

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
Information Technology Department
Assam Secretariat, Block-C, 2nd Floor
Dispur, Guwahati-781006

Minutes of the State Broadband Committee (8th) Meeting

The 8th SBC meeting was held on 04th March, 2024 at 11:30 AM. The meeting was chaired by the Special Chief Secretary (IT) to the Govt. of Assam. The list of members/ participants is attached in **Annexure-A**

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 USOF Projects: BSNL 4G Saturation project / RJIL 4G Mobile Project in 2 Districts.
2. 5G Roll out – Initiatives.
3. Ensuring the use of CBuD App by all departments & agencies.
4. RoW pending issues.
5. DIPA/COAI /ISPAI issues.
6. Addl. Points: Tagging Important Events of the State & Submission of DCRI Data by State Govt.

The points discussed & decisions taken are stated as below:

1. REVIEW OF USOF PROJECTS:

a. BSNL 4G saturation project:

i. BSNL 4G Saturation USOF Project status in Assam:

Cat-I-III:

- Total Villages to be covered after final survey: 525
- Total Sites Proposed to Cover these Villages: 464
- As on Date Land Allocation Done = 464 (Govt. /Council = 271, Forest =70, Private=123)
- Pending Site Acquisition = 22 (Govt. =0, Forest=0, Private =22) / <Govt land on Hold: 62>
- Progress: Tower Erection Completed: 103; Towers ready with electricity: 11, ready with OFC:9.

Cat-IV:

- Total Village: 829
- Survey Completed: 829
- Sites proposed to cover these Villages: 175 (Govt: 154; Forest: 21). – Applications submitted to DCs & DFOs as per BSNL.

Cat-V:

- Total Village: 1098
- Survey Completed: 785 (rest under Survey)
- Sites Proposed: 239

Next Phase:

- **Inclusion of all the left-out cases of 4G uncovered villages/shadow areas under USOF Saturation Project:**

The information has been sought from all the districts in a specific format by DoT, but the same is yet to be received from the State. The IT-Department has informed that it has also written letters to the DCs thrice, but the information is not yet received from the districts. The Chair, considering the importance of the matter, directed the Secy-IT to take up this issue in the forthcoming meeting with the DCs (to be conducted shortly) and ensure submission of the compiled information to DoT at the earliest so that no 4G uncovered Village/shadow areas remain left out from inclusion in the 4G saturation scheme in Assam.

---(Action by Secy-IT)

ii. The Status of Land Allocation/ Acquisition:

- Total Villages to be covered after final Survey: 525
- Total Sites Proposed to Cover these Villages: 464
- As on Date Land Allocation Done =464 (Govt. /Council = 271, Forest =70, Private=123)
- Pending Site Acquisition = 22 Pvt Land + Govt. Land on Hold: 62

/523952/2024

Govt. Land acquisition Issues:

Govt. Land acquisition on HOLD due to Various reasons as per BSNL/Assam				Decision
SL	Reasons for HOLD	No. of Sites	Remarks	
1	Due to State Border Issues	11	Nagaland (6), Meghalaya (5) borders	These issues to be taken up and sorted out in the meeting with all the DCs to be conducted by Secy-IT at an early date. Dist-wise details to be supplied to Secy-IT by BSNL/DoT LSA.
2	Due to Vasundhara Issues	11	Govt. Land found under Vasundhara	
3	Due non-availability of Docs	20	Documents N/A.	
4	Due to Misc. reasons	20	Terrain/ LRA/ owners' reason	

iii. EB CXNs - Status & issues:

Summary of EB CXN Status & Issues - 4G Saturation Proj (as on 1st Mar-2024)			Decisions of the State Govt. in the SBC(8th).
(A) EB CXNs with Demand Notes (D/N) > Rs. 2 Lakhs :- (47 cases)			
Sl. No	Description	No. Of Cases	
(i)	D/N > Rs. 10 Lakhs: BSNL requested for revision of these cases.	12	APDCL not agreed for revision.
(ii)	D/N > Rs. 2 Lakhs but < Rs. 10 Lakhs: BSNL requested APDCL for revision of these cases.	35	< Rs. 5 Lakhs cases only will be considered for revision by APDCL.
(B) No Electricity Cases (464 cases)			
(a)	Applied for Electricity connection by BSNL	344	
(b)	Not yet applied for Electricity Connection by BSNL	120	BSNL to apply at the earliest
(c)	Total Demand Note issued against applied cases (a) by APDCL	192	
(d)	D/Ns yet to be issued against applied cases by APDCL	152	APDC to ensure that the D/Ns against all the Applied cases are issued without further delay.
(e)	D/Ns Paid against issued cases	115	
(f)	D/Ns yet to be paid by BSNL, cases:	77	BSNL to make payment at the earliest.
(g)	D/N >10 Lakhs, cases out of 12 D/N issued: APDCL not agreed for revision of the D/N. Decision awaited from USOF:	12	To be decided by BSNL/ DoT USOF
(h)	CXN Provided by APDCL	11	APDCL would expedite CXN for all the paid cases.

