

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT
ASSAM SECRETARIAT, BLOCK-C, 2nd FLOOR
DISPUR, GUWAHATI-781006**

No: E 234611Dated: Dispur the 1stth November, 2023.

Minutes of the 6th State Broadband Committee (SBC) Meeting of Assam.

The State Broadband Committee (SBC) of Assam was reconstituted under the chairmanship of Shri Syedain Abbasi, the Additional Chief Secretary (IT) to Govt of Assam, vide notification No. IT/71/2022-Admin-IT-IT Department 15th Feb 2023, for effective monitoring and evaluation of the work of National Broadband Mission (NBM) in Assam. The Mission has been planned with the objective of seamless, high-speed, quality and affordable broadband connectivity to all.

The 6th SBC meeting was held on 26th Sept, 2023 at 4 PM. The meeting was chaired by Additional Chief Secretary (IT) to the Govt. of Assam. The list of members / participants is attached in **Annexure-A**

The meeting started with the welcome address by Shri S.K Verma, the Addl. DGT, DoT Assam LSA. After having a brief round of introductions, the DoT expressed concern regarding non-attendance of the designated Members (as notified) in the SBC meetings. The Chair took a serious note of this and assured due compliance from the next meeting indicating the importance of this SBC meetings in view of special thrust from the Central Govt. National Broadband Mission and the PM's PRAGATI reviews. Thereafter, a detailed presentation was given by DoT, Assam LSA on various important issues as per following agenda:

1. Review of last SBC (5th):
2. 5G Roll out – Initiatives Req'd:
3. RoW issues:
4. Ensuring the use of CBuD App by all departments & agencies:
5. Review of USOF Projects: 4G Saturation/ RJIL 4G Projects:
6. BharatNet:
7. DIPA/COAI /ISPAI issues:
8. Completion of DCRI Data submission by the State Govt.
9. Any other issues with the permission of the Chair.

The points discussed & decisions taken are stated as below:

1. Review of salient points of last SBC : DoT has remarked that most of the action points of 5th SBC were complied, and remaining points are being covered in the present deliberations.

2. 5G Roll out – Initiatives Req'd:

a. Creation 5G Form and integration of State RoW portal : the required integration work is still pending due to the Bank Account issue related DITEC. The Chairman instructed to sort out the issues and get the the 5G Form activated **latest by 15th October 2023**. Subsequently, for all municipal boards/urban local bodies, the account details are to be provided to IT department/DITEC for the purpose of revenue sharing provision against utilisation of street furniture for telecom purpose.

(Action by IT deptt & Urban Development Deptt, Govt of Assam)

b. GIS mapping of street furniture: IT department to coordinate with concerned line departments (APDCL, Urban Local bodies etc.) for initiating required actions. A format for monitoring the progress of GIS Mapping of the Street Furniture has been already circulated. **One workshop** is to be organised by the State Govt. IT-Department for all the concerned line departments where a team from NBM/DoT, HQ will be invited for sharing the experiences and help guiding the State for faster rollout and accomplishment of this work in the State. The State IT-Department would finalize the date & venue of the said Workshop and convey to the DoT.

(Action by IT department, Govt. of Assam/DoT LSA/NBM)

c. Implementation of DoT Right of Way (RoW) Policy Amendment 2023: The state govt. would review

and ensure necessary implementation & incorporation of various amendments in its RoW policy in concordance with the Central RoW.

(Action by IT department, Govt. of Assam/DoT LSA/NBM)

Initiatives Required: The **5G Working Committee**, constituted for the specific purpose, vide Assam Govt. Notification, dated: 15th Dec,2022, would take up these above stated aspects along with other related issues at the earliest and ensure compliance for facilitating faster rollout of 5G services in the state in a structured manner.

