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J&K High Court Invalidates Water Charges on Hydropower Projects, Calls Levy an Unconstitutional Tax

Sheikh Rayees • October 31, 2026

PUBLISHED REPORT

The Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court has struck down the imposition of water usage charges on hydropower projects under the Jammu and Kashmir Water Resources (Regulation and Management) Act, 2010, ruling that the levy effectively amounted to a tax on electricity generation. A Division Bench comprising Justice Rajnesh Oswal and Justice Sanjay Dhar held that the State Legislature lacked the constitutional authority to impose such a tax. It...

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