GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
Civil Secretariat, J&K.

Subject:-Implementation of the Telecommunications Act, 2023 and the Telecommunications (Right of Way) Rules, 2024 in the Union territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

Government Order No.:1699-JK(GAD) of 2026
Dated:-29.10.2026

WHEREAS, the Telecommunications Act, 2023 (44 of 2023) has been enacted by the Parliament of India to consolidate and amend laws relating to the development, expansion and operation of telecommunication services and telecommunication networks, assignment of spectrum, and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto;

AND WHEREAS, the said Act extends to the whole of India and, inter alia, provides a statutory framework for the establishment, operation, maintenance and expansion of telecommunication networks, including the grant of Right of Way over public property;

AND WHEREAS, in exercise of the powers conferred under the ibid. Act, the Central Government has notified the Telecommunications (Right of Way) Rules, 2024, which came into force on 01.01.2025, providing a uniform framework for the establishment, operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, augmentation, removal and relocation of telecommunication infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS, the Department of Telecommunications, Government of India, has advised all States and Union Territories to ensure effective, uniform and time-bound implementation of the provisions of the Act and the Rules by all public entities;

AND WHEREAS, the Government of Union territory of Jammu & Kashmir has already issued directions for facilitating the rollout of the BharatNet project, including provision of suitable space, uninterrupted electricity supply, custodianship of equipment, facilitation of optical-fibre backhaul connectivity and nomination of Nodal Officers;

AND WHEREAS, effective implementation of the aforesaid statutory framework is essential for facilitating the rapid and coordinated deployment of telecommunication infrastructure, optical-fibre networks, 5G and other advanced communication systems, BharatNet connectivity, common ducts/cable corridors and other digital infrastructure across the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir;

AND WHEREAS, Part VI of the Operational Guidelines of the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) 2026-27, particularly Para 2.1.1 thereof, requires the State/UT Governments and PSUs to issue appropriate orders regarding implementation of the Act

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and the Rules by 30.09.2026, with compliance to be validated through certification by the Nodal Officer of the State/UT Government, duly supported by feedback from the telecom industry and the concerned Licensed Service Area (LSA).

NOW, THEREFORE, in order to ensure uniform, transparent, expeditious and effective implementation of the statutory framework governing Right of Way and deployment of telecommunication infrastructure, the Lieutenant Governor of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, hereby orders as under:-

1. **Implementation of the Act and Rules**:- The provisions of the Telecommunications Act, 2023 and the Telecommunications (Right of Way) Rules, 2024 shall be duly implemented and complied with throughout the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir by all Administrative Departments, Heads of Departments, Government offices, local authorities, Public Sector Undertakings, Corporations, Boards, Autonomous Bodies and other public entities under the UT Administration.
2. **Facilitation of Right of Way:-**All public entities owning, controlling or managing public property shall facilitate the establishment, operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, augmentation, removal and relocation of telecommunication networks and infrastructure in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Rules. Applications for grant of Right of Way shall be processed in a transparent, expeditious and non- discriminatory manner and within the timelines prescribed under the applicable statutory framework. No application shall be rejected except on reasonable grounds, duly recorded in writing.
3. **Uniformity in permissions**:-No additional or inconsistent requirements, permissions, charges or conditions shall be imposed beyond those permissible under the Act, Rules and directions of the Department of Telecommunications. Applications shall, wherever applicable, be processed through the designated online mechanism prescribed by Department of Telecommunications.
4. **Facilitation of BharatNet and other Government projects**:- Government buildings, Gram Panchayat Bhawans and other suitable premises shall be made available, wherever required, for installation and operation of telecommunication equipment. Unhindered access, including 24×7 access wherever necessary, shall be facilitated for authorised representatives of BharatNet PMA, BSNL and other authorised entities.
5. **Protection of infrastructure:-**Public entities shall ensure that telecommunication infrastructure installed on or through public property is not obstructed, damaged or interfered with. Executing agencies undertaking civil or utility works shall coordinate with facility providers to prevent damage. Restoration/compensation shall be dealt with as per statutory provisions.
6. **Common ducts and utility infrastructure**:-Departments and agencies shall facilitate provision and use of common ducts, conduits, cable corridors and shared infrastructure to minimize repeated excavation. Existing Government-owned utility infrastructure,

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including optical fibre and OPGW, may be utilised subject to feasibility and approved agreements.

