

Minutes of the 16th State Broadband Committee Meeting

The 16th SBC meeting was held on 30th Mar, 2026 at 16:00 Hrs. under the chairmanship of Shri K.S. Gopinath Narayan, IA&AS, Principal Secretary, Information Technology Department. The meeting was convened by Shri Rajendra Meshram, Addl DG (T), Assam LSA.

The meeting started with the welcome address by Shri Pankaj Das, DDG (R).

The **agenda** for the 16th SBC was as follows:

1. DBN (USOF) Projects:
 - a. BSNL 4G Saturation Project
 - b. Amended Bharat Net & BN Utilization--Samriddh Gram Panchayat Pilot Project
2. RoW
3. Status of Street Furniture Mapping
4. Call Before You Dig
5. DIPA/COAI /ISPAI issues
6. Miscellaneous Issues

The points discussed & decisions taken are stated as follows:

1. DBN Projects:

a. BSNL 4G Saturation Project:

i) Land Allotment:

4G Saturation: Land Allotment/ Acquisition Status	Cat: I-III & IV	Cat V	Cat VI
• Total Sites Proposed to Cover Uncovered Villages	441	240	50
Sites Break Up			
o Govt. /Council Sites	285		
o Forest Sites	44		
o Private Sites Proposed due to Non-Availability of Govt. Land	112		
• As on Date Land Allocation Done:	431		
o Govt. /Council	285		
o Forest Sites	40		
o Private	106		
• Pending Site Acquisition	10		
o Govt.	0		
o Forest	4		
o Private	6		

Assam LSA apprised the committee that there are 25 sites where BSNL is facing certain issues which are enumerated below. These cases have been communicated from DGT / DoT HQ and their resolution need to be expedited.

SL	Issue	Cases (No.)	Resolved/ WIP	State Support Req'd	Remarks
1	ESZ Permission	1		1	in Cachar district:1
2	Forest Permission	5	4	1	Forest Site survey pending (Cachar:1)
3	Inaccessible	8		8	Joint Survey with District Auth. (KA:4, DH:2, CA:1, DIB:1)
4	Local Issue	1		1	BSNL to meet DC (Dib) for correction in Land record
5	Revenue land pending	10	9	1	BSNL to pursue the case of insufficient land with Silchar auth.
Total		25	13	12	

The individual cases were discussed and the BSNL Assam circle was asked to take necessary steps and pursue the matters with the concerned District/Forest authorities to resolve the land issue. For the cases having access issues which BSNL wants to drop from the scope of the Project: - BSNL needs to conduct and complete the joint surveys (J/S) with the District Authorities and submit a joint signed report. On the basis of the J/S report, the State would submit its recommendation to the DBN. BSNL would submit the ATR on all the required cases as stated above to the State Govt Pr. Secy-IT) with a copy to DoT LSA (DDG-R). The State would accordingly pursue the cases with the concerned authorities for expediting the cases.

The Chairman, SBC assured that State will extend full support in this regard.

--Action by BSNL

ii) Electricity CXNs:

SL	Details	Count
1	EB connection Applied by BSNL	384
2	Yet to be applied by BSNL	57
3	EB D/Note issued from APDCL	336
4	EB D/N yet to be issued by APDCL (pending due to joint survey from APDCL)	48
5	EB D/Note < 3 Lac	217
6	EB D/Note > 3 Lac & < 5 Lac	64
7	EB D/Note > 5 Lac & < 10 Lac	31
8	EB D/Note > 10 Lac	24
9	EB D/Note Paid (out of 217 cases <3Lacs)	197
10	EB D/Note yet to be Paid by BSNL (<3 Lacs)	20
11	EB Commissioning Done (Out of 197)	140
12	EB Commissioning Pending (Out of 197)	57

APDCL informed that there are some sites of BSNL where EB commissioning is pending since the BSNL tower construction has not been completed. Also, there are some sites where the DN could not be issued since BSNL has not yet completed the joint survey with APDCL. BSNL was requested to expedite the construction of their sites and coordinate with APDCL for joint survey at the earliest. BSNL also informed that a meeting with APDCL will soon be held to discuss the EB issues.

The Chairman, SBC requested BSNL & APDCL to hold meeting before the SBCs so that both the agencies are in sync regarding the progress and timelines.

