

Office of the Senior DDG, DOT Kerala LSA, Cochin- 682020

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**Minutes of the 1st meeting of the State Broadband Committee,
Lakshadweep held on 10.07.2020/11.30 AM though video conference**

The 1st meeting of the State Broadband Committee, Lakshadweep was convened by Dr. P.T.Mathew ITS, Sr.Dy.Director General, DoT,Kerala LSA. The meeting was held through video conference under the Chairmanship of Shri Dineshwar Sharma, IPS (Retd), Administrator, UT of Lakshadweep on 10.07.2020 at 1130hrs. The list of participants is given below.

UT of Lakshadweep Administration

Sl no	Name	Designation
1	Shri Dineswar Sharma, IPS (Retd)	Administrator , Chairman of SBC
2	Dr.Sundaravadivelu, IAS	Advisor to Administrator
3	Shri Vijender Singh Rawat, IAS	Secretary(PWD)
4	Shri.Sachin Sharma, IPS	Secretary (IT)
5	Shri P Pookoya	Director (IT)
6	Shri.Satyaki Choudhary	COO,LITSS

DoT, Kerala LSA

Sl no	Name	Designation
1	Dr.P.T.Mathew, ITS	Sr.DDG, Member Convener
2	Ms.C.Sunitha, ITS	DDG(Service Compliance)
3	Ms.Satya Priyadarshini M. ITS	DDG(Rural)
4	Shri.Benny Chinnappan, ITS	DDG(Technology)
5	Shri.Seetharaman T.A., ITS	ADET(Rural)

BSNL

Sl no	Name	Designation
1	Shri C.V.Vinod ,ITS	CGM,Kerala
2	Dr.K.Francis Jacob, ITS	PGM,Ernakulam
3	Shri.N.Kunhikoya	TDM Lakshadweep

BBNL

Sl no	Name	Designation
1	Shri Roy.M.Jacob, ITS	CGM, Kerala

TAIPA & COAI

Sl no	Name	Designation
1	Shri T R Dua	Director General of TAIPA
2	Shri. Ashish Garg	TAIPA
3	Shri P. Ramakrishna	Principal Advisor COAI

The agenda for the meeting is given at Annexure-I

1. Dr.P.T.Mathew, Sr.DDG, DoT Kerala, welcomed all the participants to the meeting and gave an overview of the National Broadband Mission in his welcome address.

2. It was followed by an address by Shri Dineswar Sharma, Administrator, in which he highlighted the need for robust broadband connectivity in Lakshadweep. He spoke on online classes in Lakshadweep, where connectivity is important for un-interrupted study.

3. This was followed by a presentation by Shri. Sachin Sharma, Secretary (IT), Lakshadweep about the current scenario, and concern areas needing support regarding broadband infrastructure:

- Addressing of network coverage issues to minimize dark zones
- Introducing more TELCOs in Lakshadweep
- Installation and Commissioning of BBNL Service.

4. Shri C.V.Vinod, CGM, BSNL Kerala apprised the committee about BSNL plans regarding satellite bandwidth augmentation towards the mainland. He spoke about high Satellite bandwidth and Transponder charges. Due to limitations of Satellite bandwidth, High speed Broadband implementation is delayed. He also put forth a suggestion to install a **Broadband Network Gateway (BNG)** and cache server locally for Lakshadweep in order to improve the quality of service.

5. Shri Roy.M.Jacob, CGM, BBNL Kerala, appraised the committee about BBNL plans to provide 10 Mbps VSAT connectivity to all Gram Panchayats in Lakshadweep. The purchase order for the supply of equipments have been issued. The project is expected to be completed by December 2020.

6. Ms. Sathya Priyadarshini, DDG (Rural), DoT Kerala gave a power point presentation about National Broadband Mission objectives, as follows:

- Broadband access to all villages by 2022
- Facilitate universal and equitable access to broadband services
- Increase in tower density from 0.42 to 1.0 tower per thousand population by 2024
- Significantly improve quality of services for mobile and internet

Targets under National Broadband Mission, support required from the UT administration, the current telecom scenario in Lakshadweep and the status of

Submarine OFC cable project for Lakshadweep islands and formulation of RoW policy was discussed.

Role of UT was highlighted:

- **Alignment of RoW Policy** with Gol's Right of Way Rules 2016
- Set up/Activate **On-line portal for RoW** application process and approvals
- Increasing **tower density** – Expedite approvals
- Policy for leasing out Govt premises for establishing telecom infrastructure
- Facilitate **BharatNet project**
- Development of a common duct "**Dig Once Policy**"
- Standardised "**Request for Proposal**" template for Smart City
- Adoption of **National Building Code 2016**

7. Shri Dineswar Sharma, Administrator, informed that he will review the role of UT in the National Broadband mission and provide the necessary support. He also asked the Committee to take steps to improve internet connectivity as an immediate measure until the Submarine OFC cable project is completed. Dr.P.T.Mathew, Sr.DDG, DoT, replied that BSNL is augmenting the satellite bandwidth from 1 Gbps to 1.7 Gbps. This will fulfil the immediate requirement.

8. Shri.Ashish Garg, special invitee from TAIPA (Tower and Infrastructure Providers Association) congratulated the Committee for being the first State/UT in the country to conduct the SBC meeting. He spoke about the need for increasing the tower density and also about support required from USOF to bridge the viability gap in Lakshadweep. He also appraised the committee about the need for a RoW (Right of Way) policy in Lakshadweep in alignment with the Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016.

9. Shri.P. Ramakrishna, special invitee from COAI (Cellular Operators Association of India) said that COAI is taking steps to bring more service providers to the island. He also told the committee that high transport cost of Tower Materials to the Island is an issue. He requested to subsidise on VSAT Bandwidth rate, so faster roll-out can take place.

10. The meeting was concluded by a vote of thanks by Ms. C.Sunitha, DDG (Service Compliance), DoT Kerala. She thanked the Chair and participants for a fruitful session, being the first meeting of this kind on Broadband and looking forward for further interaction to achieve the objectives of the National Broadband Mission. She thanked Hon. Administrator for his active participation and guidance. She thanked Secretary IT for organising the meeting at a short notice. She thanked all other members and the meeting was concluded at 12.55pm.



Sathya Priyadharshini M, ITS
DDG Rural, O/O The Senior DDG,
Cochin, DOT Kerala

State Level Broad Band Committee Meeting, Lakshadweep (10/07/2020)

AGENDA

1. Welcome Address : Dr. P.T.Mathew, ITS, Sr. DDG, DoT,
Kerala LSA
2. Address by Chairman : Hon'ble Administrator, UT of Lakshadweep
Shri. Dineswar Sharma, IPS (Rtd)
3. Address by Member : Shri. Sachin Sharma, IPS, Secretary IT,
Lakshadweep
4. Address by Special : Shri. C.V. Vinod, ITS
Invitee : CGM, BSNL, Kerala
5. Address by Special : Shri. Roy.M.Jacob, ITS
Invitee : CGM, BBNL, Trivandrum.
6. Presentation on National Broad Band Mission by DoT, Kerala LSA
7. Discussion by Members
8. Vote of Thanks.
