

Director General Telecom, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi (14th Edition)

हमारे मार्ग दर्शक



Hon'ble Union Minister
Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia



Hon'ble Minister of State
Dr. Pemmasani Chandrasekhar



Dr. Neeraj Mittal
Secretary(T)



Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Bidwai
Director General Telecom

DGT MESSAGE:

Dear Readers,

With a sense of deep pride and fulfillment, I unveil the 14th edition of *Sanchar Samvaad*—a chronicle of voices, visions, and victories from across the length and breadth of the Department of Telecommunications. This quarterly publication stands as a living testament to the dedication, innovation, and quiet heroism that animate our journey in building a digitally inclusive India.

Within these pages, one finds not just updates and reports, but stories of purpose—of tireless assessments in the field, of citizens empowered through platforms like *Sanchar Saathi*, *Chakshu*, and *CEIR*, and of teams working hand in hand to ensure that the promise of connectivity reaches every corner, every individual. These initiatives are more than tools—they are bridges of trust, enablers of security, and pathways to confident participation in the digital era.

Our field units, often working in challenging conditions, have embodied resilience and resolve. Their work—meticulous, mission-driven, and often unsung—lays the foundation for the robust and responsive telecom network that binds our nation together. Their spirit reinforces our collective commitment to the ideals of service, access, and equity.

It is particularly heartening to witness a surge in awareness efforts around EMF safety and cybersecurity. These campaigns, rooted in science and empathy, help dispel fear and foster understanding, enabling our citizens to navigate the digital world with confidence and clarity.

Equally inspiring is the vibrant energy with which our officers and staff engage in national celebrations, collaborative workshops, and forums for learning and exchange. These are not merely events—they are affirmations of our shared purpose, reflections of an organizational soul that beats with pride, passion, and unity.

As we stride towards the vision of *Viksit Bharat @2047*, let us continue to carry this flame forward—with creativity in our minds, integrity in our hearts, and a steadfast commitment to serve. I believe, without a doubt, that the telecom sector will remain a luminous thread in the grand tapestry of India's transformation.

To every officer, staff member, and contributor who breathed life into this edition of *Sanchar Samvaad*—my heartfelt gratitude. May these pages inspire as much as they inform, and may they stand as a tribute to our shared journey.

Warm regards,

Sanjeev Kumar Bidwai
Director General Telecom

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वरिष्ठ संपादक
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सहसंपादक

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राधाचरण शाक्य
रूपेंद्र कुमार
करन गोयल

अपर दूरसंचार महानिदेशक, डीजी मुख्यालय
अपर दूरसंचार महानिदेशक, हरियाणा एलएसए
उपमहानिदेशक, (प्रशासन), हरियाणा एलएसए
निदेशक, (प्रशासन), हरियाणा एलएसए

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AP LSA: AP LSA – Rural Vertical officials met Shri Dr. Mallu Ravi ji (Nagarkurnool Constituency), Shri Godam Nagesh ji (Adilabad Constituency), Shri R Raghuram Reddy ji (Khammam Constituency), Sh. Balaram Naik Porika ji (Mahabubabad Constituency) to apprise the issues in the Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) sponsored mobile connectivity projects in Telangana State. Hon'ble MPs called the concerned officers and directed to resolve the issues. Hon'ble MPs also wrote letters to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) & Head of Forest Force (Hof) to instruct the field level officials to resolve the issues.



On 18 February 2025, Andhra Pradesh LSA, Vijayawada, conducted a Quality of Service (QoS) drive test at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR (SDSC SHAR) in Sriharikota, supervised by Sri J V Raja Reddy, Additional DGT, Andhra Pradesh LSA. The test covered key areas like the Administration Building, Bhaskara Conference Hall, Aryabhata Building, and housing colonies. On 19 February, a meeting was held with officials from the Department of Space, DoT, and all four Telecom Service Providers to discuss coverage issues and call drops. DoT and the TSPs committed to enhancing connectivity within SDSC SHAR.



UP West LSA: On 17.01.2025, Honourable Minister of Communications & Development of North Eastern Region, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, launched three key initiatives i.e. Intra Circle Roaming at DBN-funded Mobile Sites, the Sanchar Saathi Mobile App, and the National Broadband Mission. After live video streaming of Hon'ble Minister's Citizen centric Initiatives launch, a press briefing for regional media was organized in UP(West) LSA at Meerut. Shri Naresh Khanna, Addl DGT, emphasized that these initiatives reflect the Ministry's commitment to bridging the digital divide, empowering citizens, and creating a robust and secure telecom ecosystem. Add DGT also addressed various questions from the media, highlighting how these measures will contribute to the vision of a "Viksit Bharat" by 2047, fostering digital empowerment and global competitiveness. There was huge turnout of regional media. More than 15 media persons of print & cable such as Amar Ujala, City Hulchul, DD News, Bhaskar Today, Hindustan, Sarvhit Bharat, Bharat News, Meerut News Express etc. participated in the briefing.

