

दूरसंचार विभाग /Department of Telecommunications
कार्यालय उप महानिदेशक (एस सी), अरुणाचल प्रदेश /Office of DDG (SC), Arunachal Pradesh
बीएसएनएल सैटेलाइट और माइक्रोवेव स्टेशन /BSNL Satellite and Microwave Station
सी-सेक्टर, ईटानगर-791111 /C-Sector, Itanagar - 791111

Minutes of 10th SBC Meeting, Arunachal Pradesh
Held on 27.06.2025 at Civil Secretariat, Arunachal Pradesh

1. The 10th State Broadband Committee (SBC) meeting of Arunachal Pradesh was held under the chairmanship of the Ld. Chief Secretary Shri Manish Gupta at the Civil Secretariat, Arunachal Pradesh on 27.06.2025. The list of participants is attached at **Annexure-I**. Representatives of M/s BHL, BSNL, BharatNet and RJIL attended the meeting as special invitees. Representatives from COAI and DIPA joined the meeting virtually.
2. At the outset, Shri Ramawatar Meena, DDG (SC), DoT welcomed all the participants. Shri Nandlal Suchdev, Additional DGT, NE LSA, DoT, in his opening speech thanked the state for its ongoing support, which has led to the notification of new Right of Way (RoW) rules and the resolution of many issues concerning the 4G saturation project. He requested for the continued support of the State Government for the Amended BharatNet project, utilisation of OFC network of BharatNet, leveraging the Optical Ground Wire (OPGW) of the power sector, formation of Digital Access Committees under Samriddh Gram Panchayat Pilot project, and other initiatives of the DoT.
3. With the permission of the Chair, DDG(SC) made a presentation and covered the following:
 - Status of telecom infrastructure in Arunachal Pradesh
 - Status & issues of ongoing DBN Funded Projects in Arunachal Pradesh
 - 4G Saturation Project,
 - Mobile coverage of BOP/ BIP sites
 - DBN funded project of BHL (Airtel)
 - Amended BharatNet Project
 - Issues related to Electricity Connections at Telecom Sites
 - Formation of DAC for Samriddh Gram Panchayat
 - Utilization of OPGW (Optical Ground Wire) in the State
 - DPR for optical connectivity to all Districts HQs and Block HQs
 - mapping of important data layers in PM Gatishakti State Master Plan Portal
 - Meeting of DLTMC and CBUD
 - CEIR and formation of Taskforce for Cyberfrauds
 - Redressal of concerns of Telecom Industry (COAI, DIPA, ISPAI and TSPs)
4. Chief Secretary Shri Manish Gupta affirmed the State's commitment to providing all necessary support for the Department of Telecom's initiatives.

Deliberations and Decisions Taken:

A. Lat-Long Coordinates of all Villages

5. There are a total of 5993 villages (as per the RGI November 2019 list). To have the accurate assessment of coverage information and planning of uncovered villages, it is essential to have authenticated coordinates (Lat-Long) of all the villages of Arunachal Pradesh. DoT



requested the State Government to provide latitude and longitude data for all villages. The Ld. Chief Secretary instructed the IT Department and the Planning Department to furnish the same to DoT. Further, the Chief Secretary directed the IT Department to update the latitude/longitude data and list of villages in the LGD directory. *(Action by: DoT, IT Department and Planning Department)*

B. Fiberisation of BTSs

6. Out of 6,294 total BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) in the state, 44.26% now have optical fiber cable (OFC) backhaul connectivity, a 2.41% increase since the last SBC (State Broadband Committee) report. Despite this progress, the Chief Secretary noted that Airtel's fiberization rate remains low. While Airtel has improved its OFC connectivity to 35.02% from 31.70%, only about a third of its BTSs are fiber-connected. Airtel stated they're expanding their OFC network and will provide a detailed plan. All Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have been instructed to submit an action plan for fiberizing their BTSs in the state. *(Action by: All TSPs)*

C. DBN funded 4G Saturation Project being executed by BSNL

7. The status of the 4G saturation project and 4G mobile services at BOP/BIP project was presented for discussion.
 - Under 4G Saturation project, 622 towers have been erected out of the planned 656 towers and 166 sites have been commissioned, covering 372 villages. The Ld. Chief Secretary expressed concern over the low number of commissioned sites. BSNL stated that delay is primarily due to the shortage of VSATs. GM, BSNL informed that approval of competent authority has been accorded for 100 more VSATs for Arunachal Pradesh and tendering is in process for procurement of more than 300 VSATs. The GM stated that on receipt of the VSATs, more sites will be commissioned.
 - Under the 4G mobile services at BOP/BIP project, 31 towers have been erected out of 106 planned, and 12 sites have been commissioned, covering 18 locations.
 - The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) updated the State Government on significant progress in revising Electricity Board (EB) demand notes. To help complete the 4G saturation project, DoT asked for a review of outstanding demand notes, aiming to cap them at ₹3 lakh. BSNL's GM BA echoed this, requesting a maximum of ₹3 lakh for new EB connections in all electrified villages, aligning with BSNL's payment limit (with exceptions up to ₹5 lakh in some cases). The Chief Secretary then directed the Power Secretary to reconsider high demand notes considering that telecom infrastructure is the critical infrastructure. *(Action by: Power Department)*
 - The Chief Secretary further instructed BSNL and Power Department to hold a separate meeting to resolve the issues related to EB connections. *(Action by: Power Department and BSNL)*
 - BSNL informed that 17 sites of 4G Saturation Project and 59 sites of Mobile coverage for BoP/BIP project are non-motorable. The Chief Secretary asked BSNL to hold a review meeting with the Secretary (IT) regarding the same. *(Action: IT Department and BSNL)*