BSNL requested APDCL for revision of 35 D/Ns between the amount >2L but less than 10L. APDCL expressed constraints to consider all the cases in this 2-10 lakh band due to financial reasons. However, at the behest of the chairman/SBC, the APDCL had agreed to revise the D/Ns which are < Rs. 5 Lakhs as stated above (among 35 cases).

-- (Action by BSNL/APDCL)

b. RJIL 4G Mobile Project in Karbi Anglong & Dima Hasao Districts:**i. Status:**

SL	Districts	Revised Scope		No. of towers Commd.	No. of Villages Covered	Balance Sites	Issues pending		Work in process (Site)
		villages	Sites				Other issues	Inaccessibility	
1	Karbi Anglong	125	77	71	118	6	0	6	0
2	Karbi Anglong (W)	94	80	77	91	3	3	0	0
3	Dima Hasao	104	82	74	94	8	1	7	0
Total		323	239	222	303	17	4	13	0

ii. RJIL 4G Project in 2 Districts of Assam - KA & DH. - Status of Pending cases & decisions thereon.:

SL	Village	Census Code	Pop	Block	District	Execution Status	Remarks/ Status/ Decision of SBC
1	Raising	298474	65	Harangajao	Dima Hasao	Pending	Access issue: RJIL to complete the pending Works as already deliberated several times at different platforms and finally decided in the PMG Meetings by the Cabinet Secretary(coordn). The SBC
2	Boro Leikek	298597	26	Jatinga Valley	Dima Hasao	Pending	
3	Tuicham	298619	58	Jatinga Valley	Dima Hasao	Pending	
4	Ngente	298617	119	Jatinga Valley	Dima Hasao	Pending	

/52395272024	Ngalsang	298630	42	Jatinga Valley	Dima Hasao	Pending	has also suggested for the same accordingly. However, USOF may take a final call and issue necessary instruction or take necessary action as per terms of the Agreement if RJIL is unable to execute the works and conclude the matter for good. The State clarified its infra position and assured all required support to the USP. - Action by RJIL/DoT-USOF	
6	Moulken	298826	26	Diyung Valley	Dima Hasao	Pending		
7	New Molkon	298898	70	Diyung Valley	Dima Hasao	Pending		
8	Longki Tokbi (2)	297609	169	Samelangso	Karbi Anglong	Pending		
9	S. Mollen Vill	296398	15	Bokajan	Karbi Anglong	Pending		
10	Thenjol (New)	296390	30	Bokajan	Karbi Anglong	Pending		
11	Phainum Vill	296396	37	Bokajan	Karbi Anglong	Pending		
12	Khinjang Vill	296391	153	Bokajan	Karbi Anglong	Pending		
13	Lailui Vill	296392	273	Bokajan	Karbi Anglong	Pending		
14	Lhungjang	298824	76	Diyung Valley	Dima Hasao	Pending		Locality issue Resolved. Approval for Extn of Period awaited from USOF.
15	Umjulaher	295741	331	Socheng	West Karbi Anglong	Pending		Locality issue: - Joint survey with District Authority planned within a week. The DC has assured all support.
16	Moknor	295734	110	Socheng	West Karbi Anglong	Pending		
17	Morap	295742	413	Socheng	West Karbi Anglong	Pending		

--- (Action by DC (West KA)/DoT-USOF/RJIL)

c. BHARATNET USOF project: the status & utilization of BHARATNET network:

i. BharatNet (Ph-I):

DISTs	GPs	BHQs	GPs UP	FTTH CXNs	BN OFC (RKM)	BN Fiber Leased out (RKM)
28	1511	130	695	3936	4884.303	16.4

BSNL needs to take necessary steps to increase the Utilization of BN network in Assam.

--- (Action by BSNL.)

