

Minutes of the 11th State Broadband Committee Meeting

The 11th SBC meeting, due in 3rd quarter, was earlier scheduled on 16th Dec, 2024, but due to some exigencies it was re-scheduled and held on 17th January, 2025 at 11:30 Hrs. The meeting was chaired by Shri K S Gopinath Narayan, IA & AS, the Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,, Information Technology Department.

The meeting started with the welcome address by Shri Pankaj Das, DDG (Rural), DoT Assam LSA. After having a brief round of introductions, a detailed presentation was given by DoT, Assam LSA on various important issues as per following **agenda**:

- 1) Review of DBN(USOF) Projects: BSNL 4G Saturation
 - a) Forest Land Allotment Status under BSNL Saturation scheme (PMG Issue)
 - b) EB Connection Status & Issues.
- 2) Review of initiatives taken for 5G Roll Out: SFM mapping Status progress
- 3) Uncovered villages and Shadow Areas for inclusion in future USOF Plans. - Details
- 4) Ensuring the use of CBuD App by all departments & agencies: Progress
- 5) CBuD Issues:
 - a) Low usage of CBuD
 - b) DLTC user creation
- 6) RoW issues: Dealing with the long pending U/G cases
- 7) Preparedness for implementing the new RoW Rules.
- 8) Bharat Net Utilization Status
- 9) DIPA/COAI /ISPAI issues.

The points discussed & decisions taken are stated as follows:

1. Review of DBN(USOF) Projects: BSNL 4G Saturation:

A. Forest Land Allotment Pendency Status under BSNL Saturation scheme: (cat-IV):

S. No.	District	No of sites	To be dropped (as per BSNL)	Remaining Sites
1	Biswanath	13	4	9
2	Hailakandi	5	3	2
3	Golaghat	1	1	0
4	Dibrugarh	1		1
5	Chirang	1		1
Total		21	8	13

- i. Discussion was held for 21 sites (Forest land allotment pending) under CAT-IV. There are 13 sites covered under FRA 2006. It was apprised by the state that 9 sites of Biswnath District will be cleared within one week and for other districts: Hailakandi(2), Dibrugarh(1) & Chirang(1), after discussing with respective DCs, these sites will also be cleared within one week.
- ii. 08 remaining sites covered under FCA will be applied in e-Parivesh Portal by BSNL within 10 days.
- iii. Necessary assistance along with district wise DFO mapping details will be provided by state to BSNL.

--- Action by State/BSNL

B. Hold sites: Discussion was held on 73 hold sites where acquisition of land is pending, CGM BSNL told that at present there are 66 such sites and issues will be resolved by 31.01.2025. BSNL will share site list with issue details and also intimate for any sites where state intervention is required.

--- Action by BSNL

C. Dropped sites: It was apprised by DOT that a total of 243 sites (under cat-I-III & IV) have been dropped by BSNL after subsequent surveys and land allotment. CGM BSNL told that the list is ready with reasons and will be submitted in 1-2 days. BSNL Assam was further asked to submit the complete list sites dropped from the original USOF list of total 4332 villages as this information is vital for planning uncovered villages / shadow areas.

--- Action by BSNL

D. EB CXNs:

SL	Details of the EB Cxns	Count	Remarks (As per APDCL)
1	EB connection Applied by BSNL	316	
2	EB D/Note issued from APDCL	258	
3	EB D/N yet to be issued by APDCL	58	
4	EB D/Note < 3 Lac	170	
5	EB D/Note > 3 Lac & < 5 Lac	42	APDCL agreed for resurvey for 8 sites
6	EB D/Note > 5 Lac & < 10 Lac	30	
7	EB D/Note > 10 Lac	16	
8	EB D/Note Paid (out of 170 cases <3Lacs)	136	
9	EB D/Note yet to be Paid by BSNL (<3 Lacs)	34	
10	EB Commissioning Done (Out of 136)	67	
11	EB Commissioning Pending (Out of 136)	69	only 18 pending due to sites not ready

