#### **Government of India Ministry of Communications Department of Telecommunications Telecommunication Engineering Centre** K.L. Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi-110 001. (Transmission Division)

File No. 1-19/2025-Tx/TEC

Dated: 20.06,2025

## Subject: Revision of Generic Requirements (GR) of "High Count Metal Free Optical Fibre Cable (Ribbon Type) for Access Network (GR No. GR/OFC - 05/02. MAR 2006)" -Inviting comments

In exercise of the powers conferred by rule 5(2) of the Telecommunications (Framework to Notify Standards, Conformity Assessment and Certification) Rules 2025, the draft Standard (Draft Standard No. TEC 85030:2025) in respect of revision of GR/OFC -05/02. MAR 2006, is enclosed herewith (Annexure-I) for stakeholder consultation. It is requested to go through the aforesaid enclosed draft Standard and offer your inputs/comments. The comments may please be furnished in the template sheet enclosed herewith as Annexure-II.

The comments/inputs may be furnished through email to dirt2-tec-dot@gov.in , 2. adet-tx-tec-dot@gov.in , ratx.tec-dot@nic.in at the earliest and latest within sixty days please.

#### **Enclosures:**

Draft Standard (Draft Standard No. TEC 85030:2025) (Annexure-I) (i)

Template/Format sheet for providing comments(Annexure-II) (ii)

Mudita Chandra (Mudita Chandra)

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To,

# All Manufacturers & Stakeholders

Copy to:

- 1. Sr DDG TEC
- 2. AD(IT), TEC with request for uploading on TEC website/Portal 3. AD(IMP&TEP), TEC – with request for uploading on TBT Enquiry Point



वर्गीय आवश्यकताओं के लिए मानक टीईसी ८५०३०:२०२५ (सं: जीआर/ओएफसी-०५/०२.मार्च २००६ को अधिक्रमित करता है)

# STANDARD FOR GENERIC REQUIREMENTS

No.: TEC 85030:2025 (Initial Draft)

(Supersedes Earlier No. GR/OFC-05/02. MAR 2006)

हाई काउंट मेटल फ्री ऑप्टिकल फाइबर केबल (रिबन टाइप) फॉर एक्सेस नेटवर्क HIGH COUNT METAL FREE OPTICAL FIBRE CABLE (RIBBON TYPE) FOR ACCESS NETWORK



ISO 9001:2015

<u>दूरसंचार अभियांत्रिकी केंद्र</u> <u>खुर्शीदलाल भवन, जनपथ, नई दिल्ली– 110001, भारत</u> <u>TELECOMMUNICATION ENGINEERING CENTRE</u> <u>KHURSHIDLAL BHAWAN, JANPATH, NEW DELHI– 110001, INDIA</u> www.tec.gov.in

Transmission ISSUE: MAR' 2006

# HIGH COUNT METAL FREE OPTICAL FIBRE CABLE (RIBBON TYPE) FOR ACCESS NETWORK

# GENERIC REQUIREMENTS No. GR/OFC - 05/02. MAR 2006

(SUPERCEDES GR No. GR/OFC-05/01.JUL 2000)

# TEC

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# TELECOMMUNICATION ENGINEERING CENTRE KHURSHIDLAL BHAWAN, JANPATH, NEW DELHI-110001. INDIA

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# FOREWORD

<u>Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) functions under Department of</u> Telecommunications (DOT), Government of India. Its activities include:

- Framing of TEC Standards for Generic Requirements for a Product/Equipment, Standards for Interface Requirements for a Product/Equipment, Standards for Service Requirements & Standard document of TEC for Telecom Products and Services
- Formulation of Essential Requirements (ERs) under Mandatory Testing and Certification of Telecom Equipment (MTCTE)
- Field evaluation of Telecom Products and Systems
- Designation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs)/Testing facilities
- Testing & Certification of Telecom products
- Adoption of Standards
- Support to DoT on technical/technology issues

For the purpose of testing, four Regional Telecom Engineering Centres (RTECs) have been established which are located at New Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai, and Kolkata.

# ABSTRACT

This document pertains to Standard for Generic Requirements of high count metal free Optical fibre Cables (ribbon type) for access network.

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# HISTORY SHEET

SN	Standard-/	Title	Remarks
	Document No. <del>GR</del>		
	<del>No.</del>		
<u>1.</u>	<u>GR/OFC - 05/01.</u>	High count Metal Free	First Issue
	JUL 2000	Optical Fibre Cable (Ribbon	
		Type) for Access Network	
<u>2.</u>	<u>GR/OFC - 05/02.</u>	High count Metal Free	Second Issue
	MAR 2006	Optical Fibre Cable (Ribbon	
		Type) for Access Network	
<u>3.</u>	Standard No. TEC	Standard for Generic	Third Issue
	85030:2025	Requirements of High count	
		Metal Free Optical Fibre	
		Cable (Ribbon Type) for	
		Access Network	

Name of the Generic Requirements	No. of the Generic Requirements	Remarks
High count Metal Free Optical Fibre Cable (Ribbon Type) for Access Network	<del>GR/OFC - 05/01. JUL 2000</del>	First issue
High count Metal Free Optical Fibre Cable (Ribbon Type) for Access Network	GR/OFC - 05/02. MAR 2006	Second issue

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10. Annexure-1	<del>29</del>
11. Abbreviations	<del>- 30</del>

# REFERENCES

SN	Document No.	Title/Document Name
<u>1.</u>	TEC 89010:2021	Standard for Generic Requirements of Raw
	GR/ORM-01/03. MAR 04	Material for manufacturing of Optical Fibre
		Cable.
		Specification for Raw Material used in
		manufacturing of cable.
<u>2.</u>	TEC 89060:2006	Standard for Generic Requirements of Tools
	GR No. G/OFT-01/02. APR 06	for installation & Operating the OFC & for
		assembly of the OF Splice closure.
<u>3.</u>	<u>GR No. G/CBD-01/02. NOV 94</u>	Generic Requirements of Wooden Cable
		Drum for Telecom Cables
		Drum specifications for Cable ends.
<u>4.</u>	TEC 85140:2025	Specifications for Standard for Generic
	GR No. GR/OFC-01/04. SEP 03	Requirements of Metal Free Optical Fibre
		Cable Metal Free OF Cable
<u>5.</u>	TEC 85090:2018	Standard for Generic Requirements of
	GR No. GR/OFC-12/01. JUN 05	Specifications for Self Supporting Metal Free
		Aerial OF Cable (For Urban Areas)
<u>6.</u>	<u>GR-20 – CORE July 98</u>	Generic Requirements for Optical Fibre Cable.
		(Telcordia document)
		(Bell core)
<u>7.</u>	ITU-T G. 652 amd G.657	ITU-T Recommendation
<u>8.</u>	<u>IEC 60811-5-1,</u> <u>IEC 60811-202,</u>	Test Methods for Optical Fibres
	<u>IEC 60793-1</u> , <u>IEC 60794-1-21-E1</u> ,	
	<u>IEC 60794-1-21-E2,</u> <u>IEC 60</u> 794-1-	
	<u>21-E3,</u> <u>IEC 60</u> 794-1-2 <u>1</u> -E4,	
	<u>60794-1-21-E6, IEC 60794-1-21-</u>	
	<u>E7,</u> <u>IEC 60</u> 794-1-21-E10, <u>IEC</u>	
	<u>60794-1-21-E11,</u> <u>IEC 60794-1-22-</u>	
	<u>F1,</u> <u>IEC 60794-1-22-F5,</u> <u>IEC</u>	

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	60794-1-22-F9, IEC 60794-1-22-	
	F16, IEC 60794-1-219, IEC	
	60794-1-403, IEC 62230, IEC	
	60794-1-23-G2, IEC 60794-1-23-	
	G7, IEC 60794-1-31, IEC 60794-	
	<u>1-301, IEC 60794-1-305, IEC</u>	
	60794-1-306, IEC 60794-1-308,	
	IEC 60794-1-310-G10B,	
9.	EIA <u>598-D <del>359-A,</del></u>	Colour Standards
	IEC Publication 304(4) <del>, 216, 287.</del>	
	IEC Publication	
<u>10.</u>	FOTP-89 ,FOTP-131, FOTP-141	Test Methods
<u>11.</u>	ISO 9001: 2015 <del>175, ISO 9073-</del>	International Quality Management System
	<del>(1,2,3)</del>	ISO 9001-2000
<u>12.</u>	ASTM D-566, ASTM D-790	Test Methods
	ASTM-1248, ASTM D-4565	

# TEC STANDARDS

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1. GR No. G/ORM-01/03. MAR 04	Specification for Raw Material used in manufacturing of OF Cables.	
2. GR No. G/OFT-01/02. APR 06-	Tools for installation & Operating the OFC & for assembly of the OF Splice Closures.	
<u>1.</u> <u>3. GR No. G/CBD-01/02. NOV 94</u> 2	Drum specifications for Cable ends.	
4. GR No. GR/OFC-01/04. SEP 03	Specifications for Metal Free OF Cable	
<del>5.</del>	GR No. GR/OFC-12/01. JUN 05 Specifications for Self Supporting	
Metal Free Aerial OF Cable (For Urban Areas)		
OTHER STANDARDS (EIA/IEC/Bell Core/CISPR/ISO etc.)		
1. ITU-T G.652	ITU-T Recommendations	