7. **Electricity and essential support**:-Where equipment is installed in Government premises, suitable electrical connectivity and essential infrastructure shall be provided in accordance with project guidelines. For BharatNet equipment, provisions relating to dedicated electricity connections, fixed monthly charges and centralized payment by BharatNet PMA shall be implemented.
8. **Nomination of Nodal Officers**:- Each Department, PSU, Corporation, Board, local authority and public entity shall nominate an officer not below the prescribed rank as Nodal Officer for Telecommunications/RoW matters. The Nodal Officer shall act as single point of contact, coordinate with stakeholders, monitor pending cases, ensure expeditious disposal, and furnish compliance reports. The Information Technology Department shall maintain and update the list of Nodal Officers.
9. **District and Field-Level Implementation**:-Administrative Departments shall issue instructions to subordinate offices at Divisional, District, Block, Tehsil, Municipal and Panchayat levels for strict implementation. Deputy Commissioners/District Magistrates and Heads of Departments shall ensure effective coordination amongst field agencies.
10. **Single-Window and Time-Bound Approach**:- Authorities shall adopt a facilitative and time-bound approach in dealing with RoW applications. Inter-departmental matters shall be resolved through designated Nodal Officers without avoidable delay.
11. **Compliance with DoT Directions**:-Departments and public entities shall comply with further guidelines, advisories, procedures and directions issued by the Department of Telecommunications, Government of India.
12. **Monitoring and Certification**:-The Information Technology Department shall act as nodal Administrative Department for coordination and monitoring. The designated Nodal Officer of the UT Administration shall coordinate with DoT and the concerned LSA for preparation/submission of compliance certificates. Departments and public entities shall furnish requisite information within prescribed timelines.

These directions shall apply to all telecommunication infrastructure and RoW matters within the UT of J&K and shall remain in force unless superseded, modified or withdrawn by the Government or rendered inapplicable by subsequent legislation or directions of the Central Government.

Nothing in this Order shall override provisions of the Telecommunications Act, 2023, the Telecommunications (Right of Way) Rules, 2024, or any other Central law, rule, notification or direction issued by the Central Government, and in case of any inconsistency, the provisions of the aforesaid Central laws, rules, notifications or directions, as applicable, shall prevail.

All Departments, PSUs, Corporations, Boards, local authorities and public entities shall strictly adhere to the provisions of the

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Telecommunications Act, 2023, the Telecommunications (Right of Way) Rules, 2024 and the instructions detailed herein to ensure seamless and coordinated deployment of telecommunication infrastructure across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

By Order of the Lieutenant Governor.

Sd/-
(M. Raju) IAS
Commissioner/Secretary to the Government

No:-GAD-ADM0II/134/2024-09-GAD Dated:29.10.2026

Copy to the:-

1. All Financial Commissioners (Additional Chief Secretaries).
2. Director General of Police, J&K.
3. Principal Accountant General (A&E), J&K, Jammu & Kashmir.
4. All Principal Secretaries to the Government.
5. Chief Electoral Officer, J&K.
6. All Commissioner/Secretaries to the Government.
7. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, J&K.
8. Divisional Commissioner Kashmir/Jammu.
9. Resident Commissioner, J&K Government, New Delhi.
10. Chairperson, J&K Special Tribunal.
11. Director, Anti-Corruption Bureau, J&K.
12. Registrar General, J&K High Court, Srinagar/Jammu.
13. Director Information, J&K.
14. All Deputy Commissioners.
15. Director Archives, Archaeology and Museums, J&K.
16. All Heads of Departments/Managing Directors of PSUs/Autonomous Bodies.
17. Secretary, J&K Public Service Commission/J&K Services Selection Board/J&K Board of Professional Entrance Examinations
18. Director General, Estates, Jammu.
19. Director, Estates, Kashmir.
20. Secretary, J&K Legislative Assembly.
21. OSD/Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, J&K.
22. SIO, NIC, Civil Secretariat, J&K.
23. General Manager, Government Press Srinagar/Jammu.
24. Private Secretary to Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, J&K.
25. Private Secretaries to all Hon'ble Ministers.
26. Private Secretary to Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.
27. Private Secretary to Chief Secretary, J&K.
28. Private Secretary to Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, GAD.
29. Government Order/Stock files/ I/C Website, GAD. *Hindi and Urdu versions shall follow.*

29/10/26

(Shakeeb Arsallan) JKAS
Under Secretary to the Government

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