

Minutes of Meeting for discussion on resolution of various bottlenecks in the execution of IP-MPLS under OdishaNet Phase 1.0, held at OCAC VC Room on 16th December 2025 at 11:00 AM.

At the outset, Principal Secretary, Government of Odisha, E&IT Department, welcomed all participants and requested the Technical Advisor (Telecom) to start discussion as per the agenda points scheduled for the discussion. The list of officers participated in the meeting is annexed as **ANNEXURE-A**.

The Technical Advisor (Telecom) provided a comprehensive overview of the project, highlighting its objectives, status, and key milestones achieved. The overview included a time wise summary of significant activities undertaken during the execution phase. Subsequently, the Technical Advisor delivered a detailed presentation covering critical aspects such as implementation progress, challenges encountered, and proposed strategies for resolving bottlenecks, seeking necessary approvals for the way forward.

Agenda Points Discussed

1. Discussion on Project Overview and Network Architecture:

The IP-MPLS project was presented, outlining its strategic goals, current network coverage, and plans for future upgradation.

A topology view of the proposed IP-MPLS network was showcased to the participating entities, illustrating the network architecture across the state. The architecture diagram highlighted the various Points of Presence (PoP) locations, along with the classification and denomination of passive and active equipment installed at each site. This provided a clear understanding of the infrastructure readiness and deployment status.

2. Project Milestone:

The Technical Advisor (Telecom) then shared the status of project milestones, in terms of project completion, project progress and highlighted the key dependencies impacting progress. Principal Secretary was apprised regarding the details of material deliveries to various PoP locations by the Executing Agencies wherein it was observed that, most of the milestones have been achieved. The discussion also covered PoP readiness and the Central Infrastructure Setup, which includes the Network Operations Center (NOC). It was apprised that, the activities such as Acceptance Testing of PoPs, OF Cabling and Commissioning are still pending at the Executing Agency's end.

3. OFC laying Status

It was appraised that, as per the project scope, OFC cables are being laid from the OPTCL grid location near each District Headquarters (DHQ) to the designated PoP location at the DHQ. Accordingly, the Executing Agency has already undertaken the work of laying OFC cables from the PoP location to the respective grid location. As of now, OFC laying has been completed in 14 districts, and work in the remaining 9 districts is scheduled for completion by December 2026.

4. Assistance required from the State:

a. Permissions on OFC laying for end link and space constraints:

i. OFC laying from SLDC to SNOC (OCAC)

It was described that, the route between SLDC and SNOC is delayed due to objection from Bhubaneswar Smart City Limited (BSCL). This route is extremely crucial because SNOC connectivity to all 30 District Headquarters (DHQs) depends on its completion. After repeated discussions and letters sent to BSCL requesting support for the IP-MPLS project implementation, BSCL subsequently responded with a letter mentioning the leasing cost of Fibre amounting to Rs 27,18,720.00 (Inclusive of GST), which includes both implementation and maintenance for a period of five years.

Decision: However, after discussion, it was deliberated and decided that, this cost will be borne from the IP-MPLS project budget. The payment to BSCL will be processed accordingly as per the procedure.

ii. Seeking approval from National Highway:

It was appraised that, the delay in OFC laying is due to non receipt of approval from the National Highways Authority for the districts of Nayagarh and Rayagada as well as due to road expansion work in Koraput district. During the meeting, the Principal Secretary discussed these issues with the Chief Engineer, EIC (National Highways), Government of Odisha.

Decision: The Chief Engineer, EIC (National Highways) has been requested to expedite the approval process and provide the necessary support for laying the OF cable within the jurisdiction of the National Highways. He assured that he will take necessary proactive steps to allow OFC laying besides the NH by the executing agency in consultation with the concerned field personnel.

iii. Issues Pertaining to ULB/NAC and R&B Department:

M/s RailTel raised concerns regarding delays in OFC (Optical Fiber Cable) laying in Kalahandi, Angul, Cuttack, Kandhamal, Puri, Gajapati, Khurda and Rayagada district due to pending approvals from NAC/ULB authorities. For Keonjhar district, the application has already been submitted through the Go-Swift portal. However, details related to BG estimation cost and other necessary approvals are still pending. Considering these issues, the Principal Secretary contacted the concerned Superintendent Engineer, Sri Sambit Mohanty, and instructed him to review the application details and submit the demand of BG.