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2.	GR-20-CORE July 98	Generic Requirement for Optical Fibre Cable (Bell Core)
<del>3.<u>1.</u></del>	IEC 811-5-1, IEC 794-1-E1,         IEC 794-1-2-E2, IEC 794-1-2-E3         IEC 794-1-2-E4, IEC 794-1-2-E7,         IEC 794-1-2-E10, IEC 794-1-E11         IEC 794-1-2-F1, IEC 794-1-F5,         IEC-60793-1-33 IEC-60793-1-         B7C         IEC-60793-1-34, IEC -60793-1-         51, IEC-60793-1-53, IEC-         60793-1-52 IEC-60793-2-50,         IEC-189	Test Methods for Optical Fibres
4.	EIA 359-A, 304(4), 216, 287 . IEC Publication	Colour Standards
5.	EIA 455-104	Test Method for Optical Fibre
6.	<del>ISO 175, ISO 9073- (1,2,3),</del>	International Quality Management System ISO 9001-2000
7.	FOTP-141, FOTP-123, FOTP-131, FOTP-89, FOTP-III.	Test Methods

**Test Methods** 

8. ITM-9, ASTM D-556, ASTM D-1248

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# CHAPTER - 1

# PART I - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

# 1.0 Introduction :

This document describes the the Standard for <u>Generic Rrequirements</u> of high count metal free Optical fibre Cables (ribbon type) for access network. The cable is meant to be installed underground. The fibres in the cable shall be arranged in a ribbon form. A ribbon shall have 12 fibres. Multiple ribbons shall be deployed in cable to meet capacity requirements.

# 2.0 Functional Requirement:

- 2.1 The design and construction of Ribbon Optical Fibre Cable shall be inherently robust and rigid under all conditions of operation, installation, adjustment, replacement, storage and transport.
- **2.2** The Ribbon optical fibre cable shall be able to work in a saline atmosphere in coastal areas and should be protected against corrosion.
- 2.3 Life of cable shall be at least 25 years. Necessary statistical calculations shall be submitted by the manufacturer, based upon life of the fibre and other component parts of the cable. The cable shall meet the cable aging test requirement.
- 2.4—It shall be possible to operate and handle the Ribbon optical fibre cable with tools as per GR No. G/OFT-01/02. APR 2006- Standard No. TEC 89060:2006 (or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any. If any special toolis required for required for- operating and handling thise- optical fibre -cable, the same shall be provided along with the -cable.

- 2.5 The High–Count Metal Free Optical Fibre Cable (Ribbon Type) for Access Network shall be suitable and compatible with the dimensions, fixing, terminating and splicing arrangement of the splice closure supplied along with the cable & vice versa. The manufacturer shall indicate the type, make and the model no. of the splice closure to be supplied.
- **2.6** The manufacturer shall indicate the maximum and average splice loss of the Individual fibres in a ribbon with the permissible variation in sizes of the optical fibre ribbon during bulk production.
- **2.8** It is mandatory that the Optical fibre cable supplied in a particular route is manufactured from a single source of optical fibres.
- 3.0 Technical Requirements of fibre :

Single Mode Optical Fibre used in Ribbon fibre cable shall be as per ITU-T Rec. G 652-D or G.657 A1. The specification of optical fibres are in a ribbon shall as mentioned below:

3.1 Type of fibre (Wavelength band optimized nominal 1310 nm): Single mode as per Section-I of the Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any

 :
 Single
 mode
 (Section-I
 of
 the
 GR

 (Wavelength band optimized
 no.GR/ORM-01/03. MAR 04 and

 nominal 1310 nm)
 subsequent amendments, if any)

3.2 Geometrical Characteristics of fibre : <u>As per Section-I of the Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and</u> <u>subsequent amendments, if any. All the parametric values shall be as per the</u> <u>Standard for GR for raw materials (Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest</u>)

#### release) and subsequent amendments, if any)

		MED for matched clad	880811 m
J.Z. I	Norman	WI D IOI Matched clad	0.0-0.0 µ m

**3.2.2** Nominal Cladding Diameter :  $125 \mu \text{ m} \pm 1.0 \mu \text{ m}$ 

- 3.2.3 Cladding Non-circularity : < 1%
- 3.2.4 Mode field concentricity error : < 0.8 μ m
- 3.2.5 Diameter over primary coated
   : 245 μ m ± 10 μ m

   with double UV cured acrylate.

   (Shall be measured on un-coloured fibre)

Note: The thickness of colour coating may be over and above the values specified above, if the manufacturer adopts separate UV cured colouring process (to colour the un coloured fibres) other than the on line integrated colouring process (of secondary layer of primary coating) of the fibres, during fibre manufacturing.

# 3.3 Transmission Characteristics of fibre :

As per Section-I of the Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any. All the parametric values shall be as per the Standard for GR for raw materials (Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any)

#### 3.3.1 Attenuation:

a) Fibre attenuation before Cabling	
<del>i) At 1310 nm</del>	<u> </u>
ii) Between 1285 to 1360 nm	<u> </u>
iii) Between 1480 to 1525 nm	<u> </u>

iv) At 1550 nm	<u> </u>
v) Between 1525 to 1625 nm	: <u>≤ 0.24 dB/Km</u>

b) Water Peak Attenuation before cabling — Between 1360 – 1480 nm : ≤ 0.34 dB/Km

Note:

- 1. Attenuation in the band 1380 -1390 nm shall be checked at every 2 nm after Hydrogen ageing as per IEC 60793-2-50 (annexed). Hydrogen ageing test is to be carried out by CACT, Bangalore.
- 2. Sudden irregularity in attenuation shall be less than 0.1 dB
- 3. The spectral attenuation shall be measured on un-cabled fibre.
- 4. The Spectral attenuation in the 1250 nm 1625 nm band shall be measured at an interval of 10 nm and the test results shall be submitted.

c) Fibre attenuation after Cabling

i) At 1310 pm	<u> </u>
1) At 1310 min	. = 0.00 db/km
ii) At 1550 nm	<u> </u>
n) At 1990 min	
iii) At 1625 nm	<u> </u>
	. <u> </u>

#### 3.3.2 Dispersion

#### a) Total Dispersion

i) In 1285-1330 nm band	<u> </u>
ii) In 1270-1340 nm band	<u> </u>
<del>iii) At 1550 nm.</del>	<u></u>

Note: The dispersion in the 1250 nm- 1625 nm band shall be measured on un-cabled fibre at an interval of 10nm and the test results

shall be submitted.

3.3.3 Cut off wavelength of optical fibres

b) Polarization mode dispersion at 1310 nm & 1550 nm

i) Fibre	<u> </u>
ii) Cabled Fibre	<u> </u>

**Note :** Measurement on un-cabled fibre may be used to generate cabled fiber statistics and correlation established.

 c) Zero Dispersion Slope
 : < 0.092 ps/(nm².Km)</td>

 d) Zero dispersion wave length range
 : 1300 -1324 nm

1320 nm Max.

Note - The above cut off wavelength is w.r.t. 2M sample length of fibre.

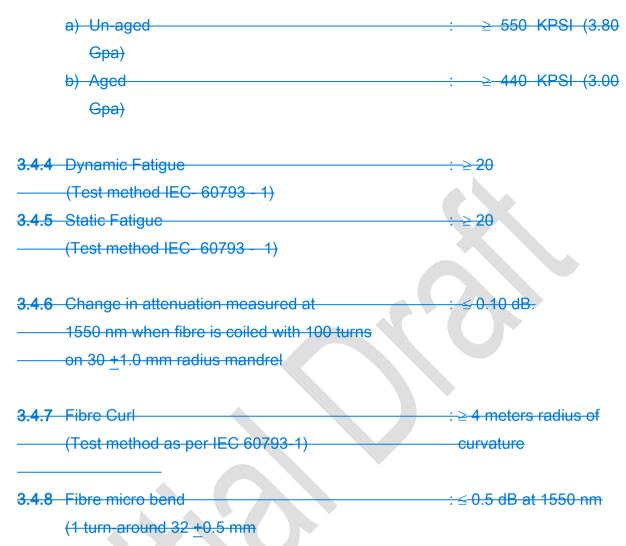
3.4 Mechanical Characteristics of fibre : <u>As per Section-I of the Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and</u> <u>subsequent amendments, if any. All the parametric values shall be as per the</u> <u>Standard for GR for raw materials (Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest</u> <u>release) and subsequent amendments, if any)</u>

3.4.1 Proof test for minimum strain level : 1 %

**3.4.2** Stripability force to remove primary:  $1.3 \le F \le 8.9 \text{ N}$ coating of the fibre.

Note : The force required to remove 30 mm ± 3 mm of the fibre coating shall not exceed 8.9 N and shall not be less than 1.3 N.

