



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/2023-24/70

Date: 04.07.2024

Minutes of Meeting

The 10th Meeting of the State Broadband Committee (SBC) was held on 24th June 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 the Telecom Infrastructure is an enabler for various other sectors and results in overall development of the State and Nation as a whole. The State must endeavor to facilitate the deployment of Digital Infrastructure and address any pending issues in a time bound manner.

The meeting's agenda was presented and discussed in detail:

1. Pendency of RoW Applications on State RoW Portal -

It was intimated by DoT, GoI that presently 1193 RoW applications are pending since July 2023 with State Departments namely Revenue, LSG and UDH. The maximum applications (i.e. 1111) are pending with Revenue Department, mainly in Districts of Bikaner, Jaipur, Alwar, Jodhpur and Didwana-Kuchaman, These districts have much higher pendency than the rest of the state. It was further informed that these applications were submitted online whereas the requisite payments were made offline before July 2023 when the online provision for fee payment was made on the portal.

The Central RoW Rules, 2016 and State RoW Policy mandates disposal of the applications within sixty days of submission. It was requested to prioritize the expeditious resolution of these pending RoW cases.

The Revenue Department provided assurance that they would coordinate with the concerned District Collectors to process all delayed applications in districts expeditiously.

The Chief Secretary, GoR instructed other concerned Departments to expedite the disposal of the delayed applications in a time bound manner.

(Action by: Revenue/UDH / LSG)

2. Onboarding of remaining 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, RIICO (Industry), Krishi Upaj Mandi (Agriculture Marketing) etc. to be onboard on the portal so that all RoW permissions/intimations are issued online. It was requested that all the concerned Departments are onboarded on the State RoW portal.

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

(Action by: Energy/PWD / DoIT&C/ RIICO/ Krishi Upaj Mandi)

3. Alignment of State RoW Policy with (amended) Central RoW Rules,2022 and 2023 –

DoT submitted that the present RoW charges under State RoW Policy are not aligned with Central RoW (Amendment) Rules, 2022. There is no provision of annual charges for installation of towers and poles for small cells and telegraph lines whereas State RoW Policy mandates annual charges also in addition to application fee. Further, the charges for installation and usage of small cells on street furniture also differ significantly from the Central RoW Rules.

It was further apprised that the Central RoW(Amendment) Rules, 2023 have provision for temporary laying overhead OFC for 60 days in lieu of the damaged underground telegraph structure but there are no such guidelines in State RoW Policy. Accordingly, it was requested to align the State RoW Policy with Central (amended) RoW Rules,2022 and 2023.

It was informed by the UDH Department that the matter related to RoW charges is required to be resubmitted to the Hon'ble Minister UDH for consideration.

The Chief Secretary, GoR directed the UDH Department to re-submit the matter to the Hon'ble Minister for consideration.

(Action by: UDH)

4. Uniform Restoration Charges of OFC –

It was informed by DoT that presently there are no Uniform Restoration Rates for OFC laying. A Committee was set up by UDH Department to determine the Restoration Rates but it's decision is awaited. However, PWD, Rajasthan has recently issued Uniform Restoration Rates vide its Order dated 10 June 2024. It was requested to have Uniform Restoration Rates in the State of Rajasthan to facilitate automatic generation of Demand Note on the RoW Portal.

UDH department apprised that the Committee constituted for deciding Uniform Restoration Rates has submitted its recommendations. The rates proposed by the Committee will be resubmitted to the Hon'ble Minister UDH for approval.

The Chief Secretary, GoR asked UDH Department to re-submit the matter of Uniform Restoration Charges to the Hon'ble Minister UDH for consideration.

(Action by: UDH)

5. Charges for multiple cables erected on the Poles –

DoT submitted that charges for multiple cables erected on the Poles is awaited though the technical specifications from the stakeholders were sought. It was requested to finalise the same for inclusion in state guidelines to address the issue.

UDH Department assured to take up the matter for approval of the competent authority.

