

No. 17014/11/2014-Eco (IT)
Government of India
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(Economic Division)

Room No. G61, August Kranti Bhawan,
Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-10066

Dated: 12th March, 2015

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Minutes of the Meeting of the Coordination Committee to monitor, planning and progress of the schemes/programmes being implemented for overall development of Scheduled Tribes.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of minutes of the Coordination Committee meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary (TA) on 26.02.2015 in the Conference Room, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi for information and necessary action.



(P.L. Verma)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tele: 011- 2618 2823

To,

- 1) Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications & Information, Technology, Sanchar Bhawan 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.
- 2) Secretary, DeITY, Ministry of Communications & Information Technology Government of India, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
- 3) Director General, All India Radio, Akashwani Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
- 4) Dr. Manoj Kumar Patariya, Additional Director General, All India Radio, Akashwani Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
- 5) Ms. Rashmi Pradhan, Deputy Director General, All India Radio, Akashwani Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
- 6) Shri V. Umashankar Joint Secretary, DoT, Ministry of Communications & Information, Technology, Sanchar Bhawan 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001
- 7) Ms. Simmi Chaudhary Director, DeITY, Ministry of Communications & Information Technology, Electronics Niketan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
- 8) Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001.
- 9) Shri Ajay Joshi, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001.

Copy to:

- 1) PS to Secretary (TA)/ JS (A)/ JS (MKP)/ DDG
- 2) All Divisional Heads

Minutes of the Coordination Committee Meeting to monitor, planning and progress of schemes/programmes being implemented for overall development of Scheduled Tribes held on 26th February, 2015.

A meeting of the Coordination Committee constituted for monitoring, planning and progress of the schemes/programmes being implemented for overall development of Scheduled Tribes was held under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs on 26th February, 2015 at 10:30 AM in Conference Hall, M/o Tribal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan.

2. List of participants is annexed (**Annex-I**).

3. All India Radio

3.1 **Ms. Rashmi Pradhan, DDG, AIR** stated that AIR has 414 total Broadcasting Centres which include 127 Regional Stations, 86 Local Radio Stations, 196 Relay Centres and 5 Community Radio Stations. Currently, the AIR broadcasts in 23 languages and more than 146 dialects.

3.2 AIR has programme profiles highlighting various developmental themes, especially for the tribal areas, eg., implementation of social welfare schemes, bringing the target group close to implementing agencies, increasing awareness about the welfare schemes drawn specially for tribals, mechanism to redress grievances, etc.,. AIR services in tribal areas of Northeast and Central India cover wide range of issues of women and children, health, agriculture, horticulture, cattle, tribal games, legal rights relating to land & forest, tribal music and culture. The programmes aired in tribal areas are generally in tribal dialects.

3.3 Secretary (TA) observed that an exercise was required to be undertaken to find out whether the local languages/tribal dialects covered by AIR are adequate or some more are required to be added. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs can provide financial support for including more languages/dialects. Secretary (TA) also mentioned that there were a large number of tribes in the coverage area of Jeypore station of Odisha, therefore, AIR may have to systematically sequence the programmes in different dialects for this area.

3.4 Secretary (TA) enquired whether consultations were made with any line Ministry/Department regarding information on specific programmes including welfare programmes for tribals, aired in specific areas and for target groups. To this, DDG, AIR indicated that there may be gaps in this regard that needs to be looked into.

3.5 Secretary (TA) stated that the type of agriculture based activity successful in specific tribal areas could be known only through interaction with the local farmers. For

this purpose, the local radio station manager need to be familiar with the local tribal dialect.

3.6 Secretary (TA) mentioned that Ministry of Tribal Affairs had taken a number of initiatives for the well-being of the tribals, eg. 100% survey on sickle cell anaemia in tribal areas, documentation of tribal herbal medicines, tribal traditional food, various educational schemes, vocational training, marketing of minor forest produce etc. He stressed that there is a need to generate awareness about these programmes amongst the tribals through AIR broadcasts to be made in local languages.

