



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/2023-24/97

Date: 30.12.2024

Minutes of Meeting

The 12th Meeting of State Broadband Committee (SBC) was held on 24th December 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.

It was informed by DoT, GoI that it is the 3rd SBC Meeting during the current financial year and 12th after the constitution of SBC in Dec, 2020. The SBC is required to meet once in every quarter.

The Meeting's Agenda was presented and discussed in detail vis-a-vis the compliance of decisions taken during the 11th SBC Meeting held on 23rd August, 2024. The gist of the discussion and the actionable points enumerated during the meeting are as under:

1. Implementation of Telecom RoW Rules, 2024 in State RoW Portal

DoT, GoI apprised that the Telecommunication (Right of Way) Rules, 2024 were notified on 17th September, 2024 in pursuance to the Telecommunications Act, 2023. These Rules shall come into force on the 1st Day of January, 2025. Various timelines, fee/tariff and new provisions/features as mentioned in the RoW Rules, 2024 were presented.

It was informed that DoIT&C, GoR examined the possibilities of on-boarding State Government Departments on Central RoW portal. Now, it has been decided to develop its own portal to implement provisions of the Telecom RoW Rules, 2024 and on-board the Departments.

It was further informed that UDH Department has already issued order dated 11-12-2024 to implement RoW Rule, 2024 w.e.f. 01-01-2025, superseding its earlier orders issued in this reference. It was requested to issue similar orders by other Departments involved in giving RoW permission/NOC namely Revenue, Energy, PWD, RIICO & Krishi Upaj Mandi for implementing Telecom RoW Rules, 2024 w.e.f. 01-01-2025.

The Chief Secretary, GoR instructed DoIT&C to expedite development of new State RoW portal and further instructed other concerned Departments to issue the orders for implementation of Telecom RoW Rules, 2024 as being issued by UDH Department.

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

2. Pendency of Telecom Right of Way (RoW) applications on State RoW Portal

It was intimated by DoT, GoI that there has been substantial reduction in the RoW pending applications as compared to the last SBC Meeting held on 23rd August, 2024 due to regular follow up with District Collectors.

Presently 104 RoW applications are pending for the year 2022 & 2023 with State Departments namely Revenue (60 no.), LSG (40 no.) and UDH (4 no.).

The Chief Secretary, GoR instructed the concerned Departments to expeditiously process & dispose the delayed applications in a time bound manner.

(Action by: Revenue/UDH / LSG)

3. On-boarding of leftover Departments on State RoW Portal

DoT informed that presently only three Departments namely Revenue, LSG and UDH are on-board on the State RoW Portal. There is need for other Departments such as Energy, PWD, Industry (RIICO), Agriculture (Krishi Upaj Mandi) etc. to be on-boarded, so that all RoW permissions/intimations are issued online.

Secretary, IT&C apprised that the development work of new State RoW Portal is being carried out by DoIT&C as per Telecom RoW Rules, 2024. Initially, existing Departments are being boarded on portal. In next phase, left over Departments namely RIICO, PWD, Krishi Upaj Mandi and Energy will be onboarded.

The Chief Secretary, GoR directed all concerned Departments to be on-boarded on State RoW Portal at the earliest in coordination with DoIT&C, GoR.

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

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

DoT informed that presently there is no uniform rate for restoration of underground work being carried out for laying of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) among Development Authorities/Nigam/UITs etc. However, as per Telecom RoW Rules, 2024, restoration charges shall be as per the rates prescribed by CPWD for that area or as per the rate prescribed by State PWD for that area, if no rate has been prescribed by CPWD for that area. This will facilitate automatic generation of demand notes on RoW Portal and expedite grant of RoW permissions.

It is submitted that State PWD has already issued the uniform restoration rates for OFC laying vide its letter dated 10-06-2024. Further, UDH Department has also issued order dated 11-12-2024 for implementing the RoW Rules, 2024 w.e.f. 01-01-2025. UDH informed that the said order already covers the applicability of restoration rates (CPWD/State PWD) as stated in RoW Rules, 2024.

DoT, GoI requested to finalise uniform restoration charges for OFC laying in the State of Rajasthan as per Telecom RoW Rules, 2024 so that the same may be implemented in the state RoW portal.

The committee agreed that uniform restoration rates across the State among different Departments will facilitate the establishment of Telecom Infrastructure. PWD and UDH were instructed to finalize uniform restoration charges for the State of Rajasthan expeditiously as per Telecom RoW Rules, 2024 in coordination with other concerned Departments.

(Action by: PWD/UDH)

5. Charges for multiple cables erected on the poles –

DoT apprised that the issue of multiple cables erected on the poles by telecom/internet service providers was earlier examined by a committee and technical specifications were formulated. However, the finalisation of the charges for multiple cables erected on the poles is awaited.

UDH informed that there is no such tariff mentioned in the new Telecom RoW Rules, 2024.

