

File No. NCCS/SC/1-1/2024-25
भारत सरकार/ Government of India
संचार मंत्रालय/Ministry of Communications
दूरसंचार विभाग/Department of Telecommunications
राष्ट्रीय संचार सुरक्षा केंद्र / National Centre for Communication Security
बेंगलुरु - 560027/ Bengaluru - 560027

Dated: 10.01.2025

To,
Lt. Gen. Dr. S.P. Kochhar
Director General, COAI
14, Bhai Veer Singh Marg,
New Delhi - 110 001

Subject: Request for consideration on SMF Testing Infrastructure, TSTP Development and Extension of *Pro Tem* certificate - Reg.

Ref: COAI letter DG/COAI/2024/502 dated 27/12/24

Kindly refer to your letter cited above. The response of NCCS on the points raised by COAI is presented below.

Regarding the mandate on source code, NCCS conveys that the first set of ITSARs provided for submission of internal test report for source code testing. Subsequent ITSARs have been incorporated with clause mandating submission of Source Code based on knowledge gained and the recommendation of inter-ministerial committee reviewing the ITSARs.

2. NCCS acknowledges the significance of SMF in the 5G Core Network. The number of OEMs of 5G equipment is very small and hence the devices/NFs expected to be tested are also few in number. Hence, creating a large testing capacity does not make economic sense. As of now, only one NF i.e SMF has been notified and the current testing capacity is sufficient to address the needs of the industry. However, if test fee charged by the TSTL (where there is only one or two) is unreasonable then Govt can review.

The TSTL designated for testing 5G SMF does have Cloud Infrastructure consisting of VNF/CNF which are general purpose in nature and can host the 5G network functions. However, if the NF of OEM needs special/fine-tuned cloud infrastructure, OEM is expected to provide such special infrastructure to TSTL for taking up the testing.

It may be noted that the generic TSTP for SMF was published by NCCS on 31st Dec 2024.

3. The ITSAR for SMF has been finalised in Sep 2022 after extensive consultation with all stakeholders including OEMs. The voluntary security certification for SMF was introduced with effect from 01/06/24 and the date for mandatory security certification is 01/01/25. These facts were brought to the notice of all OEMs and industry associations through meetings and notifications, giving sufficient time to the industry to plan and take necessary action so as to embrace Mandatory Security Certification of 5G SMF. However, only one application has been received in the month of December 2024 and the DUT is yet to be provided by the applicant to the TSTL for taking up the testing.

4. The *Pro Tem* certificate was introduced to help the industry to get their products certified which have already been deployed in the networks, in a time bound manner. As explained in the earlier para, even though Voluntary Certification is launched for a period of 6 months for all the products that are likely to be brought under mandatory regime, it can be seen that the industry in general is not taking advantage of it and instead is making request for either postponement or asking for *Pro Tem* certificate for one year, effectively delaying the certification process.

NCCS requests the cooperation of COAI for the successful implementation of ComSec scheme.

(Sumit Singh)
ADG (Security Certification)

NCCS

Copy for kind information to:

1. Member(S), DCC, DoT HQ, New Delhi-01
2. Sr. DDG, TEC, New Delhi-01.
3. DDG(SA), DoT HQ, New Delhi-01.