(Action by IT department, Govt. of Assam)

3. RoW issues:

a. Alignment of State ROW Policy with the Central RoW Policy:

SL	As per DoT RoW Policy [Ref: Consolidated IT RoW Rules (Amended) - 09/08/2023]	As per State Right of Way Policy	Decisions (action by State Govt.)
1	For establishment of overground telegraph infrastructure over any private property , the licensee shall not require any permission from the appropriate authority. Only intimation, in writing, to the appropriate authority, prior to commencement of such establishment. (Ref:10B)	Permission required both for State government property and private property along with Rs 10,000 administrative fee for processing the applications for permission.	DIPA informed that other states (RAJ, J&K etc) have already implemented and on this the chair requested DIPA to give a detailed report through DoT/LSA. Assam Govt. would examine for necessary incorporation.
2	Nil. (No Administrative fee required for processing the applications, only Annual Compensation charges to be paid for using the street furniture) [Ref:9(3)(III)]	Administrative fee of Rs. 100/- per street furniture in addition to the annual compensations charges for using the street furniture.	
3	No fee or compensation shall be charged by the appropriate authority for the establishment of temporary overground telegraph infrastructure under this rule. (Ref: Rule 9A)	No such provision exists.	As multiple authorities are involved, a review is required for incorporating this aspect.
4	"street furniture" means post or pole used for electricity, street light, traffic light, traffic sign, bus stop, tram stop, taxi stand, public lavatory, memorial, public sculpture, utility pole or any other structure or contrivance of such nature established over the property of an appropriate authority.' [Ref: 10(5)(D)]	"Street Furniture" means electrical line poles, street light poles, street shelter, foot bridge, over bridge or any other furniture installed across the streets by concerned appropriate authority.	The definition of the street Furniture would be incorporated in the amended State RoW accordingly.
5	The licensee shall have the option of submitting single application for multiple sites and appropriate authority shall make due provisions for accepting such applications and issuing single permission for multiple sites accordingly for establishment of small cells." [Ref:10A(1A)]	No such provision exists. To be included in the state policy.	It would be incorporated accordingly in the State RoW amendment.
6	Deemed approval for establishment of underground telegraph infrastructure after 60 days, if appropriate authority fails to either grant permission or reject the application. [Ref:6(2)]	Deemed approval for establishment of underground telegraph infrastructure after 60 days, if appropriate authority fails to either grant permission or reject the application. (This policy rule for OFC is yet to be enforced in State RoW portal)	State showed reservation on its implementation as it involves many critical aspects. However, the pending issues will be closely monitored by a committee headed by the Spl. Secy-IT. The cases >90 days will be reviewed by the Addl.CS-IT.

b. Sorting out the discrepancies in Pendency of ROW cases:

RoW Status (as on 25th Sept-2023) - Discrepancies

RoW Applications:		Total	Approved	Rejected	Under process	Pending>60	Pending>90	Reverted
As per Gati Shakti Sanchar Portal	Total (a+b)	4681	3887	158	288	82 (OFC:59, GBT:23)	76 (OFC:53, GBT:23)	266
As per state RoW portal	Total (a+b)	4704	3926	166	450	59	53	153
	a. Tower	4548	3865	159	366	0	0	153
	b. OFC	156	61	7	84	59	53	4
Discrepancies:		-23	-39	-8	-162	23	23	113

On the above observations, the chairman directed to conduct a coordination meeting (through VC) between the concerned technical teams of both state & central Govt. dealing with the matter and resolve the discrepancies at the earliest.

(Action by IT department/DoT LSA/NBM)

4. Usage of CBuD App:

a. Assam has shown a considerable progress in usage of CBuD App as appreciated by Govt. of India. The Status as on date:

Districts	Department users	Agency users	District users	Tehsil users	Total users	No. of Enquiries
35	7	40	211	27	286	799

The Department/Agency-wise CBuD Enquiry status:

SL	Agency	No. of Enquiries	SL	Agency	No. of Enquiries
1	Jal Jeevan Mission Assam	592	6	RJIL	91
2	APDCL	41	7	Antrix Infratel Pvt Limited	2
3	Assam Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Board	12	8	Guwahati Metropolitan Drinking Water and Sewerage Board	2
4	Airtel	30	9	Central agencies (IOCL, GAIL)	3
5	BSNL	5	10	Others	21
Total Enquiries		799			

b. However, it has been observed that the major agencies involved in actual excavation (Digging) works, viz., PWD (Roads), PWD (B & NH), GMC & GMDA, are seen not at all using the CBuD app. The chair, citing the importance of the App being monitored by the PMO, directed the concerned State Agencies to adhere to the standing CBuD instructions without fail.

c. A special thrust was given to the Department of Housing and Urban Affairs (DoHUA) for ensuring mandatory usage of CBuD App without fail by all urban local bodies involved in digging across the state.

d. It was also pointed out by DoT that the state govt is also to ensure issuance of required Notification in line with the Central Govt. for mandating the use of CBuD platform by all concerned Agencies without any lapse.

