

Minutes of 3rd Meeting of State Broadband Committee (SBC) of Chhattisgarh
held on 29.07.2022 at 3.30 PM through Video Conferencing in the
Conference Hall of O/o Chief Secretary, Govt. Of Chhattisgarh

The following committee members attended the meeting in physical/virtual mode:

1. Shri Amitabh Jain, Chief Secretary, Govt. of CG - Chairman
2. Shri Subrat Sahoo, Additional Chief Secretary (IT), Govt. of CG - Member
3. Shri Siddhartha Komal Pardeshi, Principal Secretary (PWD), Govt. of CG - Member
4. Smt. Alarmelmangai D, Secretary (Urban Administration), Govt. of CG - Member
5. Shri Prem Kumar, Secretary (Forest), Govt. of CG - Member
6. Shri P.K.Singh, CGMT BSNL - Special Invitee
7. Shri Satish Sahu, Sr. GM, BBNL - Special Invitee
8. Shri Kshem Kapoor, Deputy Director, COAI - Special Invitee
9. Shri Dhananjay, Representative from DIPA - Special Invitee
10. Shri Ashish Kumar Das, DDG (Rural), DOT - Member Convener

The following officers also participated in the meeting-

1. Shri Rajendra Kumar Garhwal - DDG (C), DOT
2. Shri Sameer Vishnoi - CEO, CHiPS
3. Shri Neeresh Sharma - Dir (A), DOT
4. Shri Amitabh Sharma - COO, CHiPS

The Member Convener requested the Chairman for permission to start the meeting.

Opening Remarks and Welcome address:

The meeting began with a welcome address by Shri R.K.Garhwal, DDG (Compliance), DoT, Chhattisgarh. He apprised the Committee of the progress made since the last SBC meeting held on 10th Dec 2021, particularly the launch of Chhattisgarh online RoW Portal and its integration with Gatishakti Sanchar portal. He thanked the Chief Secretary, Chairman, SBC for agreeing to hold this meeting.

After this, the meeting progressed as per the agenda through a presentation by DDG (Rural), DoT CG.



Agenda Item SBC 03/01

Action taken report on the decisions of 2nd Meeting of State Broadband Committee of Chhattisgarh held on 10.12.2021

The Action Taken Report on the minutes of the second Meeting of State Broadband Committee of Chhattisgarh, which was held on 10.12.2021 was presented by Member Convenor, and following decisions were taken-

Sl. No.	Agenda Points of 2 nd meeting of SBC	Decision	Action By
1	Power availability in GPs	The SBC was informed that New electric service connection has been taken in 109 GPs and Electrification work completed in 504 GPs out of 5088 service ready GPs in BharatNet Phase-II. The chair directed CHiPS to expedite it in remaining GPs on priority as this has a direct impact on uptime of GPs.	CHiPS
2	Forest RoW permissions	7 forest RoW cases (approx. 470 Rkm.) are pending in BharatNet Phase-II affecting more than 300 GPs. This is being monitored under PRAGATI. SBC was informed by CHiPS that in response to the request for waiver of CA and NPV by the State Govt, the Ministry of Environment and Forest, Govt. of India has intimated that CA and NPV are determined as per the provisions contained in orders/instructions issued by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India from time to time. 2 demand notes have been received by CHiPS from the Forest department, CG and 5 are pending. Chief Secretary instructed Dept. of Forest and CHiPS to use online mechanism for faster movement of cases and utilize 'PARIVESH' for this purpose and resolve this issue on top priority.	Dept. of Forest, CG and CHiPS
3	Implementation of BharatNet in left out GPs	CHiPS informed that a proposal has been sent to USOF for inclusion of 1290 additional GPs in Phase-II. A copy of the proposal may be given to BBNL Chhattisgarh Unit also by CHiPS.	CHiPS
4	Launch of Online RoW portal and its integration with the centralised portal	It was informed to the committee that the online RoW portal of Chhattisgarh has been launched and this is integrated with the national portal. The representatives of Digital Infrastructure Providers association (DIPA) and Cellular Operator Association of India (COAI) expressed happiness over this.	Closed



Agenda Item SBC 03/02
Annual Implementation Plan

The SBC reviewed the progress made on each target under NBM in about two and a half years after its launch and further deliberated on key objectives of NBM as below-

1. Broadband connectivity to all villages

- 91% inhabited villages as per Census 2011 are covered by Mobile Broadband/BharatNet. The All-India average is 94%.
- 41 towers have become On-air under LWE Phase-II scheme. 17 of these are in camp locations. Work of survey is in progress in USOF aspirational district scheme and land allocation has been finalised in 13 locations.
- LOI has been issued to BSNL for upgrading 525 2G BTS of LWE Phase-I scheme to 4G. CGMT BSNL informed that the equipment for the same is expected to be received in Nov'22.

