



भारतसरकार / GOVT. OF INDIA

संचारमंत्रालय / MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

दूरसंचारविभाग/ DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

उप महानिदेशक कार्यालय, सिक्किम/ O/o Deputy Director General, Sikkim

वेस्टबंगालएल.एस.ए /West Bengal LSA

T-10, BSNL QUARTERS, BALUWAKHANI, GANGTOK – 737103

No: 208-2/WBLSA/Sikkim/2020-21/NBM/47

Dated 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020

**Subject: - Minutes of the first Meeting of State Broadband Committee- Reg.**

Kindly find the Minutes of the first State Broadband committee meeting held on Monday, the 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 at 3:00PM under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim in the Conference Hall of Tashiling Secretariat, Gangtok for your kind information and Necessary action please.

(N. Murali Krishna)

Deputy Director General, DoT Gangtok

Ph. No. 03592-204051

To:

1. The Additional chief Secretary cum Secretary IT, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.
2. The PCCF-Cum-Pr. Secretary, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.
3. The Secretary, Energy & Power Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.
4. The Secretary, Urban Development Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.
5. The Secretary Road & bridges Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.
6. The CGM, BSNL, West Bengal Circle, Kolkata.
7. The State Head, BBNL, Kolkata.
8. The Representative of COAI.
9. The Representative of TAIPA.

Copy to:

1. The PS to Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim for kind information of the Chief Secretary.
2. The Director General Telecom, DoT HQ New Delhi.
3. The Joint Secretary (T), DoT HQ New Delhi.
4. The Advisor, WB LSA, DoT, Kolkata.
5. The GMTD, BSNL, Gangtok.
6. The Director (IT), DIT Government of Sikkim.
7. Office Copy.

Minutes of the meeting of State Broadband committee held on 28/09/2020 at Conference Hall, Tashiling, Secretariat, Gangtok chaired by the Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim.

The 1<sup>st</sup> State Broadband Committee meeting was held at Conference Hall, Secretariat to discuss the progress & reach of Broadband connectivity across the State under National Broadband Mission, status of Bharat Net project and penetration of Mobile connectivity in the State of Sikkim. The meeting was chaired by the Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim.

List of Participants:-

1. Shri S. C. Gupta, IAS, Chief Secretary, Govt of Sikkim
2. Shri M L Shrivastava, PCCF-cum- Pr secretary Govt. Of Sikkim
3. Shri Phigu T. Bhutia, Secretary, Energy and Power department , Govt of Sikkim
4. Ms Sarla Rai, Secretary, Urban Development Department, Govt of Sikkim
5. Shri T Shangderpa, Secretary, Roads and Bridges Department Govt of Sikkim
6. Shri N Murali Krishna, DDG, Sikkim, WBLSA, DoT, Gangtok.
7. Shri Arun Kumar GM, BSNL, Gangtok.
8. Shri Rakesh Kumar Meena, Director, Sikkim, WBLSA, DoT, Gangtok
9. Shri Jaswant , Director IT, DIT, Govt of Sikkim,
10. Shri Ghosal, Consultant M/s BBNL, Sikkim.
11. Shri Tingku Das, Sr. Executive, CSC- State Coordination, Gangtok
12. And others Sikkim Government Officers

Following Participants joined through VC

1. Shri G P Upadhyaya, IAS, Addl. Chief Secretary, DIT, Government of Sikkim
2. Shri Rama Kant Sharma, CGM, BSNL, WB Circle, Kolkata.
3. Shri Ashok Kumar , PGM BSNL, Kolkata
4. Dr. S K Samantha, State Head BBNL, WB, Kolkata
5. Shri R Chamling, Technical Director, NIC, Gangtok
6. Shri T R Dua , DG- TAIPA
7. Cmdr Dr J Jena DDG, COAI
8. Shri Avinash Vyas, DGM, TAIPA.
9. Shri S.T Wangdia, Additional Director, DIT, Govt of Sikkim.

The meeting commenced with welcome address followed by a brief citation of the agenda points by Shri Jaswant, Director/IT followed by a round of introduction of all the attendees. Shri N Murali Krishna DDG DOT GANTOK, has made presentation on SBC as per agenda points wise discussion are presented as below.

At the outset Shri S C Gupta, Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim has expressed concern over connectivity issues across the state not limiting to any TSP's. He has given the direction to speed up the process by concerned agencies and TSP's towards improving quantity and quality of voice and Broad band services.