3.4.3 Dynamic Tensile Strength



diameter mandrel)

# 3.5 Material Properties of fibre MATERIAL PROPERTIES :

As per Section-I of the Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any. All the parametric values shall be as per the Standard for GR for raw materials (Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any)

# 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES:

3.5.1 Fibre Materials:

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a) The substances of which the fibres are To be indicated by the made manufacturer b) Protective material requirement: : It shall meet the i) The physical and chemical properties of the material used for the fibre primary requirement of fibre coating and for single jacket fibre. coating stripping force as per clause No. 3.4.2 ii) The best way of removing protective : To be indicated by the coating material. manufacturer c) Group refractive Index of fibre To be indicated by the

manufacturer

Note: The manufacturer shall indicate the variation in group refractive index of fibre during bulk production

#### 3.6 Environmental Characteristic of Fibre —:

As per Section-I of the Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any. All the parametric values shall be as per the Standard for GR for raw materials (Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any)

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3.6.1 Operating Temperature	
Temperature Dependence of Attenuation	
Induced Attenuation at 1550 nm at -60°C to +85° C	<del>_ : ≤ 0.05 dB/km</del>
3.6.2 Temperature – Humidity Cycling	
Induced Attenuation at 1550 nm at -10°C to +85°C	: <u>≤ 0.05 dB/km</u>
and 95% relative humidity.	
3.6.3 Water Immersion 23°C	
(Test method IEC- 60793 – 1 - 53)	
	*
	<del>:_≤ 0.05 dB/km</del>
3.6.4 Accelerated Aging (Temperature ) 85°C	
(Test method IEC- 60793 1 - 51)	
Induced Attenuation at 1550 nm due to	
Temperature Aging at 85° ± 2°C	<del>:_                                  </del>
3.6.5 Retention of Coating Color	
(Test method IEC- 60793 - 1-51)	
Coated Fiber shall show no discernible	: 30 days at 85°C with
change in color, when aged for	95% Humidity and
then	-
	<del>20 days in 85°C</del>
<del>dry</del>	
J	heat.

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#### 3.7 Colour Qualification and Primary coating Test :

As per Section-I of the Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any. All the parametric values shall be as per the Standard for GR for raw materials (Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any)

#### 3.7.1 Colour Qualification Test :

#### a) MEK Rub Test (Methyle Ethyl Ketone Test):

To be tested by using soaked (Solvent) tissue paper for ten strokes unidirectional on 10 cm length of fibre. No colour traces to be observed on the tissue paper.

#### b) Adhesion Test :

To be tested by using soaked (Solvent) tissue paper for ten strokes unidirectional on 10 cm length of fibre.

#### c) Water immersion Test (Type Test) :

To be tested for coloured fiber for 30 days. After the test Colour qualification, Attenuation measurement & Strippability test are to be taken.

#### 3.7.2 Primary coating Test :

a) Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR ) Test :

To be tested to check the curing level of coating on the glass. The curing level shall be better than 90%.

# 3.8 Ribbon Structure :

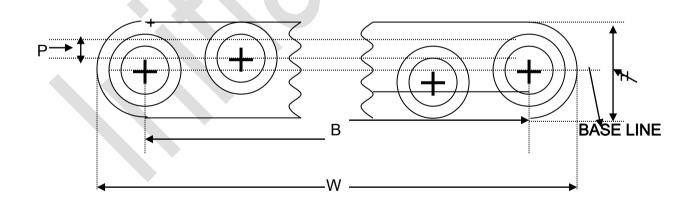
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**3.8.1** Twelve primary coated fibres shall be arranged in ribbon structure. The fibres in the structure shall be parallel and shall not cross over each other along the entire length of the ribbon. The dimensions of 12 fibres ribbon shall be as per the <u>sectional specification of IEC 60794-3 / Telcordia GR-20-CORE (issue 4, July 2013)</u> Bell Core document no. GR-20-Core issue 2, July 1998 and as given below :

# 3.8.2 Ribbon Dimensions :

The maximum dimensions of fibre ribbon shall be as follows and the cross section geometry of the fibre ribbon shall be as shown in the following figure :

Number Of	Ribbon Width	Ribbon height	Extreme Fibres	Planarity
Fibres	(W)	(H)	(B)	(P)
12	3220 μm	360 μm	2882 μm	50 μm



# Cross section of Fibre Ribbon

# 3.8.3 Ribbon Material :

The ribbon shall be manufactured using single mode optical fibres coloured with UV cured resin and the ribbon shall be encapsulated with a further

layer of UV cured acrylate. The fibres and the ribbons shall confirm to the colour requirement as per clause no. 4.4 of this GR.

## 3.8.4 Ribbon Mechanical Properties :

## 3.8.4.1 Ribbon Macro-bend

Change in attenuation when wrapped on a 60 mm :  $\leq$  0.05 dB diameter mandrel for 100 turns at 1310 & 1550 nm

## 3.8.4.2 Ribbon Compression Resistance

Change in attenuation when subjected to a compressive  $:\leq 0.05 \text{ dB}$ load of 500 N at 1310 nm & at 1550 nm  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

# 3.8.4.3 Ribbon Torsion Resistance

Change in attenuation (At 1310 nm & 1550 nm) : < 0.05 dB

# 3.9 Ribbon Optical fibre Cable Construction Specifications:

The cable shall be designed to the parameters mentioned in Annexure – I. The manufacturer shall submit designed calculation and the same shall be studied and checked.

**New Clause: Secondary Protection:** The coated Ribbon fibres may be protected by loose packaging within tube, which shall be filled with thixotropic jelly. The dimensions of tube shall be as per Annexure – I.

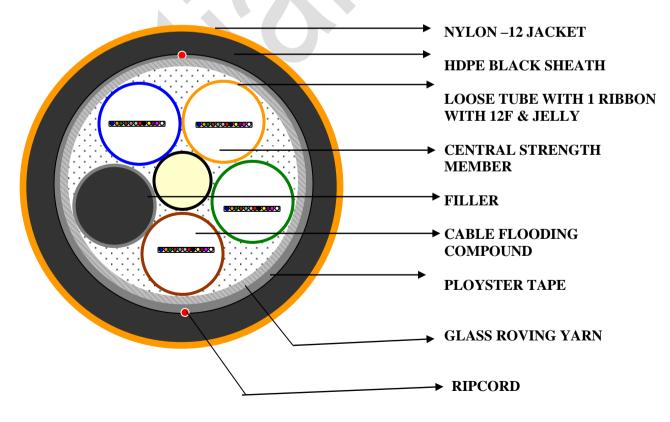
- **3.9.1** Number of fibres in the cable : 48, 96, 144, 288, 576 (Type approval for a cable shall be issued depending upon the no. of fibres in the cable).
- **3.9.2** Number of fibres in a ribbon : Twelve (12) Fibres

**3.9.3** The number of ribbons per loose tube in ribbon optical fibre cable shall be as follows :

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S. No	No. of Fibres	Multi loose tube type	
a.	48 fibres	Four Tube,	
		1 ribbon- per tube	
b.	96 fibres	Five tubes,	
		Two tubes with 1 ribbon per tube	
		Three tubes with 2 ribbons per tube	
С.	144 fibres	Six tubes,	
		Two ribbons per tube	
d.	288 fibres	Six tubes,	
		Four ribbons per tube	
e.	576 fibres	Eight tubes,	
		Six ribbons per tube	

TYPICAL STRUCTURAL DRAWING FOR 48F RIBBON OPTICAL FIBRE CABLE



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**3.9.4 Strength Member** : Solid FRP non - metallic strength member shall be used in the center of the cable core. The strength member in the cable shall be for strength and flexibility of the cable and shall have anti buckling properties. The FRP shall keep the fibre strain within permissible values. <u>The strength member(FRP)</u> shall be as per the Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and the subsequent amendments, if any. The size of FRP shall be as per Annexure – I.

**3.9.5 Cable Core Assembly :** PrimaryThe coated fibres in ribbon structure shall be protected inside loose tubes / buffer tubes which are stranded together around a central strength member using helical or reverse lay techniques and form the cable core. The buffer tubes shall maintain the fibre's mechanical & optical integrity. It shall also protect them from tensile, thermal and vibration loads. The buffer tubes shall be gel filled to block the ingress of water.

**3.9.6 Core Wrapping** : The main cable core <u>containing</u> <u>ribbons in tubes</u> shall be wrapped by a layer<u>/layers (s)</u> of Polyester foil/ tape. The nylon/polyester binder thread / tape shall be used to hold the thread / tape, if required. <u>The nylon/polyester</u> <u>binder thread shall be as per Section-IX of Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest</u> release) and the subsequent amendments, if any. The core wrapping shall not leave any kink marks over the loose tube.

**3.9.7 Moisture barrier (protection):** The main cable core (containing fibres & core wrapping) shall be protected by flooding compound (Jelly) having properties of non hygroscopic dielectric material.

**3.9.8 Filling** and flooding compound: The filling <u>/flooding</u> compound used in the loose tube and in the cable core shall be compatible to fibre, secondary protection of fibre, core wrapping and other component parts of the cables.etc. The drip point shall not be lower than +70 degree C+70 °C. The fibre movement shall not be

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constrained by stickiness and shall be removable easily for splicing. The test method to measure drop point shall be as per ASTM D <u>566</u> <u>556</u>. The filling and the flooding jelly compound shall be as per the Raw Material GR No. G/ORM – 01/03 <u>Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and subsequent amendments, if any.</u>

3.9.9 Sheath : A non-metallic moisture barrier sheath may be applied over and above the cable core. The core shall be covered with tough weather resistant High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) sheath, black in colour (UV Stabilized). The colour shall conform to Munsell Colour Standards. Thickness of the sheath shall be uniform and shall not be less than 1.8 mm including the strength members if used in the sheath. The sheath shall be circular, smooth, free from pin holes, joints, mended pieces and other defects. The reference test method to measure thickness shall be as per IEC 60811-202.