Decision taken:

- Effort should be made to reach up to the national average first. DOT will coordinate with PHQ for resolution of access issue cases due to security concerns in Bijapur, Narayanpur and Sukma districts.
- BSNL will expedite the upgradation of 2G BTS to 4G on priority.

(Action by: DoT, BSNL)

2. Availability of Broadband Speed (Mbps)

As per the data circulated by NBM directorate, the highest download speed in MP LSA was 34.3 Mbps and lowest download speed was 11.6 Mbps as on 27-04-2022.

Decision taken:

- Fiberization of towers to be increased for better availability of broadband speed. DOT will pursue with the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) for the same.
- BharatNet fiber should be utilized for increase in fiberization of towers.

(Action by: DoT, COAI)

3. OFC laying

Target vs achievement	Status as on	Year-1	Year-2	Year-3	Year-4	Year-5
National Target (Lakh km)	Dec'19	Dec'20	Dec'21	Dec'22	Dec'23	Dec'24
	22	24	27	30	40	50
CG Target (km)		69,412	78,089	86,765	1,15,687	1,44,609
CG Achievement (km)	63,628	77,158	96,666	99,807 (30-06-2022)		



The SBC noted that performance of Chhattisgarh State is ahead of the target in OFC laying as on 30-06-2022.

Decision taken:

CHiPS to expedite the remaining OFC laying (approx. 3,700 km) under BharatNet Phase-II.

(Action by: CHiPS)

4. Installation of towers

Target vs achievement	Status as on	Year-1	Year-2	Year-3	Year-4	Year-5
National Target (Lakh)	Dec'19	Dec'20	Dec'21	Dec'22	Dec'23	Dec'24
	5.65	7	8	10	12	15
CG Target		14,963	17,101	21,383	25,660	32,075
CG Achievement	11,340	12,494	14,141	14,831 (30-06-2022)		

- As per NBM objective, tower density at the end of 5 years should be 1 per thousand population.
- COAI representative opined that the alignment of CG RoW Policy with GoI RoW Rules in terms of one-time permission fee and deemed approval clause will result in accelerated growth in number of towers.

Decision taken:

Chief Secretary instructed that in the next meeting, this issue should be kept as a separate point and the TSPs willing to invest in Chhattisgarh for installation of towers may also be invited for discussion in detail.

(Action by: DOT, COAI, DIPA)

5. Fiberization of Telecom Towers

Target vs achievement	Status as on	Year-1	Year-2	Year-3	Year-4	Year-5
Target	Dec'19	Dec'20	Dec'21	Dec'22	Dec'23	Dec'24
	30%	35%	45%	55%	65%	70%
Achievement	-	30%	31%	35% (30-06-2022)		

- 31% of total telecom towers in CG are on OFC media as against the target of 45% by Dec 2021.
- DOT CG has circulated the list of service ready GPs under BharatNet to all TSPs to facilitate the usage of BharatNet dark fibre for fiberization of towers.



- CEO CHiPS suggested the use of GIS mapping by TSPs to find out the nearest available Bharatnet fibre for this purpose.

Decision taken:

DoT Chhattisgarh Unit will pursue with all TSPs/IPs to increase the fiberization of towers.

(Action by: DoT Chhattisgarh Unit, COAI and DIPA)

6. GIS mapping of OFC

Target vs achievement	Status as on	Year-1	Year-2	Year-3	Year-4	Year-5
	Dec'19	Dec'20	Dec'21	Dec'22	Dec'23	Dec'24
Target	-	10%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Achievement			50%	66% (30-06-2022)		

Above figures are as per the report submitted by TSPs. However, the GIS maps have to be made available by TSPs to Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N), Ahmedabad for uploading on PM Gatishakti portal.

Decision taken:

- BBNL has confirmed that out of the total 13,181 km. OFC laid under BharatNet Phase-I, 10,797 km OFC is mapped on GIS and the balance will be completed by Oct'22. CHiPS submitted that out of 26,866 route km. OFC laid under BharatNet Phase-II, 10,165 route km. has been mapped on GIS.
- Chief Secretary directed CHiPS to complete the GIS mapping of the remaining cable under BharatNet Phase-II at the earliest. He also emphasized that it will help in extending the DBT facility in villages. CHiPS assured that it will be completed by Dec'22.

