

Minutes of State Broadband Committee Meeting

On dated 20.07.2023 at 03.00 PM, fifth (5th) meeting of State broadband committee (SBC) was held under the chairman ship of Shri Raj Kumar, Chief Secretary Gujarat. Following officers attended this meeting –

From State Government Side:

1. Shri Manoj Kumar Das, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue Department.
2. Mrs. Mona K Khandhar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Panchayat, Rural Housing & Rural Development Department.
3. Mrs. Mamta Verma, IAS, Principal Secretary, Energy and Petrochemicals Department.
4. Shri. Sanjeev Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Forest and Environment Department.
5. Shri Vijay Nehra, IAS, Secretary, Department of Science & Technology.
6. Shri P. Swaroop, IAS, Commissioner of Land Reforms and Ex-officio Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
7. Shri Jaypal Singh, IFS, APCCF – Land, Forest and Environment Department.
8. Dr. Narander Kumar Meena, Joint Managing Director, IAS, Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation(GIDC).
9. Shri T. Y. Bhatt, IAS, Director, ICT & e-Governance, Department of Science & Technology.
10. Smt. Shalini Duhan -IAS, Deputy Secretary, Urban Development & Urban Housing Department.
11. Shri C. P. Patel Chief Engineer, Roads & Building Department.

From D.O.T. Side

1. Shri Ajatshatru Somani, Addl. DGT, D.O.T., Gujarat LSA and Convener of the SBC.
2. Shri Ashish Thaker, Dy. DG (Rural)
3. Dr. Kunj B. Sharma, Director (Rural-2)
4. Shri Madanlal, Director (Rural-1)

From BSNL side

1. Shri Sandip Sawarkar, CGM, BSNL, Gujarat.
2. Shri Hemant Pandey, PGM (Mobile), BSNL, Gujarat.
3. Shri Dharmendra Sharma, PGM, BBNL, Gujarat.

From COAI Side

1. Lt. Gen. Dr. S.P. Kochhar, (Through VC)



At the outset, Shri Ajatshatru Somani Addl DGT, DOT, Guj. LSA. welcomed all the participants and expressed gratitude to the chairman for sparing valuable time and co-operation to conduct timely meeting for first quarter of 2023-24. He also appraised the committee members about the achievement of Gujarat LSA for getting 2nd rank in respect of all India award given by DoT HQ to the best performing LSA (Licensee Service Area – State). It became possible due to the active support of all the stake holders specially the State government. It was also conveyed that under NDCP (National Digital Communication Policy)- 2018 and NBM (National Broadband Mission) broad band for all by the Govt. of India. Under NBM, broadband is being provided through wire line, wireless and satellite to the citizens of India.

A brief presentation was given by Shri Ajatshatru Somani, Addl. DGT, DOT head of Guj. LSA. on Following Points.

1. **4 G Saturation project progress.**
2. **Alignment and implementation of state Right of Way (RoW) policy with amended Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2022.**
3. **Minimizing RoW pendency.**
4. **Popularization of CBuD (Call Before you Dig).**
5. **FOIR (Forum of Indian Regulators) Recommendations.**
6. **DLC (District Level Committee) formation.**
7. **Adoption of 5G technology and its use.**
8. **DCRI for State Government.**
9. **Presentation By BSNL on 4G saturation project, By BBNL on Bharat Net, By Telecom Infra Provider Association (Digital Infra Provider Association), COAI.**

Details discussed are as below-

1.4G saturation project progress :-

- A. **About the pendency of Land Allotment and pending demarcation-** Chief Secretary instructed to the secretary of the concerned department to expedite the Land Allotment and demarcation for timely completion of 4G Saturation project by the BSNL. He also asked BSNL to complete the work at the earliest wherever land has been made available.
- B. Secretary (DST) raised the issue about the tribal area villages for covering them under the 4G Saturation project on priority for which one separate meeting would be conducted with BSNL by him.
- C. Regarding forest land pendency's for allotment, District wise pursuance for FRA is to be done by Secretary (Forest). For large pendency's of demarcation in Surat and Tapi, State authority at District level will clear the pendency on top priority.