Note: HDPE material, black in colour, from the finished cable shall be subjected to following tests (on sample basis) and shall confirm to the requirement of the material as per as per Section III of Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) and the subsequent amendments, if any.

In case black colour HDPE material is used, the material from finished product shall also be subjected to following tests (on sample basis):

- a) Density.
- b) Melt Flow Index.
- c) Carbon Black Content.
- d) Carbon Black Dispersion.
- e) ESCR.
- f) Moisture Content
- g) Tensile Strength and Elongation at break
- h) Oxidative Induction time
- i) Absorption Coefficient

#### j) Brittleness Temperature

**3.9.10 Outer Jacket :** A circular sheath/Jacket of not less than 0.65 mm thick of Polamide-12/Nylon-12 material (orange in colour), free from pin holes, scratches and other defects etc.<del>,</del> shall be provided over and above the HDPE sheath. The nylon Jacket shall have smooth finish.

**3.9.11 Cable diameter :** The finished cable diameter shall be as per Annexure-I.

New Clause: Cable Weight : The nominal cable weight shall be as per Annexure -I

## 3.9.12 RIP Cord :

- a) Two suitable rip cords shall be provided in the cable which shall be used to open the HDPE sheath of the cable. The rip cords shall be placed diametrically opposite to each other. It shall be capable of consistently slitting the sheath without breaking for a length of 1 meter at the installation temperature. The rip cords (3 ply & twisted) shall be properly waxed to avoid wicking action and shall not work as a water carrier.
- b) The rip cord used in the cable shall be readily distinguishable from any other components (e.g. Aramid Yarn etc.) utilized in the cable construction.

#### 3.10 Mechanical Characteristics and Tests on Optical Fibre Cable :

#### 3.10.1 Tensile Strength Test :

Objective : This measuring method applies to optical fibre cables which are

tested at a particular tensile strength in order to examine the behavior of the attenuation as a function of the load on a cable which may occur during installation.

Method : IEC 60794-1-21-E1.

- **Test Specs.:** The cable shall have sufficient strength to withstand a load of value T(N) = 9.81 x 2.5 W Newtons or 10000 N which ever is lower (where W-mass of 1Km of cable in Kg). The load shall be sustained for 10 minutes and the strain on the fibre and the attenuation shall be monitored.
- Requirement : The load shall not produce a strain exceeding 0.25 % in the fibre and shall not cause any permanent physical and optical damage to any component of the cable. The attenuation shall be noted before strain and after the release of strain. The change in attenuation of each fibre after the test shall be ≤ 0.05 dB, both for 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths.

#### 3.10.2 Abrasion Test :

**Objective :** To test the abrasion resistance of the sheath and the marking printed on the surface of the cable.

# Method : \_\_\_IEC-60794-1-2<u>1</u>-E2 or by any other international test method.

<u>Test Specs.</u> The cable surface shall be abraded with needle (wt. 150 gm) having diameter of 1 mm with 500 grams weight (Total weight more than equal to 650 gms.).

No. of cycles	:	100
Duration	:	One minute (Nominal)

**Requirement :** There- -shall -be no- perforation and loss of legibility of the marking on the sheath.

3.10.3 Crush Test (Compressive Test) :

**Objective** : The purpose of this test is to determine the ability of an optical fibre cable to withstand crushing.

Method -: IEC 60794-1-21-E3.

Test Specs.-: The fibres and component parts of the cable shall not suffer permanent damage when subjected to a compressive load of 2000 Newtons applied, between the plates of dimension 100 mm x 100 mm. The load shall be applied for 60 seconds. The attenuation shall be noted before and after the completion of the test.

**Requirement** : The change in attenuation of the fibre after the test shall be  $\leq$  0.05 dB, both for 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelength.

# 3.10.4 Impact Test:

**Object**<u>ive</u>-: \_The purpose of this test is to determine the ability of an optical fibre cable to withstand impact.

Method : \_\_\_\_IEC 60794-1-21-E4.

**Test Specs** : The cable shall have sufficient strength to withstand an impact caused by a mass weight of 50 Newtons, when falls freely

from a height of 0.5 meters. The radius R of the surface causing impact shall be 300 mm. Ten such impacts shall be applied <u>on the cable at different places typically spaced not</u> <u>less than 500mm apart. at the same place.</u> The attenuation shall be noted before and after the completion of the test.

**Requirement:** The change in attenuation of the fibre after the test shall be <0.05 dB, both for 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths.

#### 3.10.5 Repeated Bending Test:

**Objective :** The purpose of this test is to determine the ability of an optical fibre cable to withstand repeated bending.

#### Method : EIA-455-104. IEC 60794-1-21-E6

**Test Specs.** : The cable sample shall be of sufficient length (5 m minimum) to permit radiant power measurements as required by this test. Longer lengths may be used, if required.

#### Test Parameters:

:	5 Kg <u>or as per</u>
FOTP-10	4 whichever is higher
y centre to holding device	e : 216 mm
Minimum distance from Wt. to Pulley centre	
<del>diameter)</del>	:20 D <mark>(D cable</mark>
	diameter)
	: 90°
	: 30
: <u>1 minu</u>	te to 2 minute <del>2 min</del>
:	5m (minimum)
	FOTP-10 y centre to holding device o Pulley centre <del>diameter)</del> : <u>1 minu</u>

Requirement : During the test no fibre shall break and the attenuation shall be noted before and after the completion of the test. The change in attenuation of the fibre after the test shall be 0.05 dB, both for-1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths.

3.10.6 Torsion Test:

**Object :** \_\_\_\_\_The purpose of this test is to determine the ability of an optical fibre cable to withstand torsion.

Method : IEC 60794-1-21-E7.

- **Test Specs.** : The length of the specimen under test shall be 2 meters and the load shall be 100 N. The sample shall be mounted in the test apparatus with cable clamped in the fixed clamp, sufficiently tight, to prevent the movement of cable sheath during the test. One end of the cable shall be fixed to the rotating clamp, which shall be rotated in a clockwise direction for one turn. The sample shall then be returned to the starting position and then rotated in an anti-clockwise direction for one turn and returned to the starting position. This complete movement constitutes one cycle. The cable shall withstand ten such complete cycles. The attenuation shall be noted before and after the completion of the test.
- Requirement: The cable shall be examined physically for any cracks, tearing on the outer sheath and for the damage to other component parts of the cable. The twist mark shall not be taken as damage. The change in attenuation of the fibre after the test shall be ≤ 0.05 dB, both for 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths.

#### 3.10.7 Kink Test :

1

Objective : \_\_\_\_The purpose of this test is to verify whether kinking of an optical fibre cable results in breakage of any fibre, when a loop is formed of dimension small enough to induce a kink on the sheath.

Method : IEC 60794-1-21-E10.

- Test Specs. : The sample length shall be 10 times the minimum bending radius of the cable. The sample is held in both hands<sub>1</sub>, a loop is made of a bigger diameter and by stretching both the ends of the cable in opposite direction, the loop is made to the minimum bend radius, and so that no kink shall form. After the cable <u>comes in normal condition, is then normalized and</u> attenuation reading is taken.
- Requirement : The kink should disappear after the cable is madecomes in –normal condition. The change in attenuation of the fibre after test shall be ≤ 0.05 dB, both for 1310 nm & 1550 nm wavelengths.

# 3.10.8 Cable Bend Test:

**Objective**: \_\_\_\_The purpose of this test is to determine the ability of an optical fibre cable to withstand repeated flexing. The procedure is designed to measure optical transmittance changes and requires an assessment of any damage occurring to other cable components.

Method : IEC 60794-1-21-E11 (Procedure-I).

- **Test Specs.** : The fibre and the component parts of the cable shall not suffer permanent damage when the cable is repeatedly wrapped and unwrapped 4 complete turns of 10 complete cycles around a mandrel of 20 D, where D is the diameter of the cable. The attenuation shall be noted before and after the completion of the test.
- Requirement : The change in attenuation of the fibre after the test shall be < 0.05 dB, both for 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths. Sheath shall not show any cracks visible to the naked eye, when examined whilst still wrapped on the mandrel.
- 3.10.9 Test of Figure of 8 (Eight) on the cable (Type Test):
  - **Objective :** Check of easiness in formation of figure of 8 of the cable during installation in the field.
  - Test Method : \_\_\_\_\_1000 meter (approximate) of the cable shall be uncoiled from the cable reel and shall be arranged in figure of 8 (eight). The diameter of each loop of the figure of 8 shall be maximum 2 meters.

**Requirement**: It shall be possible to make figure of 8 of minimum 1000 meter length of the cable uncoiled from the cable reel, without any difficulty. No visible damage shall occur.

