

Government of India  
Ministry of Jal Shakti  
Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation  
Central Ground Water Authority

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
New Delhi, Dated 09.07.2021, 2021

**Subject – Applicability of CGWA Guidelines dated 24.09.2020 to the Union Territory of Ladakh.**

Whereas the Central Government constituted the Central Ground Water Authority (hereafter referred to as the Authority) vide notification Number S.O. 38(E), dated 14th January, 1997, followed by notification number S.O. 1124(E) dated 6th November, 2000 and S.O. 1121 (E) dated 13th May, 2010 of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment & Forests, for the purposes of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the whole of India;

And whereas, the Central Government have authorized the Authority to issue directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, in writing to any person, officer or any authority and such person, officer or authority shall be bound to comply with such directions;

And whereas, Section 1(2) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 states that the said Act extends to the whole of India.

And whereas the Authority has framed 'Guidelines to control and regulate ground water extraction in India' vide notification number 3289(E) dated 24th September, 2020 for the regulation and sustainable use of ground water resources.

And whereas the said CGWA Guidelines have pan India applicability and ground water abstraction/development is being regulated by the Authority in such States and UTs where ground water abstraction/development is not being regulated by the State Government and Union territory administration concerned.

And whereas Section 3 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 (No. 34 of 2019) provides that, "there shall be formed a new Union territory to be known as the Union territory of Ladakh comprising the following territories of the existing State

of Jammu and Kashmir, namely:— "Kargil and Leh districts", and thereupon the said territories shall cease to form part of the existing State of Jammu and Kashmir.”

And whereas Section 2(5) of Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2019 dated 30.10.2019 (S.O. 3912(E)) provide that “All those Central laws, Ordinance and rules which are applicable to the whole of India except the existing State of Jammu and Kashmir immediately before the appointed day, shall now be applicable to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territory of Ladakh in addition to the Central laws specified in TABLE -1 of the of Fifth Schedule to the principal Act.”

And whereas, the regulation of groundwater development and management in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is being done through constitution of Jammu & Kashmir State Water Resources Regulatory Authority.

**Now therefore, in exercise of powers conferred upon it, the Central Ground Water Authority hereby directs that the provisions of CGWA Guidelines dated 24.09.2020 shall also apply to the Union Territory of Ladakh till a competent Ground Water Authority is constituted by the Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh or an appropriate government order is passed in this connection. It is further clarified that all the users including Industrial/ Infrastructure/ Mining Projects, whether existing or new, not having a valid NOC from Jammu & Kashmir State Water Resources Regulatory Authority and drawing ground water are directed to submit their applications for NOC online through NOCAP portal of CGWA, which shall be scrutinized and processed as per the CGWA guidelines.**

Member  
CGWA