

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

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 20/2021
New Delhi, Dated 20th December, 2021

ATTENTION TO ALL PROJECT PROPONENTS AND ACCREDITED
CONSULTANTS (GROUND WATER PROFESSIONAL AGENCIES/ INDIVIDUALS)

Whereas the Central Government constituted the Central Ground Water Authority (hereinafter 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 to issue necessary regulatory directions.

And whereas, the Authority has issued 'Guidelines to control and regulate groundwater extraction in India' vide notification number S.O. 3289(E) dated 24th September, 2020, notified by Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, which have pan India applicability, wherein Sections 4.1(f), 4.2(c) and 4.3(a) provides mandatory submission of impact assessment report in industrial and infrastructure projects and Comprehensive hydrogeological report in mining projects in certain cases.

And whereas the Authority has framed Accreditation Policy for Ground Water Professionals to assure quality of the impact assessment report and has authorized Rajiv Gandhi National Ground Water Training and Research Institute (RGNGWTRI) for accreditation of consultant / hydrogeologist and National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (NABET) for accreditation of Ground Water consultant organizations for the preparation of Impact Assessment Report for Industrial & Infrastructure Projects, Hydrogeological Report for Mining Projects and for Ground Water Modelling Studies.

And whereas on 27.11.2020, this Authority had uploaded on its website a provisional list of accredited Ground Water Professionals for the preparation of Impact Assessment Report for Industrial & Infrastructure Projects / Hydrogeological Report for Mining Projects / Ground Water Modelling Studies, which was valid till 15.02.2021.

And whereas, this Authority has uploaded on its website final lists of accredited Ground Water individuals / Institutions for the preparation of Impact Assessment Report for Industrial & Infrastructure Projects / Hydrogeological Report for Mining Projects / Ground Water Modelling Studies, with validity periods 15/2/2021 to 14/2/2026 and 01/10/2021 to 30/09/2026, along with the list of NABET accredited Ground Water Consultant Organizations.

This is to bring to the notice of all Accredited Consultants (Ground Water Professional Agencies and Individuals) that:

1. Impact Assessment Report/ Hydrogeological Report/ ground water modelling report prepared jointly by two or more individual consultants shall not be accepted.
2. With effect from 01.01.2022, accredited Ground Water Agencies / Institutions may enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with up to a maximum of 3 accredited Individual Consultants for utilizing their services in the preparation of Impact Assessment Report/ Hydrogeological Report/ Ground Water Modelling report as the case may be. Any accredited individual consultant shall be permitted to get themselves associated with a maximum of 3 accredited ground water agencies/ institutions. The MoU should be valid for **at least one year**.
3. Copy of the MoU executed between accredited Ground Water Agency / Institution and accredited Individual Consultant, may be submitted to CGWA at rgi-cgwb@nic.in with a copy to cgwa@nic.in and nabet@gcin.org, within 30 days of signing of MoU.
4. Reports prepared jointly by the institution/ company should categorically include the name of accredited Ground Water Institution and accredited Individual Consultant(s).
5. All Reports duly prepared by **provisionally accredited consultants** before 15.02.2021 shall be submitted to CGWA, latest by 31.12.2021. The reports received from such consultants after 31.12.2021 shall not be acceptable and will be treated as invalid.
6. Reports prepared by consultant/ organizations accredited by NABET during the period 15.02.2021 - 01.09.2021 shall be considered invalid.

Member Secretary
CGWA