# 3.10.10 Temperature Cycling (Type Test) :

**Objective :** \_\_\_\_\_To determine the stability behavior of the attenuation of a cable subjected to temperature changes, which may occur during storage, transportation and usage.

- Method : \_\_\_\_IEC 60794-1-22-F1 (To be tested on Standard cable length of drum i.e. 2 Km + 5 %).
- Test Specs. : The permissible temperature range for storage and operation will be from -20°C to +70°C. The rate of change of temperature during the test shall be 1°C per minute approx. The cable shall be subjected to temperature cycling for 12 Hrs. at each temperature as given below :

TA2 temp. :	- 20°C.
TA1 temp. :	- 10°C.
TB1 temp. :	+ 60°C.
TB2 temp. :	+ 70°C.

The test shall be conducted for 2 cycles at the above temperatures.

Requirement : The change in attenuation of the fibre under test shall be <a></a><0.05 dB, for 1310 nm and 1550 nm wave-lengths for the entire range of temperature.</td>

# 3.10.11 Cable Aging test (Type Test):

1

**Objective :** To check the cable material change dimensionally as the cable ages.

Method : IEC 60794-1-22-F9

Method : \_\_\_\_\_At the completion of temperature cycle test, the test cable shall be exposed to 85 <u>+</u> 2 <u>°C degree C</u> for 168 hours. The attenuation measurement at 1310 nm & 1550 nm wave length to be made after stabilization of the test cable at ambient temperature for 24 hours.

**Requirement :** The increase in attenuation allowed is < 0.05 dB at 1310 nm and& 1550 nm .

Note: \_\_\_\_\_The attenuation changes are to be calculated with respect to the base line attenuation values measured at room temperature before temperature cycling.

#### 3.10.12 Water Penetration Test (Type Test):

Objective : <u>To check the installed cable shall</u> <u>The aim of this test is to</u> <u>ensure that installed Optical Fibre cable will</u> not allow the water passage along its length.

Method : IEC 60794-1-22-F5 IEC 794-1-2-F5 (Fig. B) 1992.

- Test Specs.: A circumferential portion of the cable end (with HDPE sheath, after removing the nylon jacket) shall face the water head. The water tight sleeve shall be applied over the cable. The cable shall be supported horizontally and two meter water head, containing sufficient quantity of water soluble fluorescent dye for the detection of seepage, shall be applied on the HDPE sheath for a period of seven days, at ambient temperature. No other colored dye is permitted.
- Requirement : No dye shall be detected when the end of the 3 m length <u>cable sample</u> of the cable is examined with ultraviolet light detector. The cable sample under test shall be ripped open after the test and it shall be examined for seepage of water into the cable and the distance to be noted. It shall not be > 20 cm.
- 3.10.13 Cable Jacket Yield Strength And Ultimate Elongation :

**Objective:** To check the yield strength and elongation of polyethylene (HDPE) cable sheath.

Test Method: FOTP-89 or ASTM D1248 Type III Class.

## **Test Condition :**

- Sample shall be taken from a completed cable (The nylon to be removed for this test). The aged sample shall be conditioned at 100 + 2° C for 120 hours before testing.
- 2) The cross-head speed shall be 50 mm per minute.

## **Requirement:**

Jacket Material	Minimum Yield Strength		Minimum
	(MPa)	(psi)	Elongation (%)
HDPE un-aged	16.5	2400	400
HDPE aged	12.4	1800	375

# 3.10.14 Ribbon Dimension Measurements test:

Objective: <u>To Ccheck of the fibres in ribbon structure, fibre cross over</u> and fibre identity and to ensure the transmission performance and the mechanical service life of the fibre in the ribbon structure. and the check of cross over fibres and the check of fibre identity.

Test method : <u>IEC 60794-1-23-G2 FOTP-123</u> (Video Gray Scale Analysis (VGSA) or Microscopic method).

Requirement: It shall meet the dimensional requirements given in clause no. 3.8.2 of this GR. The fibres in the entire length of the ribbon shall not cross over at any point.

#### 3.10.15 Ribbon Resistance to Twist (Robustness) test:

**Objective** : \_\_\_\_\_To check the robustness of the fibre ribbons to withstand the twist in installed conditions and to check the structural integrity of the ribbon over the deployed length for mid-span entry, maintenance purposes, consideration in rearrangements and housekeeping.

# Test method : <u>Telcordia GR-20-CORE (issue 4, July 2013) / FOTP-141</u> FOTP-141.

Requirement : The un-aged and aged (at 85 <u>+</u> 2 <u>°C</u> degree C with uncontrolled humidity for a period of 30 days) completed ribbon shall not show any separation of individual fibres from the ribbon structure after completion of the twist test when observed under 5X magnification.

# 3.10.16 Ribbon Residual Twist (Flatness) test (Type Test) :

**Objective :** To check the dimensional integrity of the ribbon without twisting to allow rearrangements and to limit the potential attenuation increases due to a macro-bending caused by twisting of the fibre ribbon.

Test Method : Telcordia GR-20-CORE (issue 4, July 2013) / FOTP-131 / IEC 60794-1-308 FOTP-131.

Requirement : The aged (at 85° + 2° C with uncontrolled humidity for a

period of 30 days) ribbon residual twist (if any) shall have a pitch : <u>> 400 mm.</u> <u>450 mm (or maximum 8 deg/cm residual</u> twist).

3.10.17 Ribbon Separation Test :

Objective :

- a) To check the separation of individual fibres, separation of sub-unit of fibres and mid span separation from a fibre ribbon.
- b) To check the retention of sufficient colorant for identification for any 2.5 cm length of fibre after separation for individual and sub-unit of fibres.-

#### Test Method: IEC 60794-1-305

#### Test to be conducted for :

 a) Separation of any single fibre or a multi-fibre subgroup by a tool or by hand from a ribbon for a length of 1 meter. Mid span separation from a 2 meter sample, separated close to middle for at least 0.5 meter (both single fibre and the six fibre sub – units) for un-aged ribbon.

**Requirement :** The un-aged ribbon of minimum length of a 0.3 meter (1.0 foot) of an individual fibre and a sub group of six fibres shall be separated from the ribbon without breaking the fibres or damaging the fibre coating. The force required to perform separation shall not exceed 4.4 N. The area at the separation shall not show any damage to the fibre coating when examined under 5X magnification.

b) Retention of the Colour and Fibre Identification after separation.
 Requirement : Individual fibre colour identification shall be maintained

after the separation test. It shall retain sufficient colorant that any 2.5 cm length is readily identifiable.

<u>c)</u> Removal of Ribbon matrix material to access individual fibres. Requirement : No damage shall occur either to fibre coating or the fibres. The coating shall not sustain any swelling self-stripping, cracking or splitting when examined under 5X magnification.

**Note:** The manufacturer shall recommend the procedure for the removal of ribbon matrix.

## 3.10.18 Ribbon Stripability Test (Type Test) :

**Objective :** Check of removal of the matrix material and the fibres protective coating mechanically with commercial stripping tools from un-aged and aged ribbons.

Test Method : <u>IEC 60794-1-310-G10B</u> <u>ITM-9 (Bell Core GR-20-CORE issue</u> 2, July 1998)

Pre Conditioning:

- Aged samples : The humidity of aged ribbons shall be soaked at
   85 + 2°C degree C and a non-condensing humidity of 85 + 5% for a period of 30 days.
- b. Water aged samples: The water aged ribbons shall be soaked in deionized or distilled water at a temperature of 23 <u>+</u> 5°C degree for a period of 14 days.

The fibre ribbon strip-ability testing shall be conducted at standard

atmospheric conditions. The un-aged, humidity – aged, and water aged ribbons shall be tested within eight hours after aging.

Requirement : There shall be no fibre breakage, and any coating residue shall be removable with a single isopropyl alcohol wipe when at least 25 mm of the matrix material and the fibre Protective coating is mechanically removed with commercial stripling tools from un-aged and aged ribbons.

#### 4.17 3.10.19 Ribbon Macro-bend Performance Test

**Objective** : To check the macro-bend performance of a ribbon.

## Test Method: IEC 60794-1-301

Method \_\_\_\_\_: One hundred turns of ribbon are wound around a 60 mm diameter ribbon and the loss increase at 1310 nm & 1550 nm shall be measured.

**Requirement :** The change in attenuation of the fibre shall be < 0.05 dB, for 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths.

3.10.20 Torsion Resistance of the ribbon test (Type test) :

**Objective** : To check the torsion resistance of the ribbon.

Test Method: IEC 60794-1-31, IEC 60794-1-306

**Method** \_: One meter length of ribbon is twisted to through five revolutions of 360° and measurement is taken.

**Requirement\_:** —The change in attenuation of the fibre shall be < 0.05 dB, for 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths.

#### 3.10.21 Crush Resistance of Ribbon (Type Test) :

**Objective :** To check the crush resistance of the ribbon.

Method \_\_\_\_: A 50 mm<sup>2</sup> sample is subjected to a load of 500 N and the attenuation measurement taken for both 1310 nm & 1550 nm wave lengths.

**Requirement :** The change in attenuation of the fibre shall be  $\leq$  0.05 dB, for 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths.