2. Alignment and implementation of state Right of Way (RoW) policy with amended Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2022 :-

- A. Pendency of ROW details – Chairperson of the SBC instructed to the concerned department for clearing the pendency of ROW on priority as per Gujarat state RoW policy.
- B. About the deemed approval in the RoW portal for case pending for more than 60-days, President SBC instructed concerned department to clear the RoW pendency more than 60-days immediately. Secretary (DST) requested to put on hold the deemed approval in the ROW portal till all the department are well acquainted with the procedure.
- C. Policy from central for duct is to be required as per Chairperson, SBC for smooth implementation in Gujarat State.
- D. During the meeting discussion was also held for use of street furniture for 5G small cells and telegraph infra. It was desired by the Chairperson, SBC, to know about states/places where street furniture has been used for the above purpose. He wants to have a detailed study before allowing it in Gujarat.
- E. Gujarat State government ROW policy is not being followed by GIDC which requires intervention. Chairperson instructed to the concerned officer of GIDC to on board of Row Portal and implement the policy.

3. Minimizing RoW pendency :- Chairperson, SBC, instructed to minimize the RoW pendency on priority bases.

4. CBuD (Call Before you Dig) :- Latest status of CBUD was discussed. Convener requested to ensure mapping of the assets of the Asset Owner and their hierarchy for effective implementation and utilization of this APP. Chairperson agreed for the same. It was also requested to issue suitable instructions for carrying out the digging activities after entering the details in CBuD app only.

5. FOIR (Forum of Indian Regulators) Recommendations :- FOIR recommendation was discussed in the meeting and it was proposed that petition required to be made to the GERC for FOIR recommendation. Chairman suggested to explore the possibility of prepaid electricity meter for TSPs.

6. DLC (District Level Committee) formation :- It was Decided by the committee for formation of DLC in the meeting before next meeting of the SBC. Constitution of DLC will be done by DST in consultation with D.O.T.

7. Adoption of 5G technology and its use :- It was decided by the committee to conduct the work shop about the 5G at different places of Gujarat State for adoption of 5G technology and its use.

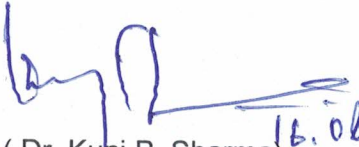
8. Other points with the permission of the Chair

- COAI representative extended thanks to the Chairman of the committee for the decision of prepaid electricity metering and DLC formation by Government of Gujarat. It was highly appreciated by the COAI representative.



- It was intimated by COAI that Utilization of duct of Surat is awarded to a private party and the rent charges for utilization of the duct is very high and requires some modifications.
- CGM BBNL conveyed about the poor utilization of Bharatnet. Phase – I Connections could not be increased due to the poor up time as per Secretary (DST). PGM Bharatnet informed about the increasing up time from 40-50% to 70-80% due to the efforts during last 5-6 months. Further Secretary (DST) stated that proposal to modify and upgrade the Phase-I project is in the pipeline and pending with the central government. Chief Secretary desired to improve the availability of GPs in the first phase of BARAT NET PROJECT.

At last Chairperson SBC instructed to improve the network in Gujarat and for this purpose all necessary support will be provided by the state machinery. Convener assured him for the best telecom network in the state. Meeting ended with the conclusion to achieve the target timely as discussed in the SBC meeting.


16.08.23

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Copy to :

1. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat.
2. Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue Department
3. Additional DGT, D.O.T., Govt. of India, Gujarat LSA.
4. Principal Secretary, Panchayat, Rural Housing & Rural Development Department.
5. Principal Secretary, Energy and Petrochemicals Department.
6. Principal Secretary, Forest and Environment Department.
7. Secretary, Department of Science & Technology
8. Commissioner of Land Reforms and Ex-officio Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
9. APCCF – Land, Forest and Environment Department.
10. Dy DG (R1)/ Dy DG (R2)/ Dir (R2) , D.O.T., Govt. of India, Gujarat LSA.
11. CGM, BSNL/ PGM (Mobile), BSNL/ PGM, BBNL, Gujarat .
12. Joint Managing Director, Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation(GIDC).
13. Director, ICT & e-Governance, Department of Science & Technology.
14. Deputy Secretary, Urban Development & Urban Housing Department.
15. Chief Engineer, Roads & Building Department
16. Chairman , COAI.
17. Chairman, DIPA.