The 7th State Broadband Committee (SBC) meeting of Uttarakhand was convened on 18 March 2025 under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand. The meeting focused on reviewing the progress and addressing challenges related to the implementation of several USOF-funded schemes, including BharatNet, the 4G Saturation Scheme, RJIL-354 Village Scheme, and the BoP-BiP project. Critical discussions were held on the effective enforcement of the RoW Rules-2024, promoting the usage of the CBuD app for faster permissions, and drafting a comprehensive policy for the regularization of old telecom towers to facilitate better telecom infrastructure growth across the state.



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Kerala LSA: Kerala LSA officers held meetings with senior officials, including Shri Jyothilal IAS, Additional Chief Secretary (Power Department), Dr. Rathan U. Kelkar, IAS, Secretary (Electronics & IT), and Shri Sandip Kumar, IAS, Director, KSITM. The team actively participated in various important events across the state, such as a Workshop on CBuD in Kottayam, an EMR awareness session at Kollam Collectorate, and a Focus Group Meeting on CBuD at the District Collector's office in Thiruvananthapuram. They also conducted a CBuD awareness session during the ROW review meeting chaired by the District Collector of Pathanamthitta. Additionally, Kerala LSA organized a DTC meeting and an EMR awareness program for Trivandrum, and participated in the DTC meeting held at Alappuzha.

On 26 January 2025, the officers and staff of DoT Kerala LSA office in Ernakulam enthusiastically participated in the Republic Day celebrations. The event began with Smt. V. Sobhana, Additional Director General (Telecom), Kerala LSA, unfurling the National Flag, followed by an inspiring address to the gathering. In her speech, she highlighted the importance of dedication to the nation and the value of public service. Patriotic songs were sung by the officers and staff, adding to the spirit of the occasion. The celebration was a testament to the unity, pride, and commitment of all participants towards the nation and their professional responsibilities.



Haryana LSA: On 26th March 2025, the DoT Haryana LSA held a workshop on the CBuD Mobile App. Attended by the Special Secretary, IT, Haryana, and various officials, the event highlighted the app's role in improving telecom coordination and transparency. Leaders urged active use and promotion of the app across departments to boost service delivery and operational efficiency. DoT Haryana LSA signed 1 ISP license agreement during quarter Jan to March 2025 for providing internet services in Haryana (Karnal and Ambala) Service Areas.

A fire safety training session was organized on 25th February 2025 in collaboration with M/s Airtel and BSNL. Haryana LSA has been doing Proof of Concept Testing for conducting CNAP (Calling Name Presentation). It's a feature that displays the caller's name when a call is received. Drive Tests have been conducted in Yamunanagar District to ensure that Quality of Service in Haryana LSA must meet with the defined guidelines. Meetings have been held with Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) regarding measures to mitigate the cyber-crimes.



Mumbai LSA Mumbai LSA successfully completed 356 licensee agreements following the decentralization of the license signing activity. To mark the occasion, Shri Asheesh Pathak, Addl. DGT, DoT, Mumbai LSA, organized a meeting with the authorized signatories of four ISPs to discuss the licensing procedures and gather feedback from the service providers. Shri A.K. Jain, DDG (Technology), provided valuable guidance to the ISPs regarding the initiation of their business operations and elaborated briefly on the key Do's and Don'ts under the Unified License (UL) framework. The program concluded with Addl. DGT extending his best wishes to all ISPs for their future business endeavors.



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Rajasthan LSA: Hon'ble Minister of Communications, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia Ji, was warmly received at Jodhpur Airport by Sh. Kailash Chandra, Deputy Director General (Rural), on his arrival. The reception reflected the enthusiasm and respect of the Department of Telecommunications officials towards the Hon'ble Minister's visit. Sh. Kailash Chandra extended a cordial welcome, marking the beginning of an important engagement. The Hon'ble Minister's arrival was seen as a significant moment, strengthening the commitment of the telecom fraternity in the region towards achieving the goals of connectivity, digital empowerment, and inclusive growth. The event created an atmosphere of optimism and renewed dedication among all present.