Points discussed are:

1. Alignment of the State policy with DoT Right of Way Rules, 2016.

**a) Designate Nodal Officer to be appointed, b) Single Window clearance for ROW to be setup to enable for submission of Application E-basis for obtaining permissions.**

**c) Public grievance redressal committee to be set up and include in the policy, d) Route limit of 250 km.**

**Status: Existing ROW policy revised after taking DOT and other agencies feedback submitted to the Govt. for approval for addressing all the above observation. DIT to issue in revised ROW policy in 15 days.**

**(Action: DIT)**

2. Review of Bharat Net Project roll out status (Phase I & II) and issues therein.

**The Chair took note of the lack of coordination amongst DoT, BBNL and BSNL to effectively roll out the Bharat Net project. Performance unsatisfactory as 133 km OFC laying pending.**

**(Action: DoT, BBNL, BSNL)**

**The Chief Secretary enquired about the commencement date and details of the Phase-I of Bharat Net project. CGM & PGM BSNL submitted that the work of phase-I started from 2016 and as on date work has been completed in 23 GPs which are in ready-condition and are to be handed over to M/s BBNL. Whereas for 16 GPs, BSNL stated that due to lack of fund, the work is pending and some fiber is damaged during road expansion work by the state government. M/s BSNL further stated that work for 22 GPs are recommended to HQ for dropping because same is proposed to be aligned with the NFS fiber but Defense officials have not agreed to share the NFS with BSNL.**

**BSNL has requested the intervention of state government to enable them to use few unused cores of fiber laid for Defence network. The chair has agreed for the same and asked GM, BSNL to prepare draft letter on priority giving all technical details to be sent to Ministry of Defence.**

**(Action: GM, BSNL)**

**BBNL to handover completed work at 23 GPUs to CSC-SPV for Operations & Maintenance purpose. Implementing Agency, BSNL to get the paper work done within 15 days. CSC to submit readiness report to take over the 23 GPUs within one week and offer service as per DOT guidelines.**

**(Action: BBNL, BSNL, CSC)**

**BBNL has raised the issue that the approval for Bharat Net Phase-II is long pending with DoT as DPR is not approved. At present work pertains phase II is halted as DOT and BBNL has raised few queries on commencement of work even before DPR is approved. While BSNL has maintained that they**

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got mandate to commence the phase to work also. DOT Sikkim has informed that it is USO funded project under DOT. As on the date there is no mandate to monitors this project separately by DOT unit as BBNL is monitoring the same for which this entity was created.

DoT, Gangtok to take up the matter with DoT HQ, New Delhi towards resolution report the status within 15 days to the chair.

As BBNL/BSNL stated that the DPR with respect to Phase-II of Bharat Net is still pending for approval with DoT HQ whereas more than 607 km OFC had already been laid by M/S BSNL. In this regard intervention of the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim is requested by concerned agencies. Accordingly one letter from CS to Secretary, DoT for approval of DPR may be written with a request to monitor the progress of the Bharatnet work by DOT unit if necessary. Necessary inputs for the same to be provided by the concerned agencies.

(Action: BBNL, BSNL, DoT, State Govt.)

If the delay in work execution trend continues in Bharatnet Phase-II works. It was proposed to look into the option of Public Private Partnership (PPP) Model as done by few other states for successful rollout as suggested by TAIPA/BSNL – Already implemented in A&N Island.

(Action: BBNL, BSNL, Govt. of Sikkim, DoT)

3. To create Master database regarding District/Block/Villages/Hamlets/Govt. Institutions for Sikkim State.

To be prepared by DIT Govt of Sikkim in coordination with DoT unit.

(Action: DoT, DIT)

4. Digital map of Sikkim – superimposition of the state data and data wrt Telecom infrastructure as well as state infrastructure data on digital map

DoT to initiate the process and implement the same through appropriate agency as per GOI guidelines.

DIT to coordinate with DoT to obtain Telecom infrastructure details in digital form along with Geo-Coordinates.

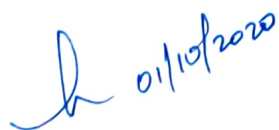
PCCF cum Pr. Secretary, Forest & Energy Department has agreed to allow DoT to use their licensed version of GIS software if need arises.

(Action: DoT, DIT)

5. Utilization of existing FTTH/Broadband connectivity for E-Governance initiatives.

DIT to submit department specific requirements and DoT to facilitate towards obtaining connection for voice and Broad band through TSPs/ISPs.

(Action: DoT, DIT)

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6. Fiber connectivity for all Districts/Blocks/Villages and further extended to the Govt offices/Colleges/Schools/hospitals Police Stations etc within or nearby the villages.

