



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

IT Department - Improving Telecom infrastructure in the State - Recommendations of the Inter Departmental Committee - Approved- Orders issued.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (A) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(MS)No.37/2008/ITD.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram 16.9.2008.

Read:- 1) G.O.(MS)No.18/2000/ITD dated 8.11.2000.
2) G.O.(MS) No.2/2001/ITD dated 20.1.2001.
3) Minutes of meeting held on 26.7.2008 by the Chief Secretary.

ORDER

Government vide GO read as 1st above had approved the Rights of Way (RoW) policy for laying optic fibre cables along the road networks in Kerala to provide world class telecommunication infrastructure and to promote information technology for the rapid economic and social development of the state. It was further ordered as per GO read as 2nd above that the clearance issued by IT Department shall be considered final clearance and it shall not be necessary for departments/ agencies to issue individual clearances. Accordingly RoW is being granted to telecommunication players since 2001 onwards, by which the facility to lay underground telecom cables has been allowed subject to certain conditions which were laid out in G.O. 1st read above.

2. Since 2007 the RoW operators have been requested to terminate 10 mbps connectivity at the three Network Operating Centres (NOCs) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi and Kozhikode and 4 mbps at the District PoPs (Point of Presence) and the Block PoPs.

3. The Department of Telecommunications, Government of India has forwarded the report of a Committee setup by the Group on Telecom and Information Technology Convergence (GOT - IT) for streamlining the provision of Right of Way to Telecom Service Licensees. Moreover Government of India has informed that Department of Telecommunications has permitted infrastructure sharing for mobile towers among the service providers and infrastructure providers to promote the infrastructure sharing in the urban areas, the State Government is requested to charge the same amount for setting up of the shared towers, irrespective of the number of service providers sharing the same tower, at par with unshared towers.

4. In order to consider various options and propose policy guidelines to improve overall connectivity in the state, Government constituted an Inter Departmental Committee. That Committee had considered all issues in detail and had made certain suggestions/recommendations as per paper 3rd above.

5. Government have examined the suggestions/recommendations of the Inter Departmental Committee in detail and are pleased to order as follows for improving telecom infrastructure in the State.

2

Regarding Right of Way

- a) All RoW operators shall provide free bandwidth of 10 MBPS at the NOCs and 4 MBPS at the District PoPs and Block PoPs in all such districts or block headquarters through which the cable is laid.
- b) BSNL shall provide free bandwidth as per above terms.
- c) If PWD provides utility corridors for laying cable/ducts etc. suitable/reasonable rent or user charge will be levied.
- d) All Other conditions as already prescribed will continue.

Using Government Buildings/Space

- e) Permissive sanction is accorded for the installation of towers on the roof tops and open space in Municipal areas and facilitated lease of open space in premises of Government offices to all Telecom service provider for installation of their network equipment.

Promoting shared Infrastructure

- f) Same amount shall be charged for setting up of the shared tower, irrespective of the number of service providers sharing the same tower, at par with unshared tower.

Universal Connectivity

- g) Government will adopt a campaign for declaring all villages in Kerala to be connected by mobile and broadband by 2009.
- h) In future, while granting RoW, it will be mandated that at least 10% of the investment will be to connect areas which are not connected with mobile or broadband.
- i) Government of Kerala will address Government of India to provide additional funding to Kerala under the USO scheme to enable achieve the 100 percent connectivity target by 2009 and to allow USO Fund for providing broadband in remote pockets of the state.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)
DR. AJAY KUMAR
Secretary to Government

To

All Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/Special Secretaries to Government.
All Departments including Law and Finance.
All Heads of Departments.
All Telecom Companies in the State.
The Accountant General (A&E)/(Audit), Kerala, Thriuvananthapuram.
General Administration (SC) Department.
The Director of Public Relations.
The Director, KSITM.
Stock file/Office copy.

Forwarded/By Order,


Section Officer.