

भारतसरकार
संचारमंत्रालय
दूरसंचारविभाग
कार्यालयवरिष्ठउपमहानिदेशक,
लाइसेंससेवाक्षेत्र, जम्मूएवंकश्मीर,
चौथातल, बीएसएनएलटेलीफोनएक्सचेंजभवन,
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No: 2-48/2022-Rural/J&K LSA/Row-
SBCand5Grelatedmatters

Date: 09-08-2023

Minutes of Meeting (MoM) of the Third meeting of State Broadband Committee of Ladakh UT (SBC-Ladakh UT) held on 07.08.2023

1. The third meeting of State Broadband Committee of Ladakh UT (SBC – Ladakh UT) was held under the Chairmanship of Sh. Pawan Kotwal, Advisor to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, Administration of Ladakh UT on 07.08.2023 at 15:00 through VC and physical mode.

2. Following officers participated in the meeting:

- i. Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Principal Secretary (Forest Ecology & Environment Department);
- ii. Sh. Sanjeev Khirwar, Principal Secretary (Housing & Urban Department);
- iii. Sh. Ajeet Kumar Sahu, Secretary (Public Works Department, R&B);
- iv. Sh. Amit Sharma, Secretary (Information Technology);
- v. Sh. Ravinder Kumar, Secretary (Power Development Department);
- vi. Sh. Sanjeev Tyagi, CGM BSNL, J&K Circle;
- vii. Sh. V K Surendra, Addl. DGT & DDG(Rural), DoT, J&K LSA;
- viii. Sh. Kush Kumar, PGM(Mobile), BSNL, J&K Circle;
- ix. Sh. Sanjay Kumar, Director (Rural), DoT, J&K LSA;
- x. Sh. Manish Gupta, GM (EB, IT and TP), BSNL, J&K Circle;
- xi. Sh. M S Bari, GM (CFA), BSNL, J&K Circle
- xii. Sh. Sunil Bhat, JTO(R), DoT, J&K LSA;
- xiii. Representative from DIPA: Sh. Harpreet Singh, Sh. Manoj Shahi;
- xiv. Representative from COAI: Sh. Dhananjay Gawanday, Sh. Deepak Kumar Gupta.

4. The meeting started with the welcome address by Addl. DGT, J&K LSA, DoT and requested Advisor to Hon'ble LG to address the participants.

5. In his address, Advisor to the Hon'ble LG emphasized the importance of internet / broadband connectivity in transforming the lives of the people. The potential to upgrade and strengthen the governance structure through internet/ broadband connectivity is immense, especially for the Ladakh UT where the area is large and the population is small.

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6. He also remarked on the shadow region in Phyang, which is near the Leh district. Thus, it is important that the 4G saturation project be completed on priority.

7. The 4G saturation project was then reviewed, and he stated that the 65 sites of the Wildlife area had been approved by the UT and National Board for Wildlife. For each site in the two districts of the Ladakh UT, a demand note for Rs.1,00,000/- (One Lakh Rupees Only) would be issued. He also directed M/s BSNL to start the installation work on these sites because no government or commercial activity can be carried out without internet connectivity.

8. Following the Advisor to the Hon'ble LG address, the Agenda Points were discussed. Director (Rural), J&K LSA began his presentation and the deliberations held during the meeting are as follows:

9. Review of MoM of 2nd SBC meeting held on 11.10.2022

- i. **USOF 4G Saturation Project Status:** Advisor to the Hon'ble LG indicated that they had received the list of 265 sites from M/s BSNL whereas there are a total 268 sites (allotted revenue sites-170, Forest – 65, Pending-33) under the 4G saturation project. Further discussion with M/s BSNL, data reviewed and corrected accordingly.
- Total BTSs sites planned – 276 (8 BTSs sites do not require new installation)
 - Total sites planned – 268
 - Total land allotted – 235 (170 (Revenue land); 65 (Forest land – demand note of NPV may be issued by UT government within 02 days so that the payment could be deposited by M/s BSNL and the diversion orders are issued)
 - Total pending sites – 33 {6 (joint survey completed); 27 (joint survey pending with M/s BSNL and Patwari)}

Advisor to Hon'ble LG advised to CGM BSNL to provide the list of 27 new sites for which the joint survey is pending as well. **[Action by BSNL & Wildlife Warden Leh]**

- ii. **5G Roll Out:** The Ladakh UT has 5G services. In the Ladakh UT, 87 5G BTSs are now operational. There are 27 5G BTSs from M/s RJIO and 60 5G BTSs from M/s BAL.

