

## **Indigenous Zn-ion Battery Technologies**

## **Source: PIB**

Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has signed a MoU with Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL).

 The MoU aims to develop new variants of zinc materials and propel the commercialization of zinc-based batteries.

**Zinc-Ion Battery:** A Zinc-Ion Battery is a type of **rechargeable battery** that uses **zinc ions** as the **charge carrier** instead of lithium and sodium ions.

- Zinc is a blue-grey, metallic element, and a good conductor of electricity.
  - Sphalerite, Smithsonite, Willemite etc are ores of Zinc.
  - The most common alloy is brass, which is a mixture of zinc and copper.
- Importance of Zinc-Ion Batteries:
  - Cost Efficiency: It is a low-cost alternative to expensive lithium-ion batteries.
  - Abundant Materials: It is abundantly available on Earth.
  - Safety and Performance: Zinc-ion batteries are considered safer and offer stable performance across temperature ranges.
- Modifications Required for Commercialization of Zinc: Zinc is thermodynamically unstable with water-based solutions and therefore requires suitable modifications at the electrode, electrolyte and interfaces.
- **Expected Outcomes:** Researchers will explore developing new **Zinc alloys** for use as anodes in Zn-ion batteries and electrolytes for their application in rechargeable batteries.
- Production and uses of Zinc-Ion Batteries are aligned with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) like <u>SDG7</u> and <u>SDG13</u>.

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