

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS & COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

From

The Prl.Secretary to Government
ITE&C Department,
D-Block, 5th Floor,
BRKR Bhavan,
Telangana Secretariat,
Hyderabad – 500 022.

To

1. The Advisor, APLSA, DOT,
Telangana ,Govt. of India
2. The Chief General Manager, BBNL
3. The Chief General Manager, BSNL
4. M/s TAIPA
5. M/s COAI

Lr.No. ITEC-15/TFG/15/2020-Electronics, Dated:24-08-2021

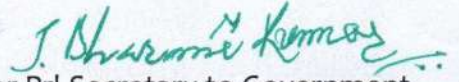
Sir,

Sub: ITE&C Department – State Broadband Committee – 3rd National Broadband Mission - Minutes of the meeting held on **06.08.2021 at 10.30 AM** - Communicated - Reg.

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The minutes of 3rd National Broadband Mission meeting held on **06.08.2021 at 10.30 AM** in the O/o the Chief Secretary, Conference Hall, 9th Floor, BRKR Bhavan, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad of State Broadband Committee are communicated herewith for information and taking follow up action accordingly.

Yours faithfully


for Prl.Secretary to Government

Encl: as above

3rd State Broadband Committee Meeting - Minutes of the Meeting on 6th August 2021 held in the chambers of the CHIEF SECRETARY, Government of Telangana

Preamble:

The Department of Telecom (DoT) has informed all States that Central Government has launched National Broadband Mission (NBM) to enable fast track growth of digital communications infrastructure, bridge the digital divide for digital empowerment and inclusion, provide affordable and universal access of broadband for all. NBM is envisaged to fulfil the vision of "Broadband to All" and fulfil the goals of the National Digital Communications Policy 2018. The DoT has suggested the following:

1. To conduct quarterly State Broadband Committee meeting for achieving the objectives of the National Broadband Mission in next five years.
2. To address all matters regarding Broadband Readiness Index (BRI).
3. Monitoring and evaluation of the work of Mission pertaining to the State.
4. To facilitate implementation of the guidelines issued by the Governing Council or Steering Committee enabling expansion of broadband services for the socio-economic development.
5. To work with States to have their Right of Way (RoW) Policy aligned with the Right of Way (RoW) Rules notified by the Central Government.

Members Present during the review meeting:

1. Sri. Somesh Kumar, IAS, Chief Secretary – Chairman SBC
2. Smt. Shanthi Kumari, IAS, Spl. Chief Secretary, Forest Department
3. Sri. Sunil Sharma, IAS, Spl. Chief Secretary, T, R & B Department
4. Sri. Jayesh Ranjan, IAS, Prl. Secretary, ITE & C Department, Co-Convenor
5. Sri. Sandeep Kumar Sultania, IAS, Secretary, Energy Department & PR & RD Department
6. Sri. Nizamul Haq, ITS, Advisor, APLSA, DOT, Govt. of India, Co-Convenor
7. Sri. Nagesh Rao, ITS, DDG (Rural), APLSA, DOT, Govt. of India
8. Smt. Anupama Sanghi, ITS, DDG (Rural), APLSA, DOT, Govt. of India
9. Sri. G. Suresh Reddy, ITS, Director (Rural), APLSA, DOT, Govt. of India
10. Sri. Sujai Karampuri, MD, T-Fiber
11. Sri. U. Sreenivas, ITS, Sr. General Manager, BBNL, Telangana
12. Sri. B. P. Rawat, ITS, Chief General Manager, BSNL, Telangana circle
13. Sri. K. V. N. Rao, ITS, Prl. General Manager, BSNL, Telangana circle
14. Sri. J. Ravi Chandra, ITS, Prl. General Manager, BSNL, Telangana Circle

Members Present through Video Conference :

1. Sri. Tilak Raj Dua, Chairman, M/s. TAIPA
2. Sri. Kshem Kapoor, DDG, M/s. COAI

Proceedings of the Committee on 06.08.2021:

The 3rd State Broadband Committee (SBC) meeting started by Prl. Secretary, ITE & C (Co-convenor) welcoming Hon'ble Chairman and members. The State Broadband Committee reviewed the Minutes of the Meeting of 2nd State broadband Committee meeting.

