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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Battery EPR in India: producers, labels, targets and recycled content

Battery EPR (extended producer responsibility) in India runs under the Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022, which cover every battery. Producers include anyone importing batteries or equipment that contains them. A producer registers once with the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), meets collection targets through certificates, marks its registration number on each battery and, from 2027-28, uses recycled material.

A BATTERY PRODUCER is any company that makes and sells batteries under its own brand, sells other makers' batteries under its own brand, or imports batteries or equipment containing batteries (rule 3(1)(u)). A contract maker that makes batteries for such a brand owner, without its own brand name, is a producer too. Batteries inside equipment count.

KEY FACTS

LAW

Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

PLASTIC EPR

Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2022

E-WASTE EPR

E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022

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Who is a battery producer under the battery EPR rules?

A battery producer is any company that makes and sells batteries under its own brand, sells other makers' batteries under its own brand, or imports batteries or equipment containing batteries (rule 3(1)(u)). A contract maker that makes batteries for such a brand owner, without its own brand name, is a producer too. Batteries inside equipment count.

The rules cover batteries "regardless of chemistry, shape, volume, weight, material composition and use" (rule 2), except in military equipment and equipment sent into space. The other regimes are in our guide to MoEFCC rules for companies in India.

The four battery types (rule 3(1))

Battery type	What the rules mean by it
Portable	Sealed, under five kilograms, and not industrial, EV or automotive
Automotive	Used only for starter, lighting or ignition power
Electric vehicle	Gives traction to hybrid and electric road vehicles
Industrial	Any other industrial battery, including energy storage system batteries

Importers are producers

Some summaries of a state board's FAQ say an importer of batteries isn't a producer. The rules have named importers since 2022, and since October 25, 2023, rule 3(1)(u)(iii) reads "import of Battery or equipment containing Battery" (S.O. 4669(E)).

Batteries you put to self-use count too (rule 4(1)). The rules are S.O. 3984(E) of August 22, 2022, in the Gazette issue of August 24, 2022 (our tracker note).

A battery-powered device may also carry e-waste EPR duties. Foreign sellers: see EPR for importers.

How does battery EPR registration with CPCB work?

A battery producer registers once with CPCB on its online portal, in Form 1(A) (rule 4(4)). Since October 25, 2023, the certificate in Form 1(B) stays valid until CPCB cancels or withdraws it. CPCB registers within two weeks of a completed application, and if it doesn't refuse in that time, the registration is deemed done (rule 11(3)).

- Tell CPCB about any change to your registration details (rule 4(6)).
- If you stop operating, you still meet your EPR for batteries already on the market (rule 4(6A)).

> Two weeks, not 30 to 120 days
>
> Some import service pages say registration takes 30 to 120 days. Rule 11(3), as amended by S.O. 4669(E), sets two weeks (our tracker note): the rule's limit, not a promise for any one file.

The other regimes are covered in EPR registration in India.

What are the battery EPR targets and compliance cycles?

Schedule II sets battery EPR collection targets for each battery type and chemistry, as a share of what you placed on the market in an earlier year, plus 100% recycling or refurbishment of what you collect. Cycles run seven to fourteen years. You may hire others to collect, but the target stays yours (rule 4(10)).

Compliance cycles by battery type (Schedule II of S.O. 3984(E), as amended)

Battery type	Compliance cycle	Schedule II clause
Portable	10 years	(vi) and (vii)
Automotive	7 years	(viii)
Industrial	7 years	(ix)
EV, three-wheelers including e-rickshaws	7 years	(x), substituted in 2023

EV, two-wheelers	7 years	(xi)
EV, four-wheelers	14 years	(xii)

Since March 14, 2024, G.S.R. 190(E) lets "up to 60% of the remaining quantity of battery placed in the market" during a cycle be carried forward to the next. The yearly percentages differ by type, year and market entry; read them in Schedule II of S.O. 3984(E) with its amendments.

How much recycled material must new batteries contain?

From 2027-28, producers must use a minimum share of domestically recycled material in new batteries, measured on the battery's total dry weight (rule 4(14)). Portable and EV batteries start at 5% and reach 20% from 2030-31. Automotive and industrial batteries start at 35% and reach 40% from 2029-30. S.O. 2374(E) of June 20, 2024 set these numbers.

Minimum recycled material, % of total dry weight, by financial year (S.O. 2374(E))

Battery type	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31 onward
Portable	5%	10%	15%	20%
Electric vehicle	5%	10%	15%	20%
Automotive	35%	35%	40%	40%
Industrial	35%	35%	40%	40%

The first year starts in April 2027. The 2022 table had started automotive and industrial batteries in 2024-25 (our tracker note). For imported batteries, the producer meets the share by having that quantity of recycled material used by other businesses, or by exporting it (rule 4(14)).

How do battery EPR certificates work, and is there a floor price?

Battery EPR certificates have a floor and a ceiling. Since March 14, 2024, CPCB sets the lowest price at 30% and the highest at 100% of the environmental compensation leviable for unmet EPR

obligations. Trades on the portal must fall between them (rule 10(17) and (18)). Registered recyclers and refurbishers earn certificates for the waste batteries they process.