(Action by: UDH)

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

DOT informed that CBuD Mobile 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 is beneficial to citizens as well as it helps to avoid disruption of services.

Presently, eight State Departments are onboard as Asset Owners (total no. 3060) and 2609 Excavators are registered on the App. Still the number of enquiries/ intimations generated has been minimal during the last 15 months since launch of App.

It was requested to

- Incorporate a clause in Terms and Conditions of the NOC/Permissions/Work orders etc. issued by concerned authorities mandating the use of CBuD mobile App as decided in 9th SBC Meeting held on 19th December 2023.
- Include it in para 4 "Terms & Conditions for granting permission to lay underground Telegraph infrastructure (OFC)" of UDH order dated 6th Feb 2017.
- Include CBuD in agenda of District Level Telecom Committee (DLTC) & creation of DLT user Id by them for monitoring purpose.

The Chief Secretary, GoR directed DoIT&C to examine the request made by DoT and directed all concerned departments to take appropriate action to sensitize and enhance the usage of CBuD app.

(Action by: PWD/Energy/UDH/DoIT&C/LSG/PR/PHED/WRD and all District Collectors)

7. PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) Portal- Street furniture mapping -

DoT, GoI presented that the mapping of electric poles and street lights under street furniture has not been initiated till date on the PM Gati Shakti NMP Portal, which is being monitored at central level. The mapping is required to install 5G small cells on street furniture and roll out and enhance coverage of 5G network. The other street furniture items are also required to be updated on regular basis. It was requested to provide data for mapping of the street furniture without further delay as it is an essential aspect for 5G coverage enhancement in the State.

The Industry and Commerce Department is the Nodal Department for collecting data and further submission to BISAG-N, the Developer for mapping.

(Action by: Industries & Commerce / Energy /UDH/LSG)

8. Digital Communication Readiness Index (DCRI) -

DOT presented that DCRI framework has a fifty-six (56) points Questionnaire for which information is required to be submitted by States. Out of these 56 index indicators, the response of 10 is awaited, pertaining to UDH/ Technical Education/ Industries & Commerce Department. It was requested to provide the information for the pending points at the earliest.

The Chief Secretary, GoR instructed the concerned departments to share the response to the pending questionnaire with DoT at the earliest.

(Action by: UDH/ Technical Education/ Industries & Commerce Department)

9. PRAGATI (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 1361 and 65 sites respectively.

CGM, BSNL informed that 33 cases for allotment of Revenue land and 6 cases pertaining to Forest and Wild Life are pending under BSNL 4G saturation project for installation of towers funded by USOF, DoT in different districts.

It was further informed that 226 demand notes for electrical connections required for Telecom towers are pending against 1206 electricity connections applied by BSNL. Further provisioning of 420 EB connections are also pending against payment made for 596 demand notes.

The Chief Secretary, GoR asked the concerned departments to expedite the disposal of RoW applications and provisioning of EB connections under the project.

(Action by: Revenue/Forest/Energy Department)

10. Common Duct Policy –

DoT requested for framing a Common/Shared Duct Policy for the state in consultation with various stake holders as it is beneficial in long run to avoid repeated digging activities. Smart Cities, State Highways, New Projects etc. should have provision of Common Duct. The tariff for the same can also be deliberated during the consultation.

The Chief Secretary, GoR was of the view that the Common Duct concept is beneficial to avoid repeated digging specially on State Highways, New Projects and Smart Cities and asked UDH department to take necessary action in consultation with concerned stake holders.

(Action by: UDH)

11. Implementation of composite billing for telecom service providers –

DoT apprised that composite billing for telecom service providers is presently implemented in JVVNL and not implemented in JdVVNL and AVVNL though the advisory dated 24.05.23 has been issued by Ministry of Power, GOI. It was requested to make provision for composite billing in other Discoms. (Jodhpur and Ajmer)

The Chief Secretary, GoR directed Energy Department to ensure implementation of composite billing in remaining Discoms.