It was considered to examine the matter jointly by UDH and DoT.

(Action by: UDH/DoT)

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 on-board as asset owners (total no. 3108) and 2858 excavators are registered on the App. However, the number of enquiries/intimations generated are minimal (804 intimations in last 20 months) even though multiple digging activities are being carried out in the State. States like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala and Assam have much higher CBuD usage compared to the State of Rajasthan. There has been no/minimal intimations in CBuD app for Departments such as LSG, UDH, PHED and PWD involved in digging. It was further apprised that The Telecommunication Act, 2023 and Telecom RoW Rules, 2024 mandates prior notice to avoid damage/interrupt/interfere with the Telecommunication Network.

It was decided in the last SBC Meeting dated 23rd August, 2024 to include registration and usage of CBuD in the tender and subsequent work order by all concerned Departments. Further, the line Departments were directed to conduct awareness workshops to sensitize and enhance the usage of CBuD App.

In view of the above, DoT requested:

- To issue specific orders by concerned Departments to include registration and usage of CBuD in tender/RFP and subsequent work orders/agreements etc. Presently, generic orders have been issued by them for mandatory usage of CBuD app/portal.
- To enhancing usage of CBuD app/portal prior to digging activities by the agencies deputed by the Departments (Clause-17 of the Telecommunication Act-2023 mandates prior notice to avoid damage/interrupt/interfere with the telecommunication network; Further Rule 19 of Telecommunications ROW Rules, 2024 also defines procedure for exercising legal right to deal with property)
- Small percentage of total payment to any contractor may be linked with CBuD usage.
- To formulate District Level Telecom Committee (DLTC), create DLT user id and Include CBuD in its agenda. (presently, DLT user ID has been created for 15 districts (out of 50)).
- To organize workshops at execution level for digging agencies/contractors engaged by concerned Departments in coordination with DoIT&C
- To display the CBuD logo/information on State portal/website for wider awareness

The Chief Secretary, GoR stated that usage of CBuD will be beneficial to all the Departments and directed DoIT&C to coordinate with stake holder Departments and takes necessary action in this regard to enhance usage of CBuD.

(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 –

DoT informed that the mapping of street furniture on PM Gati-Shakti NMP Portal is required to install 5G small cells on these street furniture's and its roll out to enhance coverage of 5G network. The street furniture items are required to be updated on regular basis.

It was requested to mention the total figure of the street furniture also in the said format along with items mapped as required for PM Gati Shakti NMP Portal.

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

(Action by: Energy /UDH/LSG/Industry/DoIT&C)

8. Digital Communication Readiness Ranking (DCRR) -

DoT informed that consolidated information as required for DCRR framework has already been sent by DoIT&C on dated 28-08-2024.

Regarding providing 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), It was informed that five courses (out of 13) has already been included under telecom sector by RSLDC under their short term certification courses. The skill courses are considered as per demand and response/feedback received during advertising for enrolment.

9. **PRAGATI Issues (BSNL 4G Saturation & Airtel 502 project, Amended BharatNet)**

DoT informed that presently there are two mobile projects funded by USOF, DoT(GoI) namely BSNL 4G Saturation and Airtel 502 Project covering 1351 and 61 sites respectively.

Further, it was informed that a nationwide amended BharatNet project (funded by Government of India) has also been initiated to provide optical fibre connectivity to the remaining Gram Panchayats(GPs) in the State of Rajasthan (2576 GPs out of 11,214) which is being implemented by BSNL. Further, the Government of India is considering to notify certain projects such as Amended BharatNet,4G Saturation project & other Digital Bharat Nidhi(erstwhile USOF) funded projects as special projects under Telecom RoW Rules,2024 to facilitate RoW approvals and expedite roll out of notified special projects.

CGM, BSNL informed that 07 cases for allotment of revenue land (Sikar-3, Bikaner-1, Sirohi-1, Barmer-1, Jaisalmer-1) and 8 cases pertaining to Forest & Wildlife (Pratapgarh-8), are pending under BSNL 4G Saturation Project for installation of towers in different Districts.

It was further informed that 145 demand notes for electrical connections required for Telecom towers are pending against 1253 electricity connections applied by BSNL. Further provisioning of 213 electricity connections is also pending against payment made for 868 demand notes. It was also requested to reconsider the demand notes (53 no.) which are more than 3 lacs, taking into consideration the RDSS Scheme of Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

Regarding Airtel 502 Aspirational Districts project, one application (out of 5) of Jaisalmer is pending at State Board of Wildlife SBWL).

It was informed by Energy Department that the pendency related to electricity connections is on lower side compared to the one presented by BSNL, Rajasthan. In addition, the last mile electricity infrastructure provisioning for 1100 plus electricity connections under the RDSS scheme has been submitted to the Ministry of Power, GoI but yet to be considered.