3.10.22 Check of the quality of the loose tube (containing optical fibre ribbon) (Type Test) :

#### aA. Embrittlement Test of Loose Tube

This test method is based on bending by compression and reflects embrittlement much better than the other tensile tests. This test is independent of wall thickness of the loose tube.

Sample: The minimum length of the test sample depends on the outside diameter of the loose tube and should be 85 mm for tubes up to 2.5 mm outside dia. The length of the bigger tubes should be calculated by using the following equation:

Lo > 100 x  $\sqrt{(D^2 + d^2)}$ 

Where Lo = Length of tube under test.

d = Inside dia of loose tube.

#### Example :

Fibre optic tube, D = 4 mm, d = 3 mm  $L0 > 100 \times \sqrt{(5^2 + 3^2)}$ 

> 100 x 5.83 / 4 = 145.8

- Procedure. : Both the ends of a buffer tube test sample may be mounted in a tool, which is clamped in jaws of a tensile machine which exerts a constant rate of movement. The movable jaw may move at a rate of 50 mm per minute toward the fixed jaw. Under load, the tube will bend so that it is subjected to tensile and compressive stresses. The fixture for holding the tube should be designed in a manner that the tube might bend in all directions without further loading.
- Requirement : The tube should not get embrittled. No kink should appear on the tube up to the safe bend diameter of tube (15 D), where D is the outside diameter of the loose tube. There should also not be any physical damage or mark on the tube surface.

#### bB. Kink Resistance Test on the Loose Tube

**Objective:** To safeguard the delicate optical fibres, the quality of the loose tube material should be such that no kink or damage to the tube occur while it is being handled during installation and in splicing operations.

Method: IEC 60794-1-23-G7

Procedure: To check the kink resistance of the loose tube, a longer length of the loose tube is taken (with fibre and gel), a loop is made and loop is reduced to the minimum bend radius of loose tube i.e. 15 D (where D is the outside diameter of the loose tube). This test is to be repeated 4 times on the same sample length of the loose tube.

**Requirement :** No damage or kink should appear on the surface of the tube.

3.10.23 Drainage Test for loose Tube and Drip test on the cable (Type Test):

a. Drainage Test for loose tube

Sample Size : 30 cm tube length.

Test procedure :

- 1. Cut the tube length to 40 cm.
- 2. Fill the tube with the tube filling gel ensuring that there are no air bubbles and the tube is completely full.
- 3. Place the filled tube in a horizontal position on a clean worktop and cut 5 cm from either end so that the finished length of the sample is 30 cm.
- 4. Leave the filled tube in a horizontal position at an ambient temperature for 24 hrs.
- 5. The sample tube is then suspended vertically in an environment heat oven over a weighed beaker. It is left in the oven at a temperature of 70° C for a period of 24 Hrs.
- 6. At the end of the 24 hrs period the beaker is checked and weighed to see if there is any gel in the beaker.

**Requirement :** 

- 1. If there is no gel or oil in the beaker the tube has PASSED the drainage test.
- 2. If there is gel or oil in the beaker the tube has FAILED the drainage test.

b. New Clause: Drip test on the cable

**Objective:** The purpose of this test is to determine the ability of jelly in the Optical Fibre cable to withstand a temperature of 70°C.

Method: IEC 60794-1-22-F16

Test Specs.: Take a sample of 30 cm length of the cable with one end sealed by end cap. Remove outer black sheath, binder tapes for 5 cm from open end of the sample. Then the sample is kept vertically with open end downwards in the oven for 24 hours at 70°C with a paper under the sample.

**Requirement:** Examine the paper placed below the cable inside the oven for dripping of the jelly after 24 hours. There should be no jelly drip or oily impression on the paper.

## 3.10.24 Check of easy removal of sheath:

- **Objective:** Check of the easy removal of sheath of the optical fibre cable by using normal sheath removal tool.
- Procedure: To check easy removal, the sheath shall be cut in circular way and the about 300 mm length of the sheath should be removed in one operation. It should be observed during sheath removal process that no undue extra force is applied and no component part of the cable is damaged. One should be able to remove the sheath easily.

**Note :** - Easy removal of both the outer jacket and the inner sheath shall be checked separately.

#### 3.10.25 Check of the effect of aggressive media on the cable (Type Test):

Procedure: \_\_\_\_\_To check the effect of aggressive media, solution of PH4 and PH10 shall be made. The two test samples of the finished cable, each of 600 mm in length, are taken and the ends of the samples are sealed. These test samples are put in the PH4 and PH10 solutions separately. After 30 days these samples are taken out from the solutions and examined for any corrosion etc on the sheath and other markings of the cables. (Test method no. ISO175).

**Requirement :** The sample should not show any effect of these solution on the sheath and other marking of the cable.

New Clause: Flexural Rigidity Test on the optical fibre cable (Type Test):

**Objective:** To check the Flexural Rigidity of the optical fibre cable.

Method: To be tested as per ASTM D –790

Test Specs:The fibre and the component parts of the cable shall not sufferpermanent damage in the cable subjected to Flexural RigidityTest as per the above method. The attenuation shall be notedafter and before the completion of the test.

Requirement: The change in attenuation of the fibre after the test shall be
≤ 0.05 dB at both 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths. The sheath shall not show any cracks visible to the naked eye.

New Clause:Static Bend test (Type Test):

**Objective:** To check the cable under Static bend.

Method: As per the clause no 4.8 of the GR alternatively as per ASTM D 790.

Test Specs:The cable shall be subjected to static bend test. The optical fibrecable shall be bend on a mandrel having a Diameter of 10 D (Dis diameter of the cable).

Requirement:The change in attenuation of the fibre after the test shall be≤0.05 dB for both 1310 nm and 1550 nm wavelengths.Sheath shall not show any cracks visible to the naked eyewhen examined whilst still wrapped on the mandrel.

# PART II - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 4.0 Engineering requirements:
- 4.1 Cable Marking :
- 4.1.1 A long lasting suitable marking shall- be applied in order to identify -this cable from other cables. The cable marking shall be imprinted (indented). The marking on the cable shall be indelible of durable quality and at regular intervals -of one meter length. The accuracy of -the sequential marking -must be within -0.25% to +0.5% of the actual measured length. The <u>sequential length</u> markings on the cable must not rub off during normal installation and in life time of optical fibre cable. <u>The total length of the cable supplied shall not be in negative tolerance</u>.

- **4.1.2** The marking shall be in black colour over the orange colour nylon jacket and shall be done by hot foil indentation method. It must clearly contrast with the surface. The colour used must withstand the environmental influences experienced in the field.
- 4.1.3 The type of legend marking on O.F. cable shall be as follows :
  - a) Company Legend
  - b) Legend containing telephone mark & international acceptable Laser symbol
  - c) Type of cable "Ribbon Loose Tube"
  - d) Type of Fibres G.652 D / G.657 A1
  - e) Number of Fibres
  - f) Year of manufacture
  - g) Sequential length marking
  - h) User's identification i.e. BSNL or MTNL
  - i) Cable ID

## 4.2 Cable Ends:

**4.2.1** Both cable ends (the beginning end and end of the cable reel) shall be sealed and readily accessible. Minimum 5 meter of the cable of the beginning end of the reel shall be accessible for testing. Both ends of the cable shall be kept inside the drums and shall be located so as to be easily accessible for the test. The drum (conforming to GR No. G/CBD-01/02. NOV 94 <u>or latest release</u> and subsequent amendments issued, if any) should be marked to identify the direction of rotation of the drum. Both ends of cable shall be provided with cable pulling (grip) stocking and the anti twist device (free head hook). The diameter of the cable shall also be marked on the cable drum. The wooden drum shall be properly treated against termites and other insects during transportation and storage. The manufacturer shall submit the methodology

used for the same.

**4.2.2** An anti-twist device (Free head hook) shall be provided attached to the front end of the cable pulling arrangement. The arrangement of the pulling eye and its coupling system, along with the anti twist system, shall withstand the prescribed tensile load applicable to the cable.

## 4.3 The nominal drum length:

**4.3.1** Length of OF Cable in each drum shall be 2 Km  $\pm$  5 % / 4Km  $\pm$  5% / 8Km and shall be supplied as per the order. The variation in length of optical fibre cable, in each drum shall be  $\pm$  5% to  $\pm$  10%, as decided by the purchaser. Purchaser may at their discretion procure shorter length cable drum as per their requirement.

**4.3.2** The fibres in cable length shall not have any joint.

- **4.3.3** The drum shall be marked with arrows to indicate the direction of rotation.
- **4.3.4** Packing list supplied with each drum shall have at least the following information:
  - a) Drum No.
  - b) Type of cable
  - c) Physical Cable length
  - d) No. of fibres
  - e) Length of each fibre as measured by OTDR
  - f) The Cable factor ratio of fibre / cable length
  - g) Attenuation per Km. of each fibre at 1310 nm & 1550 nm
  - h) User's / Consignee's Name
  - i) Manufacturer's Name, Month, Year and Batch No.

- j) Group refractive index of fibres
- k) Purchase Order No
- I) Cable ID

#### 4.4 Colour coding and Ribbon identification in O.F. Cables :

4.4.1 The colorant applied to individual fibres shall be readily identifiable throughout the life time of the cable and shall match and conform to the MUNSELL color standards (For EIA standard EIA-598-D 359-A) or IEC Publication 304 (4).