- A certificate counts only for the category of battery it was made for (rule 10(9)).
- Certificates stay valid for seven years (rule 10(14)).
- None are made for imported waste batteries (rule 10(8)).
- You may buy up to your current year's liability, plus any leftover, plus 10% of the current year's (rule 10(11)).

The rules print no rupee price: the limits follow CPCB's compensation amounts (our tracker note).

What must a battery label show in India?

Every battery or battery pack sold in India must carry the crossed-out wheeled bin symbol, covering at least 3% of the area of its largest side (Schedule I). It must also carry the producer's EPR registration number by March 31, 2025. Since February 24, 2025, that number may sit in a barcode or QR code, or in the product brochure.

Battery marks (Schedule I, paragraph 2)

Mark	What the rules require	Clause
Crossed-out wheeled bin	At least 3% of the area of the largest side, up to 5 cm x 5 cm (1.5% of the surface on cylindrical cells)	(iii)
Bin on the packaging	Where the bin would be smaller than 0.5 cm x 0.5 cm, at least 1 cm x 1 cm on the packaging instead of the battery	(iv)
Hg, Cd or Pb	Under the bin, at least a quarter of its size. Cd or Pb isn't needed at 0.002% (20 ppm) cadmium or 0.004% (40 ppm) lead or less, by weight	(v)
EPR registration number	On every battery or pack, by March 31, 2025	(ia)
Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) labels	As the battery's Indian Standard requires	(i)

S.O. 958(E) lets you print a barcode or QR code holding the number on the battery, the equipment, their packaging or bulk packaging not for retail sale, or print the number in the product brochure. You tell CPCB in writing (our tracker note).

Can waste batteries go to landfill or incineration?

Waste batteries a producer collects can't go to landfill or incineration. They must be sent for recycling or refurbishing (rule 4(3)). Consumers hand waste batteries to an entity that collects, refurbishes or recycles them (rule 5). Recyclers and refurbishers register with their State Pollution Control Board through CPCB's portal (rules 8 and 9).

When are battery EPR returns due, and what if you miss a target?

Battery EPR returns are due by June 30 for the year before: the Form 1(C) return of batteries placed on the market (rule 4(7)) and the Form 3 annual return (rule 4(11)). For 2025-26, the environment ministry's office memorandum of August 27, 2026 extended annual returns to November 30, 2026. A missed target draws environmental compensation from CPCB (rule 13(4)).

The office memorandum used rule 14(6), which allows up to nine months more (our insight). Paying compensation doesn't end the obligation. Make up the shortfall within one, two or three years and you get back 75%, 60% or 40% of the compensation (rule 13(6)).

S.O. 5210(E) of December 3, 2024 made anyone who breaks the rules liable to a penalty under section 15 of the Environment (Protection) Act (our tracker note). See environmental compensation and penalties under the EPR rules.

How IndusDesk helps with battery EPR

We read which battery rules apply to your products and imports, prepare registration applications, returns and replies to CPCB for you to file, and track your targets and recycled

content dates. We don't trade EPR certificates, and we can't promise a registration or a lower compensation. Port clearance is in our guide to customs in India.

Rule exposure audit →

Talk to our desk about battery EPR Message us on WhatsApp

Frequently asked questions

Do I need battery EPR registration if I import laptops or phones?

Yes. A battery producer includes anyone who imports equipment containing batteries (rule 3(1)(u)(iii)).

Can the battery EPR number go on the packaging instead?

Yes, since February 24, 2025, as a barcode or QR code on the packaging, if you tell CPCB in writing (S.O. 958(E)).

What are the recycled content targets for EV batteries?

5% of dry weight in 2027-28, 10% in 2028-29, 15% in 2029-30 and 20% from 2030-31 (rule 4(14), S.O. 2374(E)).

What is the minimum price of a battery EPR certificate?

30% of the environmental compensation leviable for unmet EPR obligations, set by CPCB (rule 10(17)). The rules print no rupee amount.

Sources

- Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022, S.O. 3984(E), August 22, 2022 (Gazette issue of August 24, 2022): rules 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 to 11, 13 and 14, Schedules I and II (PDF, 1.5 MB)

- Battery Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2023, S.O. 4669(E), October 25, 2023: rules 3(1)(c) and (u), 4, 10, 11(3) and 14(6), Schedule I paragraph 2(ia), Schedule II clause (x) (PDF, 827 KB)
- Battery Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2024, G.S.R. 190(E), March 14, 2024: rule 10(17) and (18), the carry forward in Schedule II (PDF, 1.5 MB)
- Battery Waste Management (Second Amendment) Rules, 2024, S.O. 2374(E), June 20, 2024: the table in rule 4(14) (PDF, 716 KB)
- S.O. 5210(E), December 3, 2024: rule 13(2) omitted and rule 13(9) substituted (penalty under section 15) (PDF, 595 KB)
- Battery Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2025, S.O. 958(E), February 24, 2025: Schedule I, paragraph 2, clauses (ia), (ib) and (v) (PDF, 1.8 MB)
- MoEFCC office memorandum F. No. 12/136/2021-HSM, August 27, 2026: battery annual returns for 2025-26 extended to November 30, 2026 (PDF, 331 KB)

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