MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

EPR registration in India: who registers, targets and returns

EPR registration in India is how a company that makes, imports or sells a product under its brand signs up for each extended producer responsibility (EPR) regime that covers it. It registers on a Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) portal before doing business, meets a yearly target with certificates from registered recyclers, and files returns.

EPR REGISTRATION IS A company's entry on a CPCB portal under one of India's extended producer responsibility (EPR) rules, which make the company that puts a product on the market pay for collecting and recycling it. Makers, importers and brand owners of covered products register, as do the recyclers they buy from.

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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What is EPR registration in India, and who needs it?

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The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) writes these rules under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Our guide to MoEFCC rules for companies covers the rest.

Who registers under each EPR regime

Regime	Who registers	Where	Guide
Plastic packaging	Producers, importers and brand owners (PIBOs), processors, raw material makers and importers	PIBOs: state board for one or two states, else CPCB (rule 13(2)); others: state board	Plastic packaging EPR
E-waste	Manufacturers, producers, refurbishers and recyclers of Schedule I equipment	CPCB (rule 4(1))	E-waste EPR
Batteries	Producers, including importers of batteries or of equipment containing them	CPCB, Form 1(A) (rule 4(4))	Battery EPR
Waste tires	Producers, including sellers of imported new tires, automakers importing them, and importers of fitted vehicles or waste tires; recyclers; retreaders	CPCB (Schedule IX, paragraph 3)	Tire and used oil EPR
Used oil	Base oil and lubricating oil producers, collection agents, recyclers, used oil importers	CPCB (rule 26(1))	Tire and used oil EPR
End-of-life vehicles	Producers, including vehicle importers; bulk consumers; scrapping facilities	CPCB for producers, state board for others (rule 10)	Our MoEFCC guide

Is EPR registration the same as an EPR certificate?

No. EPR registration is your company's entry on a CPCB portal, the permission to do business under a regime. An EPR certificate is a credit CPCB generates for a registered recycler's output, which you buy to meet your yearly target. Customs checks the registration on some imports, and returns count the certificates.

How long an EPR certificate lasts

Regime	Certificate life	Rule
E-waste	2 years after the financial year it was made	Rule 14(1)(iii), G.S.R. 801(E)
Waste tires	2 years after the financial year it was made	Schedule IX, paragraph 5(3)(a), G.S.R. 593(E)
Used oil	2 years after the financial year it was made	Rule 28(3), G.S.R. 677(E)
Batteries	7 years	Rule 10(14), S.O. 3984(E)
End-of-life vehicles	5 years	Rule 9(11), S.O. 98(E)
Construction and demolition waste	3 years after the financial year it was made	Rule 6(3), G.S.R. 219(E)

Do you need a separate EPR registration for each waste stream?

Yes. Each EPR regime has its own rules and CPCB portal, so you register under every regime your products fall into. A battery-powered device in plastic packaging can fall under the e-waste, battery and plastic rules at once. Within one regime, a company in two roles registers in each.

The rules say so: e-waste rule 4(2), used oil rule 26(2), tire Schedule IX, paragraph 3(5), and plastic Schedule II, paragraph 6.5. Foreign brands are in EPR for importers and foreign companies.

How long does EPR registration take?

Four EPR rules set a time limit, and three of them deem you registered when it runs out: 30 days for plastic, two weeks for batteries and 15 days for vehicles. The construction waste rules give CPCB 15 days. These are the rules' own limits, not a promise of any date.

Time limits for EPR registration in the rules

Regime	What the rule says	Rule
Plastic packaging	Deemed registered if not granted within 30 days of a complete application	Rule 13(8), G.S.R. 201(E)
Batteries	Deemed registered two weeks after a complete application, unless CPCB refuses	Rule 11(3), as amended by S.O. 4669(E)
End-of-life vehicle producers	Deemed registered unless CPCB objects within 15 days	Rule 12(3), S.O. 98(E)
Construction and demolition waste	CPCB issues the certificate within 15 days	Rule 4(4), G.S.R. 219(E)
E-waste	No time limit in the rules we read	G.S.R. 801(E)

A refused e-waste registration can be appealed to MoEFCC within 30 days (e-waste rule 21).

What documents does EPR registration ask for?

For plastic packaging, the rules ask for the company's tax and company numbers, including its PAN and, for a company, its CIN, plus the PAN of the person authorized to act for it. Aadhaar is optional. We haven't read the other regimes' application lists for this guide.

The plastic list is Schedule II, paragraph 6.6, as substituted by G.S.R. 318(E). Battery producers apply in Form 1(A) and vehicle producers in Form 4.