(Action by: CHiPS, BBNL, COAI)

Agenda Item SBC 03/03

Pending NOC/RoW cases of Towers and OFC

- Apart from 7 forest cases under BharatNet, 35 OFC routes with 199 Rkm. are pending for RoW approval. 22 NOC cases of towers are also pending for approval and most of them are in Raipur and Durg districts.
- The committee was informed that the RoW ranking of states is being prepared at GoI level. RoW charges, approval to rejection ratio, disposal time etc. are being monitored for this purpose.



- In Chhattisgarh, the RoW charges for OFC are in line with GoI rules. However, for towers, permission charges in CG are highest in India coupled with renewal charges etc. which is affecting its ranking.
- As per the data available on Gatishakti Sanchar portal, 23 online RoW applications have been received in CG, out of which 18 have been rejected and 5 are pending. No application has been approved. The committee noted that the rejection rate is too high.
- The committee was also informed that average disposal time in CG is 51 days which is second highest in India as per GatiShakti Sanchar Portal.
- Thus, the ranking of Chhattisgarh is severely affected due to the highest permission fee for towers, lowest approval rate and second highest disposal time.
- CEO CHiPS proposed charging a fee from TSPs/IPs for applications made on online RoW portal in order to generate revenue for maintenance of the portal.

Decision taken

- The Chief Secretary instructed CHiPS to examine the charges being taken in the state of Chhattisgarh vis-à-vis other State Governments. A consolidated proposal may be prepared by CHiPS/Dept. of E & IT (CG) after calling a meeting of HoDs of related departments and put up before the Empowered Committee.
- Chief Secretary instructed CHiPS to hold fortnightly meetings of all stakeholders viz. the applicants (TSPs/IPs etc.), local bodies etc. through VC to educate the applicants about the required documents etc. so that the approval ratio is improved and brought at par with All-India level in the first stage. The district level approving authorities may also be sensitised in these meetings for faster disposal of applications.
- Chief Secretary expressed his concern over the proposal of taking charges from the applicants for availing online RoW portal facility and asked CHiPS to find out the best practices being followed in other states and if other neighbouring states are taking any such charge. He expressed that focus must be on the faster clearance.

(Action by: CHiPS, Dept. of E & IT)

Agenda Item SBC 03/04 **Draft RoW Policy Guidelines**

- The Govt. of India has brought out the draft RoW policy guidelines incorporating therein the provisions related to the use of street furniture and Govt. infrastructure for forthcoming 5G roll-out. The comments from all the State Governments have been solicited by DoT before finalizing the policy.
- This draft policy also has provision for one-time compensation/annual compensation for permission of OFC laying/tower installation.

Decision taken

The Chief Secretary instructed CHiPS to call for a meeting of the concerned HoDs of departments viz. PWD, Municipal Corporations, DISCOMs etc. He desired that this should be completed as early as possible and the comments may be sent to DOT.



(Action by: CHiPS)

Agenda Item SBC 03/05
Addendum to MBBL 2016

- MoHUA, Govt. of India has issued an addendum to Model Building Bye Laws, 2016 as Annexure-III with provisions for in-building solution (IBS) for Telecom Infrastructure. This has been circulated to all the States by MoHUA with a request to incorporate the provisions in their respective building bye laws.
- It was proposed by DOT that this addendum to MBBL -2016 as circulated by MoHUA may be incorporated in the state building bye-laws.

Decision taken

The Chief Secretary desired that DoT officers may interact with the Secretary, Urban Administration separately to take this forward.

(Action by: DOT CG unit, Dept. of UAD)

Agenda Item SBC 03/06
Special assistance to states for capital investment

- DoT/USOF is looking for proposals from States for Last Mile Connectivity (LMC) by utilizing BharatNet under a scheme of Department of Expenditure (DoE) for CAPEX funding to States.
- Initially, Last Mile Connectivity to only Government Institutions was part of the Scheme, but now Private Institutions and households have also been included in the Scheme and a revised circular has been issued by the DoE in this regard. The DoE has issued guidelines in this regard dated 06.04.2022 and its amendment on dated 06.07.2022.
- CEO, CHiPS intimated that the proposal has been prepared and it is with Dept. of Finance, CG for further action. However, the advance copy has been sent to DOT HQ.

Decision taken

The Chief Secretary asked CHiPS to pursue the matter with the Finance department, CG to get the formal proposal sent to DOT HQ at the earliest.

(Action by: CHiPS)

Agenda Item SBC 03/07
Utilisation of BharatNet

- The committee noted that approx. 40,000 km. OFC has been laid in Chhattisgarh under BharatNet and more than 9,000 Gram Panchayats are service ready. There should be adequate utilisation of this network.
- It was noted that the data consumption has a decreasing trend and it has dropped from 95 TB in Nov'21 to 36 TB in Jun'22 in Phase-I. Sr. GM BBNL informed that one revenue sharing agreement has been done by BBNL with an ISP for 7 districts of Bastar division and FTTH connections are expected shortly.



