



BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Proceedings of the meeting chaired by Chairman, Tax and Finance
Committee of BBMP to review the OFC network related issues

Venue: Chamber of the Chairman, Tax and Finance Committee, BBMP HO
Date: 10-07-2017 at 11:00 am

Participants

1. Engineer-In-Chief, BBMP/ Chief Engineer (OFC Cell)
2. AEEs of OFC Cell, BBMP
3. Representatives of Telecom agencies (Idea, Aircel, Airtel and Reliance Jio)
4. Representatives of Telecom Tower agencies (Indus Towers)

The participants to the meeting were welcomed and further subject wise discussions are as below.

1. Voluntary Disclosure of Telecom Tower details

The Chairman recalled that in the previous meeting the OFC agencies and Telecom Tower Agencies have been requested to submit the details of existing networks voluntarily and further details on submission was sought. The representative of Reliance Jio informed the chair that the towers belonging to Reliance Jio have been submitted. Further the representative of Indus Towers informed that since they have not received any communication in this regard, the related details couldn't be submitted. BBMP officials placed the earlier communications in this regard before the chair.

After review of the same, the Chairman asked EIC, BBMP to issue demand note to all the agencies which submit the details of the towers erected from them within ^{fifteen} ~~fifty~~ days. Since the draft "Installation of New Telecom Infrastructure Tower Regulation" contains indicative charges the same may be adopted for raising the demand notes. Further any tower whose details have not been submitted shall be deemed unauthorisid and to be removed.

At this juncture the representatives of Indus Towers objected saying that the towers have been installed as per DoT circular of 2005 and a court stay exists against removal of any towers. The Chairman pointed out that BBMP will limit itself to the provisions of KMC Act 1976 and any circular in contravention to any Act shall not be justiciable. Also it was pointed out that while the Telecom Tower agencies have registered their objections to various provisions of the draft "Installation of New Telecom Infrastructure Tower Regulation", the charges indicated therein, have not been objected to.

Also as in the case of OFC installation approvals, provisions to make online submissions for approval of Telecom Towers shall be made shortly.

○ At this juncture the Representatives of Telecom agencies brought to the notice of the chair that the charges indicated in the draft "Installation of New Telecom Infrastructure Tower Regulation" (Rs.50,000/Tower) are in draft stage only and if paid will amount to accepting the same. The Chairman clarified that if the charges indicated in draft regulations are revised in the finalised regulations, the paid amount shall be readjusted.

2. OFC installation permissions in Tender SURE Roads

With regards to request from OFC agencies regarding review of the OFC laying charges for Tender SURE roads, Chairman pointed out that the rates have been finalised based on actual expenditure by BBMP and review at this juncture is not possible. EIC, BBMP brought to the notice of the chair that already agencies have paid the demand note amount and started installing the OFC in Tender SURE roads.

Further Chairman explained that in spite of BBMP spending a lot of money on establishing underground infrastructure for OFC laying in Tender SURE roads, the OFC agencies have not transferred OFC from their overhead locations. In view of the same Chairman asked all OFC agencies to pay the Demand Note amount and install the OFC in the underground ducts. Further it was informed that an inspection of Tender SURE roads will be conducted and any overhead cable found without payment of charges shall be removed.

3. OFC agencies to not engage criminal elements for installation of OFC.

Based on several complaints received from citizens, officials and even Corporators, the Chairman expressed his unhappiness about OFC agencies engaging criminal elements for laying of OFC since the same leads to intimidation. Chairman also reminded the agencies that the Hon'ble Minister (BD&TP) had asked the agencies to abstain from engaging the criminal elements.

Further the Chairman asked the EIC, BBMP to inform BBMP officials to lodge criminal complaints on erring agencies in case criminal elements are employed and intimidation tactics are used.

The Chairman also asked the OFC Cell officers to remove the OFC cable laid in the drain of Jayamahar Road from Cantonment Railway station to Dooradarshan.

4. Uploading of existing OFC cable network

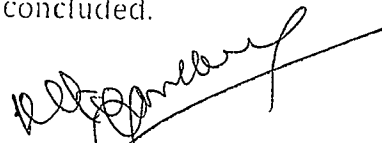
Details of provisions made to upload the existing network data online and also the details of permissions accorded to lay OFC since 2012 was reviewed. EIC, BBMP briefed the chair about the voluntary disclosures and the subsequent regularisation. Reliance Jio informed that their voluntary disclosure is still ongoing and will be concluded shortly.

○ The Chairman informed that the data on existing network needs to be uploaded by all agencies within next 15 days and a review of all uploaded data will be conducted. The OFC found on ground but not included in the online network will be deemed unauthorised. Further unauthorised OFC cable will be mercilessly removed. The service providers agreed for the same.

5. Issues raised by OFC agencies.

- Representatives of Indus Towers requested that a formal communication to submit the existing tower details and issue of a Demand Note for processing the payment of dues to BBMP. And also 30 days were requested for submission of details. It was clarified that the Agencies to provide the details within next fifteen days and Demand Note shall be issued.
- The OFC agencies brought to the notice of Chairman that during works by other utility agencies such as BWSSB and BESCO the OFC cables get damaged and the OFC agencies are not even allowed to repair the damages. Chairman assured the agencies to call a meeting of all the related agencies shortly to discuss the matter.

The participants were thanked and meeting was concluded.



Chairman,
Tax and Finance Committee, BBMP

To
All concerned