

State Broadband Mission Committee 4th Meeting

Date 04.11.2022 at 03.00 PM

Venue: CS Committee Room, 6th floor, Main Building, Mantralaya, Mumbai

Minutes of Meeting

4th meeting of State Broadband Mission Committee took place on 4th November, 2022 at 03.00 PM under the chairmanship of Honorable Chief Secretary.

Following members participated in the meeting.

1. Shri. Manu Kumar Srivastav, Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
2. Dr. Nitin Kareer, Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue and Forest, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
3. Shri. Rajesh Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary, Rural Development Department
4. Shri. Venugopal Reddy, Principal Secretary, Forest, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
5. Shri. Parrag Jain Nainutia, Principal Secretary, Information Technology, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
6. Shri. Dinesh Waghmare, Principal Secretary, Energy, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
7. Shri. Sadashiv Salunkhe, Secretary, PWD (Roads), Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
8. Shri. Ganesh Patil, Director, Directorate of Information Technology, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
9. Smt. Priyanka Kulkarni-Chhapawala, Deputy Secretary, UDD-2, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
10. Shri. Ajay Kumar Sahu, Sr. DDG, Mumbai
11. Shri. Ajay Kamal, DDG, Mumbai
12. Shri. Rohit Sharma, CGM, BSNL, MH Circle
13. Narendra Kumar Lodha, GM (BN) BSNL
14. Shri. Pramod Sapkale, Director, DOT
15. Shri. Dhananjay Kumar, Pr. Chief Engineer (Electrical)

Special Invitee:

Commissioner, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation

Commissioner, Thane Municipal Corporation

The committee deliberated on agenda points and resolved as follows-

S. N.	Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision	Responsible Department
1	Approval of MoM of 3 rd SBC Meeting held on 12.11.2021.	The minutes of the 3 rd State Broadband Mission Committee Meeting were put for approval, in this meeting as the minutes were not approved due to change over of Hon. Chief Secretary	As all the members of the committee had changed due to transfers, the minutes could not be approved.	
2	Saturation of 24,680 uncovered Villages. Providing support to BSNL to expedite implementation of 4G Saturation Project being monitored by	CGM BSNL while mentioning the DO letter by Secretary Telecom, informed that as per Survey conducted by BSNL, the definition of uncovered village decided by DoT and taking into consideration the VIP References, the number of villages where free land will	Hon'ble Chief Secretary emphasized that complete support shall be extended by State Government to this prestigious project which is to be completed within 500 days by BSNL. He further added that this project is being monitored by PMO.	Revenue and Forest Department. Energy Department

PMO.	<p>be required is 1600 on no cost basis. The list of 1600 villages also includes villages that fall under the Forest area.</p> <p>i. ACS Revenue informed that the Cabinet Note for allotment of 2000 Sq. Ft. of land per tower to BSNL at no cost is in the process of being put up before the cabinet for approval. The Note also includes the provision of exemption of RoW Charges for the OFC Routes and Tower Sites to be covered under this Project. However, Reinstatement Charges are to be given by BSNL to respective State Authorities. The Note will be taken up for approval in the next Cabinet Meeting.</p> <p>ii. BSNL put forth the request for provision of Electrical Connections at these sites/villages within a time bound manner and installation of new line wherever required, the cost for which shall be borne by the state government.</p> <p>iii. PS (Energy) informed that MSEDCL will be asked to provide LT connection within 30 days wherever feasibility exists and, 60 to 90 days wherever it is required to install a new line or up gradation of Transformer is needed. He further added that MSEDCL will be asked to install new lines wherever required with the available funds. He proposed to include these provisions in the proposed Cabinet Note being put up by ACS Revenue.</p> <p>iv. PS (Forest) asked BSNL to submit the proposals for allocation of Land in Forest Area along with all</p>	<p>i. Hon'ble Chief Secretary asked ACS (Revenue) to expedite the process to take up the Note in next Cabinet meeting for approval. He also asked ACS (Revenue) to include the provisions mentioned by PS (Energy) in the Note</p> <p>ii. Hon'ble Chief Secretary agreed to suggestions given by PS (Forest) and instructed to conduct a workshop at the earliest and also allot the forest land to BSNL for DoT's 4G Saturation project by following provisions of the Forest Conservation Act.</p> <p>iii. ACS (Revenue) assured to issue letter to all District Magistrates to allot land to BSNL for 4G Saturation Project as soon as Cabinet approves the Note.</p>	
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3	Integration of Data Layers in PM GatiShakti State Master Plan	Vide DO letter dated 31.10.2022, Maharashtra State is expected to map additional Four layers (Electric Poles, Traffic Light Poles, Bus Terminals & Bus Shelters, Govt. Buildings (State/Central /PSU), in addition to 24 layers intimated earlier, on PM GatiShakti State Master Plan which will be used for installation of Small Cells for Roll out of 5G services in Maharashtra State.	ACS (Revenue) informed that the mapping of all Layers is done	
4	NBM Annual Implementation Plan and Status.	The Committee Members were apprised of the target set for various KPIs under National Broadband Mission (NBM). To achieve the Targets with respect to parameters such as Broadband Connectivity to all Villages by 2023, Fiberization of 55% of Towers installed, Availability of 25 Mbps Broadband Speed and Mapping of OFC laid by all agencies, support will be required from Maharashtra State in respect of expeditious RoW permissions to all agencies including MahaIT.	Hon'ble Chief Secretary instructed to all Secretaries to provide requisite support to all Telecom Service Providers/Infrastructure Providers to achieve the NBM Targets.	All Concerned Departments
5	Notification of Maharashtra State TIP in alignment	i. It was informed that the New RoW Policy for Telecom Infrastructure of	i. PS (IT) assured that the policy shall be notified immediately.	DIT, UDD, RDD, Energy,

