

**Minutes of State Broadband and 5G Rollout Working Committee Meeting held
on 17.04.2023**

4th 'State Broadband Committee' (SBC) Meeting was held on 17.04.2023 under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand Government. The meeting was attended by officers of various State Govt. Departments, officers from Department of Telecommunications, BSNL and representatives of COAI/DIPA.

The following officials were present in the meeting:-

1. Shri S. N. Pandey, Secretary Finance, Govt. of Uttarakhand.
2. Shri Vijay Kumar Yadav, Secretary Forest, Govt. of Uttarakhand.
3. Dr. Vijay Kumar Jogdandey, Additional Secretary, IT, Govt. of Uttarakhand.
4. Smt. Nitika khandelwal, Director ITDA, Dehradun.
5. Shri Arun Kumar Verma, DDG, DoT.
6. Shri Alok Tomar, Senior Consultant, SeMT.

The meeting focused on the review of earlier SBC meetings minutes including points on 4G Saturation Scheme, Bharat-Net, CBuD, online RoW issues along with DCR readiness and overview of G20 readiness.

The major points discussed and its action required are as follows:

1. Identification of 'Dark' villages or villages uncovered with 4G signal:

Chief Secretary directed ITDA to check if any extra villages are there with no 4G coverage (either totally uncovered or only 2G/3G signal). Same is to be conveyed to O/o Secretary (IT) and DoT Uttarakhand by 30th April 2023.

(Action by: ITDA/DM's)

2. USOF- 4G Saturation Scheme:

a) Chief Secretary reviewed the progress of 4G Saturation Scheme being implemented by BSNL and reminded that the project is time bound and is to be completed within 500 days of its cabinet approval; ie. By Dec 2023. It was also directed to BSNL that all action plans should be aligned so that the stipulated targets are achieved within timeline.

(Action by: BSNL)

b) The Chair was apprised that for cases where State Electricity department has raised the demand note of more than 2 Lacs, additional funds under RDSS may be utilized to fund such cases. CS directed that same should be provisioned at the earliest.

(Action by: Energy Department of Uttarakhand)

3. USOF- 354 Scheme:

The progress of USOF 354 Scheme being implemented by RJIL was done. RJIL has sought support of the State for 5 sites (4 in Pithoragarh and 1 in Chamoli). Director (ITDA) was asked to co-ordinate with concerned DMs for facilitation of required support.

(Action by: ITDA/DM's)

4. Bharat-Net (Project and O&M):

a) The project and O&M status of Bharat-Net was reviewed. It was informed to the Chair that the target for integration of remaining 95 GPs is June 2023. Further, by May end, 1475 GPs will be made operational.

(Action by: BSNL)

b) The Chief Secretary also asked that the district-wise service ready GPs may be validated from concerned DMs.

(Action by: ITDA/DM's)

5. Bharat-Net Utilization:

a) Regarding Udyamies Scheme and utilization of Bharat-Net, CS directed that a separate detailed meeting is to be held with Addl. Sec (IT) and Director (ITDA).

(Action by: ITDA/IT Dept Uttarakhand and DoT)

b) Chief Secretary also directed that a survey may be done district-wise to assess the utilization of VSATs installed under Bharat-Net.

(Action by: Panchayati Raj Department /DOT)

c) An instruction is to be issued from the Uttarakhand Govt. to formalize the custodians of VSATs installed under Bharat-Net.

(Action by: Panchayati Raj/DOT/BSNL)

d) For 600 GP Bhawans where electrical connection is not present, it was decided that connection will be taken in all such locations where electrical connection is not there.

(Action by: Panchayati Raj/Power/UPCL Department)

6. Scheme of Special Assistance:

On the issue of inclusion of PM WANI hotspots under the scheme, Director (ITDA) informed that BSNL is not willing to take up the work of installation of PM WANI hotspots.

(Action by: BSNL)

7. Right of Way related issues:

a) It was apprised that the State RoW policy has been adopted in the Bye-Laws of all the District Development Authorities of Uttarakhand. Copy of same, along with RoW and MoHUA notifications is to be shared to COAI/DIPA.

(Action by: Housing and Urban Department)

b) Regarding Tower installation on rooftops, it was informed to the Chair that currently Building Structural Safety Certificate and Building Map authorization certificate is being asked from TSPs. In this regard, the Chief Secretary expressed that only Building Structural Safety Certificate should be sufficient for NOC to install Mobile Towers on Rooftops.

(Action by: Housing and Urban Department)

c) It was also apprised that provision for online RoW application of OFC laying (underground and overhead) has been incorporated in State RoW portal, currently working for PWD department. Soon, it will work for all concerned departments.

(Action by: Industries Department/ITDA)

d) Chief Secretary Uttarakhand directed that-

i. Deemed approval clause is to be implemented in online RoW portal at the earliest.

ii. Provision of adjustment or refund of application fees of RoW application against rejected applications is to be done at the earliest.

(Action by: Industries Department/ITDA)

7. PM WANI:

Director (ITDA) informed that BSNL is not willing to take up the work of installation of PM WANI hotspots as of now. If concerned department/agencies required department will take help of DOT

(Action by: Department's/DOT)

9) Call Before U Dig Mobile App:

The chair directed that the app is to be used by concerned department/agencies as per related instructions. Letter in this regard may again be issued from O/o Sec (IT).

(Action by: IT Department/ITDA)

10) 5G related issues:

a) CS Uttarakhand directed the concerned authorities of Urban department, electricity department and other relevant offices to ensure that their street furniture is mapped as per laid instructions.

(Action by: Housing and Urban Department / Industry department)

b) Director ITDA informed that the 5G form will be activated in the State RoW portal within 1 days.

(Action by: Industry /ITDA)

a) It was submitted to the Chair that certain development authorities are providing 6 months NOC for Tower installation and TSPs have to again apply for NOC after 6 months. The issue is to be seen by ITDA for resolution.

b) Regarding aerial fiber on poles, **CS expressed his dissatisfaction and conveyed** that the aerial fiber must be laid underground or in a systematic manner not to create a clutter or mesh of wires in public area.

The Chair decided that ITDA shall be Nodal for the purpose of readiness of DCRI parameters. A separate meeting may be conducted with ITDA on regular basis to review the performance of State on these DCRI parameters.

a) For Tower cases, the Chair directed ITDA to look into the pending RoW permission cases. It was pointed out that District Haridwar and Dehradun have highest no. of pendency. Same is to be taken up with concerned DMs.

b) For OFC cases that are under Forest area, it was decided that COAI/DIPA shall share the **approval letters of other States**. Also, DoT may take the forest clearance cases with Forest Ministry directly on Central level.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks from CS, Uttarakhand to all Participants.

Government of Uttarakhand
Information Technology, Good Governance and Science Technology Section – 01
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1. Director, ITDA
2. All Committee Members
3. Guard File

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