

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS & COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
(Communications Wing)**

From
The Prl. Secretary to Govt.
ITE&C Department,
Block:4, AP Secretariat,
Velagapudi.

To
The Advisor, APLSA,
Dept. of Telecom, Hyderabad.

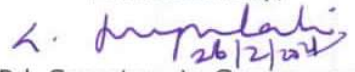
Lr.No. ITC01-COOR0GOIM/7/2020-COMMUNICATIONS, dt: 26.02.2021

Sir,

Sub: IT,E&C Department – State Broadband Committee - Minutes of meeting
held
on 17.02.2021 at 4.00 PM – Communicated – Reg.

The Government vide G.O.Rt.No.50, IT,E&C Department, DT:20.07.2020 has constituted the State Broadband Committee. The minutes of State Broadband Committee meeting held on 17.02.2021 at 4.00 PM at the Camp office of the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh are communicated herewith for information and further follow up action.

Yours faithfully,


26/2/21
Prl. Secretary to Government.

Encl : as above

Copy to:

1. All the Committee members
2. The OSD to the Chief Secretary to Govt. of AP

Minutes of the 1st State Broadband Committee (SBC) meeting held at 16:00 Hrs on 17-02-2021 at the Camp office of the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Government of Andhra Pradesh has constituted State Broadband Committee for effective implementation and monitoring of the work of National Broadband Mission, with members from stake holding Departments, DoT, BSNL and telecom associations (COAI & TAIPA) under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. The First State Broadband Committee was held on 17.02.2021 under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary and the following members attended the meeting.

State Government:

1. Sri. M. T. Krishna Babu, IAS, Prl. Secretary, TR&B Department, Govt. of AP
2. Sri. G. K. Dwivedi, IAS, Prl. Secretary, PR&RD Department, Govt. of AP
3. Smt. G. Jaya Laxmi, IAS, Prl. Secretary, IT,E&C Department, Govt. of AP
4. Dr. P.V. Chalapathi Rao, IFS, Spl. Secretary, EF S&T Department, Govt. of AP
5. Sri. B. Sundar, IFS, Spl. Secretary, IT,E&C Department Govt. of AP
6. Sri. V. Ram Manohara, IRAS, Spl. Secretary, MA&UD Department, Govt. of AP

DoT:

1. Sri. J. V. Raja Reddy, ITS, Advisor, AP LSA, Hyderabad, Convener (through Video conference)
2. Sri. G. Raghavendra Rao, ITS, DDG, AP LSA, Vijayawada
3. Sri. A. Robert Ravi, ITS, DDG, AP LSA, Vijayawada
4. Sri. P. Venkatesham, ITS, Director, AP LSA, Vijayawada
5. Sri. P. Raju, ITS, Sr. General Manager, BBNL, AP
6. Sri. G. Dinesh, ITS, ADET, AP LSA, Vijayawada
7. Sri. B. Subba Rao, Asst. Director, AP LSA, Vijayawada

BSNL (through Video Conference):

1. Sri. Vinod P Abraham, ITS, CGM, BSNL, AP
2. Sri. K.S. Vara Prasad, General Manager, BSNL, AP

COAI & TAIPA (through Video Conference):

1. Sri. J. Jena, Dy. Director General, COAI (Cellular Operators Association of India)
2. Lt. Col. Mukesh, Advisor, COAI
3. Sri. Tilak Raj Dua, DG, TAIPA (Tower and Infrastructure Providers Association)
4. Sri. Ashish Garg, Asst. Manager, TAIPA

Proceedings of the committee on 17.02.2021:

At the outset Sri. G. Raghavendra Rao DDG welcomed all the members to the meeting and explained vision of the National Broadband Mission and the role & functions of the State Broadband Committee for effective implementation of the mission.

The Advisor, AP LSA has informed the present status of the Telecom Infrastructure, coverage status, data usage, the impact of Telecom growth on GDP and other telecom related information of the state of Andhra Pradesh. He further emphasized the need of telecom growth and the necessity of issuing state Right of Way Policy in line with Govt. of India RoW Rules 2016.

The committee discussed agenda items and the decisions are as follows:

1. Formation of State RoW policy/guidelines in line with Indian Telegraph RoW Rules 2016:

The Prl. Secretary, IT,E&C Department informed that draft RoW policy shared by DoT was circulated to all stake holding departments for their remarks. IT,E&C Department received the remarks from all the Departments and the remarks are to be incorporated in the draft policy. It was decided to circulate the draft policy to TAIPA and COAI for their suggestions. It was also decided to form a sub-committee under the chairmanship of the Spl. Secretary, IT,E&C Department with the following members:

- i. The Additional PCCF (FCA), Forest Department or Representative
- ii. The Director, Town and Country planning, AP
- iii. The Additional Commissioner, Panchayat Raj Department
- iv. The Joint Director (IT), O/o CDMA, MA&UD Department
- v. The Chief Engineer, State Highways, TR&B Department
- vi. The Chief Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Department
- vii. The Director (Rural), DoT, AP LSA, Vijayawada
- viii. The Director (Comm), IT,E&C Department - Convener

The Sub-committee shall make their recommendations after a detailed study on the existing Government orders related to RoW, review the views of stake holding departments, make comparative study between GoI RoW Rules 2016 and other State's RoW rules/orders. IT,E&C Department to issue necessary orders forming the Sub-Committee.