It was directed by Chairperson to reconcile the said electricity related pendency among the BSNL & Electricity Department and expedite the release of connections/demand notes for BSNL 4G Saturation project. Further, the submission of proposal for BSNL under RDSS Scheme by Electricity Department may also be reviewed in the light of actual requirement wherein the demand note is exceeding or expected to exceed more than 3 lacs.

The other Departments shall also dispose of applications pending at the State level on account of Revenue land and Forest & Wildlife expeditiously. BSNL shall also coordinate with the concerned Departments on regular basis.

(Action by: Revenue/Forest/Energy/BSNL)

10. **Common Duct Policy –**

DoT informed that the Telecommunications Act,2023 and Telecom RoW Rules,2024 have provisions for the common duct and cable corridors to avoid repeated digging

activities by different Departments and damage to the existing services. Presently, there is no common duct policy in the State of Rajasthan.

The Chairperson directed UDH Department to have coordination meeting with various stake holders regarding Common Duct Policy in the State as also discussed in previous SBC Meetings. The tariff for the same can also be deliberated during these consultations. It was suggested to refer IRC Manuals in this regard.

(Action by: UDH)

11. Implementation of The Electricity (Promoting Renewable Energy Through Green Energy Open Access) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2023

DoT informed that the matter regarding implementation of the said Rules has been taken up with Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (RERC) and it is under consideration.

12. Regularization of existing Mobile Towers -

As per UDH, decision has been taken for the regularization of existing mobile towers as per provisions or order dated 31-08-2012.

DoT requested to reconsider the decision by accepting one-time fee for such cases as being done by the states like Punjab.

(Action by: UDH)

13. Issues notice during installation of mobile towers-

The following issues have been reported by COAI/DIPA from time to time:

- a) Sometimes, there has been resistance from the local residents, specially in rural areas to install mobile towers, citing the harmful effects of the tower radiation.
- b) Sometimes, the notice is being issued by some of the field officers of the districts, seeking land usage conversion for installing towers.

DoT informed that such dispute cases should be brought to the notice of concerned District Magistrates on case to case basis as provisioned in the Telecommunications Act, 2023. Regarding the EMF radiation issue, the local residents may be made aware about the National/International Practices/Norms of the radiation used in mobile communications. In addition, the complainant(s) may also request DoT, Rajasthan to ascertain the radiation level of a tower by depositing a requisite fee through portal.

(Action by: Revenue/District Magistrates/DoT)

The meeting ended with a vote of 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 12th SBC Meeting convened under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, GoR on 24th December 2024

Government of Rajasthan

1. Sh. Praveen Gupta, Principal Secretary, Public Works Department
2. Dr. Samit Sharma, Secretary, Skill, Employment and Entrepreneurship Dept.
3. Dr. Joga Ram, Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department
4. Sh. Rohit Gupta, Commissioner, Industries & Commerce Department
5. Smt. Archana Singh, Secretary, IT&C Department
6. Sh. Kumar Pal Gautam, Director, Local Bodies
7. Sh. Bijo Joy, Spl. Secretary, Forest Department
8. Sh. Narendra Gupta, Spl. Secretary, Revenue Department
9. Sh. Aslam Sher Khan, Spl. Secretary, Water Resource Department
10. Sh. Rajesh Kumar Chauhan, Director, Agriculture Marketing Department
11. Sh. Praveen Kumar Lekhra, Joint Secretary, Public Health Engineering Department
12. Smt. Munni Meena, Joint Secretary, School Education Department
13. Sh. Darbari Lal, Technical Director, DoIT&C
14. Smt. Nidhi Sharma, Joint Commissioner, Industries & Commerce Department
15. Sh. Sanjay Singh Nehra, Director (Tech.), JVVNL, Energy Department
16. Sh. Ravi Vijay, Dy. Secretary, UDH Department
17. Sh. Nitin Nehra, STP, UDH Department
18. Sh. Anoop Kumar Saxena, Sr. DGM, RIICO
19. Sh. Ashish Kumar Gupta, Jt. Director, DoIT&C

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

1. Sh. Anand Katoch, DDG(R-1), DoT, Rajasthan (Convenor)
2. Sh. Kailash Chandra, DDG(R-2), DoT, Rajasthan
3. Sh. Dwarka Karol, Director (R-1), DoT, Rajasthan.
4. Sh. Ram Kailash Meena, Director(R-2), DoT, Rajasthan
5. Sh. Mahaveer Prasad Meena, Assistant Director (Rural), DoT, Rajasthan

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

1. Sh. Vikram Malviya, CGM, BSNL, Rajasthan
2. Sh. Ashok Maheshwari, PGM, BSNL
3. Sh. Lokesh Kumar Gupta, PGM, BSNL

TSP/IP Associations

1. Sh. Vikram Tiwathia, Dy. Director General, COAI
2. Sh. Greesh Kumar, GM, DIPA