(Action by PWD (Roads), PWD (B & NH), DoHUA.)

5. Review of USOF Projects: 4G Saturation/ RJIL 4G Projects :

a. **BSNL 4G Saturation Project:**

i. **Land Allotment status:** DoT & BSNL appreciated the State Govt for expeditious settlement of Land allotment cases (397 out of 410 Govt. Land and all 84 Govt. Forest Lands allotted)

LAND ALLOTMENT-SUMMARY AS ON 25.09.2023							
SL	No. of District	Total Sites	Total Sites acquired	Total sites pending	Total Govt Land Pending	Total Private Land Pending	Total Forest Land Pending
TOTAL	26	646	611	35	13	22	0

ii. **Pending Land Allotment:** The district-wise pendency is stated below: All these cases are to be settled within a month's time.

Govt Land Allotment Pending - BSNL 4G Sat Project (As on 25th Sept-2023)

SL	No. of District	Total Sites	Total Sites acquired	Total sites pending	Total Govt Land Pending	Total Private Land Pending	Total Forest Land Pending
1	BAKSA	4	2	2	2	0	0
2	KOKRAJHAR	8	5	3	3	0	0
3	CACHAR	15	12	3	1	2	0
4	KARIMGANJ	5	2	3	3	0	0
5	UDALGURI	4	3	1	1	0	0
6	BISWANATH	13	9	4	3	1	0
Total:		49	33	16	13	3	0

iii. **Status & Pendency of EB CXN:** APDCL would expedite provision of required EB CXNs for the BSNL 4G Saturation Project. The Dist-wise status is stated below:

---Action by APDCL/BSNL

SL	Dist	EB CXNs Applied	Demand Notes Issued	SL	Dist	EB CXNs Applied	Demand Notes Issued	Total EB CXN Applied by BSNL	Total Demand Notes Issued by APDCL
1	BAKSA	1	1	8	HAILAKANDI	1		172	38
2	BARPETA	1		9	KARBI ANGLONG	22			
3	CACHAR	6	1	10	KARIMGANJ	1			
4	DHUBRI	1		11	KOKRAJHAR	3			
5	DIBRUGARH	3	1	12	SONITPUR	2	1		
6	DIMA HASAO	50	19	13	UDALGURI	2			
7	GOLAGHAT	66	15	14	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	13			

b. **RJIL 4G Project:** The status remains the same for the pending cases as stated below. RJIL is supposed to execute the 4 cases where locality issues have been sorted out by the State Govt/district authorities. Other pending cases (13 nos.) related to Access issues may be taken up with the USOF/DoT.

4G coverage in 2 Districts of Assam Districts by RJIO (status as on 25th Sept-2023)

SL	Districts	Scope		No. of towers Commissioned	Issues pending	
		villages	Sites		Other issues	Inaccessibility
1	Karbi Anglong	125	77	71	0	6
2	Karbi Anglong(W)	94	80	77	3	0
3	Dima Hasao	104	82	74	1	7
Total		323	239	222	4	13

6. BharatNet:a. Status: (as on 25th Sept-2023)

DISTRICTs	GPs	BHQs	GPs UP	FTTH connections
28	1511	130	564	3215

b. State Support Required: Blanket Permission from APDCL for using the Electric Poles for BN OFC: As per APDCL, the approval has already been accorded by the Board. The same may be communicated by APDCL to all concerned including CGMT/BSNL & DoT/LSA.

---Action by APDCL

7. Issues of DIPA/COAI:

c. COAI Issues: Many issues flagged by COAI have been covered in the above discussions. However, two major points required State's supports are stated below:

- i. Implementation as per Ministry of Power's notification on Green Open energy access consolidation.
- ii. Implementation as per Ministry of Power's advisory on common electricity billing for telecom infrastructure.

The chairman requested inputs/references from DoT/LSA and directed IT Department to write to the concerned Regulator for implementing the above instructions as requested by COAI.