2. The Committee discussed on the launch of Single window online portal for RoW clearance, district level meetings under Addl. Collector, utilization of vacant lands & buildings of the government, affordable rentals for hiring DISCOM poles for laying overhead OFC, standard restoration charges in line with GoI MoUD letter no N-11025/39/2014-LSG dated 30th

May 2017, mechanism to arrest damage to buried fiber while digging by other agencies, adoption of National Building Code (NBC), provision of EB connection on industrial rates , The status of BharatNet Phase – I & Phase – II Projects. The Co-Convenor (DoT) stressed that, while rolling out BharatNet Phase-II, priority may be given to those GPs which are in remote areas where TSPs/IPs are interested to establish their mobile towers/BTS.

3. The Committee discussed the following:

1. APLSA, DoT mentioned that all the actionable items of 2nd SBC are addressed. Single window online portal for RoW clearance is to be launched by 31st August 2021. The said portal is already launched and is working in Tamilnadu. It is decided to replicate the same structure in Telangana as well.
2. Additional Collector (Local body) has already been nominated as a nodal officer at district level vide GO Rt No.9 dated 27.01-2021. Committee has discussed the need for resolving issues at the district level, a decision has been taken to conduct such monthly meetings during 3rd week of each month to sort out any pending issues.
3. Committee has discussed the need to quell public concerns regarding radiation levels. It is decided to increase awareness level by frequent press briefings at district & state level. DoT will prepare one-page handout on radiation norms and submit to the Government so that the same can be forwarded to all nodal officers at district level for wider dissemination of this information.
4. Committee has opined that comprehensive guidelines are to be issued to clearly bring out charges for hiring vacant Government Lands & Buildings. A list of such vacant Government Lands & Buildings can be made available to the Telecom Service Providers (TSP) / Tower & Infra providers.
5. Committee discussed the high restoration charges and felt that restoration by TSP can be permitted. Otherwise standard restoration charges mentioned by GoI MoUD letter no N-11025/39/2014-LSG dated 30th May 2017 may be implemented.
6. Committee discussed the need to implement National Building Code (NBC) 2016 GoI guidelines for Telecom Infrastructure. It is decided that this will be taken up by Sri Arvind Kumar, Prl.Secretary, Municipal Administration & Urban Development Department (MA&UD) in Telangana State.
7. Committee noted with concern frequent damage to the under ground fiber and felt that a mechanism may be put in place to address this issue. A common whatsapp group with various stakeholder like TSP/TAIPA/GHMC/HMWSB/DISCOM etc can be formed where prior intimation may be posted regarding the upcoming underground/Overhead works. Allocating single toll free number for prior intimation purpose may also be explored.
8. Committee noted that GHMC is not honouring the TS ROW G.O dated 19-02-2021 regarding rental charges per annum. It is opined that this issue may be further discussed with concerned department and arrive at mutually acceptable pricing.
9. Committee discussed the need to bring "Telecommunications Towers and infrastructure" under the industrial category. Maharashtra DISCOM categorised Telecom under industrial category. A similar measure has been undertaken by Telangana Government.
10. Committee has gone through various requests of TAIPA for ease of doing Telecom business related to Energy department.
11. Committee discussed on the Status of BharatNet phase-II project, as it is State led model in case of Telangana State, being implemented by M/s T-FIBER. In Telangana State, Under BharatNet Phase – II project, 10,065 kms OFC is laid out of total 34,629 KMs of fiber. M/s T-FIBER has replied that 2,496 GPS are LIT-up out of 10787 GPS. DoT requested the Chairman to give due importance to the uncovered villages in remote area while laying fiber under BharatNet Phase – II.
12. Committee has discussed the importance of Dig Once Policy for Telecom Infrastructure. State Government authorities to take necessary action.
13. M/s. COAI has raised the following issues:
 - a. GHMC not honouring the TS RoW GO regarding rental of poles charges.

