

Battery Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2025

On 24 February 2024, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change introduced amendments to the Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022, aiming to streamline compliance obligations for battery producers.

Key amendments

Exemption from requirements of legal metrology packaging: Clause (ia) of paragraph (2) in Schedule I of the Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022, specifies that for imported batteries or battery packs, marking the Extended Producer Responsibility ('EPR') registration number on the equipment containing the battery or on its packaging is sufficient to meet the compliance requirements.

A new proviso has been added to the above clause (ia), exempting it from the packaging covered under Rule 26 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 from specific labelling requirements.

Alternative compliance through barcodes and QR codes: Producers now have the flexibility to meet certain labelling requirements by providing written information to the Central Pollution Control Board ('CPCB'). Instead of conventional labels, they can display a barcode or Quick Response (QR) code containing their EPR registration number on:

- The battery or battery pack
- Equipment containing the battery or battery pack
- Packaging of the battery or battery pack
- Packaging of the equipment
- Bulk packaging of batteries or battery packs (not intended for retail sale)
- Product information brochures

To facilitate transparency, CPCB will maintain a centralised online portal listing producers who opt for this alternative compliance method, and update their details every quarter.

Exemption from chemical symbol marking: An amendment to clause (v) grants an exemption from marking the chemical symbols 'Cd' (Cadmium) or 'Pb' (Lead) if the battery's metal concentration is equal to or below the specified limits:

- Cadmium: $\leq 0.002\%$ (20 parts per million) by weight
- Lead: $\leq 0.004\%$ (40 parts per million) by weight

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Therefore

The amendments seek to simplify the regulatory compliances for producers while maintaining environmental safety standards