#### 4.4.2 Colour Coding Scheme :

When the loose tubes are placed in circular format, the <u>blue coloured</u> marking to indicate the loose tube is to be considered loose tube no. "1" shall be in blue colour followed by loose tube no.2 of orange and so on for other tubes as per the colour scheme given below <u>at Table-1</u> and complete the circular format by placing the dummy /fillers at the end.

Loose tube No./Sequence	Loose tube identification		
1	Blue		
2	Orange		
<u>3</u>	Green		
4	Brown		
5	Slate		
<u>6</u>	White Red		
<u>7</u>			
<u>8</u>	Black		
<u>9</u>	Yellow		
<u>10</u>	Violet		
<u>11</u>	Rose/Pink		
<u>12</u>	Aqua		

#### Table -1 : Colour Coding scheme of Loose tube

Depending upon the number of fibres in a Ribbon (which depends on the cable capacity), the colour of the fibres within each Ribbon are serially chosen starting from blue colour as per the colour scheme given below at Table-2. the column no. If of the following table.

Fiber No./Sequence within Ribbon	Fibre Identification
<u>1</u>	Blue
2	<u>Orange</u>
<u>3</u>	Green
4	Brown
5	Slate
<u>6</u>	White
<u>7</u>	Red
<u>8</u>	Black
<u>9</u>	Yellow
<u>10</u>	Violet
<u>11</u>	Rose/Pink
<u>12</u>	Aqua

## Table-2: Colour Coding scheme of the Optical Fibre within Ribbon

## Table -1 : Colour Coding scheme of the Optical Fibres & Loose tube

No.of Fiber	Fiber identification	Loose tube identification
ŧ	H .	ŧŧ
4	Blue	Blue
2	Orange	<del>Orange</del>

3	Green	Green	
4	Brown	Brown	
5	Slate/Grey	Slate/Grey	
<del>6</del>	White (Milky white)	White (Milky white)	
7	Red	Red	
8	Black	Black	
9	Yellow	Yellow	
<del>10</del>	<del>Violet</del>	Violet	
11	Rose/Pink	Rose/Pink	
12	Aqua	Aqua	

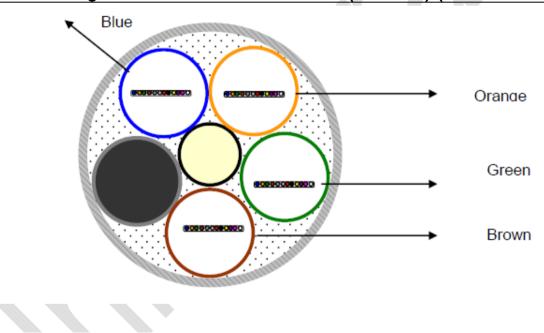
4.4.3 Identification of Ribbon :

No. of fibres in a	No. of Tubes	No. of Ribbons per	Fiber Per	Marking on Ribbon
cable		Tube	Ribbon	
48Fibres	Four	One	6	1 RIBBON 1
96 Fibres	Five	2 tubes with 1 ribbon per tube		1 RIBBON 1
			<u>6</u>	1 RIBBON 1
		3 tubes with 2 ribbon per tube		2 RIBBON 2
144 Fibres	Six	Two		1 RIBBON 1
			6	2 RIBBON 2
288 Fibres	Six	Four		1 RIBBON 1
			0	2 RIBBON 2
			<u>6</u>	3 RIBBON 3 4 RIBBON 4
576 Fibres	Eight	Six		1 RIBBON 1
				2 RIBBON 2
			<u>6</u>	3 RIBBON 3
			_	4 RIBBON 4 5 RIBBON 5
				6 RIBBON 6

#### Note :

- 1. In case of 96 Fibre cable, Loose tube No. 1 & 2 shall have 1 ribbon per tube and Loose tube No. 3, 4 & 5 shall have 2 ribbons per tube.
- The individual number marking The printing shall be at regular interval of every <u>300200</u> mm on natural color ribbon and shall be legible. The printing on the ribbon shall also be of durable quality and shall be compatible with coating of the ribbon and Thixotropic Jelly (filled in the loose tube of the cable).

Color coding of Loose tubes for 4 Ribbons (48 fibres) (Refer Table-1)



(Loose Tube Colour: Blue, Orange, Green and Brown)

## 5.0 Quality Requirements :

5.1 The cable shall be manufactured in accordance with the international quality standards ISO 9001-20152000 or latest issue series of standards for which the manufacturer should be duly accredited. The Quality Manual shall be

submitted by the manufacturer. A quality plan followed by the manufacturer shall be required to be submitted.

#### 5.2 Raw Material:

- 5.2.1 The cable shall use the raw materials approved against the <u>Standard No. TEC</u> <u>89010:2021(or latest release)</u> <u>GR No. G/ORM-01/03. MAR 04</u> and the subsequent amendments issued, if any.-<u>The list and details of the Raw</u> <u>Materials used, the make and grade of the raw material and valid certificate of source approval issued by CACT or any Conformity Assessment Body(CAB) recognized by TEC, shall be submitted by the manufacturer.</u>
- 5.2.2 The material used, other than approved <u>Any other materials used</u>, shall be clearly indicated by the manufacturer. The detailed technical specifications of such raw materials used shall be furnished by the manufacturer at the time of <u>evaluation/testing.Type Approval.</u>
- **5.2.3** The raw materials used from multiple sources is permitted. and <u>T</u>the source / sources of raw materials (Type and grade) from where these have been procured shall be submitted by the manufacturer-.
- **5.2.4** The manufacturer can change the raw material from one approved source to other approved source with the approval of QA, wing of purchaser BSNL. The change of source/grade of SM Optical Fibre / Ribbon and / or design shall call for fresh type approval/certification. The clauses 9.2 and 9.3 of this Standard for GR shall facilitate the clause 5.2.4 of this Standard for GR, in order to simplify the certification process and to avoid repetitive testing.
- 5.2.5 The HDPE, Black in colour, used for sheath shall be UV stabilized.

Note: A tTest certificate from CACT or from any Conformity Assessment

Body(CAB) recognized by TEC may be acceptable for the UV stability of the HDPE sheath material. Source Approval Certificate (SAC) issued by CACT against Standard No. TEC 89010:2021(or latest release) for the HDPE raw material used, indicating UV stabilized grade, may also be acceptable in this respect.

-a recognized laboratory or institute may be acceptable for UV stability test of the HDPE sheath material.

**5.2.6** The material used in optical fibre cable must not evolve hydrogen that will affect the characteristics of optical fibres. fibre loos.

Note: A test certificate from a recognized laboratory or institute may be acceptable.

## 5.3 Cable Material Compatibility:

Optical fibre, buffers/core tubes, and other core components shall meet the requirements of the compatibility with buffer/core tube filling material(s) and/or water-blocking materials that are in direct contact with identified components within the cable structure as per clause no. 6.3.<u>3</u>4 of <u>Telecordia document</u> GR-20-CORE issue <u>42</u>, July 2013 or as per IEC 60794-1-219.July 1998.

**Note :** The tests may be conducted in house (if facility exist ) or may be conducted at CACT or any other recognized laboratory. The test certificate may be accepted and the tests may not be repeated subsequently, in next type approvals, if the raw material used is of same make and grade.

## 6.0 Safety Requirement:

6.1 The material used in the manufacturing of the High count Metal free optical fibre cable (ribbon type) shall be non toxic and dermatologically safe in its life

time and shall not be hazardous to health. The manufacturer shall submit MSDS (Material safety Data Sheet) for all the material used in manufacturing of optical fibre cable to substantiate the statement.

Note: Latest issue of the Standards mentioned in the GR, may be referred.

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## CHAPTER - 2

#### **76.0** Documentation:

- 6.1 <u>7.1</u> Complete technical literature in English with detailed cable construction diagram of various sub-components with dimensions, weight & test data and other details of the cable shall be provided.
  - 6.27.2 All aspects of cable installation, operation, maintenance and fibre splicing shall also be covered in the handbook. The pictorial diagrams of the accessories (with model no. and manufacturer name) supplied along with the cable as package shall also be submitted. A hard as well as soft copy of the manuals shall be provided.

#### 7.0 Safety Requirement:

The material used in the manufacturing of the High count Metal free optical fibre cable (ribbon type) shall be non toxic and dermatologically safe in its life time and shall not be hazardous to health. The manufacturer shall submit MSDS (Material safety Data Sheet) for all the material used in manufacturing of optical fibre cable to substantiate the statement.

- 8.0 New clause: Information for the Procurer/User:
- **9.1** It is suggested that the Optical fibre cable used/deployed in a particular route is manufactured from a single source of optical fibres.
- 8.2 User shall check for compatibility issues that may arise because of different fibre types and MFD mismatch.

