

Government of Punjab
Department of Industries & Commerce
(Infra Section)

To

- 1) Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Forest.
- 2) Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Governance Reforms.
- 3) Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Rural Development & Panchayats.
- 4) Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Housing & Urban Development.
- 5) Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of PWD (B&R).
- 6) Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Information Technology.
- 7) Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Local Government.
- 8) Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Science, Technology and Environment.
- 9) Sh. Naresh Sharma, Sr. DDG, (LSA) Department of Telecommunication GOI,
Sector 69, Mohali.
- 10) Chief General Manager, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. Punjab, Chandigarh.
- 11) Chief General Manager, Bharat Broadband Nigam Ltd. Punjab, Chandigarh.
- 12) Representative, Cellular Operations Association of India (COAI)
- 13) Sh TR Dua, Director General, TAIPA.

Memo No. Infra/SBC/Meeting/2021/ 2028-B

Dated:- 12/4/21

Sub:- Proceedings of the 1st Meeting of State Broadband Committee (SBC) under National Broadband Mission (NBM).

Reference is invited towards the subject cited above.

Please find enclosed the proceedings of the 1st Meeting of State Broadband Committee (SBC) under National Broadband Mission (NBM) held under the chairmanship of worthy Chief Secretary Punjab on 06.04.2021 for information and necessary action.
Encls. As above.

Endst. No. Infra/SBC/Meeting/2021/ 2029-B

Rajkaur
Superintendent (Infra)

Dated: - 12/4/21

Copy of the above is forwarded to Officer on Special Duty to Chief Secretary Punjab for kind information of worthy Chief Secretary to Government of Punjab.

Endst. No. Infra/SBC/Meeting/2021/ 2030-B

Rajkaur
Superintendent (Infra)

Dated: - 12/4/21

Copy of the above is forwarded to PS/PSIC for kind information of Principal Secretary Industries & Commerce Punjab.

Endst. No. Infra/SBC/Meeting/2021/ 2031-B

Rajkaur
Superintendent (Infra)

Dated: - 12/4/21

Copy of the above is forwarded to PA/DIC for kind information of Director of Industries & Commerce Punjab.

Rajkaur
Superintendent (Infra)

Proceedings of the 1st meeting of State Broadband Committee (SBC) under National Broadband Mission (NBM) held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Punjab on 06.04.2021.

At the outset, Principal Secretary Industries & Commerce brought to the notice of the Chairperson that Housing and Urban Development Department is raising demand for Rs. 50,000/- Government Fees in addition to the Fee provisions contained in the Telecom Guidelines dated-7.12.2020 issued by Government of Punjab. It was also brought to the notice of CS that Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala has not adopted Telecom Guidelines dated 7.12.2020 and is still demanding "Consent to *establish*" in case of Genset of less than 1 MVA Capacity being set-up for installation of Telecom Towers which is in contravention to Telecom Guidelines dated 7.12.2020.

It was decided that Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department would issue instructions to not charge any fee except the fee prescribed in Telecom Guidelines dated 07.12.2020. Member Secretary, PPCB informed that the matter is in process of being resolved. Secretary, Science, Technology and Environment would ensure necessary action at the earliest.

As regards the slow pace of clearances on Punjab Business First Portal for installation of Mobile Towers, Principal Secretary, PWD (B&R) and some Deputy Commissioners (Ludhiana, Hoshiarpur, Mohali, Jalandhar) raised various problems with regard to glitches in the portal. They stated that applications received on online portal are not being forwarded to the concerned departments and there is no log or dashboard to check the progress of applications on the portal

and to find out as to with which department/office the applications are pending at a given point in time. Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce, apprised that the portal is in initial stages and the problems being faced by the concerned departments will be resolved on priority and the issues with regard to work flow etc in the portal will be sorted- out in a time-bound manner.

Keeping in view the issues being faced by Departments/Deputy Commissioners, the Chairperson ordered that until the snags in the application/portal are removed, Deputy Commissioners would be at liberty to grant clearances for installation of Mobile Towers in the offline mode. For resolving online portal issues, Chairperson asked Department of Governance Reforms, Department of Industries and Commerce, Punjab and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Punjab Bureau of Investment Promotion to co-ordinate with all the concerned departments and work-out the resolution to the problems being faced by the users of the application. Chairperson ordered all the concerned Departments/Deputy Commissioners to expedite the process of clearances for installation of Telecom Infrastructure in the State.

Shri T R Dua from TAIPA briefed the Chairperson that a provision should be created for submission of applications for laying of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) on the Single Window Online Portal. He suggested that Deputy Commissioner should appoint a Nodal officer in their respective districts for clearances of Mobile Tower applications. Responding to the issues of TAIPA, the Chairperson advised the Deputy Commissioners that if any public issue arises against the installation of Mobile Tower, they should examine all aspects before proceeding to cancel the

permission granted for installation of mobile tower in the residential area. Chairperson also directed the Department of Industries & Commerce to add provision for OFC permission in the Portal, and to bring about a policy for regularization of the Telecom Towers set up without obtaining the requisite clearances between 5.12.2013 to 7.12.2020 .

Sh Naresh Sharma, Sr. DDG, LSA, Punjab, Department of Telecommunications, GOI, stated that in Punjab Telecom Tower Density is 0.7 per 1000 Population as compared to 0.42 per 1000 population at the National level. Having achieved 125% Tele-density, the State of Punjab ranks third in the country and is only next to Kerala and Himachal Pradesh. Punjab has around 20800 Mobile Towers functioning in the State. He mentioned that to increase the percentage of Towers connected with Fibre from 30% to 70% by 2024, State should take effective steps for speedy clearances of applications for installation of Mobile Towers .

Chief General Manager, Bharat Broadband Nigam Limited (BBNL) brought to the notice of the Chairperson that State Agencies like Water Supply /Sewerage /Panchayats start their development works without intimating BBNL in Rural areas, thus damaging Optical Fiber Cable network. He added that for proliferation of Telecom Infrastructure in the State, total fiber laid is 3190 KM whereas the number of government institutions connected by Fiber to the home (FTTH) are 3820 besides 2304 Gram Panchayats.

CGM, BBNL was asked to provide detailed route plan of the Optical Fibre Cable laid by them in the State of Punjab to the Department of Industries & Commerce which will then circulate the same to the concerned departments to

ensure that the Optical Fibre Cable laid down by BBNL is not damaged, when the development works are undertaken in the villages.

The Chairperson while concluding the meeting, asked all the concerned Departments and Deputy Commissioners to ensure fast track growth of digital communication network in the State.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the participants.