Decision: SE, Keonjhar has been instructed to assess the expected financial involvement on account of the damages to be made on OFC laying for the project and submit the demand note to RailTel, so that they can deposit the BG amount.

It was also decided to write a letter to the DMA-cum-Additional Secretary to

Government, H & UD department with a request to issue instructions to the ULBs for granting approval to the executing agency for laying of OFC, being a state infrastructure having utmost importance to achieve digital readiness through out the state. Principal Secretary also instructed to put this matter in the next review meeting of the DBN projects.

iv. Space Allocation Issue for IP-MPLS Project in Rayagada District:

In Rayagada district, the installation and commissioning of IP-MPLS project equipment was initially planned in the existing OSWAN room. However, the Executing Agency, M/s RailTel informed that the Collector office is now planning to allocate a separate new room specifically for this project in their new building which is under construction. .

Decision: The Collector & DM as well as the DeGM were instructed to arrange suitable space in the existing room and resolve the space allocation issue to avoid further delay in the IPMPLS project. Officials of E & IT Department and Technical Advisor (Telecom) were advised to follow-up this matter.

b. OPGW fibre upgrade from 24F to 48F by OPTCL to connect OPTCL grid with DHQ locations:

M/s RailTel apprised that, in 15 routes (attached as **Annexure-I**), spare fiber is not available for the IP-MPLS project. This was deliberated by the CGM (Telecom), OPTCL, who clarified that the existing 24F fibers are fully utilized for their own requirements leaving no spare fibers for sharing. It was further informed that until the fiber upgradation from 24F to 48F is completed, they will not be able to provide spare fibers.

Following discussions with the CGM (Telecom), OPTCL during the meeting, the Principal Secretary discussed the matter with the CMD, OPTCL over phone and requested to examine the issue and take necessary steps to proceed with the fiber upgradation.

Decision: The officials of OPTCL present in the meeting were advised to prepare an estimate for upgrading the fibers from 24F to 48F and to submit it to Energy/ E & IT Department for taking a decision on this matter.

5. Setting up of an alternate route from Mendhasala to Narendrapur grid location:

M/s RailTel apprised that the proposed route **Mendhasal-Khurda-Chandapur-Baligaon-Chhatrapur- Narendrapur** is not having spare fibre at present and fiber can be allotted by OPTCL only after the upgradation of the route from 24F to 48F. This route will connect to Gajapati ,Rayagada, Koraput, Nowranpur and Malkangiri districts. As the upgradation of OPGW fibre by OPTCL may take substantial time, M/s Railtel in consultation with OPTCL has proposed an alternate route **Mendhasal-Atri-Narendrapur** where OPGW spare fibres are now available. In the new route, Banapur BHQ is planned to be designated as a D-ILA location since the Mendhasala-Narendrapur span is 180 km. Under this arrangement, four districts-Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, and Rayagada will go live.

Additionally :-

a)12 KM of OFC to be laid from Narendrapur to Chhatrapur Grid to connect the Ganjam

DHQ PoP location.

b) 3 km of OFC to be laid from Betuli Chowk OPTCL tower to Banapur BHQ for D-ILA installation.

Decision: It was agreed to proceed with this alternate route and M/s RailTel and its local executing agency were directed to adopt this path until fiber upgradation is completed. Once the upgradation is done, this route will be integrated as a ring path in the fiber network topology.

6. Additional BoQ approval:

It was apprised that, M/s RailTel has requested for additional BoQ items beyond the approved final BoQ. The proposed additions include:

- Additional In-Line Amplifiers (ILAs)
- 1+1 UPS redundancy at the remaining 12 DHQs
- Dedicated DG sets at the remaining 19 DHQs
- Dedicated 8 DG sets at critical OPTCL IPMPLS PoPs
- Deployment of dedicated resources at all 30 districts (against 23 resources currently allotted)
- Required electrical wiring, earthing, and provisioning of air conditioning at 4 locations

Decision: It was decided that, the executing agency shall submit the justification for all additional line items along with their financial implication. E&IT department will examine the proposed additions and take further appropriate action. Further, Advisor (T) was instructed to visit the DHQ locations to verify the actual requirement for DG sets as proposed by the executing agency.

The Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair and participants



(Sri Vishal Kumar Dev, IAS)

Principal Secretary to Government