- GM, BSNL informed that an additional 417 sites have been approved under the DBN 4G saturation project. A request letter for land allotment has already been sent to all DCs. BSNL requested intervention from Secretary (IT) for facilitating land allotment at the earliest. *(Action: IT Department and BSNL)*

D. DBN Funded Project being executed by BHL

8. **Provision of 4G Mobile Services in Uncovered Villages** (being executed by M/s BHL, a Digital Bharat Nidhi-funded project):
 - M/s BHL informed that out of the planned 531 towers, 476 towers have been erected and 469 BTSs have been commissioned which are covering 927 villages.
 - DDG(SC) informed that accessibility issues have been resolved at many sites; however, 63 sites still remain inaccessible and 4 sites in Anjaw, Kurung Kumey, and Shi Yomi districts face local issues. The Chief Secretary instructed the IT Department to convene a meeting with Airtel to address these concerns. *(Action: M/s BHL and IT Department)*
 - Regarding forest clearance for 8 sites, the PCCF, Arunachal Pradesh informed that demand notes of 8 forest sites have been revised, and a proposal for waiving wildlife charges for 6 sites has been submitted to MoEF&CC. *(Action: M/s BHL and Forest Department)*

E. Amended BharatNet Program:

9. GM, BharatNet presented the status of Phase I and II of the programs. The amended BharatNet program aims to connect a total of 1261 GPs /villages via optical fiber. M/s ITI Ltd along with its consortium partner Tera Soft Ltd has been selected as Project Implementation Agency (PIA) for Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, and Nagaland. GM, BharatNet informed that out of 719 GPs with panchayat buildings and 950 GPs with school buildings, only 115 have electricity connections. He requested State Government support for simplified electricity provisioning and single billing under the BharatNet Flag. He also sought an updated list of GPs. GM BA also requested for single CAF for FTTH connections to PHCs and Schools under Amended BharatNet Program. He also stated that Secretary (IT) assured support in both matters. *(Action: BBNL and IT Department)*
10. **State Support Agreement under Amended BharatNet Program:** A tripartite MoU dated 26.10.2012 and Amendment dated 04.10.2021 was signed between DoT, BBNL, and the State Government. On 04.06.2025, DoT has forwarded an addendum "ABP/State Support Agreement/2" for early signing. The Chief Secretary instructed the IT Department to take necessary action. *(Action: IT Department)*

F. Formation of Gram Panchayat DAC (Digital Access Committee) under pilot "Samriddh Gram Panchayat" initiative:

11. DBN DoT has identified four Gram Panchayats as pilots in Arunachal Pradesh. DoT vide letter date 23.02.2025 have requested States to notify a Digital Access Committee (DAC) in each, comprising the Sarpanch (Chairman), Panchayat Secretary (Member Convener), school principal/teacher, and other members. The Chief Secretary instructed Secretary (IT) to expedite formation of DACs. *(Action: IT Department)*

12. BSNL informed that one of the four Gram Panchayats selected as pilots for Samriddh Gram Panchayat" is Upper Thrizino GP. However, BharatNet infrastructure is unavailable in Upper Thrizino GP. BSNL requested that an alternate GP be recommended. The Chief Secretary instructed BSNL and IT Department to coordinate accordingly. *(Action: BSNL and IT Department)*

G. FTTH Connections under BharatNet Program to Government Institutions:

13. DDG(SC) informed that funds have been allocated under the Special Assistance to States scheme for last-mile FTTH connectivity to 880 government institutions. The IT Department informed that connections from GPs to the respective FTTH sites have been completed. The Chief Secretary instructed the department to ensure the FTTH connections become operational at the earliest. *(Action: IT Department)*

H. DPR for Optical Fiber Connectivity to District and Block HQs:

14. The IT Department informed that the draft DPR has been prepared and submitted to DBN. DDG(SC) stated that as informed by DBN, DOT the proposal is under consideration.