Additional Director General met Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Jaipur Rural, Shri Rao Rajendra Singh Ji. During the meeting, they discussed key issues including the progress of the BSNL 4G Saturation project, the installation of mobile towers across Rajasthan, and the specific forest-related challenges concerning tower installation at Karath village in Viratnagar. The discussions were constructive and focused on expediting solutions for enhanced connectivity in the region.



MP LSA: An EMF Awareness Workshop was held at AIIMS Bhopal to educate the public about the facts of EMF emissions from mobile towers, aiming to dispel myths and misconceptions. This initiative by DoT MPLSA marks a significant milestone, as it is the first time such a workshop was conducted at an AIIMS institution. Kudos to DoT MPLSA for this important step in raising awareness on EMF safety.



In the past three months, Gwalior Police recovered 675 mobile handsets worth approximately ₹1 Crore 60 Lakhs using the CEIR (Central Equipment Identity Register) Portal. This achievement underscores CEIR's crucial role in combating mobile theft, enhancing security, and providing an effective tool for tracking and retrieving stolen devices, serving as a strong deterrent against mobile-related crimes.



HP LSA: On 10 February 2025, Sh. Anil Kumar Ranjan, Additional Director General (Telecom), Himachal Pradesh, visited the 5G Lab at NIT Hamirpur to review the progress of UAT (User Acceptance Testing). During the visit, he also held an informal discussion with Prof. Hiralal Murlidhar Suryawanshi, Director of NIT Hamirpur, to further understand the developments in 5G technology testing.



On 31 January 2025, a coordination meeting was held in Shimla with Law Enforcement Agencies and Telecom Service Providers. During the meeting, HP LSA provided a detailed briefing on the Sanchar Saathi mobile app and the various citizen-centric initiatives undertaken by the Department of Telecommunications to enhance transparency and security.



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North East LSA: State Government Meghalaya organised a Mega Event namely “7th Act East Business Show (Strengthening ties with BBIN & ASEAN nations)” from 25.03.2025 to 27.03.2025 at State Convention Centre, Shillong, Meghalaya. Officers from NE LSA Shillong HQ actively participated in the event. During inaugural session on 25.03.2025, Add. DGT NE LSA alongwith DDG(Rural) & DDG(Admin) were present. On 26.03.2025, a technical session on “Empowering Growth Through Technology & Innovation In Meghalaya”. DDG(Tech), Dir(Tech), Dir(Admin) and Dir(Rural) attended the session. During Panel discussion, important information about 5G Use Case lab were conveyed to all.



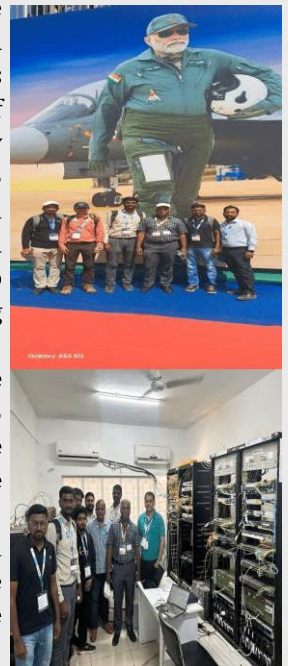
As per instructions from Secretary (Coordination) during the PMG meeting on 30.01.2025, joint teams comprising NE LSA officials, district administration, and M/s Bharti Hexacom Ltd. (BHL) visited five sites and suggested alternates under the USOF BHL Project in Meghalaya between 03.03.2025 and 12.03.2025. ADG(Rural) from NE LSA Shillong visited Thadteja, Gongjagre, and alternatives from 03-08 March, while DDG(Rural) and Dir(Rural) visited Mualsei, Artan, Teizol, and alternate sites from 09-12 March.



Bihar LSA: On 6th March 2025, Shri Surya Prakash, DDG (S), and Shri Manish Kumar, Director (Admin), went live on DD Bihar to deliver an insightful talk on Cyber Security and the new-age initiatives of the Department of Telecommunications. They stressed the critical need for securing digital infrastructure and elaborated on the Department’s various measures and programs aimed at enhancing cyber resilience nationwide. Their session focused on the proactive steps being taken to build a safe, secure, and robust digital ecosystem, keeping pace with emerging technologies and aligning with national priorities for a digitally empowered future.