3.7 It was decided that Ministry of Tribal Affairs will provide one page notes on 5-6 important issues which can be covered by AIR through local radio stations. Financial support for translation will be provided by Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Local radio stations would work out 15-30 minutes programs for each of these issues in consultation with the concerned Tribal Research Institute.

3.8 In the hilly areas, there are outreach issues of AIR and FM coverage may not be adequate. This needs to be mapped.

4. ***Department of Telecommunications and Department of Electronics & Information Technology***

4.1 **Shri V. Umashankar, Joint Secretary, Department of Telecommunication**, informed that there were more than 55000 villages across the country which did not have 2G mobile coverage. The Department of Telecommunication plans to cover these villages in next five to six years. To begin with, 9190 villages in north-eastern region will be covered during 2014-17. This project was approved by the Cabinet in September, 2014. Thereafter, 7087 villages located in hilly, border States and Union Territories will be taken up for execution during 2015-17. Subsequently, 35927 villages of Central India will be taken up for coverage during 2016-19. During 2017-19, remaining 3465 villages will be covered. He also informed that connectivity for security forces in LWE affected areas will be undertaken on priority basis.

4.2 With regard to query of Secretary (TA) about connectivity through fibre optic technology, Shri V. Umashankar (JS) stated that DoT has undertaken to establish the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) laying incremental optical fibre to connect all 250000 Gram Panchayats in the country with 100 mbps broadband. He added that NOFN will support e-governance services, tele-medicine, tele-education etc. and will provide non-discriminatory access to telecom service providers, internet service providers etc. A major push was being given to this project with December, 2016 as the target of completion.

4.3 Secretary (TA) observed that information on connectivity of remote tribal areas for effective implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme is necessary.

4.4 It was decided that DoT would provide - (i) a list of uncovered villages, and (ii) a list of villages located in remote areas which can be connected only through satellite.

5. Actionable/Desirable Points:

5.1 AIR to provide MoTA

- List of dialects available with them including tribal dialects.
- Details of all local stations in States/UTs having ST population.

(Action: DDG, CP&R Div. MoTA/AIR)

5.2 MoTA will provide one page note on 5-6 issues to AIR and Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) for translation into local dialects and to be taken up by AIR for suitable broadcasting.

(Action: DDG/Cons (BS)/CP&R/EDN/Div., MoTA/ AIR)

5.2 MoTA will further facilitate collaboration between TRIs and Local AIR Stations. TRIs in respective State/UTs will be equipped with relevant material for audio programmes in tribal dialects to be aired by local AIR stations.

(Action: CP&R Div. MoTA/AIR)

5.3 DoT may provide;

- (i) List of uncovered villages, and
- (ii) List of villages located in remote areas which can be connected only through satellite.

(Action: DDG, MoTA/DoT)

6. AIR, Department of Telecommunications, Department of Electronics & Information Technology and Concerned divisions of MoTA may initiate necessary action on the points above and inform accordingly at the earliest.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Meeting of the Coordination committee to monitor, planning and progress of the schemes/programmes being implemented for overall development of Scheduled Tribes held on 26th February, 2015

Ministry of Tribal Affairs		Other Ministries	
Name & Designation		Name & Designation	
1	Shri Hrusikesh Panda, Secretary	1	Dr. Manoj Kumar Patariya Addl. DG, All India Radio
2	Shri Ashok Pai, Joint Secretary	2	Ms. Rashmi Pradhan DDG, Directorate of All India Radio
3	Shri Manoj Kumar Pingua, Joint Secretary	3	Shri V. Umashankar Joint Secretary Department of Telecommunications
4	Ms. Vishu Maini, DDG	4	Ms. Simmi Chaudhary Director Department of Electronics & Information Technology
5	Shri. S. Das Director	5	Shri Ajay Joshi Deputy Secretary Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
6	Shri. B. Sasmal Director		
7	Shri. SM Sahai, Director		
8	Ms. CH Honey, Director		
9	Ms. Shyla Titus, DS		
10	Ms. Nivedita, DS		
11	Shri. PL Verma, DS		
12	Ms. L. Renthlei, AD		