- CHiPS team informed that a POC has been done in a Gram Panchayat of Tilda block of Raipur district where 4 FTTH connections have been given to Govt. institutions and 8 FTTH connections have been given to private households.
- The committee was informed that only 7% of service-ready Gram Panchayats under Phase-II are up as per BBNL NOC whereas the all-India average of up GPs under State-led model is 55%. CHiPS team informed that out of 5088 service ready GPs in Phase-II, about 2100 GPs are under O&M and approx. 40% of the GPs under O&M are up as seen in State NOC.
- CGMT BSNL requested for early approval of two proposals sent to the State Govt. for utilisation of BharatNet, one each for BharatNet Phase-I and Phase-II. CEO CHiPS informed that MOU between BSNL and CHiPS for utilisation of BharatNet Phase-II is being taken to board meeting of Chhattisgarh State Information Infrastructure Corporation Limited (CSIICL) for further approval. CSIICL is the state SPV created for utilisation of BharatNet Phase-II infrastructure. He also informed that the tariff plan of CHiPS for dark fiber/bandwidth utilisation under BharatNet Phase-II is also being taken to this board meeting.

Decision taken

- Uptime of GPs needs to be increased and brought to all-India level. CHiPS will get the technical issue resolved so that same figures are available in State NOC and BBNL NOC.
- CHiPS will expedite the approval process of proposals and revenue sharing agreement (MoU) sent by BSNL for BharatNet utilisation.
- CHiPS will finalise the business plan for utilisation of BharatNet at the earliest.
- Dark fiber of BharatNet may be utilized for fiberization of towers by TSPs/IPs.

(Action by: CHiPS, BBNL)

Agenda Item SBC 03/08: Proliferation of PM-WANI

- There are 2535 Wi-Fi Access Points, 4 PDOAs and 1 App provider functioning under PM-WANI in CG. There has been an increase of 974 Access Points since the last SBC meeting held on 10th Dec 2021.
- DoT Chhattisgarh has approached CHiPS, Raipur and Bilaspur Smart City Corporation Limited (RSCCL/BSCCL) for Integration of Wi-Fi hotspots with PM-WANI to allow citizens to use Wi-Fi broadband across the state/smart city.

Agenda Item SBC 03/09

Any other point with the permission of Chair

- Representative from DIPA requested for (i) a common electricity bill and (ii) for charging electric tariff at industrial rate rather than commercial rate like few other states (Uttarakhand and Maharashtra). He also suggested the use of smart meters for easy and timely billing.

- Representative from COAI requested for (i) reconsideration of renewal fee, (ii) simplification of requirement of documents on online RoW portal, (iii) deemed approval of NOC, and (iv) shutting down of illegal repeaters.

Decision taken

- Chief Secretary instructed DIPA to submit the case to Secretary Energy with a copy to the CS office. COAI was asked to submit the details of illegal repeaters in Chhattisgarh.
- Chief Secretary asked CEO CHiPS to take up the issues of simplification of documentation etc. in fortnightly VC meetings with TSPs.
- Regarding renewal fee and deemed approval, action to be taken by CHiPS as per decision taken on Agenda Point 3 above.

(Action by: CHiPS, Dept. of Energy, COAI, DIPA)

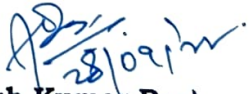
Chairman's address:

In his concluding address, the Chairman of State Broadband Committee, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Chhattisgarh expressed satisfaction over the fact that Chhattisgarh was one of the first few states to complete Level-1 and Level-2 integration of the online RoW portal with the GatiShakti Sanchar Portal. He, once again, emphasised that faster clearance of NOC/RoW proposals is most important and expressed hope that the fortnightly meetings to be convened by CHiPS with all TSPs/IPs and district level approving authorities will result in a marked improvement in approval rate and disposal time in the next two months.

He requested all concerned to focus on preparedness for 5G roll-out and towards this end, the policy changes required to be brought about by the State Govt. should be put up on fast track by all concerned departments. The chairman also desired that the tourist locations of Chhattisgarh should have adequate mobile coverage.

The meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

Issued with the approval of Chairman, State Broadband Committee, Chhattisgarh.


(Ashish Kumar Das)
Member Convener
DDG (Rural), DOT CG

No. F-21/DDG/Rural/NBM/20-21/47

Circulation: All participants of the meeting