- b. Restoration charges in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) area are very high and not uniform.
- c. State Discoms, through a central agreement, to allow telco's to use their LT poles for aerial OFC and mounting low power 4G/5G BTS.
- d. Penalty clause on Fiber cuts as standard clause and proceeds to be used for swift restoration (incl. Govt. contracts). Mechanism to be evolved to resolve this issue
- e. National Building Code for in-building fiber layout be adopted by new housing societies and link it to issue of OC (Occupation certificate)
- f. Provision of EB Connection under Industrial rates like the state of Maharashtra.

14. M/s.TAIPA raised the following issues:

- a. Right of Way (RoW) for Telecom Infrastructure in Telangana State has to be in line with the RoW Policy / guidelines of Indian Telegraph rules of Government of India, 2016
- b. District Level Telecom Committee needs to be constituted to take care of operational issues like:
 - ☐ Delay in final permissions/NOC
 - ☐ Pending EB connections
 - ☐ Cancellation of already issued NOC by issuing Authority itself without any valid reason
 - ☐ Use of Electricity poles/Towers for mounting low power 4G/5G BTS.
 - ☐ No disconnection of EB from existing towers due to frivolous public complaint
 - ☐ Priority electricity connections at Industrial Tariff within 15 days
 - ☐ Online bills, preferably on registered email ID, to avoid an delay/penalty.
 - ☐ Maintenance schedule should be shared in advance, to arrange for adequate alternate energy source.
 - ☐ Reduction in EB Tariff to help businesses tide over the COVID-19 crisis, similar to other States like Maharashtra & Uttarakhand which have already reduced EB tariff by average 6-8%

4. Chairman stated that these issues may be resolved with the Secretary, Energy. A district wise list of pending issues of Fiber and Towers may be submitted to address pending issues.

5. The following is summarised by Hon'ble Chairman SBC:

- a. Single window online portal for RoW clearance is to be launched by 31st August 2021.
- b. Additional Collector (Local body) to conduct monthly meetings during 3rd week of each month to sort out any pending issues at district level. One officer from BSNL and one representative from T-Fiber to be included in the District level Committee under the Addl. Collector, LB for resolving local Tower and OFC issues.
- c. Frequent press briefings at district & state level to be conducted to increase awareness level on radiation levels. A handout on radiation norms will be prepared by DoT and submit to the Government so that the same can be forwarded to all nodal officers at district level for wider dissemination of this information.

- d. Comprehensive guidelines are to be issued to clearly bring out charges for hiring vacant Government Lands & Buildings. A list of such vacant Government Lands & Buildings can be made available to the Telecom Service Providers (TSP) / Tower & Infra providers.
 - e. Restoration by TSP can be permitted. Otherwise standard restoration charges mentioned by Gol MoUD letter no N-11025/39/2014-LSG dated 30th May 2017 may be implemented.
 - f. MA&UD to implement National Building Code (NBC) 2016 Gol guidelines for Telecom Infrastructure
 - g. To address the issues of frequent damage to UG & OG OFC, a Common whatsapp group with various stakeholder like TSPs/ISPs/TAIPA/GHMC/HMWSB/DISCOM etc can be formed where prior intimation may be posted regarding the upcoming underground/Overhead works
 - h. GHMC is to honour the TS ROW G.O dated 19-02-2021 regarding pole rental charges
 - i. "Telecommunications Towers and infrastructure" may be brought under "Industrial" category, similar to that of Maharashtra DISCOMs
 - j. A district-wise pendency list of EB connections, RoW approvals for OFC, Tower permissions to be submitted
 - k. All energy related issues to be discussed separately with Prl Secy, Energy department
6. Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chairman of SBC.

Sd/-
Chief Secretary to Government

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //


SECTION OFFICER