



Administration of
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (UT)
Department of Information Technology
Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu e-Governance Society
Vidyut Bhavan, Kachigam,
Nani Daman

DIR(IT)/Broadband Readiness Index (BRI)/2019/236

Date: 15 /09 /2025

Minutes of the Meeting of the 12th U.T. Broadband Committee held on 05.08.2025

The 12th meeting of the Union Territory Broadband Committee for the Financial Year 2025–26 was convened on 05th August 2025 at 11:30 AM in the Conference Hall, Secretariat, Vidyut Bhavan, Daman, under the chairmanship of Shri Amit Singla, Advisor to the Hon'ble Administrator, DNH & DD. The list of attendees is provided in **Annexure-I**.

At the outset, Shri Ashish Thaker, DDG (Rural), Gujarat LSA, extended a warm welcome to the Chairperson and all participants. He commended the continued cooperation and proactive approach of the U.T. Administration in implementing key telecom projects.

DDG (Rural) highlighted significant progress in ongoing initiatives, particularly the **4G Saturation Project**, which is now nearing completion. Subsequently, Shri Avinash Khatri, Director (Rural-2), Gujarat LSA, briefed the members on the detailed agenda, after which the committee proceeded with discussions on the various points.

1) Telecom Status in the UT

It was reported that, with regard to 4G and 5G network coverage, a total of 1,831 Base Transceiver Stations were operational in the UT of DNH & DD. The committee discussed the issue of shadow coverage areas, noting that 57 such locations had been identified—37 in DNH, 16 in Daman, and 4 in Diu. Telecom Service Providers had

[Handwritten signature]

already optimised their networks in 20 locations in DNH and 8 in Daman, leading to improved services.

Current Network Coverage: A total of **1,831 Base Transceiver Stations (BTs)** are operational in the U.T. of DNH & DD.

- **Shadow Coverage Areas:** 57 shadow areas have been identified — **37 in DNH, 16 in Daman, and 4 in Diu.**
 - Network optimisation by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) has already improved connectivity in **20 locations in DNH** and **08 locations in Daman.**
 - The Chairperson directed **DoT and TSPs** to take all necessary measures to ensure coverage improvement in the remaining areas before the next SBC meeting.
- **Tower Information:** The U.T. Administration request for detailed tower data from DoT is still pending. The Chairperson instructed the **DoT** to provide the required information within **one week.**

2) Review of the 4G Saturation Project

- **Project Progress:** Out of **17 planned sites**, **16 sites have been commissioned and made operational.** The remaining site at **Patlara, Daman District** is pending due to a **land allotment issue.**
- **Action:** The Chairperson directed concerned authorities to **resolve the land allotment matter within a week** to facilitate early commissioning.
- **Usage Analysis:** Traffic reports from the operational sites were encouraging. However, low utilisation in some villages was noted, and awareness programmes were recommended to increase adoption.

3) Samriddh Gram Panchayat Project

The **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)** has launched a pilot project to digitally transform **three Gram Panchayats** — *Kilvani, Dunetha, and Bucharwada* — into **digitally empowered model villages** under the **Amended BharatNet Project.**

- **Gram Panchayat Digital Access Committees (DACs)** have been constituted in each selected village to promote awareness on the benefits of **high-speed FTTH broadband** among local communities, public institutions, businesses, and entrepreneurs.

Anil

- **Action:**

- The Chairperson directed coordinated efforts by **DoT, BBNL/BSNL staff, and DAC members** to conduct targeted awareness drives.
- DoT officers were specifically instructed to personally visit the shortlisted Gram Panchayats to oversee progress.

4) Utilisation & Mandating of CBuD (Call Before You Dig)

Regarding the Call Before You Dig (CBuD) platform, it was informed that 218 excavation enquiries had been recorded in the past six months, with less than 21 percent originating from state agencies or their contractors, while the majority were from TSPs, ISPs, and central agencies. Observing that the number of enquiries was far lower than the actual digging activity, the Chairperson directed that all U.T. departments must mandate the use of CBuD by including it as a condition in RFPs, work orders, and agreements involving excavation.

The committee also discussed the legal implications under Sections 42(5) and 42(7) of the Telecommunication Act, 2023, which classified damage to telecom infrastructure as a cognizable and non-bailable offence, carrying a fine of up to ₹50,00,000 in addition to compensation.

Current Status: Over the last six months, **218 excavation enquiries** were registered on the CBuD platform in the UT, of which **less than 21% originated from state agencies/departments**. The majority came from TSPs, ISPs, and central agencies.

- **Observation:**

Actual digging activities far exceed reported enquiries, indicating under-utilisation of the platform.

- **Directives:**

- All U.T. departments are directed to **mandate the use of CBuD** in RFPs, work orders, and agreements involving excavation.
- Awareness on the legal provisions under **Sections 42(5) and 42(7)** of the *Telecommunication Act, 2023* was reiterated — damage to telecom infrastructure is now a **cognizable, non-bailable offence** with penalties up to **₹50,00,000** in addition to compensation.

Amir

5) Sanchar Saathi Awareness

- The **Sanchar Saathi Mobile App** has been launched by DoT to provide easy access to citizen-centric telecom services.
- The initiative has been promoted by displaying information on official UT websites:
 - <https://ddd.gov.in/>
 - <https://dnh.gov.in/>
- **Further Action Points:**
 - Organise awareness meetings at convenient times for different stakeholder groups.
 - Display Sanchar Saathi information on **digital boards** of the Public Works Department and other prominent public spaces in the UT. The Chairperson approved this proposal.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairperson and all participants for their active involvement and contributions.



Director— cum—Joint Secretary (IT)
U.T. of DNH & DD

To,

All participants (Through email).

Copy to:

- 1) PA to Advisor to the Hon'ble Administrator, DNH & DD for kind information.
- 2) PA to Secretary(IT), DNH & DD for kind information.

Annexure-I

The list of the participants attended the 12th meeting of the Union Territory Broadband Committee for the Financial Year 2025–26 are as follows:

1. Shri Ashish Thaker (ITS), Deputy Director General, (Rural) DOT, Gujarat LSA.
2. Shri Avinash Khatri (ITS), Director-2 (Rural), DOT, Gujarat LSA.
3. Shri S C Meena, Assistant Director-2 (Rural), DOT, Gujarat LSA.
4. Shri. Krishna Kumar P.K., Assistant Director (IT), UT of DNH & DD.
5. Shri Gireesh Tyagi, Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA).
6. Shri. Ramakant Gupta, Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA).
7. Shri. Deepak Gupta, COAI.
8. Representatives from IT Department, DNH & DD.
9. Representatives from BBNL/BSNL.