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# GREEN JOB: TOWARDS A FUTURE OF WORK

*"...India is the only country among G20 nations to have achieved its climate targets ahead of schedule and its efforts have reassured and surprised the world--"* Honourable Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi during the Independence Day celebration on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## Introduction

The focus of India right now is on creating green jobs and encouraging green growth. The government is now focusing on nurturing green growth and creating green jobs, which will create employment possibilities while protecting the environment. India's ambition to lead globally in green hydrogen production and its commitment to generating sustainable employment opportunities in environmental conservation and renewable energy sectors have been widely praised worldwide. The transition to a green economy is reshaping the global labor market, creating opportunities for employment while ensuring environmental sustainability.

According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), green jobs are respectable employment that helps protect or improve the environment. The term "green jobs" refers to **"decent jobs that help to the preservation or restoration of the environment,"** whether they are found in established green industries like manufacturing and construction or in more recent green industries like renewable energy and energy efficiency.

**Green Jobs Initiative**, started in 2007, is a joint initiative by

- United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)
- International Employers Organization (IOE) and
- International Labor Organization (ILO)
- International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

In general, the overall objective of the green job initiative is to help countries to understand the **potential for environmentally sustainable jobs** along with the need for a **positive labor market transition in the face of climate change**.

The Green Jobs Initiative addresses the **dual issues** of the **lack of adequate employment** and **climate change**. With an increasing focus on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) reporting, sustainability is turning into a crucial component of enterprises. A major emphasis on environmentally friendly practices is being driven by global sustainability standards that are developing from frameworks for climate action such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Domestic policy are also being impacted by these global changes. The Indian Green Building Council (IGBC), is an initiatives to encourage ecologically friendly practices in the building industry. Approximately 138 organizations are making efforts to track and control their carbon output as well as other sustainability indicators. 131 Sustainability concepts including lowering resource intensity, increasing energy efficiency, and cutting waste are therefore increasingly crucial in a variety of industries.

**Green jobs have a potential of simultaneously addressing several SDGs such as:**



As India emerges as a global leader in sustainable development, it has the potential to generate approximately 35 million green jobs by 2047. Estimates suggest that the renewable energy sector alone will employ 3.4 million individuals by 2030. The primary sectors driving this growth include solar energy, wind energy, bioenergy (biofuels), and green hydrogen. Among these, solar energy is projected to account for 3.26 million jobs by 2050, followed by wind energy, which is expected to create 0.18 million jobs by 2030. Additionally, the bioenergy and green hydrogen sectors are anticipated to generate 0.27 million and 0.6 million green jobs by 2030, respectively.

Beyond the renewable energy sector, traditional industries such as automotive, construction, and textiles are also transitioning towards sustainability by adopting cleaner technologies. The automotive industry, particularly through the expansion of electric vehicles (EVs), is expected to create 10 million direct and 50 million indirect jobs by 2030. This shift presents an opportunity to integrate and up skill the existing workforce of 35 million individuals engaged

in internal combustion engine (ICE) manufacturing and maintenance. Similarly, the transition towards sustainable textiles holds promise for ensuring a just transition for approximately 45 million workers in India's textile industry.

**Within the above context, a present workshop will be organised on 03<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 (Hybrid mode) in V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (An autonomous body under Ministry of Labour and Employment) NOIDA. The broad objectives of the workshop are as follows:**

### **Objectives of the Workshop**

1. To assess the current landscape of green jobs in India, including key sectors contributing to employment generation.
2. To analyse government initiatives and policies promoting green employment and sustainable economic growth.
3. To identify skill gaps and training requirements for a future-ready workforce in the green economy.
4. To discuss the role of the private sector, startups, and international collaborations in fostering green jobs.
5. To examine challenges in transitioning to a green workforce, including financial, technological, and regulatory barriers.

**Registration link –**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdSrX0dsIVjGOKF78G-NOhwHj9r4y1L3MmAQ9s-MFGOr2-VEA/viewform>

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