National Non-ferrous Metal Scrap Recycling Framework

Why in News

The **Ministry of Mines** has issued a **National non-ferrous metal scrap recycling framework, 2020** in a bid to **cut down the scrap imports.**

- It also seeks to use a **life cycle management approach** for better efficiency in the mineral value chain process.

Key Points

- **Objectives of the Recycling Framework:**
  - To work towards **economic wealth creation, job creation** and **increased contribution to** GDP through metal recycling.
  - To promote a **formal and well organized recycling ecosystem** by adopting energy efficient processes.
  - To **minimize the effect of end of life products** on landfills and environmental pollution by promoting an environmentally sound recycling system.
  - To evolve a **responsive ecosystem** by involving all stakeholders.
- **Implementation Guidelines:**
  - The framework envisages setting up of a **central Metal Recycling Authority to facilitate recycling** of metals.
  - The government will work towards establishing **standards for Quality of scrap** used for recycling.
  - A mechanism for registration of segregators, dismantlers, recyclers, collection centers etc. will be developed to promote recycling to an organized sector
  - It is proposed to set up **Urban Mines**, envisaged as a **location to collect and hold large quantities of similar materials.**
  - An Online market platform/ exchange platform for recycled/secondary metal will be developed.
    - Recyclers may explore the possibility of entering into collection contracts with industrial and commercial establishments.
- **Roles/ Responsibilities of Stakeholders:**
  - **Responsibility of Manufacturer:** To ensure that any **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** guidelines/Regulations be strictly adhered to.
    - Designing products that are easier to recycle and reuse in an efficient and environmentally sound manner.
  - **Role of Public:** Public should responsibly dispose of scrap at **designated scrap collection centers** for their effective and environmentally sound processing.
  - **Role of Government:** MoEF&CC to streamline the regulatory requirements, eliminating multiple clearances wherever feasible, for the recycling units.
  - **Role of Recycling Authority:** Developing technical, safety and environmental norms and

SOPs for handling and processing of scraps in consultation with MoEFCC, CPCB, BIS, etc.

- **Challenges Faced By the Non-ferrous Metals Recycle Industry:**
    - A major challenge is its **heavy dependence on import** of metal scrap.
    - Lack of an organized / systematic scrap recovery mechanism.
    - Lack of sustained implementation of existing regulations on waste collection and recycling.
    - Lack of standardization of recycled products adversely affecting market adoption.
    - Lack of specific skill sets on responsible methods and technologies.
- **Government Initiatives For Recycling**
    - The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is in the process of formulating **National Resource Efficiency Policy (NREP)** which **aims to mainstream resource efficiency across all sectors, wherein Aluminium sector** has been considered as a priority sector.
    - The Ministry of Steel has brought out a **Steel Scrap Recycling Policy** which envisages a framework to facilitate and promote establishment of metal scrap recycling centers.
    - **NITI Aayog** is proposing a comprehensive **"National Material Recycling Policy"** to drive concerned and coordinated national and state level programs, plans and actions towards ramping up material recycling in India in a formal and organized manner.

Non-Ferrous Metal

- The Non-ferrous metals can be classified in broad categories as
    - **Base metals** (e.g. aluminium, copper, zinc, lead, nickel, tin)
    - **Precious metals** (e.g. silver, gold, palladium, other platinum group metals)
    - **Minor metals including refractory metals** (e.g. tungsten, molybdenum, tantalum, niobium, chromium) and
    - **Specialty metals** (e.g. cobalt, germanium, indium, tellurium, antimony, and gallium).
- Aluminium is the **second most used metal** in the world **after Iron.**
- Copper is the **third most important base metal by value.**
- Zinc is the **fourth most widely used metal across the globe.**

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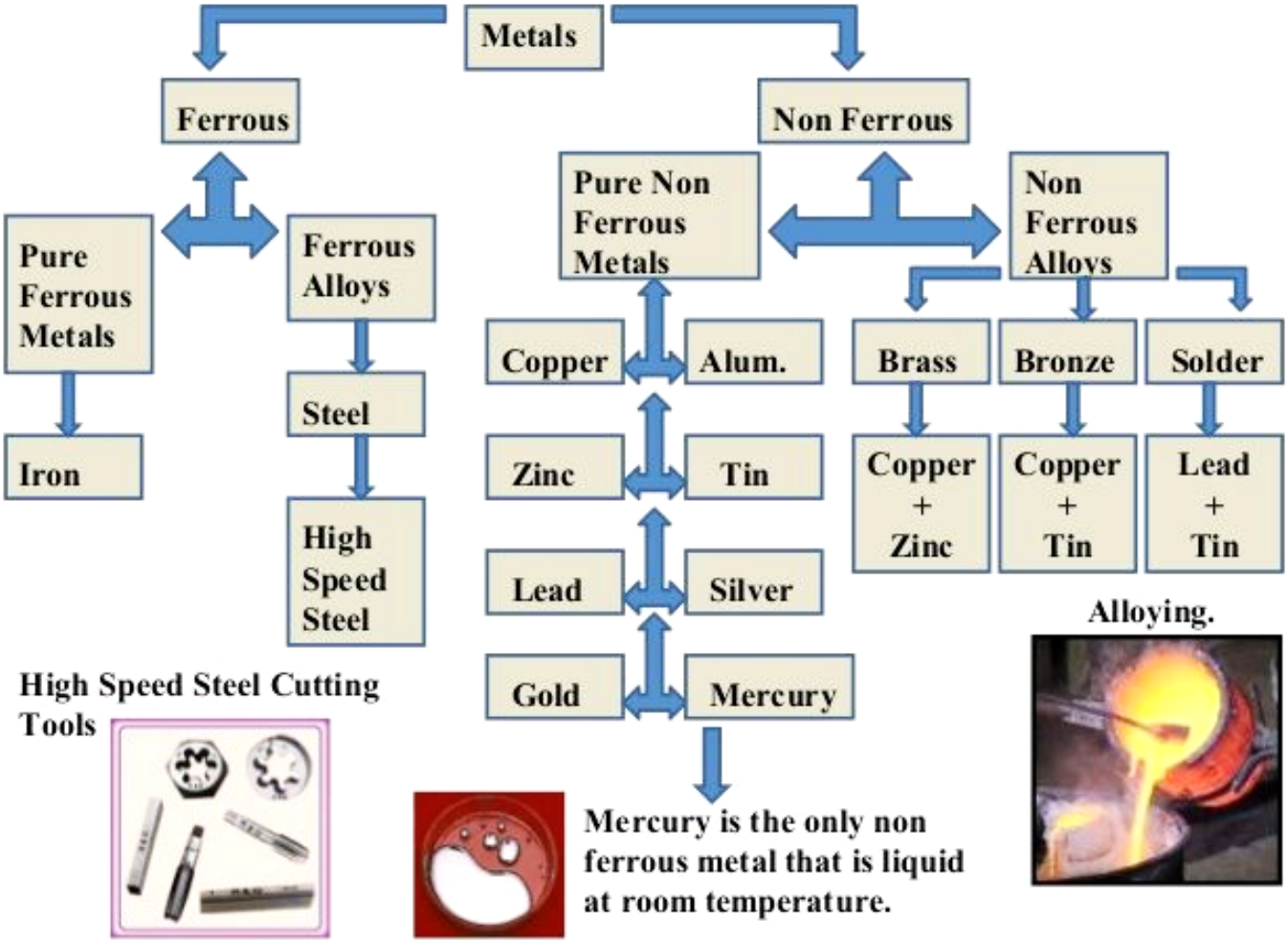

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