---- (Action by IT department)

d. DIPA Issues:

i. DIPA has raised that issue of Undue Demand from Local Bodies: In this regard, the Chair has directed DoHUA to issue guidelines to all Urban local bodies to act as per rules only.

ii. Further, DIPA has flagged few issues related to RoW & Electricity (APDCL) matters for necessary consideration from the state Govt as stated below:

- Refund of the Fee in case the application is rejected /telecom infrastructure is not able to be installed in case of public issue.
- **Common duct** to be provisioned in the state ROW guidelines.
- Separate policy provisions to encourage IBS.
- Electricity faults are delayed in restoration by the DISCOM even after registration of Complaints at the DISCOM call centre.
- Defective Meters are not replaced timely by the Discom thereby increasing the dispute towards average billing.
- EB tariff should be changed at Industrial Rates instead of Commercial Rate.
- One company one bill to be encouraged for online payment of electricity bills.
- Smart/ Prepaid Electricity meters to be installed at the telecom sites which need special attention to expedite.

(Action by IT-Department/APDCL).

8. DCRI – State Ranking/ Completion of DCRI Data submission by the State Govt. :-

a. The chair has directed the IT department to convene a separate meeting with all the concerned departments to form the Interdepartmental Coordination Committee (IDCC) for operationalization of DCRI framework at the earliest. As many activities as discussed above have the bearings on DCRI State Ranking, the state (IDCC) would give necessary thrusts on the grey areas.

Action by IT-Department

b. The required data as per the format given from the Economic Research Unit (ERU) / DoT HQ, to be furnished by the State Govt. within a month's time. The outcome may be discussed in the next SBC.

Action by IT-Department.

9. Inclusion of new members in SBC: Inclusion of new / Addl members in the SBC has been suggested by DoT to make it more effective: The Chairman has consented for the same.

i. Member:

- Seniormost Secretary of Power Department.
- Secretary Comm & Industry (Nodal for PMG portal).

ii. Special Invitees:

- APDCL
- RailTel
- PGCIL

(Action by IT department)

The meeting was concluded with the vote of thanks by Shri Pankaj Das, ITS , DDG Rural , Assam LSA to all the members/ participants for their continued support for taking the National Broadband mission forward in the state.

Annexure-A : Attendees List - 6th SBC Meeting Assam (26th Sept-2023)

S L	Name	Designation & Organisation.	Deptt	SBC/Mem ber	Mob	Email
1	Shri Syedain Abbasi , IAS	Addl. Chief Secretary (IT), Assam	IT-Department - Assam	Chairman	8826822222	itdepartment-as@gov.in
2	S.K. Verma	Addl. DGT/DoT, Assam LSA	DoT, Assam LSA	Member	9448010339	srddg.as-dgt-dot@gov.in
3	Pankaj Das	DDG (R)/DoT, Assam LSA	DoT, Assam LSA	Team-DoT	9435000063	ddgr2.as-dgt-dot@gov.in
4	Manis Das	DDG(T)/DOT Assam LSA	DoT, Assam LSA	Team-DoT	9435599499	Ddgt.as-dgt-dot@gov.in
5	Beeran Prajapati	DIR(R)/DoT, Assam LSA	DoT, Assam LSA	Team-DoT	9412228007	Dirr2.as-dgt-dot@gov.in
6	Naveen Thaduri	ADG (DOT)	DoT, Assam LSA	Team-DoT	9908400268	Adgr1.as-dgt-dot@gov.in
8	Vipul Agarwal	CGMT, BSNL Assam	BSNL, Assam Circle	Spl Invitee	9422046565	cgm_assam@bsnl.co.in
7	S.K. Behera	AGM NWP CM/ BSNL, Assam	BSNL, Assam Circle	Team-BSNL	9437966993	skbeheracmts@gmail.com
9	U. Sreenivas	BN BA Head/ BBNL Assam	BSNL, Assam Circle	Team-BSNL	9440000470	Sh.assam.bbnl@gmail.com
10	Satyendra Kumar Deka	GM (CFA) BSNL Assam	BSNL, Assam Circle	Team-BSNL	9435599666	skdeka@bsnl.co.in
11	Ms. N. Dutta	Secretary-IT, Assam	IT-Department - Assam	Team-IT	9435039534	nandita.dutta@assam.gov.in
12	Santana Chetia	Secretary-IT, Assam	IT-Department - Assam	Team-IT	6001662091	santanachetia@gmail.com
13	Parvez Amin	Jt Secretary-IT, Assam	IT-Department - Assam	Team-IT	9957623299	parvez.amin@assam.gov.in
14	Ranjit Sarmah	Under Secretary (IT), Assam	IT-Department - Assam	Team-IT	8638147271	ranjit.sarmah70@assam.gov.in

