

Members Present:

1. Principal Secretary, Information Technology & Electronics Department, Govt. of West Bengal
2. Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Govt. of West Bengal
3. Joint Secretary, Information Technology & Electronics, Govt. of West Bengal
4. Mr. Rakesh Kumar Sharma, Sr. DDG, Term Cell, WBLSA
5. Mr. P.C. Sutar, DDG, Term Cell, WBLSA
6. Mr. Mihir Kumbhakar, Term Cell, Kolkata LSA
7. Mr. Koushik Mukherjee, Director (R1), Term Cell
8. Mr. T.R. Dua, DG, DIPA
9. Mr. K. Kapoor, COAI
10. Mr. D. Khagaria
11. Mr. H Kainth, DIPA
12. Ms. N Mathur, COAI
13. Mr. K. Handa, COAI

Principal Secretary, Information Technology & Electronics Department, Govt. of West Bengal chaired the meeting on behalf of the Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal. He welcomed all the participants.

The Joint Secretary discussed and clarified the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on obtaining clearance for setting up Mobile Tower and Laying of OFC via ANUMATI PORTAL (<https://anumati.itewb.gov.in>).

He cited a recent incident where the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta had observed that insufficiency in mandatory documents required to be submitted by an applicant under self-certification during the online application process, shall eventually lead to cancellation of the application and/or the clearance, even if it is issued via default under *Deemed Approval Clause* for non-disposal of the application by the approving authority within the scheduled timeline.

Mr. T.R. Dua, DG, DIPA addressed the meeting and mentioned that the about 45,000 Mobile towers exist in West Bengal which pertains to 49% tower density against the national-level density of 60%. He added that the total fiberisation (of OFC) in the State stands at 36% which is less than the national average. He also stated that around 3000 applications were lying pending at the State Level. Secondly, he addressed the responsible authorities to expedite the clause of deemed application and also requested the house that Smart Meter might be installed at every BTS where the Power Utility Company would generate Monthly/quarterly electricity bills directly to the Telecom Service Providers. Mr. K. Kapoor, COAI laid stress on self restoration of roads by the TSPs and opined that Horizontal Directional Drilling(HDD) may be preferred over open stretching. He also requested for looking into the safety & security of the BTS across the State. Lastly, he requested the State Government to adopt the Aerial Fibre Deployment Policy and the Common Duct Policy complying with the Central Policy.

Ms. N. Mathur from COAI informed the house that the Kolkata Municipal Corporation had delinked all the overhead OFC owing to unavailability of any Aerial Fibre Policy of the State Government.

Decisions: -

1. Principal Secretary, IT&E, GOWB informed the house that the Power Utility Company would be approached to install Smart Meter having capacity more than 5 KVA to the

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Mobile Tower/BTS. He also assured the house that the issue related to waiving of renewal fees after three years was under the active consideration of the Government.

2. Joint Secretary presented the up-to-date facts & figures of pending applications for setting up Mobile Tower and laying of OFC. He informed the house that the Right of Way Guidelines, in line with the national policy, was notified in December, 2020. ANUMATI (<https://anumati.itewb.gov.in>), the online Single Window Portal for issuing NOC / Clearance for setting up Mobile Tower and Laying of OFC was launched immediately thereafter, which is now integrated with the recently launched national ROW portal. Till 13.05.2022, out of 1119 applications received – 402 have been received during the last fortnight; 310 were incomplete; 255 had been disposed of with NOC; while rest were under process.
3. Jt. Secretary also informed the house that West Bengal was the first State to launch the Deemed Approval clause. He added that if any TSP or TISP could not produce the requisite documents during online application process, the District Authorities would have full authority to cancel the deemed approval even if given by default. Hence the onus lies on the applicants to submit correct mandatory documents pre-requisite for such approval process.

The meeting ended with thanks to and from the Chair.

Sd/-

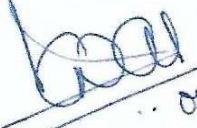
Principal Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal
Information Technology & Electronics Department &
Member Convenor of the Governing Body constituted
Under the West Bengal State Broad Band Policy 2020

No. 665/1(11)-Estt/ITE/17011/2/2022

Date: 01.8.2022.

Copy to:

- 1-5) The Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary / Secretary, Finance / Panchayat & Rural Development / Urban Development & Municipal Affairs/ Public Works/ Forest Department, Government of West Bengal.
- 6) The Dy. Director General, TERM CELL, WBLSA, 82, Ballygunj Place, Kolkata – 700019.
- 7) The Dy. Director General, TERM CELL, Kolkata LSA, QA Bhawan, EP & GP Block, Sector-V, Salt Lake, Kolkata – 700091.
- 8) OSD to the Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal, Nabanna, Howrah.
- 9) The Director General, COAI, Sector-2, 14, Bhai Vir Singh Marg, Sector-4, Gole Market, New Delhi – 110001.
- 10) The Director General, DIPa, 2nd & 3rd Floor, 7, Bhai Vir Singh Marg, Sector-4, Gole Market, New Delhi – 110001.
- 11) SPA to the Principal Secretary, Information Technology & Electronics Department, Government of West Bengal.


01/08/2022

Joint Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal
Information Technology & Electronics Department
& Nodal Officer & Member Convenor, State Level Clearance Committee
Under West Bengal Broad Band Policy 2020