

# Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022

August 26, 2022

**In news**– The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has recently published the Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022 to ensure environmentally sound management of waste batteries.

## What are the new rules?

- **New rules will replace Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001.**
- The rules **cover all types of batteries**, viz. Electric Vehicle batteries, portable batteries, automotive batteries and industrial batteries.
- The rules **function based on the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** where the producers (including importers) of batteries are responsible for collection and recycling/refurbishment of waste batteries and use of recovered materials from wastes into new batteries.
- EPR mandates that all waste batteries to be collected and sent for recycling/refurbishment, and its prohibits disposal in landfills and incineration.
- **To meet the EPR obligations, producers may engage themselves or authorise any other entity** for collection, recycling or refurbishment of waste batteries.
- The rules will **enable setting up a mechanism and centralized online portal for exchange of EPR certificates** between producers and recyclers/refurbishers to fulfil the obligations of producers.
- The rules **promote setting up of new industries and entrepreneurship in collection and**

**recycling**/refurbishment of waste batteries.

- Mandating the minimum percentage of recovery of materials from waste batteries under the rules will **bring new technologies and investment in recycling and refurbishment** industry and create new business opportunities.
- Prescribing the use of certain amount of recycled materials in making of new batteries will reduce the dependency on new raw materials and save natural resources.
- **Online registration & reporting, auditing, and a committee for monitoring the implementation of rules** and to take measures required for removal of difficulties are salient features of rules for ensuring effective implementation and compliance.
- On the **principle of Polluter Pays Principle, environmental compensation will be imposed for non-fulfilment of Extended Producer Responsibility targets,** responsibilities and obligations set out in the rules.
- **The funds collected under environmental compensation shall be utilised in collection and refurbishing** or recycling of uncollected and non-recycled waste batteries.