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9.0 New Clause: Procedure for issue of Approval Certificate:

- **9.1** The approval certificate against this Standard for GR shall be issued subsequent to successful testing against the clauses of this Standard.
- **9.2** Single Mode Optical Fibre used in manufacturing optical fibre cables shall be as per ITU-T Rec. G.652 D or G.657 A1. The manufacturer having a valid approval certificate against this Standard for GR for cable of specific fibre count and specific fibre type, may also seek approval certificate for cable having same fibre count but different fibre type, provided the manufacturer gets testing done for all corresponding and concerned parameters. This will be applicable when there is change only in the fibre type while all other cable design parameters and fibre count remain the same.
- 9.3 The manufacturer having valid approval certificate against this Standard for GR for cable with higher fibre count and specific fibre type, may seek approval certificate for cable with lower fibre count without conducting actual tests, provided that all cable design parameters including the fibre type being same.
- 9.4 The clauses 9.2 and 9.3 shall be read in conjunction with the clause 5.2.4.

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## Annex B

(Informative)

Hydrogen ageing

**Technical note**: This test is under consideration and evaluation for category B 1.3 fibres. It is not intended for specification of other fibre categories.

Select a fibre specimen at least 1 km long. After spooling the fibre to a test configuration that minimises the effect of winding on attenuation at  $\lambda_{y}$  nm, measure the attenuation coefficient of the specimen at 1240 nm and at  $\lambda_{y}$  nm. This measurement gives the baseline attenuation for the specimen. Expose the fibre to 0.01 atmospheres of hydrogen at room temperature. During this exposure, monitor the attenuation coefficient of the specimen at 1240 nm. This wavelength is indicative of the molecular hydrogen present in the specimen. Constructing the change in attenuation as the monitored results minus the baseline value, continue exposure until the 1240 nm attenuation changes by  $\geq$  0.03 dB/km. At this time, the attenuation increase at  $\lambda_{y}$  may be considered fully saturated, and the specimen may be removed from the hydrogen atmosphere. After at least 14 days in the normal laboratory environment, measure the attenuation

coefficient of the fibre at  $\lambda_{y}$  using methods A, B or C of IEC 60793-1-40.

NOTE 1 This is a type test performed periodically to ensure that the manufacturing process reliably yields fibre with acceptable ageing characteristics. For example, 10 fibre samples may be tested every six months.

NOTE 2 This test is not appropriate for hermetically coated fibre.

NOTE 3 For non-hermetic fibres, typical hydrogen exposure time is from four to six days.

Procedures for the issue of Type Approvals/TSEC of High count Metal Free Optical Fibre Cables (Ribbon Type) for Access Network against GR No. GR/OFC-05/02. MAR 2006

Manufactures having valid TAC/TSEC for higher fibre count of Ribbon optical fibre cables can seek approval for lower fibre count of Ribbon optical fibre cables against this GR, without conducting the actual tests, as per the following :

he manufacturer may seek Type Approval/TSEC of Ribbon Type Metal Free Optical Fibre Cables against GR No. GR/OFC-05/02. MAR 2006 for the respective fibre count of 48, 96, 144, 288 or 576 fibres.

ii)

i)

he Ribbon Type Metal Free Optical Fibre Cables against GR (No. GR/OFC-05/02. MAR 2006) are grouped into following four groups :

a) Group No. | Fibre cables of 576, 288, 144, 96 & 48 Fibres.

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b) Group No. II Fibre cables of 288, 144, 96 & 48 Fibres.

c) Group No. III Fibre cables of 144, 96 & 48 Fibres.

d) Group No. IV Fibre cables of 96 & 48 Fibres.

iii)

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he manufacturer may seek Type Approval/TSEC of Lower Fibre Count Cable, mentioned in the respective group, if he has TAC/TSEC for higher fibre count cable in the particular group.

iv)

1)

2)

<del>3)</del>

he manufacturer seeking Type Approval/TSEC for the Lower Fibre Count Cable, based upon the fact that he is having TAC/TSEC for higher fibre count cable, shall be required to submit the following :

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pplication in prescribed forms as per the existing Type Approva/TSEC Procedures.

ompliance statement against each clause of the GR, along with construction design details with dimensions.

The manufacturer shall have manufactured at least 3 cable reels (of 2 km each approx.) of the particular fibre count of the cable for which application for the issue of TAC/TSEC is made. The sample of the cable shall be submitted by the manufacturer at the time of seeking TAC/TSEC of lower fibre count of cable.

A separate application is required to be submitted for the issue of TAC/TSEC for each type of **lower fibre count** of cable.

5)\_\_\_\_

4)

he manufacturer shall submit the actual test results (of the manufactured cable) against each clause of the GR (and as per the requirement of the latest test schedule applicable to the GR). Mere mentioning the word **"Complied"** shall not be

accepted.

6)

he list of **Raw Materials** used, the make and grade of the raw material and the certificate of source approval issued by CACT along with the details of the Raw Materials used in the manufacturing of the higher fibre count OF cable for which he is holding valid TAC/TSEC. Both the raw materials shall be compared and are required to be of same make and grade.

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Additional required information from the manufacturer may be sought (regarding manufactured OF cable) and the manufactured cable may be inspected at the manufacturer's premises. After all the above requirements are met, the TAC/TSEC may be issued to the lower fibre count of the cable, in the respective group, based upon the test results and other details submitted by the manufacturer.

The tariff in each case is fixed as category – II. The first such case may be referred to HQ group for study and any change in the procedure required, if any.

The following shall be mentioned in the Remarks column of the TAC/TSEC while it is issued for the lower fibre count of the cable :

<del>``This</del>	TAC/TSEC	is	issued	on	the	basis	f	TAC/TSEC	<del>No.</del>
	=					da	ted		for
			fibre co	<del>unt ca</del>	<del>bles.</del>				

The validity of the TAC/TSEC for Lower Fibre Count Cables shall be restricted to the validity of TAC/TSEC of higher fibre count cables.

The above procedure shall be applicable only to the approval of Ribbon Type Metal Free Optical Fibre Cables against the GR No. GR/OFC-05/02. MAR 2006 and subsequent amendments, if any.

ANNEXURE - I

The following parameters of the component parts of the cable are to be taken into account while designing and manufacturing the optical fiber cables of the required fiber count. These parameters shall be checked during evaluation of the OF Cables.

SN	Parameter	Unit	48 Fiber OF	96 Fiber	144 Fiber	288 Fiber	576 Fiber
			Cable	OF Cable	OF Cable	OF Cable	OF Cable
1	FRP Rod EAA	mm	3.5+0.1/-0.0	3.5+0.1/-	3.5+0.1/-	3.5+0.1/-	3.5+0.1/-
	coated			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2	FRP up jacketing	mm	0	0	0.7	1.5	3.8
	thickness						
3	Tube ID (min)	mm	3.9	3.9	3.9	5.1	5.4
4	Tube OD	mm	5.0 ±0.1	5.0 ± 0.1	5.0 ± 0.1	6.4 ±0.1	6.7 ±0.1
5	No. of Ribbons /	No	1	2 tubes	2	4	6
	tube			with 1			
				ribbon/tube			
				and			
				3 tubes			
				with 2			
				ribbon/tube			
6	No of loose tubes	No	4	5	6	6	8
7	No of dummy	No	1	0	0	6 thin	8 thin
						dummies	dummies
						in the	in the
						interstices	interstices
8	Tube stranding	mm	>200	>200	>200	>300	>300
	lay over length						
9	Cable diameter	mm	19 ±0.5	19 ± 0.5	20.5± 0.5	24 ±1	30 ± 1
1							

10	Nominal cable	Kg/km	280	280	340	525	740
	weight						
11	Cable to be	%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	designed to fiber						
	strain value						
12	Cable to be	%	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
	tested at defined						
	load for fiber						
	strain value of						

Note: The manufacturer shall submit the design calculations which shall be cross checked.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASTM	- American Society for Testing and Materials
BIS	- Bureau of Indian Standards
CAB	- Conformity Assessment Body
CACT	- Component Approval Centre For Telecommunications
dB	- decible
DTS	- Department of Telecom Services
EIA	- Electronic Industry Association
ESCR	- Environmental Stress Crack Resistance
FOTP	- Fibre Optic Test Procedure
FRP	- Fibre Reinforced Plastic
<del>Gpa</del>	Gega Pascal
HDPE	- High Density Polyethylene
IEC	- International Electro -Technical Commission
IS	- Indian Standards
ISO	- International Standard Organisations
ITU-T	- International Telecommunication Union –
	Telecommunication Standardisation Sector Transmission
KPSI	Kilogram per sq. inch
KV	- Kilo Volt
MFD	- Mode Field Diameter
MSDS	<ul> <li>Material Safety Data Sheet</li> </ul>
Nm	- nanometer
Ν	- Newton
OF	- Optical Fibre
OTDR	- Optical Time Domain Reflectometer
Ps/nm	
Ps	- pico second

QA	- Quality Assurance
QM	- Quality Manual
SM	- Single Mode
TEC	- Telecommunication Engineering Centre
RMS	Route Mean Square
SMOF	Single Mode Optical Fibre
UV	- Ultra Violet
μm	- micrometer
°C	- Degree Celsius

# ANNEXURE-II

Comments on draft Standard (Draft Standard No. TEC 85030:2025)

Name of Manufacturer/Stakeholder:

Organization:

Contact details:

Clause No.	Clause	Comments	Other Remarks,
			if any