



Press Release

COAI welcomes Government of Kerala's decision to sanction installation of Telecom Towers on Government Land and Buildings



New Delhi, January 9, 2015

COAI today welcomed **Kerala Government's** decision to permit **installation of telecommunication towers on government land and buildings in the State**. The Information Technology Department of the Kerala Government, in an order dated January 1, 2015, has directed the same as an important step in ensuring better telecom and internet connectivity, which is imperative for the all-round development of the state.

Complementing the State Government on the decision, **Mr. Rajan S. Mathews, Director General, COAI**, said *"This is a welcome move by the Government of Kerala. COAI has been requesting various state governments across the country for installing Mobile towers on Government buildings and PSUs. Government buildings are well spread out in all important locations and hence can be crucial to enable better connectivity for mobile phone users. For providing seamless connectivity without any gaps, it is important to have a continuous mesh of cell tower sites in the mobile network architecture. In our recent communique to the Hon'ble Chief Secretary of Kerala, we had requested for the formulation of rules to remove road blocks in the installation of telecom towers in government buildings. We are happy that the Kerala Government has responded to our request and taken a timely decision."*

"This decision from the Kerala government is in keeping with the recent Kerala High Court decision stating that mobile tower installations, when confirming to the DoT safety norms, are safe. With the courts and government leading the way, we are sure that a lot of misplaced fears will be dispelled and mobile connectivity will improve," he added.

We are grateful to Mr. Oommen Chandy, Chief Minister of Kerala, Mr. E. K. Bharat Bhushan, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala, and Mr. PH Kurian, Principal Secretary for IT, Govt. of Kerala, for their visionary leadership to make Kerala one of the leading IT destinations for the country, with state of the art Communications Infrastructure.

About COAI

COAI was constituted in 1995 as a registered, non-governmental society. COAI's vision is to establish India as the global leader of innovative mobile communications infrastructure, products and services and achieving a national teledensity of 100%, including broadband. The association is also dedicated to the advancement of modern communication and towards delivering the benefits of innovative and affordable mobile communication services to the people of India.

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