On 14th February 2025, under the banner of Bihar Industries Association, DoT Bihar LSA, led by Shri G.C. Rai, DDG(C), hosted a seminar on Cyber Risks and DoT Initiatives. Shri Surya Prakash, DDG(S), delivered a compelling keynote, highlighting the Government of India’s coordinated efforts and DoT’s citizen-centric initiatives, offering valuable insights into emerging cyber threats, mitigation strategies, and fostering greater digital awareness and resilience.

Karnataka LSA: Compliance Vertical, Karnataka LSA had coordinated with all TSPs stakeholders for provision of mobile and data connectivity during the Aero India 2025 event held at Yelahanka Airforce Station, Bengaluru from 10th Feb 2025 to 14th Feb 2025. As part of testing mobile and data connectivity, 2 nos. of Drive Test were conducted on 30th Jan 2025 and 04th Feb 2025 and the corrective measures were taken to provide uninterrupted mobile and data connectivity during the event and same was done successfully.



On February 25, 2025, Karnataka LSA, in collaboration with the Karnataka State Police, conducted an engaging virtual session on the Telecommunications Act, 2023 and the citizen-centric initiatives of Sanchar Saathi portal. 620 officers from the Karnataka State Police actively participated, making the session highly interactive.



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West Bengal LSA: Under the leadership of Shri Deepak Mukherjee, Spl. DGT, WB LSA, a joint drive test by all TSPs of Kolkata and WB LSA was conducted on January 2-3, 2025, from Babughat to Gangasagar via Joka, Amtala, Sarisa, Diamond Harbour, and Kakdwip. The drive assessed telecom infrastructure readiness for the Ganga-Sagar Mela. TSPs were advised to implement corrective measures based on the findings to ensure smooth mobile network operations. The West Bengal Government extended full support during the inspection and drive test.



Delhi LSA: The Delhi License Service Area (LSA), DoT, conducted a meeting on March 24, 2025, to discuss Influential Zone Planning (IZP) in the Dwarka corridor. Participants included Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), Infrastructure Providers (IPs), the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), the Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA), the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), and its consultant, LEA. The meeting focused on strategizing and streamlining IZP for efficient telecom infrastructure deployment. Discussions highlighted the need for collaborative efforts to enhance connectivity, optimize resource utilization, and align with regulatory and urban planning requirements. This initiative aims to ensure seamless network expansion, improve telecom services, and maintain compliance with regulatory frameworks in the region.



Odisha LSA: . On 25 March 2025, the Security and Technology team of Odisha LSA, along with Shri M. Murali Krishna, Additional Director General (Telecom), held a meeting with Shri Khilari Rishikesh Dnyandeo, IPS, Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Cuttack, at his office. The meeting primarily focused on various initiatives undertaken by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), including the Sanchar Saathi Portal and POS verification mechanisms. Other important topics such as e-SIM security, CEIR (Central Equipment Identity Register) functionalities, cybersecurity challenges, and critical telecom security issues were also discussed. During the meeting, Smt. Anshul Agrawal, ADG (Security), and Shri Pankaja Sahu, ADET (Technology), delivered an in-depth briefing on the features and benefits of the Sanchar Saathi platform. The DCP acknowledged the importance of these initiatives and agreed to host an awareness program on the Sanchar Saathi initiative at his office in April 2025.



Assam LSA: 12th SBC meeting for Assam was held on 12th March, 2025. Issues related to Digital Bharat Nidhi projects, challenges and roadmap for Telecom infrastructure in the State, RoW, CBuD were discussed. Cellular operators and Digital Infrastructure associations also discussed & shared various points related to development of telecom in the State.



The 72nd Plenary Session of the North Eastern Council (NEC) was held on the 20th and 21st of December, 2024, at Agartala, Tripura. The event was attended by the Additional Director General of Telecom (Addl DGT) and Deputy Director General (R) from Assam LSA, emphasizing regional collaboration.



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Maharashtra LSA: Under the guidance of Shri Ramesh Kumar Goyal, Spl-DGT MH LSA, Team Compliance Nagpur led by Shri Rajendra Meshram DDGC, along with Shri Pankaj Pakhare ADGC, Shri Shailendra Shende ADC-1, and Shri Santosh Tangle JTO (Consultant), gave a well-received presentation on DIU/Sancharsaathi/Chakshu to Dr. Shri Ravindra Kumar Singal, CP Nagpur, and senior officers on 06.03.2025. The CP appreciated the session, assured full support in related cases, and invited the team as guest lecturers. Regular coordination meetings were mutually agreed upon.



Kolkata LSA: A quiz competition was held at O/o DDG(Compliance), Kolkata LSA on Parakram Diwas 2025, chaired by DDG(C), with officers from WB LSA, RTEC(ER), and BSNL QA Kolkata.