2. Formation of District Level Telecom Committee to monitor the progress of the mission within the District / Municipal area on monthly basis and may submit it's report to the State Broadband Committee.

It was decided to form a District Level Telecom Committee (DLTC) under the chairmanship of the District Collector with the following members to deal with public grievances relating to installation of Towers, issues related to telecom infrastructure in the district and to Convene meeting & resolve the public grievances in a time bound manner within 30 days of the complaint, if any.

- i. The District Collector - Chairman
- ii. The Superintendent of Police (SP)
- iii. The Joint Collector (V & WS and D) - Vice Chairman
- iv. The District Revenue Officer - as the Convener
- v. The District/Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Forest Department
- vi. The District Panchayat Officer
- vii. The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad.
- viii. The Commissioner or Executive Officer of the concerned ULBs in the district

- ix. The Superintendent Engineer, R&B
- x. The Superintendent Engineer, Panchayat Raj
- xi. The Superintendent Engineer of Respective Discom
- xii. The District head of BSNL
- xiii. The Circle Head of each Telecom /Infrastructure Service Provider
- xiv. Representative of TERM Cell, Department of Telecom

The recommendations of District Level Telecom Committee (DLTC) shall be adhered to by Municipal Corporation/Municipality/Nagar Panchayat/Gram Panchayat, or any other authority related to the subject in the district. District level action plan has to be submitted for State Telecom Committee approval. IT,E&C Department to issue necessary orders forming the District Level Telecom Committee in modification of the orders already issued to ensure all the relevant departments and stake holders are present .

It was also decided to nominate ADET (Rural) / ADs from Rural & Compliance, AP LSA, DoT to be the nodal officers to coordinate the public grievances with the District level Telecom committees.

3. Nominating of Nodal Officers at State and District/Municipal level.

It was decided to nominate nodal officers from each stake holding departments at State level and the Joint Collector (V & WS and D) from each district will be the nodal officer for the concerned District, for speedy implementation of RoW Rules and SBC issues.

4. Developing of Broadband Readiness Index (BRI) to measure the availability of digital communications infrastructure and conducive policy eco system

It is noted that after incorporating RoW policy, Broadband Readiness Index (BRI) will be improved. It will help in ease of doing business in the States.

5. Development & Operation of common duct / “Dig once Policy”

The Prl. Secretary, T,R&B proposed all Telecom Service Providers to come with work plan for next two to three years such that common ducts can be planned where ever feasible when 2 or 3 service providers are likely to lay the fiber cables in the same area. COAI and TAIPA were requested to share best practices in other States to ensure planning common duct at most economical rates. It was decided to work out the plans for Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam on pilot basis.

COAI/ TSP are requested to provide the detailed plan for common duct for Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam at the earliest.

6. Adoption of National Building Code – NBC’2016.

The committee noted that MA&UD Department is following the Building Code’ 2006. MA&UD Department was requested to review the National Building Code’ 2016. If required, Department may issue amendment to the existing Building code policy to ensure provision of fiber cable infrastructure in building plan.

7. Co-Option of MD, M/s. APSFL as member of SBC

The Committee decided to co-opt the Managing Director, AP State Fibernet Ltd (APSFL) as member of SBC.

8. The following other items were discussed:

- a. Members from COAI informed the necessity of fiberisation of towers and need for timely permissions for laying of OFC. The DDG (Rural), Vijayawada proposed TAIPA and COAI for submission of plan of action in advance for the forthcoming quarter for laying of OFC and also installation of Towers to speed up the permissions.
 - b. Members from COAI and CGM BSNL expressed the difficulties faced due to Cable cuts and requested for imposing of penalties to the contractors damaging the cables.
 - c. The Prl. Secretary TR&B suggested to follow the standards of cable laying and proposed a call center for all operators, where the contractors will inform about the proposed route of execution of the development works and the TSPs can take necessary action. Members from TAIPA raised the issues of pending permissions for installation of Towers and requested the authorities to issue the certificate of deemed approval and also suggested that these issues can be addressed by early issuing of state RoW policy in line with GoI RoW Rules 2016.
 - d. The Prl. Secretary TR&B suggested to DoT to give periodical press notifications of the various efforts taken by DoT for EMF compliance of mobile towers.
 - e. The DDG (A&C) elaborated the current activity in DoT for the audit of EMF and also informed that the TARANG SANCHAR portal will provide the information of the EMR compliance status of the surrounding Towers of the selected location. He further informed that there is a provision where public can request for audit of the EMF of any Tower by paying suitable charges. The web site also has reports of all EMF audits verified by DoT. The link for same was also provided (<https://tarangsanchar.gov.in/EMFPortal/Home>).
 - f. The Prl. Secretary, TR&B informed about the Govt. orders issued vide GO Ms No 60, TR&B (R-IV) Dept. dt.07.11.2017 and sought the comments on the GO and further requested TAIPA to submit the pending applications department wise to expedite early action to clear the pending applications. It was also informed that TR&B department has put online portal to ensure registration of the requests and ensure speedy disposal of the road cutting permissions. It was informed to give the feedback on online processing of road cutting permissions such that any modifications required can be made to make the system effective.
9. The meeting was concluded with vote of thanks.

ADITYA NATH DAS
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//


SECTION OFFICER
2