Advisor to Hon'ble LG pointed out that the switch over between 4G and 5G of Airtel is quite erratic.

[Action by M/s BAL]

- iii. **RoW Portal:** Director (Rural) briefed the chair on the RoW portal. As Ladakh UT has recently adopted the Central RoW portal, the J&K LSA has requested the Advisor to the Hon'ble LG to direct all relevant departments to stop

accepting RoW applications submitted in offline manner.

- iv. **Provision of EB Connections and Village Maps for USOF sites:** Advisor to Hon'ble LG asked COAI and DIPA to provide the list of pending EB connections to the Ladakh UT government. The COAI, DIPA, or any TSP have not submitted any EB connection pendency.
- v. According to the Secretary (PDD), M/s BSNL and the PDD have met to discuss the USOF 4G saturation project sites for EB Connections, and some issues has been resolved and the remaining sites will have their issues fixed within the next two months.
- vi. CGM BSNL has also requested that the consolidated demand note of 2,00,000/- (two lakh rupees only) per site, for the Kargil and Leh districts, be issued, in order to pay the combined payment in one go. According to the Secretary (PDD), the overall expenditure per site in the Kargil district is approximately 3,50,000/- (three lakhs fifty thousand only), while the total expenditure per site in the Leh district is approximately 2,00,000/- (two lakh alone).
- vii. CGM BSNL has also noted that the similar issue was raised in J&K UT as well, but J&K UT is currently issuing consolidated demand notes for Rs 2,00,000 (two lakh rupees only) each site. He therefore requested the chair to issue the same in Kargil and Leh districts separately.

Advisor to Hon'ble LG directed to the Secretary (PDD) to issue the demand note of Rs.2,00,000/- (two lakh rupees) per site at one go so that the funds are released by the BSNL and the work of providing EB connections in not delayed. In case of costs exceeding Rs.2.0 Lakh per connection would be examined for funding out of UT Budget.

[Action by Secretary PDD & BSNL]

viii. The chair was briefed by the Director (Rural), J&K LSA, about the significance of the digital village maps and how they are needed for the site's physical verification. In this regard, the Advisor to the Hon'ble LG noted that although they have digital maps of each revenue village, they are not grid-like because the survey is still being conducted. He added that all of the revenue villages' JPEG and PDF forms, as well as some villages' vectorized forms, are available and will be shared with J&K LSA as per request.

ix. **Provision of Wi-Fi access point at all DSPT (Digital Satellite Phone Terminal):** Director (Rural) briefed about the DSPT to the chair and also updated the current status of the DSPT. Only 55 out of the 193 deployed sites are currently active. In this regard, CGM BSNL stated that they have received the re-installation work order for 86 sites from the UT, and survey has been completed for all the sites. Re-installation work of the 35 sites has been completed and the sites are functional, for the 12 sites, some issues are there (ex. GP under construction, line of site, material is shifted to other site etc.) and the repair work will be done in some course of time, for the 39 sites the material is missing but the repair work can be done provided that the cost of the missing material will be borne by the UT government.

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[Action by UT/ BSNL]

x. Advisor to Hon'ble LG highlighted that, some people from villages have to come to Leh to access the internet facility (upload/ download) as if wi-fi hotspot is working then mobile connectivity is not there conversely, if mobile connectivity is there then wi-fi hotspot is not working or some download and upload issue is there. So, if DSPT is working then there should not be any upload/ download issue on the site.

According to CGM BSNL, M/s BSNL will provide the usage report of DSPTs on monthly basis to the UT government.

