

BATTERIES (MANAGEMENT AND HANDLING) RULES, 2001 has been enacted as per power under section 6, 8 and 25 of Environment (Prot.) Act, 1986. These rules came into effect on 6.5.2001. Kerala State Pollution Control Board is the authority enforcing authority in Kerala. These rules are applicable to Manufacturers, Importers. Re-conditioners, Assemblers, Dealers, Recyclers, Auctioneers, Consumers and Bulk Consumers of batteries.

OBJECTIVE OF THE LEGISLATION is to ensure that used batteries are collected processed or disposed off safely. Responsibilities are assigned under the rules to various agencies for handling and managing used batteries. Under Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001, it is mandatory for manufacturers, assemblers, re-conditioners, importers, and dealers to comply with the following statutory requirements:

- ensure that the used batteries are collected back against new batteries sold excluding those sold to original equipment manufacturer and bulk consumers;
- ensure that used batteries collected back are of similar type and specifications as that of the new batteries sold;
- manufacturers, assemblers & re-conditioners to file half-yearly returns of their sales and buy-back to the concerned State Board in Form-I latest by 30 June and 31 December of every year;
- importers to file similar returns in Form IV;
- set up collection centres either individually or jointly at various places for collection of used batteries from consumers or dealers;
- ensure that used batteries collected are sold only to the registered recyclers;
- create public awareness through advertisements, publications, posters or by other means with regard to the following (a) hazards of lead; (b)

responsibility of consumers to return their used batteries only to the dealers or deliver at designated collection centres; and (c) addresses of dealers and designated collection centres;

- buy recycled lead only from registered recycler;
- bring to the notice of the State Board or the Ministry of Environment and Forests, any violation by the dealers;
- ensure safe transportation of collected batteries to the designated collection centres or to the registered recycler;
- dealers to file half-yearly returns of the sale of new batteries and buy back of old batteries to the manufacturers in Form V by 31st May and 30 November of every year;
- dealers to also ensure that no damage is caused to the environment during storage and transportation of used batteries; and
- the importer shall get himself registered with the Ministry of Environment and Forests.