- (i) APDCL was asked to issue pending 58 sites D/Ns at the earliest.
- (ii) Chairman SBC, citing importance of this central govt. project, beneficial for the people of state asked APDCL to review cases of D/N between 3 – 5 lacs and find out some acceptable ways to consider averaging the amounts so that the cases may be maximized within 3 lacs. In this regard 34 D/Ns (<3L) yet to be paid by BSNL and cases > 3 lacs may be re-looked for averaging.
- (iii) 02 D/Ns were found marginally above 3Lacs - amounting 3.10 lacs. These may be reconsidered by APDCL for revision which can be paid by BSNL.
- (iv) APDCL representative said that matter will be communicated to management. Chairman SBC asked APDCL to issue a letter communicating its final status of its considerations so that BSNL takes a final call and act accordingly as per DBN project mandates.
- (v) On 69 EB commissioning pending sites, it was apprised by APDCL that 51 sites done and for remaining 18 sites BSNL site is not ready. BSNL & APDCL were asked to coordinate and share sites details & resolve the matter & expedite commissioning of the EB CXNs in the particular sites.

--- Action by APDCL/BSNL

2. Uncovered villages and Shadow Areas for inclusion in future DBN(USOF) Plans:

DOT apprised that the details of 4G uncovered villages and shadow areas in prescribed format were sought from state/districts. The details have been received from 30 districts till date. 4 districts (Nagaon, Charaideo, Biswanath & Baksa) are still pending. Chairman SBC asked the state nodal to issue reminder to DCs of these districts and pursue to get reports within a week time.

--- Action by IT-Dept/ DCs concerned/ State Nodal.

3. Initiatives taken for 5G Roll Out: Street Furniture Mapping (SFM):

Departments →	HOME & POLITICAL & DoHUA		PWD (Buildings)		ASTC & DoHUA				APDCL		DoHUA	
Street Furniture →	Total Traffic Lights	Traffic lights mapped	Total Government Buildings	Government Buildings mapped	Total Bus Terminals	Bus Terminals mapped	Total Bus Shelters	Bus Shelters mapped	Total Electric Poles	Electric Poles mapped	Total Street Lights	Street Lights mapped
		105		144	106	94		0	11390309	8250		

DoT apprised the Chairman of current status of Street Furniture mapping in the State of Assam, vis-à-vis other progress of Other States. APDCL, as the major stakeholder, has uploaded the data for approx. 13,000 electric poles. However, there is a modified Mobile Application that is to be shared by BISAG-N that APDCL would be using for continuing the exercise which would make the DoT format fields mandatory. PM GS Nodal suggested that a meeting may be arranged with other stakeholders - DoHUA and Home &

Political Department also so that the progress in mapping of Street Lights, Traffic Lights and Bus Shelters can be expedited.

--- Action by State Nodal

4. Call Before You Dig:

No. of Districts	No. of Dept. users	No. of Agency users	No. of District users	No. of Tehsil users	No. of Enquiries	No. of Excavators
35	11	44	274	150	1667	1230

1. Regarding Low Utilisation:

It was discussed in the meeting that the utilisation of CBuD for registering excavations has reduced in the State. On this, the State commented that the excavation work of the major departments (PHE, JJM) is on hold as of now. Further, BSNL/BBNL also replied in the same line.

PWRD was informed that they may arrange a district-wise meetings with their contractors to sensitize them regarding the CBuD application. If necessary, DoT/Assam LSA would also join virtually to give a hands-on training of the application.

Chairman also informed Assam LSA to share as to how the CBuD workflow is designed and operated. In this regard, Assam LSA will share the CBuD related documents with the State for furthering its awareness.

--Action by PWRD & Assam LSA

2. DLT User creation:

It was reiterated that the DLT users may be created for all the districts. Till now, only Nagaon and Jorhat have been created. It was suggested by the State that the ADC (e-governance) may also be made the DLT User since he/she is engaged in granting RoW permissions also. IT-Department to get the DLT users created at the earliest – within this month.

--Action by State Nodal

3. Reporting of Unauthorised excavation:

BSNL expressed their concerns over frequent damage to their OFC network and hence they were advised to report the same in CBuD application (to be done by their CBuD District Nodal).

