

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS & COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
(Communications Wing)

From
The Director (Communications)
IT,E&C Department,
Block-IV, 1st Floor,
A.P. Secretariat,
Velagapudi.

To
a) The Senior Deputy Director General,
APLSA, DoT, Vijayawada.
b) All the Committee Members & Spl.
Invitees.

Lr.No.ITC01-COOR0GOIM/8/2022-COMMUNICATIONS, DT:29.08.2025

Sir/Madam,

Sub: IT,E&C Dept., - State Broadband Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on
22.07.2025 at 05.30 PM – Communicated - Reg.

The Government vide G.O.Rt.No.12, IT,E&C Department, DT:25.03.2021 has reconstituted the State Broadband Committee. The Minutes of 8th State Broadband Committee meeting held on 22.07.2025 at 05.30 PM at CS Conference Hall, AP Secretariat, Velagapudi are communicated for information and for further follow up action.

Yours faithfully

Director (Communications)

Encl: as above

Copy to:

- 1) The OSD to the Chief Secretary (w.e.)
- 2) The PS to Secretary, IT,E&C Department.
- 3) The PS to Special Secretary, IT,E&C Department.

Minutes of the 8th State Broadband Committee meeting held at 17:30 hrs. on 22-07-2025 at the Conference Hall of the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has constituted State Broadband Committee for effective implementation and monitoring of the work of National Broadband Mission, with members from stake holding Departments, DoT, BSNL, BBNL and telecom associations (COAI & DIPA) under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

The 8th State Broadband Committee meeting was held on 22-07-2025 under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Govt. of AP and the following officials:

State Government:

1. Sri. Kaveti Vijayanand, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of AP.
2. Sri. Shashi Bhushan Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, PR&RD Dept., (VC)
3. Sri. Kantilal Dande, IAS, Principal Secretary, TR&B Dept., (VC)
4. Sri. S. Suresh Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, MA&UD Dept., (VC)
5. Sri. Katamneni Bhaskar, IAS, Secretary, IT,E&C Dept.,
6. Dr. N. Yuvaraj, IAS, Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department (VC)
7. Sri. Kumar Vishwajeet, IPS, Principal Secretary, Home Dept., (VC)
8. Sri I. Prudhvitej, IAS, Chairman and MD, APEPDCL, Visakhapatnam (VC)
9. Sri. Praveen Adhithya IAS, MD, APSFL
10. Sri. Rahul Pandey, IFS, APCCF, HOFF (VC)
11. Sri. B. Sundar, IFS, Special Secretary, IT,E&C Department
12. Sri. B Balu Naik, Engineer-IN-Chief (PR) Department (VC)
13. Sri N. Prabhakar Reddy, IAS, Addl. CCLA-cum-Secretary (FAC) [VC]
14. Dr. S.S. Sreedhar, IFS, PCCF (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden (VC)
15. Sri. V Uma Maheswara Reddy, GM, AP Road Development Corp., [APRDC] (VC)
16. Sri Pogaku Pulla Reddy, Chairman and MD, APCPDCL, Vijayawada (VC)
17. Sri. K. Santhosha Rao, Chairman and MD, APSPDCL, Tirupati (VC)
18. Sri. Dhavuryan Naik, Director (Communications), IT,E&C Dept.

DoT:

1. Sri. Anup Kumar, ITS, Addl. DG (Telecom), APLSA, DoT, Member Convenor
2. Sri. T. Vara Prasad, ITS, Dy. DG (Rural & Technology), APLSA, Vijayawada.
3. Sri. Kushal Ram Chittari, ADET (Rural), APLSA, Vijayawada.
4. Sri. ASRLN Suresh, Asst. Director (Rural), AP LSA, Vijayawada.
5. Sri. Ravi Sankar. M, Assistant Director (Tech), APLSA, Vijayawada.

BSNL:

1. Sri. B. Ravi Kumar, ITS, CGM and State Head, BSNL AP, Vijayawada.
2. Sri. K Murali Krishna, ITS, GM, AP Circle, Vijayawada
3. Sri. J. Uday Kumar, DGM, AP Circle, Vijayawada

COAI & DIPA (through Video Conference):

1. Sri. Dhanunjay, Director, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI)
2. Sri. Raman Srivastava, Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA)

The Addl.DGT, APSLA, Vijayawada, Member Convenor welcomed the Chairman and members for the 8th State Broadband Committee and presented an overview.