(Action by: Energy Department)

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 which has provision to provide contract or sanctioned load of 100 KW or more either through single connection or through multiple connections aggregating 100 KW or more to consumers. The Energy Department was requested to incorporate the amendment in the State of Rajasthan.

Further, the Telecom Service Providers have been requested 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 Open Access Rules, 2023 has been taken up with Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (RERC).

The Chief Secretary, GoR asked Energy Department to coordinate with RERC for matter pertaining to Power Tariff.

(Action by: Energy Department)

13. Rising theft cases of telecom equipment –

DoT informed that Rajasthan has the highest number of incidents of telecom equipment theft which disrupts telecom services. It was requested that the concerned police authorities may be apprised to provide necessary protection and support to Telecom Infrastructure.

The Police Department, GoR may be apprised accordingly.

(Action by: DoIT&C)

14. GST related issue –

COAI raised issues regarding non issuance of GST from the concerned authorities while paying RoW charges to Development Authorities. It has requested IT department, GoR to do needful provisioning on the State portal.

DoIT&C assured that they would take necessary action.

(Action by: DoIT&C/UDH)

15. Regularization of existing towers -

COAI and DIPA associations requested to expedite the regularization of existing mobile towers installed prior to 2017 on private properties.

As decided in the 9th SBC meeting dated 19th December 2023, the applicants were advised to coordinate with concerned local Authorities for offline processing of these regularization applications.

(Action by: Applicant/Revenue/UDH/LSG)

16. Telecom Infrastructure in schools, hospitals, inside buildings etc.

COAI informed that there has been instances of resistance/refusal to provide broadband coverage and Telecom Infrastructure in schools, hospitals government lands and inside buildings (In Building Solutions).

It was decided that TSPs may bring such cases to the notice of concerned State Authorities.

(Action by: COAI/ DIPA)

17. Comprehensive review of State RoW Policy with the enactment of The Telecommunications Act, 2023

COAI requested to review State RoW Policy with the enactment of The Telecommunication Act, 2023 comprehensively.

(Action by: UDH)

The meeting ended with Thanks to the Chair.

This is issued with the approval of competent authority.

(Dwarka Karol)
Director (R), DoT, Rajasthan

Copy to: All participating members

Annexure-I

The list of participants for the 10th SBC meeting convened under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, GoR on 24th June 2024.

Government of Rajasthan

1. Sh. Sandeep Verma, Addl. Chief Secretary, Public Works Department
2. Sh. T. Ravikant, Principal Secretary, UDH/LSG Department
3. Sh. Vaibhav Galriya, Principal Secretary, Agriculture Department
4. Sh. Subir Kumar, Principal Secretary, Higher & Technical Education Department
5. Sh. Samit Sharma, Secretary, Public Health Engineering Department
6. Sh. Ravi Jain, Secretary, PR Department
7. Ms. Arti Dogra, Secretary, IT&C
8. Sh. K. P. Gautam, Commissioner, Skill, Emp. and Entrepreneurship Department
9. Sh. Inderjeet Singh, Commissioner, IT&C
10. Sh. Nakate Shivprasad Madan, MD, RIICO
11. Smt. Chitra Gupta, Spl. Secretary, School Education Department.
12. Mrs. Monali Sen, Spl. Secretary, Forest Department
13. Dr. R. P. Mathur, Director (PH), Medical & Health Department
14. Sh. Sanjay Singh Nehra, Director (Tech.), JVVNL, Energy Department
15. Sh. Birdi Chand Gangwal, DS & Nodal Officer (RoW), Revenue Department
16. Sh. Ashish Kumar Gupta, Jt. Director, DoIT&C

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

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

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

21. Sh. Sanjay Kumar, CGM, BSNL Rajasthan

TSP/IP Associations

22. Sh. Vikram Tiwathia, DDG, COAI
23. Sh. Mukesh Kumar, Advisor, COAI
24. Sh. Raman Srivasatav, GM, DIPA
25. Smt. Dipti Srivastava, DGM, DIPA