2. 5G ROLL OUT - INITIATIVES REQD:

- a. Creation 5G Form and integration of State RoW portal:** DITEC informed that 5G form has two modules: (i) installation of small cells by using 'TSPs' own poles and (ii) installation small cells by using existing street furniture. First module has been already created. The Chairman instructed state IT-Dept to take urgent measures to complete the process for the second module.

---- (Action by Assam IT deptt)

- b. GIS mapping of street furniture:** BISAG-N demonstrated the functioning of Mobile App for mapping the street furniture. DITEC enquired about the structural stability aspects to be incorporated in the App for mapping the street furniture. However, it was clarified that as the App is only for mapping purpose, the TSPs will be responsible for ascertaining the structural stability of the assets/Furniture from their ends. APDCL & the State Nodal Officer said that they are in contact with BISAG for further customizing the App for their specific needs which was consented by BISAG and will be available shortly. The Chairman asked APDCL and other concerned line departments to use this BISAG APP, which is free and being used by other states for mapping of their street Furniture, without further delay.

--(Action by APDCL/ BISAG/Nodal Officer)

3. ENSURING THE USE OF CBUD APP BY ALL DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES.

- a. DoT Assam has shown concern regarding the slow progress in CBuD usage as compared to the previous quarter. The Status as on date:**

Dist.	Department users	Agency users	District users	Tehsil users	Total users	No. of Enquiries
35	8	40	211	27	286	1026

- b. It has been observed that the major agencies involved in actual excavation (Digging) works, viz., PWD (Roads), PWD (B & NH), GMC & GMDA, are seen not at all using the CBuD app. The Chairman asked Secretary (IT) to write a letter to State Departments to adhere to the standing CBuD instructions without fail.**

/523952/2024 BSNL was also instructed to comply the instructions and ensure that CBuD is used without any lapse. The CGM BSNL /Assam assured progress in the next quarter.

---(Action by IT Department. /BSNL)

4. ROW PENDING ISSUES:

a. Alignment of State RoW Policy with the Central RoW Policy: -

SI No.	As per DoT RoW Policy [Ref: Consolidated IT RoW Rules (Amended) - 09/08/2023]	As per State Right of Way Policy	Decisions
1	For establishment of overground telegraph infrastructure over any private property , the licensee shall not require any permission from the appropriate authority. Only intimation, in writing, to the appropriate authority, prior to commencement of such establishment. [Ref:10B]	Permission required both for State government property and private property along with Rs 10,000 administrative fee for processing the applications for permission.	<p>The Chairman has agreed for considering the required integration of these clauses and asked Special Secretary (IT) to put up a Note for cabinet approval soon for achieving complete alignment of state RoW rules with the Central RoW Policy.</p> <p>-- (Action by IT Department)</p>
2	No Administrative fee required for processing the applications, only Annual Compensation charges to be paid for using the street furniture. [Ref:9(3)(III)]	Administrative fee of Rs. 100/- per street furniture in addition to the annual compensations charges for using the street furniture.	
3.	No fee or compensation shall be charged by the appropriate authority for the establishment of temporary overground telegraph infrastructure under this rule. (Ref: Rule 9A)	No such provision exists.	
4	"Street furniture" means post or pole used for electricity, street light, traffic light, traffic sign, bus stop, tram stop, taxi stand, public lavatory, memorial, public sculpture, utility pole or any other structure or contrivance of such nature established over the property of an appropriate authority.' [Ref: 10(5)(D)]	"Street Furniture" means electrical line poles, street light poles, street shelter, foot bridge, over bridge or any other furniture installed across the streets by concerned appropriate authority.	
5	The licensee shall have the option of submitting single application for multiple sites and appropriate authority shall make due provisions for accepting such applications and issuing single permission for multiple sites accordingly for establishment of small cells." [Ref:10A(1A)]	No such provision exists. To be included in the state policy.	
6	Deemed approval for establishment of underground telegraph infrastructure after 60 days, if appropriate authority fails to either grant permission or reject the application. [Ref:6(2)]	This clause is already incorporated in the State RoW Policy and aligned with the Central RoW policy.	

With the above decision, the Assam's State RoW policy will be completely aligned with the Central RoW policy.