J&K LSA: As part of the aspirational district visit, a meeting was held on 19.03.2025 at the District Magistrate's office in Kupwara to review the 4G saturation scheme and BharatNet usage. Attended by ADM, CPO, BDOs, and TSPs, the ADM assured full support for timely telecom implementation and regular DLTC meetings for effective monitoring and issue resolution.



The 7th State Broadband Committee meeting held on 11.02.2025, chaired by the Chief Secretary and convened by Addl. DGT, J&K LSA, included J&K UT departments, BSNL, DIPA, and COAI. Key issues on RoW and BharatNet Phases I, II & Amended were discussed, with decisions made to fast-track ongoing activities.



Punjab LSA: The Parliamentary Official Language Committee chaired by Hon'ble MP (Lok Sabha) Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab scheduled the inspection on 27th February, 2025. The purpose of the inspection was to review the effective implementation of the Official Languages Act, 1963 and Official Languages Rules, 1976 in the office of Additional Director General of Telecommunications (Punjab LSA).



UP East LSA: On 23.03.2025, under the guidance of Sh. Arun Kumar Verma, Addl. DG, UP East, A.K. Mishra, DDG (R1), met Hon'ble MP Sh. Ram Shiromani Verma at Shravasti. Forest permission and land allotment issues were discussed, and the MP directed officials to expedite clearances and asked BSNL to update him every 7-10 days.



These projects are being executed by BSNL in Kheri. Representatives of Airtel, RJIL & VIL were also present. Hon'ble MP assured to take up issues pending with District Authorities of Kheri to resolve them to fasten the execution of ongoing/planned telecom projects in the district.



On 28.01.2025, Punjab LSA's Compliance Vertical organized an interactive session in Ropar OA, sensitizing BSNL officers on DoT guidelines for SIM issues and swaps, along with awareness on Sanchar Saathi Portal, Chakshu App, and EMR radiation myths.



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Tamilnadu LSA: A team of DoT TN LSA officers, along with BSNL TN Circle officials, met Shri A. Raja, Hon'ble MP of Nilgiris District, to brief him on the 4G Saturation Project and other telecom developments in Tamil Nadu. The team sought his support in addressing challenges like land allocation, site approvals, and permissions. The Hon'ble MP assured full cooperation and assistance, ensuring smooth execution and timely completion of the projects.

DoT TN LSA Coimbatore is actively implementing the USO 4G Saturation Project in Nilgiris to enhance telecom connectivity in remote areas. The team met the District Collector and Hon'ble MP Shri A. Raja to address land issues, including site reallocations due to excavation challenges and pending approvals for Srimadurai and Thalapathery Mund. With persistent follow-up, the District Collector directed to expedite action, and AD (Lands) assured support. The Hon'ble MP also assured to pursue the matter with the administration for timely approvals and smooth implementation.



Gujarat LSA On 25 March 2025, Shri Ajatshatru Somani, Addl. DG, inaugurated the "Telecom Gallery" in Gujarat LSA. The gallery features six major exhibits — Indian Telecom Act 2023, Sanchar Saathi, PM-WANI, 5G Use Case Labs, National Broadband Mission 2.0, and Telecom Facilitation Centre — showcasing landmark initiatives driving India's telecom transformation. It highlights advancements in regulatory reforms, citizen-centric services, digital empowerment, innovation, and business facilitation. Reflecting DoT Gujarat's strong commitment to transparency, stakeholder engagement, and public education, the gallery stands as an important knowledge hub. It offers citizens, entrepreneurs, and innovators an opportunity to explore the dynamic changes in India's telecom landscape and to better understand the emerging possibilities shaping the future of connectivity and communication.



From the Desk of Chief Editor

We are thrilled to present this edition of *Sanchar Samvaad*, which shines a spotlight on the significant contributions of our Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) in advancing India's telecommunications ecosystem. Their unwavering dedication and efforts continue to shape the future of connectivity across the country.

As we focus on modernizing our telecom infrastructure, our aim is to create an inclusive, technologically advanced future that bridges the digital divide. The policies and initiatives being rolled out today are laying the foundation for this growth, building a more connected and resilient India for all.

We hope this edition keeps you informed and engaged with the dynamic changes in the telecom sector. Your feedback is always welcome, as we strive to serve you better in the ever-evolving world of telecommunications.



Shubha N Bhambhani
Addl DGT, DGT HQ

Best Regards,
Chief Editor, Sanchar Samvaad



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