	with Indian Telegraph RoW Rules, 2016 amended on 17.08.22.	<p>the state is approved by State Cabinet which is completely aligned with Indian Telegraph RoW Rules, 2016 amended on 17.08.22 and it will be notified immediately.</p> <p>ii. It was emphasized by DoT that very few (only 427) RoW applications are received on the MahaSanchar portal. The reason for this being, the new RoW rates as capped by DoT are yet to be updated on the Portal. The new rates would motivate TSPs/IPs to prepare their RoW proposals which would help to achieve NBM Targets and economic growth in the State.</p> <p>iii. DoT further brought to the notice of Hon'ble Chief Secretary that merely notifying the policy will not help unless further guidelines are issued by UDD/RDD/other State Authorities in pursuance of the new policy. Hence, it was requested of the relevant departments to issue guidelines/instructions to the local authorities to implement the new policy in letter and in spirit</p>	<p>ii. Hon'ble Chief Secretary instructed all Secretaries to issue further guidelines/instructions to authorities under them in a time bound manner. He also instructed PS (IT) to keep a track of these activities as he is the Nodal Officer in the state.</p>	PWD, Industries
6	Updating new RoW Policy on State Portal.	It was requested by DoT that the provisions in the New Policy including the provisions related to installation of Small Cells of 5G should be mapped in the State Portal without any delay. For this, PS (IT) is required to issue further instructions to Portal Developers to incorporate new provisions in the Portal.	Hon'ble Chief Secretary instructed PS (IT) to see that provisions in the New Policy including those related to installation of Small Cells of 5G are incorporated in the State Portal immediately.	DIT
7	Holding 5G Conference	DoT requested to fix the date for holding 5G Hybrid Conference at the earliest as per DO Letter from Secretary (Telecom). DIT informed that the file has been signed by Hon'ble	Hon'ble Chief Secretary instructed PS (IT) to fix the date and time for the conference	DIT