**-Subsumed in Para 2**

7. To improve penetration of the mobile & internet services in Sikkim.

**Notification of State ROW policy in alignment with Indian Telegraph ROW Rules, 2016 would enable operators to rollout services quickly.**

**-Subsumed under Para 1**

8. Explore the possibility of using rooftop of existing/upcoming Government offices/buildings to install Mobile Towers of different TSPs to improve the Tower density for better service in Sikkim.

**State Govt. to frame a policy in this regard. As suggested by the chair, a revenue model may be drafted by DIT in consultation with UDD for easy implementation and for win-win situation.**

**(Action: DIT, UDD)**

9. Exploring the possibility of using existing/upcoming infrastructure of the Power department to extend the optical fiber along with Electric poles.

**Secretary, Power dept. suggested for OPGW connectivity to meet the requirements for robust physical connectivity infrastructure. DDG/DoT & GM/BSNL to have an internal meeting with Secretary, Power Dept. to discuss the possibility of piggybacking OPGW overhead fiber on Electric poles. The same was supported by representative, TAIPA.**

**(Action: Secretary/Power Department, BSNL/DDG/DoT, Sikkim)**

10. Extension of NIC connectivity till Block level.

**NIC may submit the requirement to BSNL and BSNL to assess the requirements of NIC to extend connectivity from existing Tel-Ex to Block HQs. /BDO Office.**

**(Action: BSNL, NIC)**

11. Enabling fiberisation of towers.

**Out of total 615 Towers in Sikkim, 273 Towers are connected through fiber (44%).**

**It is expected to fiberize 100% tower within the next 5 years.**

**(Action: DoT)**

12. Status of administrative circles of M/S BSNL in the state.

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At present Sikkim is part of WB Telecom circle - separate administrative Telecom circle is justified for Sikkim being a border state. Matter may be taken up at the level of CGM/West Bengal circle with CMD/BSNL for formation of separate administrative circle and in continuation to earlier letters DIT may write to secretary DoT to expedite the same.

(Action: BSNL, DIT)

13. Specific issues/concerns raised by TAIPA/COAI.

a) ROW alignment and use of Power dept infra for laying of overhead OFC.  
(Subsumed under point -9)

b) 75 numbers of pending cases for erection of mobile tower permission with Urban Development of Department which is more than 6 months.

(Action: UDD)

c) DDG Sikkim requested from COAI for posting of nodal officers for all the TSPs at Gangtok.

(Action: COAI)

d) No charges to be levied for tower commissioning in areas not covered under USOF.

(Action: DIT, Govt. of Sikkim)

14. Any other points/issue with permission of chair.

ACS/DIT who joined the meeting remotely from New Delhi informed the chair that he will highlight the issues regarding independent Telecom circle, ROW policy alignment, roll out of Bharat Net projects and PPP model for rolling Bharat Net phase-II project with the Secretary, DoT, New Delhi.

The chair has decided that a follow up meeting may be conducted in Two months in consultation with all the attendees to review the developments.

(Action: DoT, DIT)

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks by Shri. Rakesh Kumar Meena, Director, DoT.


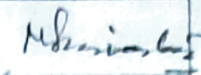




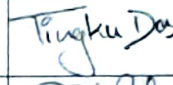

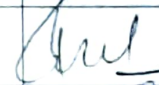


The details of participants are annexed with this minutes of the meeting at Annexure-I.

Submitted for kind perusal please.



DDG Sikkim DOT  
Gangtok  
Member convenerSBC

Attendance Sheet for the State Broadband Committee Meeting on 28-09-2020 under Chairmanship of the Chief secretary Government of Sikkim

S.No	Name of the Officer	Designation	Mobile number	Email-ID	Signature
1	S. C. Gupta	CS			
2	M. L. Srivastava	PCCF/Pr. Secy	9848107271		
3	Thiru K. M. Muthu	Secy (Power)	9933044780		
4	Sandeep	Secy, UDD	9609702600		
5	D. K. Jena	AGM BSNL	9737962963		
6	A. K. Ghosal	Consultant BBN Sikkim	9433400224		
7	Tingku Das	State Incharge	6294254885	Tingku.das @ssc.gov.in	
8	Debanu Shaha	AD/IT	9932420859		
9	Rakesh Kumar	Director, BIT	8900009954		
10	T. P. Shangkappa	Secy R & B Dept.	9434132143		
11	H. S. Sharma	CE(SL) R & B Dept	9434753789		
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