Does EPR registration expire or need renewal?

Plastic and battery EPR registrations are one time and don't need renewal. Plastic became one time on October 30, 2023. A battery producer's registration lasts until CPCB cancels or withdraws it, and a vehicle producer's until it's suspended or cancelled. The e-waste, tire and used oil rules we read set no expiry.

Many pages say plastic registration is renewed every one, three or five years. G.S.R. 318(E) of April 27, 2023 briefly set one year, then three, until G.S.R. 807(E) made it "one-time registration" (rule 13(2)). CBIC Instruction No. 15/2026-Customs tells Customs to accept a plastic certificate showing one year's validity as one-time (paragraph 4(b)).

Are small businesses exempt from EPR registration?

Small businesses are exempt only in part. The e-waste rules don't apply to micro enterprises. Under the plastic rules, micro and small producers and brand owners are outside the list of obligated entities, but micro and small producers still register and meet their recycled content targets. Plastic importers get no size exemption.

The plastic carve-out comes from G.S.R. 201(E) of March 14, 2024 (Schedule II, paragraphs 4 and 6.1). The plastic raw material supplier carries a micro or small producer's EPR target (paragraph 7.8). Medium enterprises get no carve-out, and we found none in the battery, tire or used oil rules.

Do exporters need EPR registration?

Exporters' EPR depends on the regime. The plastic rules lift rule 9(1), the duty to collect plastic packaging put on the market, for export-oriented and special economic zone units and for packaging of products exported against an order. Their pre-consumer waste stays covered. The battery rules tie EPR to batteries a producer introduces in the market.

The plastic exclusion is rule 2(3), added by G.S.R. 807(E). Since G.S.R. 201(E) of March 14, 2024, the Schedule II EPR duty sits in rule 9(2A), which rule 2(3) doesn't name. The battery wording is rule 4(1), as substituted by S.O. 4669(E). The e-waste rules we read don't deal with exports.

Where do you buy EPR certificates, and is there a price limit?

EPR certificates are bought online, through the CPCB portal, from recyclers registered under the same regime (for vehicles, registered scrapping facilities). The price must sit between a highest and a lowest price CPCB fixes: 100% and 30% of the environmental compensation for missing the target. The e-waste, battery, plastic, tire and used oil rules all set this band.

- E-waste: a producer may buy up to this year's liability, plus unmet liability from earlier years, plus 5% (rule 15(1)).
- Batteries: a certificate counts only for the same category of battery (rule 10(9)).

See our tracker notes on the e-waste price limits and the battery price limits.

What checks show an EPR certificate is genuine?

Buy only through the CPCB portal, from recyclers registered under that regime, because registered companies may not deal with unregistered ones. Under the e-waste rules, each certificate carries a unique number with its year, end product and recycler code, and the portal cross-checks the producer's and recycler's figures, counting the lower one.

The e-waste checks are rules 13(3) and 14(1)(iv). A false certificate doesn't protect the buyer: e-waste rule 22(2) lets CPCB set environmental compensation on a producer that trades or uses one. See environmental compensation and penalties under the EPR rules.

Which EPR portal do you use, the regime portal or the Common EPR portal?

Each EPR regime runs its own CPCB portal, for plastic, e-waste, batteries, tires, used oil and vehicles. For plastic importers, the customs board's Instruction No. 15/2026-Customs of September 9, 2026 points to a Common EPR portal at epr.cpcb.gov.in. The documents we read don't say when the separate portals close or whether existing registrants re-register.

The instruction quotes the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board: importers of plastic packaging, goods in it and plastic raw material "are mandated to register on the Common EPR portal" (paragraph 2). Port clearance is in our guide to customs in India.

When are EPR annual returns due?

Each EPR regime sets its own return date. Plastic, battery, used oil, vehicle and bulk waste generator annual returns fall due by June 30 after the financial year, e-waste and tire returns by April 30. For 2025-26, e-waste and tire returns moved to September 30, 2026, and battery and used oil returns to November 30, 2026.

Annual return dates under the EPR and waste rules

Regime	Due under the rules	2025-26 return	Source
Plastic packaging	June 30	June 30, 2026 under the rules; we haven't seen an extension's text	Schedule II, paragraph 10.6
E-waste	April 30	Extended to September 30, 2026	CPCB notice, August 27, 2026
Waste tires	April 30	Extended to September 30, 2026	CPCB notice, August 27, 2026
Batteries	June 30	Extended to November 30, 2026	MoEFCC memorandum, August 27, 2026
Used oil	June 30	Extended to November 30, 2026	MoEFCC memorandum, August 27, 2026
End-of-life vehicle producers	June 30	Not in the August 2026 extensions	Rule 4(1)(vii)
Bulk waste generators	June 30	Rules in force from April 1, 2026	Rule 6(h)
Hazardous waste importers	June 30, Form 4	Not in the August 2026 extensions	Rule 13(8)

New dates appear in our MoEFCC insights.