--Action by APDCL & BSNL

iii) Execution Status:

Execution Status: Cat: I - IV	
Total no of sites	441
Foundation completed	409
Tower erection completed	402
Tower ready with Electricity	140
Sites On Air	334
Sites on HOLD (WIP)	107

b. Bharat Net Utilization

i) Samriddh Gram Panchayat Pilot Project (SGPPP):

Targeted FTTH Connections by 31.12.2025						
Classification	Public Institutions (>5 per GP)	Achievement Status	Private Enterprises (>5 per GP)	Achievement Status	Households (>5% per GP)	Achievement Status
Target	475	45	475	14	3790	390

PGM (BharatNet), BSNL informed the committee that works for Amended BharatNet will soon commence in Assam to connect the remaining 1186 GPs and the previously linearly connected GPs (1479) in ring topology, and also requested the Chairman for State support in its execution, to which the Chairman agreed.

The Chairman requested for a meeting with BSNL whereby the utility of the upcoming ABN in improving the connectivity in the Govt offices could be discussed.

--Action by BSNL

2. RoW:

RoW Applications	Total	Approved	Rejected	Under process	Pending>67D	Reverted
As per Gati Shakti Sanchar	6258	5229	193	2	0	276

Assam state is using the State RoW portal which is aligned with the Central RoW Rules 2024.

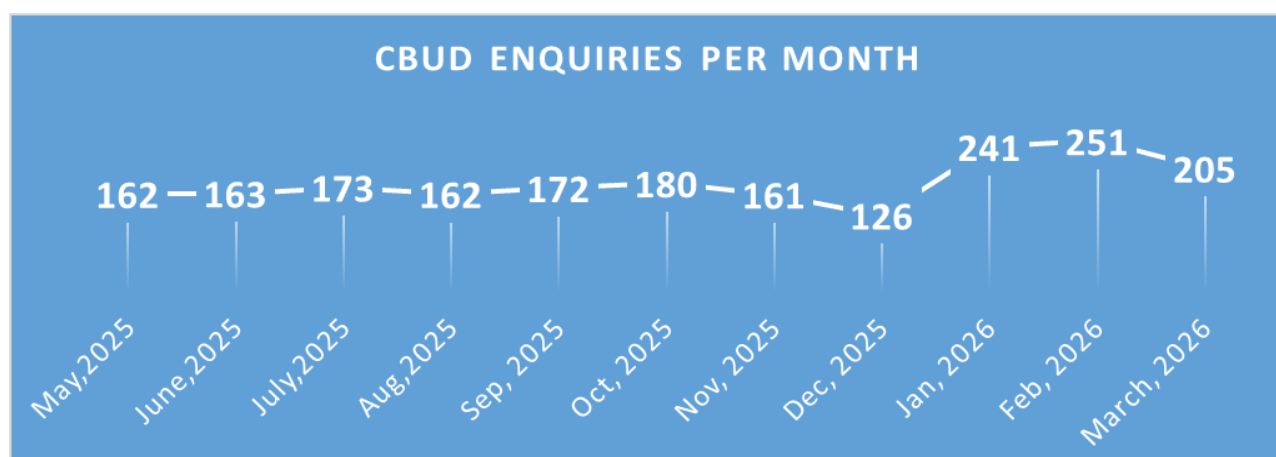
3. Status of Street Furniture Mapping:

Actions need to be expedited by concerned departments for mapping their assets.

HOME & POLITICAL Dept & DoHUA		PWD (Buildings)		ASTC & DoHUA				APDCL [POWER (ELECTRICITY) DEPARTMENT]		DoHUA	
Total Traffic Lights	Traffic lights mapped	Total Government Buildings	Government Buildings mapped	Total Bus Terminals	Bus Terminals mapped	Total Bus Shelters	Bus Shelters mapped	Total Electric Poles	Electric Poles mapped	Total Street Lights	Street Lights mapped
	105		144	106	94		0	11390309	76,771		

4. Call Before You Dig

State Users				Central Users			Registered Excavators	Enquiries	Unreported Excavations
Dept	Agency	District	Tehsil	C. State Agency	C. District	C. Tehsil			
15	52	299	209	28	557	414	1483	4171	53



It was highlighted that though TSPs are using the CBuD platform consistently, but the State departments and agencies are not seen using the platform, which in turn leads to damage to the underground cables/pipelines/fibre due to unannounced/ unauthorized excavations.