1. Status of migration of AP State RoW Portal to Central GatiShakti Sanchar (GSS) Portal.

- a. As part of migration of AP State RoW Portals to Central GatiShakti Sanchar (GSS) Portal, DoT informed that the PRRD and PRED departments have to complete UAT and test data is to be pushed by the respective departments and Payment Gateway details are to be submitted for integration of payment gateway with central RoW portal. DTCP and CDMA Departments have to submit complete data in templates to NBM, DoT, New Delhi and Dashboard data from AP State to be pushed to Central RoW portal.

- b. The Principal Secretary, TR&B Department confirmed completion of data integration and the pending is for internal testing by NBM, DoT team.
- c. The Chief Secretary directed that R&B, PR&RD, and other departments onboard quickly and eliminate manual processing, ensuring real-time dashboard availability to DoT.

2. Land allotment and RoW permissions by Forest Department:

- a. The DoT highlighted pending issues in land allotment and forest clearances at specific tower sites in Chittoor (Koneru Kuppam), Anakapalli (Ravada village), and Vizag (Saidapur).
- b. The Forest Department explained that 10 cases have received final approval, 7 cases were returned by MoEF&CC for ground demarcation. The Forest Department assured that all pending matters, including wildlife clearance cases, would be expedited.
- c. The PCCF confirmed that working permissions have already been issued in several cases and user agencies were asked to promptly comply at the division level to enable early clearances.
- d. The Secretary, ITE&C Department assured that revenue and local related issues will be closed immediately. Till now, almost all the issues with the help of the collectors and any issues raised in this meeting afresh will also be closed at the earliest.
- e. The Chief Secretary requested the Forest Department to continue close coordination with DoT and TSPs to clear balance cases at the earliest.

3. Progress of DBN (Erstwhile USOF) Schemes (LWE Phase-II, Aspirational Districts and 4G Saturation):

- a. Member Convener briefed on USOF/ DBN projects i.e. Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) Phase-II, Aspirational Districts Project and 4G Saturation project. Under LWE Phase-II, out of 197 sanctioned towers, 189 have been commissioned, Under Aspirational Districts, out of 633 sanctioned towers, 515 have been commissioned and Under 4G Saturation, out of 1,370 sanctioned towers, 1,076 have been commissioned, with 294 towers pending.
- b. The Secretary, ITE&C Department has informed that out of the sanctioned towers, 8 towers under LWE Phase-II, 118 towers under Aspirational Districts and 294 towers under 4G Saturation are pending for commissioning. As most of the permissions from Government and Forest side are issued, the Secretary, ITE&C Department requested the DoT and TSPs by when the remaining towers will be commissioned.
- c. Regarding the road access issues, Airtel (6 Nos), Jio (27 Nos.) and BSNL (37 Nos), DoT/TSPs requested support from AP state Govt. Departments.
- d. The Secretary, ITE&C Department informed that wherever short distances roads are required, there collectors are arranging it with MGNREGS funds. For Longer distance roads, it was informed that an internal meeting with Collectors and Forest Department will be conducted, and the issues will be closed. It was agreed that collectors and concerned departments would extend support in resolving access and land disputes to enable completion.
- e. The Chief Secretary clarified that user agencies must arrange access roads to tower sites and directed collectors to explore feasible solutions for short stretches. Regarding the WL/Forest issues pending with Forest departments, the Chief Secretary directed the PCCF to expedite for early approvals.

4. Call Before u Dig (CBuD) Mobile App

- a. The Chief Secretary said that roads are being dug indiscriminately due to which there is a lot of damage to the telecommunication assets nowadays. Therefore, it was requested to all the departments, particularly infrastructure departments to ensure that this app is widely used or otherwise it'll be forced to give a cut-off date. After that cut-off date, no permissions will be given by any to any department by any department. The ITE&C department is willing to organize trainings to the nodal officers of the line Departments. Further, the Chief

Secretary said that ITE&C Department requested to issue an official G.O and asked the Departments for their opinion on issuing of the G.O.

- b. Departments expressed support for the initiative but requested a transition period to allow training of field-level officers and contractors. The Secretary, ITE&C Department agreed to provide a three-month transition period (August–October) during which the IT&E Department will conduct intensive training programs. Both online tutorials and physical hands-on training will be organized, with six batches planned over the next three months. Awareness videos and YouTube demonstrations will also be circulated through official channels and WhatsApp groups of field engineers.
- c. It was agreed that from November onwards, the use of CBuD will be made mandatory, and any violation will attract strict action. Departments were also advised to integrate their existing road-cutting/permit portals (such as the R&B and Municipal Administration RW portals) with the CBuD platform to ensure uniformity. Contractors and sub-contractors working on government projects will be explicitly instructed to download the app and use it before commencing any excavation activity.
- d. The meeting concluded with a consensus that adoption of the CBuD platform is not optional but an urgent necessity. The Chief Secretary emphasized that this will not only save resources but also foster inter-departmental coordination and prevent wastage of public funds. Departments were directed to ensure that all necessary measures are taken within the three-month window to enable smooth transition to a mandatory, app-based approval system.

