Minutes of SBC meeting, Arunachal Pradesh on 28.07.2022

Learned CS chaired the meeting and all SBC members were present during the discussion. COAI & DIPA attended the meeting online. Meeting started after the welcome address by DDG and brief opening remarks of learned CS.

DDG (SC), DoT briefed the National targets set by National Broadband mission and discussed the draft targets (2022-'23) prepared for discussion on Arunachal Pradesh. Threadbare discussion took place during the presentation of slides on agenda points namely telecom coverage of villages, Finalization of list of uncovered villages, Fiberisation of telecom towers, 4G USO project, BharatNet project, speedy disposal of ROW applications, speedy provisioning of EB Power connections, Special assistance to states under for capital investment for 2022-23 etc. CS desired that District Level monitoring Committee have regular meetings to sort out issues at district level.

Salient points discussed and decisions taken on SBC meeting:

Village Coverage, finalization of list of uncovered villages:

- Village Boundary shape file will not be possible for villages of Arunachal Pradesh. Lat Long information of the new villages will be shared by IT Department.
- List of uncovered villages is awaited from State Govt. It was decided that the details of • uncovered villages compiled by IT & C Department will be shared by today itself.
- CS desired to know the timelines and action plan for broadband connectivity to all villages. • DDG informed that around 1041 uncovered villages would be covered by ongoing 4G USOF Project executed by M/s BHL. For remaining uncovered villages, USOF would place separate order.

4G USOF Project executed by M/s BHL:

- CS informed that people executing USO Project are not meeting DCs/ district administration. Interaction would sort out different problems. - Action by BHL.
- DDG informed that now a Whatsapp group has been created by IT & C Department where • USO agency, district level officers, IT &C department officials, DoT Officials are present and interacting to resolve the issues.
- At least 8 new USO BTSs would be commissioned by 15th August. -Action by M/s BHL
- Month wise roll out plan of 4G USOF BTSs as shared by M/s BHL is given below:

Month	BTS commissioning during the month	Cumulative BTS commissioning	
Aug'22	10	10	
Sep'22	30	40	-
Oct'22	45	85	
Nov'22	55	140	
Dec'22	54	194	
Jan'23	70	264	
Feb'23	90	354	
Mar'23	105	459	
Apr'23	107	566	
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- CS desired that the targets/ plan of commissioning of BTSs shared by M/s BHL are strictly adhered to.
- M/s BHL highlighted several issues w.r.t. power connection to USO BTSs namely hefty demand note for LT power connection, delay in EB connections, uniform tariffing, allowing BHL to "Party Supply Party Execution" for EB connection to USO sites etc.
- CS directed Power department to allow their request to "Party Supply Party Execution" for EB connection to USO sites.
- CS instructed that a meeting should be held next week by Secretary (Power) where M/s BHL should take up all such issues related to EB power connections for early and time bound execution.
- List of villages (171) where villages are accessible but no EB power is available may be shared immediately with Secretary, Power electricity connection to new 4G BTSs of USOF Project with copy of DCs – Action by M/s BHL
- M/s BHL informed that due to road expansion work in different districts they are not able to lay OFC and requested to allow OFC erection in electric poles. CS directed that blanket permission can be given for use of poles for OFC erection on receipt of request from M/s BHL to power department. Action by M/s BHL, Power Department
- CS instructed USOF Project in charge to keep the DCs and district administration posted with local issues viz. site acquisition, problems/ objections/ demands created by local public etc.

Bharatnet:

- All pending VSAT connections (27 by BSNL and 94 by TCIL) to be provided by 30.09.2022.– Action by BSNL and TCIL
- GM BSNL requested support of district administration for 14 sites in Tali block. CS asked Secretary, IT & C to coordinate.
- CS desired that the missing components of 45 VSATs being executed by M/s TCIL be sorted out with priority. - Action by IT & C Department and BBNL
- Sr. GM BBNL expressed concerns on poor use of VSAT connections provided.
- Sr. GM, BBNL informed that Bharatnet OFC work for remaining GPs (leaving 88 GPs already connected on OFC and 1289 GPs being connected on VSAT) have been planned on PPP model. Earlier tender on this invoked no response. New tender is being floated again by USOF.

Right of Way (ROW) issues:

 It was informed by DDG that to roll out 4G and 5G in city and municipal area, TSPs would require to use street furniture including electric poles, needs bulk RoW permission for entire road etc., to implement recent MoHUA building codes/ Bye Laws in state building rules to allow in building solutions inside buildings etc. He requested CS to kindly form a committee involving UD Dept., IT &C Dept., PWD dept., Rural Development Dept., Power Dept., Municipal Affairs Dept, Smart City Development Corporations, DoT and others as felt necessary to work out on modalities for use of Govt. infrastructure, street furniture, poles, allowing in-building solutions to their state RoW policy and building rules.

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- DDG requested Secretary (IT &C) to send a feedback on new ROW rules drafted by DoT, Gol for formulation of uniform ROW policy across the country.
- Similarly, feedback of GoAP awaited on "Deemed Approval and issuance of NOC under this clause on expiry of 60 days". DDG requested Secretary (IT &C) to send a feedback on this.
- DDG highlighted pending ROW applications namely 18 Tower applications of Indus Towers, OFC permission of Bharti Airtel and requested for expeditious clearance.
- DDG highlighted that permission for Reliance Jio OFC erection is pending at Tawang by Army. He requested for intervention of state administration.

Special assistance to states under for capital investment for 2022-23 (under Optical Fibre cable project):

 Feedback awaited from GoAP on Special assistance to states under for capital investment for 2022-23 (under Optical Fibre cable project) to extend Bharatnet to Villages from the GPs to Government Institutions (like School, Health Centre, Anganwadi, Police Station, Krishi Vikash Kendra, Post Office, ration Shop etc.) from Bharat Net network. – IT&C to send by 01/08/2022.

Concerns from Industry (COAI, DIPA, BSNL):

- COAI highlighted several issues/ concerns namely (i) specific rates for use of poles for erection of overhead OFC, (ii) LT power connections are charged with HT rate and further rate escalated over years, (iii) electricity rates are charged at commercials rates, (iv) to include MoHUA bye laws for installation of in-building solutions, (v) requested direction for security and safe guarding of telecom installations.
- DIPA highlighted their concerns namely (i) amendment of state building rules for inclusion of in-building solutions, (ii) request to allow TSPs/IPs to install EB connection with their own materials, (iii) prepaid meters for TSPs/ IPs, (iv) provision of diesel to TSPs/ IPs during crises and difficult weather conditions for maintenance of service.
- GM BSNL informed that EB power connections are pending at two locations namely Meer Village and Tahu village of Kurung Kumey district for more than seven years. CS directed BSNL to take up with Power Department.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks.

Sd/-

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

Dated Itanagar 23rd August 2022

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

DDG/ARN/SBC/2022-23