[Action by BSNL]

xi. Advisor to Hon'ble LG has also asked to CGM BSNL to provide the list of 39 sites where the material (battery, antenna etc.) is missing. He directed to conduct an enquiry regarding the missing materials of DSPTs and recovery should be made from the concerned person (VLW or custodian or contractor) in the line of the chain as it is highly unacceptable to steal the government property.

[Action by UT / BSNL]

xii. The Project Manager (IT) has also mentioned that there is a total of 124 DSPT sites of BSNL and 21 BBNL sites without a Wi-Fi access point.

xiii. **State RoW Portal Issues:** Ladakh UT has on boarded to the central RoW portal. It is requested by J&K LSA to make use of it in future RoW applications.

J&K LSA has also requested that an advisory be issued on laying of the service duct while work on the road expansion is being done. In this regard, the Secretary (PWD) indicated that including the duct in the project would be extremely costly. The Advisor to the Hon'ble LG further emphasized that duct is highly desirable and that its affordability would be examined.

Sh. Manoj from DIPA also made note of the common duct policy, which prevents the need for more road cutting in the future. DIPA was advised by the Advisor to the Hon'ble LG to offer any government instructions in this regard or to report if any states had implemented the policy.

Principal Secretary (H&UDD) has mentioned about the MoHUA amendment on In Building Solution (IBS) would be put up for approval within two weeks.

xiv. **Electricity Supply:** It has already been discussed in the point 9.iv).

Green energy open access: The Ministry of Power, Government of India has released the Electricity (Promoting Renewable Energy Through Green Energy Open Access) (Second Amendment) Rules 2023 dated 23.05.2023. The relevant portion of the amendment is reproduced below:



"Provided that only consumers who have contracted demand or sanctioned load of Hundred KW or more, either through single connection or through multiple connections aggregating Hundred KW or more located in same electricity division of a distribution licensee, shall be eligible to take power through Green Energy Open Access and there shall be no limit of supply of power for the captive consumers taking power under Green Energy Open Access."

In its earlier amendment, the limit was 1 MW but now it has been reduced to 100 KW (aggregated) so now small business entities and industry would adopt the Green Energy for their use. It is now the Discom's responsibility to transport and provide the connection.

Sh. Dhananjay from COAI also highlighted that COAI members may now adopt green energy with the help of Discoms. The amended policy mentions 100 KW (aggregated) load; and hence TSPs can now take into account the load of multiple towers and are now qualified for the green energy access.

The secretary (PDD) has advised to check the amended policy. He also mentioned that dedicated lines will be required for green energy access. In this regard, discussion will be required with the discoms.

Advisor to Hon'ble LG supported this green energy policy and advised the Secretary PDD & RE to take necessary action in this regard.

[Action by Secretary PDD & RE of UT Government]

xv. USOF 4G saturation Project Status: It has already been discussed in the point 9.1).

xvi. USOF 354 Uncovered Villages Project Status: There were total 67 sites planned initially under this project out of which 57 sites have been installed and operational, 5 sites have been deleted from the USOF scope and 5 sites are still pending to install.

For Thanga Chathang site, M/s RJIO has been directed to apply through the Parivesh portal.

For the Chumur Tegazong site, the community issue has been resolved and M/s RJIO has been directed to carry out the work.

For Shan Shaday site, the Advisor to the Hon'ble LG has insisted on getting it installed as the USOF scheme is mandated to cover remote and uncovered areas. M/s RJIO has responded that they will not be able to follow the operational SLA of the agreement, as it will be very difficult to follow. In this regard they have asked for the relaxation from USOF and are waiting for the response from the USOF. J&K LSA highlighted that the major concern of the operator is to transport the material required for tower installation. In this regard M/s RJIO requested for the support from the UT government to air-lift the material.

Advisor to the Hon'ble LG mentioned that air-lifting the material will charge

heavily. It requires the support from Air-force and if the operator is ready to bear the cost, the UT government is ready to arrange the air-lift support. He also advised to M/s RJIO to install the tower as they are bound by the agreement. He also asked to M/s RJIO to provide the technical details about the head load so that it can be sent to airport authority to plan accordingly.

