

Department of Telecommunication,
Office of DDG (SC), Arunachal Pradesh
Sanchar Bhawan, 3rd Floor,
Gandhi Market, C-Sector, Itanagar-791111

Minutes of meetings of 4th SBC and 1st 5G Working committee, Arunachal Pradesh on 17.01.2023

Learned CS chaired the meeting and all SBC members, 5G working committee members & all TSPs present during the discussion. COAI and DIPA attended the meeting online. Meeting started after the welcome address by DDG.

Due to his busy schedule, Learned CS asked DDG to go straight to agenda points.

DDG(SC), Arunachal Pradesh briefed the present telecom statistics and telecom infrastructure in the state. He went ahead with presentation of slides on agenda points and threadbare interaction took place.

Salient points discussed and decisions taken on SBC meeting:

4G Saturation Project of BSNL:

- Survey for uncovered villages/ 4G upgrade villages completed.
- Survey for BOP/BIP sites just started.
- CS desired that BSNL should complete survey for BOP and BIP sites by 31/01/2023
- On query from CS, GM BSNL informed that they have acquired 407 lands o/o proposed 655 BTS sites out of which 100 are Govt. Land.
- There is no major issue on land acquisition front. However, GM, BSNL requested help from state administration for three districts namely Dibang Valley, Lohit and Shi Yomi.
- On query from CS, GM BSNL informed that one agency has been finalized. They have asked the agency to come and start demarcation of acquired land.
- GM, BSNL informed that so far no site is falling under reserved forest. CS directed GM, BSNL to apply RoW in Parivesh portal for any site that may fall under forest area.
- GM, BSNL also requested State Administration to give one-time exemption of fire clearance for RoW application in Gatishakti sanchar Portal.
- CS directed Secretary, IT to put up above for approval.
- He also directed Secretary, IT to process fee exemption from Rs.80/ pole for using of EB poles for OFC stringing.

4G USOF Project executed by M/s BHL:

- Only 71 sites are now put on Air as against commitments of 125 BTSs by Dec'22.
- CS expressed his extreme displeasure on the progress of M/s BHL. He reiterated that the repeated failure of M/s BHL to keep the commitments of previous review meetings is not acceptable.
- Monthly targets as committed by M/s BHL are also not met.
- Representatives of M/s BHL highlighted terrain problems and difficulties faced in transportation of tower materials.

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- Representatives of M/s BHL committed that they would achieve commissioning of 100 BTSs by Jan'23 end.
- DDG highlighted out of major 10 districts where 80% of the project is involved, no BTS could be commissioned yet by M/s BHL in five districts namely Kurung Kumey, Anjaw, Shi Yomi, Dibang Valley and West Siang. M/s BHL must sensitize its field units/ installation teams in these districts and commission sites early so that benefits of the scheme are also extended to these districts as well.
- Out of 219 EB applications made by M/s BHL under "Party Supply Party execution" scheme, demand note received only for 19 sites. Even the demand notes received are hefty ones instead of only inspection charges as expected under approved "Party Supply Party execution" scheme. This is affecting electrification of even the already commissioned sites.
- CS directed Secretary (Power) to look into this aspect immediately and hold review meeting with M/s BHL every week.
- OFC permission received for 1013 km, pending for 376 km. M/s BHL informed that 550 km OFC laid till date and work taken up wherever feasible.
- Fibre is mainly affected in these five districts. M/s BHL expressed difficulty to get permissions from BRO and NHIDCL. CS directed Secretary, IT to get all the applications from M/s BHL and compiled cases to be taken up with BRO/ NHIDCL from State Govt. Side.
- M/s BHL expressed difficulty to acquire sites in districts viz. Kra Daadi and sought support from state administration and are now in touch with District administration. The concerned bridge construction in Kra Daadi is likely to be completed by Feb'23.
- CS differed on the views expressed by M/s BHL that BTS Work in Kurung Kumey is affected due to bridge not ready in Kra Daadi district. Kurung Kumey should be accessible from other side. M/s BHL should explore alternate route immediately and start USO BTS works with priority.

Bharatnet (VSAT):

- 87 Sites (GPs) pending out of which 16 sites are having missing materials.
- Sr.GM, BBNL informed that 18 sites are doable as of now. CS directed that those should be installed immediately.
- Remaining 69 sites are either having SPV missing or VSAT missing materials.
- It was decided that Secretary IT would provide a list of alternate 16 GPs in lieu of earlier decided 16 DHQs where relocation would be done by M/s BBNL.

Incorporation/ mapping of important data layers in PM Gatishakti State Master Plan Portal:

- DDG informed that state is required to update data layers namely land revenue records, road infrastructure, power transmission and distribution, electric poles, traffic light poles, bus terminals and bus shelters etc.
- Revenue department informed that land records updated for 24 o/o 28.
- CS directed all concerned departments to timely map these data layers in the portal.
- The street furniture mapping is required to be taken up.

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Incorporation of recent amendment of Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016 dated 17.08.2022 in state RoW rules and speedy clearances of RoW applications through Gatishakti Sanchar Portal:

- DDG highlighted the background of the amendment and urgent necessity for its incorporation in State RoW rules.
- On query from Ld. CS, Director, Town Planning, UD Department intimated that PWD department has to take action and put up for approval.
- CS desired that Secretary, PWD to take urgent necessary action.