15	Abdur Rezaque Hussain	Consultant & DITEC	IT-Department - Assam	Team-IT	9957926630	a-rezaque@assam.gov.in
16	Nawab Al Azhar Ali	Joint Secretary, DOH UA	Urban Development Deptt.	Member (Rep)	9435030808	nawab_alazhar@yahoo.com
17	Debajit Bhuyan	Spl Secretary, PWRD	PWD	Member (Rep)	9864067953	debajitbhuyan@yahoo.co.in
18	Pranjal Baruah	DGM (IT), APDCL	APDCL/ Power	Spl Invitee(Rep)	9864229499	Pranjal.baruah@apdcl.org
19	Swarupakshya Das	AGM (IT), APDCL	APDCL/Power	Team-APDCL	8876946245	swarupakshya.das@gmail.com
20	Dhanunjay	COAI		Spl Invitee (VC)	8802618683	tic1@coai.in
21	Harpreet kainth	DIPA		Spl Invitee (VC)	9815066490	harpreet.kainth@dipa.co.in

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks by the chair with positive assurance from all.

(Syedain Abbasi, IAS)

Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Information Technology Department

Memo No: **E 234611-A**

Dated: Dispur the 1st November, 2023.

Copy to:

1. The Managing Director, APDCL, Bijulee Bhawan, Paltanabazar, Guwahati-01
2. The Managing Director, AMTRON.
3. The Director, DITEC.
4. The Principal Secretary, Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC).
5. The Principal Secretary, Dima Hasao Autonomous Council (DHAC).
6. The Spl. Secretary, PWRD.
7. The District Commissioner, Karbi Anglong.
8. The District Commissioner, West Karbi Anglong.
9. The District Commissioner, Dima Hasao.
10. The Sr. DDG, DoT, Assam LSA.
11. Addl. DGT/DoT, DoT, Assam LSA
12. The Director (R), DoT, Assam LSA.
13. DDG(T), DoT, Assam LSA.
14. DDG(R), DoT, Assam LSA.
15. The CGM, BSNL, Pan Bazar, Guwahati-781001, Assam.
16. The State Head BBNL, Assam
17. The AGM NWP CM, BSNL, Assam.
18. The BN BA Head, BBNL Assam.
19. The Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Department of Housing & Urban Affairs.
20. The Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department.
21. The DGM (IT), APDCL.
22. The AGM (IT), APDCL.
23. PS to the Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment & Forest Department, for kind information of the Additional Chief Secretary.
24. PS to the Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department, for kind information of the Additional Chief Secretary.
25. PS to the Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Power Department, for kind information of the Principal Secretary.
26. PS to the Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Panchayat & Rural Development Department, for kind information of the Principal Secretary.

27. PS to the Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Revenue & Disaster Management Department, for kind information of the Principal Secretary.
28. PS to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Department of Housing & Urban Affairs, for kind information of the Commissioner & Secretary.
29. PS to the Special Commissioner & Special Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Public Works (Roads) Department, for kind information of the Special Commissioner & Special Secretary.
30. PS to the Commissioner & Special Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Public Works Building & NH Department, for kind information of the Commissioner & Special Secretary.
31. PS to the Secretary (ND) to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department, for kind information of the Secretary.
32. PS to the Spl.Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department, for kind information of the Spl.Secretary.
33. PS to the Secretary (SC) to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology Department, for kind information of the Secretary.
34. PS to the Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Industries & Commerce Department, for kind information of the Secretary.
35. The Head, SeMT.
36. Cellular Operators Association of India, (COAI).
37. Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA).
38. The Connectivity Consultant, DITEC.

By Orders, etc.

e-signed

Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Information Technology Department