[Action by M/s RJIO]

xvii. 5G Implementation Plan: 5G Working Committee has already been formed in Ladakh UT. 5G application form is also activated on the RoW portal but the documents required are yet to be finalized. J&K LSA requested UT government to finalize the documents required in 5G application on the portal.

Advisor to the Hon'ble LG asked the Secretary (IT) to look into the matter.

[Action by UT]

xviii. 5G Street Furniture Mapping on Gati Shakti Portal

Secretary (PDD) mentioned that they have tender for the data collection for the power infrastructure, and it is under process.

Additionally, Secretary (IT) has advised placing someone in consultation with Director of Housing and Urban Development to check on the mapping of government buildings.

It has also been advised to IT department to send a formal letter to all concerned departments asking them to provide the coordinates of any street furniture they have in their hands to the IT department in Ladakh UT so that it can be sent to BISAG (for mapping on the national site). As per the IT department, 70% of electric pole data has been sent to BISAG for mapping.

Advisor to the Hon'ble LG set a timeline of 20.08.2023 to complete the remaining 30% electric pole mapping on the portal.

[Action by the Principal Secretary H&UD Dept., Secretary PDD , Secretary IT]

xix. Workshop on 5G use cases: The chair was briefed by J&K LSA regarding importance of the 5G workshop. It is intended to aware all government department officers about 5G use cases.

Advisor to the Hon'ble LG nominated Secretary (IT) as Nodal Officer in this regard.

10. Call Before u Dig (CBuD) App: The chair is briefed by J&K LSA on CBuD App.

A total of 15 departments have created their state admin users on the CBuD App out of which only 8 departments have created their state agency and remaining department are yet to create their state agency users.



J&K LSA requested all the departments to create their users up to the Tehsil level to fulfill the purpose of CBuD app to larger extent.

Advisor to the Hon'ble LG has advised that out of the remaining 7 departments, 3 departments (Rural Development Department, Public Health Engineering (Irrigation and Flood control) Department, Machinal (PWD & PHE)) will create their agency and users up to block level.

11. Fiber GIS mapping of Ladakh UT: Currently there is no underground fiber of Ladakh UT. It will be notified once UT government lays their fiber in future.
(Item closed)

12. Central Notification of CBuD App in Ladakh UT: To protect the underground assets, J&K LSA has requested to UT government to issue a central notification on the CBuD App. A contractor must use CBuD App before the excavation activity so that the underground assets can be protected and internet connectivity is maintained.

Advisor to the Hon'ble LG advised J&K LSA to provide a Draft in this regard.

13. Digital Communication Readiness Index (DCRI): The index will assist in monitoring various initiatives and policies related to the telecom sector. Only those indicators which are relevant to the telecom sector have been incorporated in the index.

State/UT would be evaluated on the basis of work done during the full year (April to March) as per DCRI framework.

In this regard J&K LSA requested UT government to form a committee and conduct a quarterly review meeting.

Secretary (IT) mentioned that the formation of IDCC (Inter departmental coordination committee) is under process.

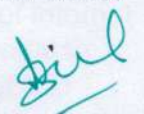
[Action by UT Government]

14. Other Issues:


In order for the tower installation work under USOF 4G saturation project to be completed in November and December, the Secretary to the Hon'ble LG has also stated that the initial base for the tower installation should be prepared in the remote areas by the end of October. In this regard, the equipment supply must be prioritized in order for the tower installation work to be completed during the harsh winter months when the route is closed.

Advisor to Hon'ble LG also advised M/s BSNL to start the installation work of the 65 sites falling in the wild life areas under 4G saturation project. He also set the timeline for the 4G saturation project to be completed by December 2023.

[Action by BSNL]



I/13076/2023


16 Aug 23
V K Surendra

DDG (Rural)

O/o Addl. DGT, J&K LSA

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Copy to: All concerned for further necessary action.