Assam LSA requested IT Department and the state CBuD nodal officer to organise regular meetings with the heads of the concerned line departments and Agencies responsible for giving permission and for execution of various excavation works to monitor CBuD utilization and ensure compliance of CBuD mandates in the state. DDG(R) pointed out the importance and the need of monitoring and

controlling the Unreported Excavation cases appearing in the CBuD portal through respective District Nodal Officers.

Further, being considered as the major stakeholder, a special request was made to PWRD to take the lead and all necessary steps to ensure compliance in the field without fail. PWRD informed that post-election, workshops will be held to sensitize the PWRD field officers and Contractors about the use of CBuD. Add DG(T) also requested PWRD to ensure that their work orders mandate the contractor to use CBuD while doing any digging.

--Action by PWRD & State IT Dept

5. DIPA/COAI /ISPAI issues:

a. RoW Issues:

M/s. Indus Towers Ltd. informed that they are facing issue in obtaining permission for establishment of mobile towers in NIT Silchar, Assam Secretariat & Ulubari region (DGP Office, APDCL & Agriculture Office), and also informed that since there is no suitable private site available, the Govt land is the only viable option, and requested the Chairman, SBC to help facilitate permissions for these 3 cases. The Chairman enquired and requested the DIPA representative to come up with a mechanism to establish their claim on Govt. land option. However, for the present cases, DIPA member (i.e., M/s. Indus) may share the details to the State Govt. so that the same can be taken up with the concerned authorities.

After getting the details from DIPA, IT Department would contact the concerned authorities-APDCL, Agriculture office at Guwahati and NIT Silchar authorities to discuss their stand on the matter. IT Dept representative requested Indus towers rep to provide the comprehensive data for the sites (Proposed site map, Correspondence held, MoM etc) at the earliest.

--Action by State IT Dept, DIPA & Indus Towers

b. Telecom Theft Incidents:

DIPA briefed the Chair about the rising telecom equipment thefts in the field and requested that the instructions to District and Police authorities be kindly issued in line with the letter from Secretary (Telecom). The State IT Dept informed that the letter will be issued within this month. This point should be treated as closed henceforth.

--Action by State IT Dept.

c. Electricity related issue:

- i. **Smart Meter Installation:** DIPA shared a list of 909 sites for smart meter installation with APDCL.
- ii. **Communication issue in Smart Meter:** DIPA shared a list of 91 sites with APDCL where its members are facing disconnection due to billing related issue caused by communication fault in smart meter. APDCL assured quick resolution for these issues.
- iii. **Composite Billing:** APDCL informed that the CB will be implemented within 1 week.

--Action by APDCL

6. Miscellaneous Issues:

a. Leveraging DISCOM infra for FTTx & BN:

DDG (Rural) discussed the role of DISCOM in FTTx proliferation across Assam. The Chairman requested that a separate meeting could be organised soon to discuss the modalities and details of the proposal with all the concerned stakeholders.

The meeting ended with the Vote of thanks from the Add DG(T)/ Assam LSA.

Memo eCF No. IT. 248420/2022/39-A

Copy to:

1. The Director, Directorate of Information Technology, Electronics & Communication (DITEC), Dispur, Guwahati-06.
2. The Managing director, AMTRON, Bamunimaidam, Khanapara, Guwahati-21.
3. The State Project Director, AITEC & CSD Society, Agriculture Complex, Khanapara, Ghy-22.
4. The DC/ADC of all Districts.
5. The Sr. DDG, DoT, Assam, LSA.
6. The ADG (T), LSA, Assam.
7. The CGM, BSNL, Paltan Bazaar, Guwahati-01
8. The GM, Bharatnet, Assam.
9. The Secretary to Govt. of Assam, Power Department/PWD (R)/ PWD (Bldg &NH)/P&RD/ Environment & Forest Deptt./ DoHUA, Dispur, Guwahati-06
10. The MD, APDCL, Bijulee Bhawan, Paltan Bazaar, Guwahati-01
11. The DG, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).
12. The Digital Infrastructure Providers Association of India (DIPA).
13. P.S. to Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology for kind information
14. P.S. to Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Information Technology for kind information

By orders etc.,

e-signed

Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Information Technology Department