GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract
Electronics & Information Technology Department – Optimising the Telecom infrastructure by implementing a system of Shared Towers - Approved - Orders issued.

ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (B) DEPARTMENT
G.O.(Ms)No. 21/2017/ITD Dated Thiruvananthapuram, 06/10/2017

ORDER

State’s Information Technology Policy - 2017 has been approved as per Government Order read above, aiming to make use of the digital technology for the overall development of the State and to ensure quick and efficient delivery of all essential services.

2. For digital connectivity, Telecom Towers are the critical infrastructure and lifeline installations. In view of the concerns from the public against towers in residential areas, to optimize the Telecom infrastructure, IT Policy-2017 envisage “Shared Towers” which provides cost and scale benefits and better coverage with minimal infringement on public life. This will ensure efficient use of resources through cost reduction, extended economies of scale to the Telecom business, lowered consumer prices and improved quality of services.

3. As stated in 9.1.1 of the Subpolicy-2 of IT Policy 2017, Government have decided to implement the system of Shared towers and entrust the Kerala State Information Technology Infrastructure Limited (KSITIL), the Government agency for IT Infrastructure, the construction of such common towers in Government buildings and at critical locations based on the request from Telecom operators and lease the usage of the facility to IT and Telecom Companies retaining the ownership with the Kerala State Information Technology Infrastructure Ltd (KSITIL).

The following modalities shall be adopted:

i. Telecom Companies shall provide the requests for construction of towers to District Telecom Committees (DTCs).

ii. District Telecom Committees (DTCs) shall make a preliminary assessment of the mobile coverage in the area and assess whether there are redundant capacities available in those locations.

iii. The requests with the DTCs' remarks shall be forwarded to State Level High Powered IT Committee before 1st May and 1st December every year. Requests received from December to April
shall be forwarded by 1st May and requests received from May to November shall be forwarded by 1st December.

iv. High Powered IT Committee headed by the Secretary(E&IT), shall have Secretary(Revenue) and Secretary(GAD) as members. The Committee shall examine DTCs' remarks, TERM Cell views and reports from KSITIL about the cost of construction of Towers(COT). The requisitioning authority shall deposit the estimated cost of tower construction with KSITIL.

v. KSITIL shall empanel agencies of repute with experience in tower construction for the work and execute the construction of the tower and complete the same within six months. If the construction period exceeds six months, the amount obtained as deposit shall be returned, and the requisitioning authority need to remit the amount on intimation of completion of construction.

vi. The completed tower shall be leased to the requisitioning authority. KSITIL shall arrive at the lease rentals based on market rates, in consultation with TERM Cell.

By order of the Governor
K.M ABRAHAM
CHIEF SECRETARY

To:-
Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries of all Departments
The Secretary, Revenue Department
The Secretary, General Administration Department.
All Head of the Departments.
The Managing Director, Kerala State IT Infrastructure Ltd.
The Director, Kerala State IT Mission.
The Deputy Director General, TERM-Cell, Gandhi Nagar, Ernakulam-20
The Principal Accountant General (G&SSA / A&E), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
Information Officer, I & PR (Web & New Media Division) Department.
Stock File/ Office Copy.

Forwarded / By order
Section Officer