The State requested that the list of such unauthorised excavation is shared with them monthly so that it may be taken up by the District Authorities accordingly.

--Action by Assam LSA & State Nodal

5. Right of Way (RoW):

Total Districts	Total Applications	Approved	Reverted	Rejected	Pending (<60 Days)	Pending (>60 Days)
35	5363	4812	276	192	72	11

- It was apprised that 11 RoW cases (>60 Days cases) are pending for more than a year. State to either reject these cases or be deemed approved (>67 Days) in line with RoW Rules 2024. Chairman SBC asked the state nodal to clear these cases within a week time.
- Activities at State End for Onboarding on C-RoW were discussed. Difficulty expressed by state in view of existing workflow (single nodal concept) in state RoW portal and proposed central Row portal having multi-level configuration. It was apprised by DOT that workflow can be designed by NBM team as per state requirement and there is a VC scheduled by NBM team on 20.01.2025 on the subject where state can raise all their concerns. DDG (R) suggested for parallel activity for getting the information ready for submission as sought by NBM.
- In view of effectiveness of new RoW rules 2024 w.e.f 01.01.2025 state should ensure required [changes to be adopted](#) in the State RoW Portal (till the time C-RoW become operational). Chairman informed the temporary changes related to Private Property, RoW Timelines would be followed with the the State RoW portal till the time C-RoW becomes operational.
- State to issue suitable instructions to all department / stakeholder for following the new RoW rules that have come in force w.e.f. 1st Jan 2025.

--- Action by State Nodal

6. Issues raised by DIPA:

1. DIPA requested the implementation of RoW Rules 2024 in the State at the earliest and also that temporary arrangements can be made in the State RoW Portal disabling the NOC and Payment option for Private Property – State informed that this would be implemented.
2. DIPA requested the assistance for district authorities for 4 of their sites on hold in Guwahati, Kamrup, Sonitpur, Jorhat. – State requested the details of such cases so that it may be forwarded to concerned districts.
3. DLTC monthly meetings were requested by DIPA to which State mentioned that the meeting may be conducted as and when the issues are raised by the operators/DIPA and not monthly.
4. Safety of Critical Telecom Infrastructure – DIPA requested that the State may issue directions to the District Authorities to take up the issue of Damage/ interruption/ Theft to Telecom assets in a timely manner. DIPA informed that a representation to the State would also be given in this regard.

--Action by DIPA

The meeting concluded with the closing remarks & vote of thanks from the DDG(Rural).

Signed by

K S Gopinath Narayan

Date: 23-01-2025 04:47:26

**Principal Secretary to Govt. of Assam,
Information Technology Department.**

Memo eCF No. IT. 228702/2022/323-A

Copy to:

1. The Director, Directorate of Information Technology, Electronics & Communication (DITEC), Dispur, Guwahati-06.
2. The Managing director, AMTRON, Bamunimaidam, Khanapara, Guwahati-21.
3. The State Project Director, AITEC & CSD Society, Agriculture Complex, Khanapara, Ghy-22.
4. The DC/ADC of Biswanath/Golaghat/Hailakandi/Chirang
5. The Sr. DDG, DoT, Assam, LSA.
6. The DDG(R-II), LSA, Assam.
7. The CGM, BSNL, Paltan Bazaar, Guwahati01
8. The GM, Bharatnet, Assam.
9. The Secretary to Govt. of Assam, Power Department, Dispur, Guwahati-06
10. The Secretary to Govt. of Assam, PWD (Roads) Department, Dispur, Guwahati-06
11. The Secretary to Govt. of Assam, PWD (Bldg &NH) Department, Dispur, Guwahati.
12. The General Manager, APDCL, Bijulee Bhawan, Paltan Bazaar, Guwahati-01
13. The DG, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).
14. The Digital Infrastructure Providers Association of India (DIPA).
15. P.S. to Special Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology for kind information of the Special Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology.
16. P.S. to Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology for kind information of the Secretary.
17. P.S. to Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology for kind information of the Secretary.

By orders etc.,

e-signed

Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Information Technology Department