Review of pending RoW applications in Gatishakti Portal:

- 72 applications pending as on 16.01.2023.
- Being closely monitored.
- All pending applications are new and not more than 30 days' old.

Incorporation of recent amendment (March, 2022) of Model Building Bye-Laws-2016 issued by MoHUA in the state building rules:

- DDG highlighted the background of the amendment of MBL-2016 in March'22 and requested to incorporate the same to improve upon telecom coverage inside buildings.
- Department of Town Planning under UD Dept is processing it and put up for approval.

Improvement of telecom service quality at Airport, G-20 Venue/ Hotels, Railway station and connected road for proposed G-20 meeting to be held at Itanagar

- DDG informed that drive test was conducted in last week with all TSPs and they have been asked to analyse deficiencies in coverage and act on that on priority. He also asked the TSPs to install Cell on Wheels (CoW) at G-20 venues and In-building solutions (IBS) to these venues and hotels.
- DDG informed that there is no coverage by any TSP in the road stretch connecting Holongi Airport to Chimpu (on the way to City). It is felt two locations should be immediately identified for installation of towers by TSPs to provide mobile coverage to this stretch of road. IT Department may identify the sites urgently.
- CS informed that BSNL and VIL coverage is not available in Airport. Even Airtel coverage is very poor. Needs immediate action by TSPs.
- Airtel informed that their new site will come shortly. Right now they are sharing BTS at Airport with JIO.
- Regarding installation of IBS inside G-20 venue, hotels etc., TSPs requested State Gov t. to write to the G-20 venue and hotels so that permission for IBS and Cell on Wheels (CoW) are accorded without any hassle.
- CS directed Secretary, IT to immediately convene a meeting involving all concerned from telecom perspective on proposed G-20 event at Itanagar.

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Creation of users from different departments/ utility agencies by state nodal officer for smooth roll out of CBuD app

- State nodal officer to coordinate and get user accounts created for all departments and utility agencies.
- CS assured that all users would be created.

Deliberations of 5G advisory committee:

- Working committee formed.
- For their effective functioning, nomination to be done by respective departments.
- All amendments of IT RoW rules and Model Building Bye Laws are being circulated to concerned departments.
- Street furniture would be incorporated in RoW portal as per revised RoW policy.

Launch of 5G services

- DDG opined that 5G supports several smart city applications. So it would be better 5G is launched initially in smart cities of Itanagar and Pasighat.
- On query Airtel informed that they would launch 5G in Itanagar by 3rd week of Feb'23. Jio representative informed they are working on 5G launch but could not spell out launch date.
- BSNL and VIL don't have any plan it seems.
- CS directed Airtel and Jio to launch 5G service in Itanagar by Feb'23.

To identify 5G use case projects in suitable area/ sector which can be successfully spread across the state and holding of one day workshop for 5G awareness of State Govt. officials:

- DDG requested state to hold one day capacity building conference in the state to apprise state officials about 5G use cases and also RoW policy changes required to adopt 5G related RoW applications, Gatishakti NMP portals and other important policies viz. call before you dig etc.
- DDG also requested State Govt. to 5G use case to be adopted by state. CS told that awareness workshop and decision of 5G use case would be decided once 5G service is launched in the state.

Concerns from DIPA:

- Mr. Harpreet Singh from DIPA informed that all points have already been covered.
- He appreciated the efforts of IT&C department, GoAP.
- He requested to hold district level telecom meetings to settle issues at field level.
- He requested state Govt. To look into the high capex i.e hefty demand notes raised for EB connection to mobile tower sites.
- He also requested to charge fees as per IT RoW modified policy dated 17.08.2022 so that more and more 5G cells and OFC connecting cells can be erected on EB poles.
- He suggested that TSPs should go for 5G at all G-20 venues and hotels.
- He apprehended stealing / damage of 5G cells as those will be mostly deployed on street furniture. He requested state to take care this aspect of 5G equipment.
- CS directed Secretary, Power to hold discussion to look into above aspect.

Harpreet Singh
06/02/2023

Concerns from COAI:

- Mr. Dhananjay from COAI expressed satisfaction that all concerns have been already deliberated.
- He also opined that as 5G cells cover smaller area, large no. Of 5G cells would be required to be installed for better 5G coverage.
- As requested by COAI in previous meetings, he again requested CS to kindly share the inventory of govt. land & building data (govt. Office, school, college, hospital etc.) with COAI so as to enable member TSPs to plan 5G network in the State.

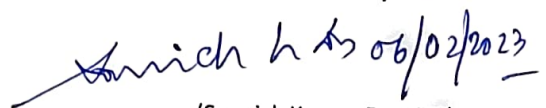
Meeting ended with vote of thanks.

Sd/-

(Dharmendra, IAS)
Chief Secretary-cum-Chairman
State Broadband Committee,
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh.

DDG/ARN/SBC/2022-23

Dated Itanagar 6th February 2023

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Souvick Kumar Das', followed by the date '06/02/2023'.

(Souvick Kumar Das, ITS)
DDG (SC)-cum-Member Convener SBC
DoT Arunachal Pradesh, Govt. of India.