5. Mapping of Street Furniture on PM Gati Shakti NMP Platform

- a. DoT requested for the total street furniture that is to be mapped on NMP is to be submitted for assessing actual pending street furniture for mapping.
- b. The Secretary, ITE&C Department informed that the Andhra Pradesh state has mapped different street furniture and ensured that all the street furniture data will be shared with DoT.

6. Issues raised by DIPA:

- a. **APIIC Onboarding:** Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC) is not yet on-boarded on the RoW Portal and continues to follow an offline process, including charging ₹ 1 lakh per tower application, which is contrary to the notified policy in vogue. The Chief Secretary directed Secretary, Industries Department/IT Department to ensure APIIC's onboarding onto portal at the earliest.
- b. **NOC Demands for Private Property Installations:** DIPA raised concerns about local bodies and gram panchayats insisting on NOCs for tower installations on private property, contrary to the amended RoW Rules 2024, which only require intimation. The Chief Secretary directed that a circular be issued from HoDs to District authorities directing them to instruct all field level municipalities, panchayats, and local bodies not to demand NOCs, and clarifying the correct legal provision.
- c. **DLTC meeting:** DIPA requested regular convening of District Level Telecom Committee (DLTC) meetings to enable timely resolution of RoW and field-level operational issues. The Chief Secretary informed that the member convener of the DLTC shall take the time of the DLTC chairman for conducting the regular DLTC meetings and from State Government side it is assured that a DO letter will be issued to all District Collectors to conduct DLTC meetings regularly.
- d. **NOC Demands by DISCOMs:** The Chief Secretary instructed all the CMDs of the DISCOMs to direct all field level officers that TSPs doesn't require NOC on a private property (Only intimation) and if the TSPs are using the DISOMs poles then TSP requires permission.
- e. **Composite Billing:** DIPA requested the Chair to implement the Composite Billing provision in Andhra Pradesh which was implemented similarly in 14 other states. The DISCOMs agreed in principle to adopt the scheme, and instructions will be issued to operationalize this. The TSPs also requested nodal officers from all major departments to be designated for faster resolution of routine issues rather than

waiting for SBC meetings. The Chief Secretary directed Secretary, ITE&C Department to study this subject.

- f. **Smart Meters:** DIPA requested priority installation of smart meters at telecom sites. The Chief Secretary directed DISCOMs to follow the RDSS rules.
- g. **Industrial Tariff classification:** Regarding the industrial tariff classification, the Chief Secretary informed to file before the APERC. DIPA confirmed that, as per the last SBC instructions, a request letter has been sent to APERC seeking Industrial Tariff for the telecom sector. Since the DIPA has sent the letter, APERC will have a public hearing and will decide the on this matter of providing Industrial tariff to telecom sector.

7. Issues Raised by COAI

- a. Some departments like R&B, PRED, PRRD, CDMA & DTCP are still not aligned with Right of Way Rules, 2024. Chief Secretary directed Secretary, IT,E&C to align all the portals as per RoW rules 2024.
- b. APSFL and telecom operators were requested to coordinate better in utilizing existing duct infrastructure created under Smart Cities and other urban projects.

8. 100% coverage of all Gram/Ward secretariats in State with 3G/4G/5G

- a. While DoT reported that only 586 villages remain uncovered, the state's own geo-spatial analysis indicated that around 3,580 habitations have no mobile coverage, affecting services like pension disbursement and e-governance delivery. The Chief Secretary directed that this updated list be shared with the Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Government of India, so that these habitations are taken up under forthcoming connectivity projects, ensuring complete coverage.

9. Other Points of discussion

- a. DoT has requested for Latitude/Longitudes of LGD villages in AP. The Secretary, IT,E&C ensured that necessary will be arranged from Panchayat raj department at the earliest.
- b. Notification for formation of Digital Access Committee (DAC) in Samriddh Gram Panchayats is to be issued by Govt. of AP. The Chief Secretary directed concerned department to notify at the earliest.
- c. All State Government websites need to be migrated to IPV6 or Dual Stack. The Chief Secretary directed Secretary, IT,E&C to complete migration at the earliest.

**K VIJAYANAND
CHIEF SECRETARY**