



ELCITA

Ref : ELCITA NOTIFICATION/004/2026-2027

DATE 27TH APRIL 2026

NOTIFICATION

REMOVAL OF OPTICAL FIBER CABLE (OFC) DUCTS FROM STORM WATER DRAINS AND MIGRATION TO AUTHORISED UTILITY DUCT INFRASTRUCTURE

Whereas, the Electronics City Industries Association (ELCIA), in earlier years (2011-12), and prior to formation of ELCITA had facilitated the laying of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) ducts in partnership with Vodafone for enhancing telecommunications infrastructure within Electronics City.

And whereas, it has been observed that several of these OFC ducts have been laid within or along storm water drain (SWD) alignments.

And whereas, such installations have resulted in obstruction of storm water flow, leading to choking of drains, reduced carrying capacity, and recurring flooding during monsoon periods, thereby posing significant risks to public safety, property, traffic movement, and urban infrastructure.

And whereas, the placement of utility infrastructure within storm water drains is contrary to established urban infrastructure planning norms and is not permissible under applicable guidelines issued by the Government of Karnataka (GoK), which mandate that storm water drains must remain free of encroachments and obstructions to ensure unimpeded flow of rainwater;

And whereas, in order to decongest storm water drains and provide a sustainable and compliant alternative, ELCITA has recently developed and commissioned a dedicated OFC duct infrastructure along designated road corridors for shared use by licensed service providers;

Now, therefore, in the interest of public safety, urban flood mitigation, and regulatory compliance, the following is hereby notified:

1. Mandatory Removal of OFC Ducts from SWDs:

All telecom operators, internet service providers, and other entities are hereby directed to identify and remove any OFC ducts, cables, or associated infrastructure laid within or obstructing storm water drains within the jurisdiction of ELCITA.

2. Timeframe for Compliance:

The removal of such unauthorized infrastructure shall be completed within **120 days** from the date of issuance of this notification.

3. Migration to Authorized Ducts:

All service providers shall mandatorily migrate their existing OFC networks to the newly laid, authorized duct infrastructure developed by ELCITA along roadways.

4. Leasing of Duct Infrastructure:

Service providers shall enter into appropriate leasing agreements with ELCITA for utilization of the common duct infrastructure. Details regarding application procedures, technical specifications, and commercial terms may be obtained from ELCITA.

5. Prohibition of Future Installations in SWDs:

ELECTRONICS CITY INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY

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Any future laying of OFC cables, ducts and rectification work, within storm water drains is strictly prohibited. Violations shall attract penalties, removal without notice, and other actions as per applicable laws and regulations.

6. Enforcement Action:

In the event of non-compliance within the stipulated timeframe, ELCITA reserves the right to undertake removal of such infrastructure at the risk and cost of the concerned service provider, without further notice, in addition to initiating penal action.

Rationale for Immediate Action:

Storm water drains are critical urban infrastructure designed exclusively for the safe and efficient conveyance of rainwater. Any obstruction—such as OFC ducts—reduces hydraulic capacity, causes silt accumulation, and leads to overflow and flooding. With increasing rainfall intensity due to changing climatic conditions, maintaining unobstructed drainage systems is essential and non-negotiable.

This notification is issued with the approval of the competent authority.

By Order,

Electronics City Industrial Township Authority (ELCITA)



Authorized Officer

