoI. Many States such as Punjab, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Gujarat etc. have aligned their State Electricity Regulations with the Central Green Energy Open Access Rules, 2023. In this regard, DoT officers, Rajasthan have also met Chairperson, RERC and requested to amend State Regulations to make them consistent with Central Rules of Ministry of Power.

Further, the Telecom Service Providers have been requesting for consideration of Industrial Tariff instead of Commercial Tariff for Telecom Industry to set up Telecom Infrastructure as has been done in many other States like Uttarakhand and Maharashtra.

The Energy Department informed that the matter regarding alignment with Central Green Energy Open Access Rules, 2023 has been taken up with Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (RERC) and yet to be implemented.

The Chief Secretary, GoR asked the Energy Department to coordinate with RERC. Regarding decision on tariff, Chief Secretary, GoR pointed out that this decision is part of Tariff Policy determined by the Regulator.

(Action by: Energy Department)

13. GST related issue –

As discussed in 10th SBC, the concerned Departments may do needful in this regard.

(Action by: DoIT&C/UDH)

14. Regularization of existing Towers -

COAI and DIPA (Associations) requested to expedite the regularization of existing mobile towers installed prior to 2017.

DoT informed that state such as Punjab have settled the old regularization cases (wherein towers have already been installed) by accepting one-time fee. Accordingly, the State of Rajasthan may consider the same.

The Chief Secretary, GoR directed DoIT&C to put up the matter on file for decision.

(Action by: DoIT&C/Applicant)

The meeting ended with Thanks to the Chair.

These minutes are issued with the approval of Competent Authority.

(Dwarka Karol)
Director (Rural)
DoT, Rajasthan

Copy to: All participating members

Annexure-I

The list of participants for the 11th SBC Meeting convened under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, GoR on 23rd August 2024

Government of Rajasthan

1. Sh. Abhay Kumar, Addl. Chief Secretary, RD &PR Department
2. Sh. Praveen Gupta, Principal Secretary, Public Works Department
3. Sh. Dinesh Kumar, Principal Secretary, Revenue Department
4. Sh. Subir Kumar, Principal Secretary, Higher & Technical Education Department
5. Sh. Krishna Kunal, Secretary, Education Department
6. Smt. Arti Dogra, Secretary, IT&C Department
7. Sh. Rohit Gupta, Commissioner, Industries & Commerce Department
8. Sh. Kumar Pal Gautam, Commissioner, Skill, Employment and Entrepreneurship Department
9. Sh. Bijo Joy, Spl. Secretary, Forest Department
10. Sh. Jai Singh, Director, Agriculture Department
11. Sh. Ravi Vijay, Dy. Secretary, UDH
12. Sh. Sanjay Singh Nehra, Director (Tech.), JVVNL, Energy Department
13. Sh. Dalip Kumar Gaur, CE (JIM), Public Health Engineering Department
14. Sh. Darbari Lal, Technical Director, DoIT&C
15. Smt. Nidhi Sharma, Joint Commissioner, Industries & Commerce Department
16. Sh. Nitin Nehra, STP, UDH
17. Dr. Sushil Parmar, Add. Director, Medical & Health Department

Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, LSA Rajasthan

18. Sh. Anand Katoch, DDG(R-1), DoT, Rajasthan (Convenor)
19. Sh. Dwarka Karol, Director (R), DoT, Rajasthan.
20. Sh. Mahaveer Prasad Meena, Assistant Director, DoT, Rajasthan

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (A Govt. of India Enterprise)

21. Sh. Deepak Gupta, CGM, BSNL
22. Sh. Ashok Maheshwari, GM, BSNL

TSP/IP Associations

23. Sh. Dhananjay, Director, COAI
24. Sh. Greesh Kumar, GM, DIPA