--- (Action by IT-Dept/Assam)

b. Status of RoW cases & sorting out the discrepancies:

RoW Applications:		Total	Approved	Rejected	Under processes	Pending>60	Pending>90	Reverted
As per GatishaktiSanchar		5077	4403	163	148	86 (OFC:73, GBT:13)	86 (OFC:69, GBT:17)	277
As per state RoW portal: row.ditec-assam.in	Total (a+b)	5148	4596	174	264	0	0	114
	a. Tower	4951	4508	167	170	0	0	106
	b. OFC	197	88	7	94	0	0	8

DoT has appreciated the effort made by IT-Department for bringing the State's RoW Pendency figure to "zero". However, some mismatches were still observed in comparison with the Central RoW portal on which the chairman directed IT-Dept to analyse the cases and remove the sources of discrepancies.

--(Action by IT department/NBM)

5. DIPA/COAI /ISPAI ISSUES.

a. COAI Issues: Issues flagged by COAI have been covered in the above discussions. However, two major points required State's supports are stated below:

SI	Issues	Decision
i.	Implementation as per Ministry of Power's notification on Green Open energy access consolidation.	APDCL informed that power regulator is preparing a draft in this regard and will be cleared after approval of the Policy.
ii.	Implementation as per Ministry of Power's advisory on common electricity billing for telecom infrastructure.	The chairman directed APDCL to make arrangements to club the bills of major TSPs so that a single window payment can be arranged for ease of payment of bills.

The COAI may keep track of this and pursue directly with the APDCL authority.

---- (Action by APDCL/COAI)

b. DIPA Issues:

DIPA issues already covered in RoW Issues discussion.

6. ADDL. POINTS WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.**a. Tagging of Important Events in the State throughout the Calendar Year-2024**

DoT/Assam LSA urged the State Govt. to furnish the details of the important events in the state which is required for making a strategy for maintaining Quality of Telecom Services during Significant Social/ Cultural/ Religious/ Commercial/ International Events in the state etc. for the calendar year-2024.

The Chairman directed IT Department to collect the details of events (place-wise) from the Cultural Department and share it with DoT.

-- (Action by IT-Department)

/523952/2024

b. DCRI – State Ranking/ Completion of DCRI Data submission by the State Govt. :-

The state informed that after the last IDCC meeting was held, only 2-3 departments have submitted the data, rest concerned departments are yet to submit their data. The chair directed the IT department to immediately call a meeting of concerned departments to collect the information and comply the DoT/ERU mandates.

-- (Action by IT-Department)

The meeting was concluded with the vote of thanks by Shri Pankaj Das, ITS, DDG (Rural), DoT, Assam LSA to all the members/ participants for their continued support for taking the National Broadband mission forward in the state.

Signed by
Syedain Abbasi

Date: 09-04-2024 10:10:07
Sp. Chief Secretary to Govt. of Assam,
Information Technology Department


Memo eCF No. 234611/2022/322-A

Dated Dispur the 12th March, 2024**Copy to:**

1. The General Manager, APDCL, Bijulee Bhawan, Paltanabazar, Guwahati-01
2. The Addl. Chief Engineer, PWD(Roads).
3. The ADG, (DoT), Assam LSA.
4. The ADG, DoT, Assam LSA.
5. Addl. DGT/DoT, DoT, Assam LSA
6. The DIR (R), DoT, Assam LSA.
7. The DDG(R), DoT, Assam LSA.
8. The CGM, BSNL, Pan Bazar, Guwahati-781001, Assam.
9. The PGM, BSNL, Pan Bazar, Guwahati-781001, Assam.
10. The GM Bharatnet, BSNL, Assam
11. The EE, PWD(Bidg) C.C Div
12. The AEE, PWD C.C Div
13. The Director, DITEC
14. The MD, AMTRON
15. The Additional Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department for kind information of the Additional Secretary.
16. The Additional Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Power Department for kind information of the Additional Secretary.
17. The Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Industries Commerce & Public Enterprise Department.
18. The Joint Commissioner, Panchayat & Rural Development Department.
19. The Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Public Works Building & NH Department.
20. The DGM (IT), APDCL.
21. The AGM (IT), APDCL.
22. The Under Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department, for kind information of the Under Secretary.
23. The Sr-SPM, Panchayat & Rural Development Department
24. PS to the Sp. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department for kind information of the Additional Chief Secretary.
25. PS to the Special Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department, fo kind information of the Special Secretary.
26. PA to the Secretary (ND) to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department, for kind information of the Secretary.
27. PA to the Secretary (GD) to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department, for kind information of the Secretary.
28. PA to the Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Department of Housing and Urban Affairs, for kind information of the Secretary.
29. The Connectivity Consultant, DITEC.

By order etc.

Signed

 Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Information Technology Department.