I. Utilization of OPGW (Optical Ground Wire) Cable:

15. Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Ministry of Power, Govt of India has issued directions requesting State Transmission Utilities and all the Transmission Service Providers to incorporate the necessary provisions in the technical specifications of their future transmission schemes supporting the laying of at least 48F (fiber) instead of 24F OPGW (Optical Ground Wire).
16. The Chief Secretary enquired about the current utilization of fiber laid by Power Grid and instructed that a coordination meeting be held between DoT, Power Department, PGCIL, and TSPs. An action plan for effective utilization and policy notification should be prepared. *(Action: DoT, Power Department, PGCIL, TSPs)*

J. Mapping of Data Layers in PM GatiShakti Portal:

17. The Chief Secretary noted that while some layers may not be relevant to Arunachal Pradesh due to its terrain, State departments should ensure proper data incorporation and updates. *(Action: Planning Department)*

K. District-Level Telecom Coordination Committees:

18. IT Department informed that DLMC meetings are being conducted. The Chief Secretary instructed that DoT should be informed in advance and that CBuD should be included as an agenda item for the meeting. *(Action: IT Department and Deputy Commissioners)*

L. Appointment of Nodal Officer under Section 14(4) of Telecom Act 2023:

19. The Chief Secretary directed the IT Department to issue necessary orders for nomination of the Nodal Officer. *(Action: IT Department)*



M. Sanchar Saathi Portal / App:

20. DDG(SC) briefed about the Sanchar Saathi App launched by DoT, urging all departments to make effective use of the platform for blocking lost /stolen mobile handsets.

N. Taskforce for Preventing Cybercrime Using Telecom Resources:

21. DoT has sought nominations from Police Departments for a taskforce to curb cybercrime and telecom resource misuse. The Chief Secretary instructed that the Police Department be invited in the next SBC. (*Action: DoT and IT Department*)

O. Concerns of the Telecom Industry (COAI, DIPA, ISPAI, TSPs):

22. DIPA raised issues related to the safety of telecom infrastructure, delays in FIRs for theft, replacement of faulty meters, and average billing. The Chief Secretary noted that smart metering is under active consideration and once implemented, related concerns are likely to be addressed. Matters relating to law and order will be taken up with the Police Department.

P. Lack of Telecom Services between Holongi Airport and Itanagar:

23. Chief Secretary raised the issue of non-availability of Telecom Services between Holongi Airport and Itanagar for a stretch of almost 10 KM. BSNL informed that two no. of towers will be commissioned shortly thereafter the problem may be resolved to a great extent. DDG(SC) has informed that a communication has been sent to all TSP to take necessary action for enhancement and improvement of networks on these spots /routes and submit an action taken report. Representative of Indus Tower told that a letter from Secy, IT may be written to Airtel in this regard so that matter may be taken up for installation of tower.
24. The Chief Secretary concluded the meeting by thanking all participants and **instructing departments to promptly act on decisions made** and submit the Action Taken Reports (ATRs).

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(Manish Kumar Gupta, IAS)
Chief Secretary-cum-Chairman
State Broadband Committee,
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh

DDG(SC)/DoT/AP/SBC/2025-26

dated: 10.07.2025


10/07/2025

(Ramawatar Meena)
DDG(SC) -cum-Member Convener, SBC
DoT, Arunachal Pradesh, Govt. of India

Annexure-I

Meeting of 10th State Broadband Committee

List of Participants

Sl. No	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Manish Kumar Gupta, IAS	Chief Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh
2.	Shri P. Subramanyam, IFS	PCCF & HoFF, Arunachal Pradesh
3.	Dr. Sonal Swaroop, IAS	Secretary (IT&C), Arunachal Pradesh
4.	Shri R.K. Sharma, IAS	Secretary (Power), Arunachal Pradesh
5.	Shri Nandlal Suchdev, ITS	Addl. DG T, NE LSA, Shillong
6.	Shri Ramawatar Meena, ITS	DDG(SC), DoT, NE LSA, Arunachal Pradesh
7.	Shri Jaipal Singh Tomar, ITS	DDG (Rural), NE LSA, Shillong
8.	Shri Mukesh Meena, ITS	GM, BharatNet, NE-II
9.	Shri Saket Kumar Verma, ITS	GM, BSNL, Arunachal Pradesh
10.	Shri Tajum Jeram	AGM(CM), BSNL, Arunachal Pradesh
11.	Shri Pragya Nand Kumar	Airtel
12.	Shri Monodeep Sarkar	DGM, Regulatory, Airtel
13.	Shri Mika Nyori	Jt. Secretary, PWD, Arunachal Pradesh
14.	Smti Neelam Yapin Tana	Director (IT), Arunachal Pradesh
15.	Smti Yater Pari	DD (IT), Arunachal Pradesh
16.	Shri Serra Neelam	AD (IT), Arunachal Pradesh
17.	Smti Banya Boje	AD (IT), Arunachal Pradesh
18.	Shri Harsh Mittal	ADET(SC), DoT, NE LSA, Arunachal Pradesh
19.	Shri Tech Tado	Project Coordinator (IT), Arunachal Pradesh
20.	Shri Y Arun	CICO (IT), Arunachal Pradesh
21.	Shri Osing Dai	SDE(E), BSNL, Arunachal Pradesh
22.	Shri Nabajyoti Das	JE (CM), BSNL, Arunachal Pradesh
23.	Shri Tage Rambo	RJIL
24.	Shri Mithun Kumar	RJIL

* Representatives of TSPs and the telecom industry attended the meeting through VC.