		CM. The date and time needs to be finalized		
8	Formation of 5G Task Force	DoT told that it was decided to form a 5G Task Force during the meeting held with Hon'ble Chief Secretary on 07.09.2022 and accordingly it is recorded in MoM also. However, the order for formation of 5G Task Force is still not issued. It was informed by DIT that the file is put up and pending with CMO.	Hon'ble Chief Secretary asked PS (IT) to trace the file, obtain necessary approval and issue GR accordingly.	DIT
9	Inclusion of provisions of Addendum to Model Building Bye-Laws 2016 in the Bye-Laws of State	DoT informed that Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has issued guidelines namely "Addendum to Model Building Bye-laws 2016" in March, 2022 for implementation by State Governments. These guidelines are regarding Provision for In-Building Solutions for creating Digital Communication Infrastructure in Private/Public building premises. Maharashtra Govt. was requested to implement these guidelines vide DO letter dated 20.06.2022 from AS (T). However, these guidelines are still not implemented by Maharashtra Govt.	Hon'ble Chief Secretary asked PS (IT) to look into it and do the needful in consultation with ACS (UD-1).	UDD-1
10	Identification of suitable agency/organization to act as center of excellence and Host 5G environment to ideate, prototype and 5G use case in partnership with industry.	DoT informed that it was decided to Identify suitable agency/organization to act as center of excellence and Host 5G environment to ideate, prototype and develop 5G use case in partnership with industry during the meeting held with Hon'ble Chief Secretary on 07.09.2022. However, the order for formation of the Committee is still not issued.	Hon'ble Chief Secretary asked PS (IT) to look into it and do the needful.	DIT
11	Proliferation of Broadband under PM-WANI(Prime Minister's Wifi Access Network Interface) Scheme through FCS, Tourism, Health	DoT informed that their officers have met departments of FCS, Tourism, Health and Education to install PM-WANI Hotspots for accessing internet by visitors at their offices and outlets	Hon'ble Chief Secretary asked PS (IT) to look into it and do the needful	DIT

	and Education Deptts.	etc. However, this issue has not seen any progress further. It is requested to issue suitable instructions to these departments accordingly..		
12	Issues raised by COAI	<p>i. Payments Details not Visible on Online Portal-holding up application processing, urgent attention desired.</p> <p>ii. Request for Refund of Security Deposits/ Bank Guarantees - pending since many years, cumulative in hundreds of crores.</p> <p>iii. High RoW charges by Local Authorities - Municipal Corporation Area (rates were 2.5K/mtr., further upwardly revised to 13.8K to 15K/mtr.).</p> <p>iv. MIDC is asking to provide Free connection of 2 MBPS with BG - not possible to provide 2 MBPS connection everywhere, should not be mandated.</p> <p>v. MSRDC issue -, does not come under RCM of GST but TSPs are asked to pay GST in advance along with the restoration charges. Payment is made on 'Bharatkosh' through NHA portal, not traceable at MSRDC end.</p> <p>vi. Request to stop coercive action, render facilitative approach - Issue directions/ instructions to Municipal bodies/corporations/state Govt. departments not to take any coercive action, give opportunity of proper hearing.</p>	Hon'ble Chief Secretary informed that PS (IT) is the Nodal Officer from State side to handle all such issues and they may be brought to his notice separately for initiating further action towards resolution. He further asked PS (IT) to look into it and do the needful.	DIT, UDD- 2
13	Issues raised by DIPA.	<p>i. Ad hoc demand of property taxes/ Shasti etc.: Such demands continue to be raised by Municipal bodies across Maharashtra and threat of coercive action is also given in case of non-payment. The property</p>	Hon'ble Chief Secretary informed that PS (IT) is the Nodal Officer from State side to handle all such issues and they may be brought to his notice separately for initiating further action towards resolution. He further	DIT, UDD- 2

		<p>tax rate is highest in Maharashtra and ranges from 40% - 50% to 95% - 115% of Annual Rateable Value, which needs to be rationalized. There are operational concerns also as the payments made against property taxes are first adjusted against Shasti (penalty levied on property tax), which itself is very high. The adjustments made are not indicated in the demand notes transparently.</p> <p>ii. Permission issues of existing towers: Permission issues of existing towers are still unresolved, and authorities are taking coercive action of demolition, disconnection of electricity supply, criminal prosecution including removal and seizing the tower material and equipment's. Recently on 29.08.22 there was arbitrary action taken by Vasai Virar Municipal Corporation of cutting the mobile tower by iron cutter, demolition and seizing of the entire material of tower and subsequent issuance of attachment notices for various towers in VVMC. Similar to this there are various coercive actions for recovery of property tax penalties and Conversion tax. In many cases the EB of the telecom towers is being disconnected.</p> <p>iii. Critical - FIR being lodged against the landowners and officials of the IP-I on the alleged ground of towers installed without permission by various Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils within the State of Maharashtra.</p> <p>iv. Coercive action for</p>	<p>asked PS (IT) to look into it and do the needful.</p>	
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Meeting ended with thanks to the chair.


 (Ganesh Patil)
 Director DIT