How IndusDesk helps with EPR registration

We work out which EPR regimes apply to each product you make or import, prepare your registration applications and returns, and track your targets and certificates against the rules'

dates. When CPCB or a state board sends a notice, we draft your reply with you. CPCB and the boards decide, so we can't promise a registration or a lower compensation.

Regulatory & trade advisory →

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Frequently asked questions

Is the EPR certificate Customs asks for the same as an EPR credit?

No. For plastic imports, Customs checks your EPR registration certificate (the customs board's Instruction No. 15/2026-Customs, paragraph 4). Certificates bought from recyclers count toward your target, not your registration.

What happens if CPCB doesn't answer a battery EPR application?

You're deemed registered two weeks after a complete application unless CPCB refuses it (rule 11(3), as amended by S.O. 4669(E)).

Does a plastic EPR certificate showing one year's validity need renewal?

No. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) tells Customs to treat it as a one-time registration that needs no renewal (Instruction No. 15/2026-Customs, paragraph 4(b)).

Are MSMEs exempt from plastic EPR?

Not all of them. Micro and small producers and brand owners are outside the obligated list, but medium enterprises and importers are obligated (G.S.R. 201(E), Schedule II, paragraph 4).

Do plastic importers register on the Common EPR portal?

CBIC Instruction No. 15/2026-Customs quotes the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board saying they must. The documents we read don't say whether existing registrants register again.

Sources

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- G.S.R. 318(E), April 27, 2023: Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2023, rule 13(9) and Schedule II, paragraph 6.6 (PDF, 1.0 MB)
- G.S.R. 807(E), October 30, 2023: Plastic Waste Management (Second Amendment) Rules, 2023, rules 2(3) and 13(2), Schedule II, paragraphs 6.3 and 12.9 (PDF, 1.1 MB)
- G.S.R. 201(E), March 14, 2024: Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2024, rule 13(4) and (8), Schedule II, paragraphs 4, 6.1, 7.8 and 8.8 (PDF, 1.6 MB)
- G.S.R. 73(E), January 23, 2025: Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2025, rule 19 (penalty under section 15) (PDF, 1.7 MB)
- G.S.R. 801(E), November 2, 2022: E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, rules 2, 4, 6(4), 13(3), 14(1), 15(1), 21 and 22(2) (PDF, 1.5 MB)
- G.S.R. 164(E), March 8, 2024: E-Waste (Management) Amendment Rules, 2024, rules 9A and 15(7) to (10) (PDF, 734 KB)
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- S.O. 3984(E), August 22, 2022: Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022, rule 10(14) (PDF, 1.5 MB)
- S.O. 4669(E), October 25, 2023: Battery Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2023, rules 3(1)(u), 4(1) and (4) to (6), 10(9) and 11(3) (PDF, 827 KB)
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- G.S.R. 677(E), September 18, 2023: Hazardous and Other Wastes Second Amendment Rules, 2023, Chapter VII (used oil), rules 26, 28(3) and 31(d) (PDF, 1.3 MB)
- G.S.R. 177(E), March 12, 2024: Hazardous and Other Wastes Amendment Rules, 2024, rules 29(8) and 30(5) and Schedule IX, paragraph 6(8) (PDF, 1.3 MB)
- S.O. 98(E), January 6, 2025: Environment Protection (End-of-Life Vehicles) Rules, 2025, rules 4(1), 9(11), 10 and 12 (PDF, 2.1 MB)

- G.S.R. 219(E), April 2, 2025: Environment (Construction and Demolition) Waste Management Rules, 2025, rules 4(3), 4(4) and 6(3) (PDF, 972 KB)
- S.O. 388(E), January 27, 2026: Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, rule 6(h) (PDF, 2.8 MB)
- Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, G.S.R. 395(E), rule 13(8) (CPCB's copy)
- CBIC Instruction No. 15/2026-Customs, September 9, 2026: registration of importers on the EPR portal for plastic packaging, paragraphs 2 and 4 (PDF, 571 KB)
- CPCB notice, File No. CP/14/2024-WM-III-HO-CPCB-HO, August 27, 2026: e-waste returns for 2025-26 extended to September 30, 2026
- CPCB notice, File No. CP/14/2024-WM-III-HO-CPCB-HO, August 27, 2026: waste tire returns for 2025-26 extended to September 30, 2026
- 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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