Green skills in ITIs: TN Employment & Training Directorate, TNS India Foundation sign MoU

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News

Tamil Nadu's Directorate of Employment and Training signed a memorandum of understanding with TNS India Foundation on 4 November 2026. The agreement was exchanged in the presence of the Director of Employment and Training, Dr C. Palani. Its aim is to provide green-technology skill training in Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). In the first phase, training will begin at the Vadachennai Government ITI in Chennai district and the Tindivanam Government ITI in Villupuram district. Modern solar-energy laboratories will be set up at both institutes. Industry-oriented training will be given in electric vehicles (EVs), solar-energy technology and workplace skills. The move is expected to widen job opportunities for ITI trainees in the renewable-energy and EV sectors.

Key facts for the exam

Point	Details
Date of MoU	4 Nov 2026
Government side	Directorate of Employment and Training, TN
Partner	TNS India Foundation
In the presence of	Director Dr C. Palani

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Phase-1 ITIs	Vadachennai (Chennai), Tindivanam (Villupuram)
New facility	Modern solar-energy labs
Training areas	EVs, solar technology, workplace skills
National ITI system	DGT, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

Background

- Green jobs: the International Labour Organization (ILO) defines green jobs as decent jobs that help preserve or restore the environment. In India, skill standards for this field are set by the Skill Council for Green Jobs (SCGJ), promoted by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). It covers solar PV, wind, small hydro, energy storage, waste management, green hydrogen and related sectors.
- Constitution and ITIs: entry 25 of the Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule includes 'vocational and technical training of labour'; the 42nd Amendment (1976) added 'education' to the same entry. So both the Union and the States can legislate on it. The Directorate General of Training (DGT) under the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship oversees ITI curricula and certification across India, while the States run the ITIs.
- Science: solar cells convert light directly into electricity through the photovoltaic effect. Most of the world's solar cells are made of crystalline silicon, a semiconductor. Electric vehicles mostly run on lithium-ion batteries; the solar-lab training links both technologies.
- Economy: at COP26 in Glasgow (2021), India announced targets of 500 GW non-fossil power capacity by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2070 (the 'Panchamrit'). This transition needs skilled technicians, which is why green-skill training at the ITI level matters.

Tamil Nadu link: In Tamil Nadu, the Directorate of Employment and Training runs the Government ITIs under the Labour Welfare and Skill Development Department. The same Directorate had signed an MoU with Tata Power Skill Development Institute in 2025 for solar skill centres in ITIs. With wind clusters such as Muppandal in Kanniyakumari district, Tamil Nadu is among the leading renewable-energy States, so the sector offers strong local job prospects.

Frequently asked questions

What is this news about?

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What are the key facts to remember for the exam?

Date of MoU: 4 Nov 2026; Government side: Directorate of Employment and Training, TN; Partner: TNS India Foundation; In the presence of: Director Dr C. Palani.

What is the background to this news?

Green jobs: the International Labour Organization (ILO) defines green jobs as decent jobs that help preserve or restore the environment.

Practice questions (with answers)

1. Which organisation signed an MoU with TN's Directorate of Employment and Training in Nov 2026 for green-tech training in Govt ITIs?

A) TNS India Foundation

B) Tata Power Skill Institute

C) Schneider Electric

D) HCL Foundation

Answer: A – Explanation: TNS India Foundation – on 4 Nov 2026, in the presence of Director Dr C. Palani. Tata Power Skill Development Institute had a separate 2025 MoU for solar skill centres in ITIs.

2. Tindivanam Govt ITI, a first-phase centre of the green-skill training, is in which district?

A) Cuddalore

B) Chengalpattu

C) Villupuram

D) Tiruvannamalai

Answer: C – Explanation: Villupuram district; the other centre is Vadachennai ITI in Chennai district. Villupuram district was carved out of South Arcot district in 1993.

3. The Directorate General of Training (DGT), which oversees India's ITIs, now comes under which Union Ministry?

A) Skill Development (MSDE)

B) Labour and Employment

C) Education

D) MSME

Answer: A – Explanation: The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). DGT was moved to it from the Labour Ministry in 2015.

4. Which sector skill council, promoted by MNRE and CII, sets skill standards for green jobs?

A) Electronics SSC (ESSCI)

B) Power Sector Skill Council

C) Skill Council for Green Jobs

D) Automotive Skills Council

Answer: C – Explanation: Skill Council for Green Jobs (SCGJ) – it develops qualification packs for solar PV, wind, energy storage, waste management, green hydrogen and similar sectors.

5. Which material is most widely used in photovoltaic (PV) cells that turn sunlight directly into electricity?

A) Germanium

B) Copper

C) Cadmium

D) Silicon

Answer: D – Explanation: Silicon – most solar cells use crystalline silicon, a semiconductor; electricity is produced by the photovoltaic effect. Cadmium telluride is used only in thin-film cells.

Sources: Daily Thanthi; Dinakaran; Tata Power; Skill Council for Green Jobs. © Shanmugam IAS Academy.