



Date : 3rd Jan 2024

English Language - RC

English

Directions (1 – 8); Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

More than three lakh workers will be employed in the solar and wind energy sectors to meet the country's target of generating 175 gigawatts of electricity from renewable sources by the end of 2022, an International Labour Organization (ILO) report said. The report titled, World Employment and Social Outlook (WESO) 2018: Greening with Jobs, quoted from a study conducted by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), on the changes in sectoral employment that will occur in order to meet India's target. The study was based on surveys of solar and wind companies, developers and manufacturers.

"India is rapidly increasing its share of renewable energy sources, but still _____ (1) on coal, oil, natural gas, and the related carbon emissions for 80% of its electricity," the report said that as well. This formed a small part of the report, which focused on the **trajectory** of the labour market in the backdrop of environmentally sustainable production practices. **Tackling** the misconception that green economies pave the way for economically undesirable outcomes, the report said rather than a trade-off between the two, their development goes hand in hand. According to the ILO report, there will be a net increase of 18 million jobs across the globe as a result of environmentally sustainable measures taken in the production and use of energy. This net figure is based on the estimation that the resultant job losses of six million will eventually lead to an increase of 24 million jobs as greener practices are adopted. Of this, 14 million jobs created will be in Asia and the Pacific. "The transition to a green economy will inevitably cause job losses in certain sectors as carbon and resource-intensive industries are scaled down, but they will be offset by new job opportunities," the report said. However, the report emphasized that the net increase of 18 million jobs is dependent on a supportive policy framework to aid displaced workers and skill development programs to help ease them into jobs that require new skills. It mentioned that although India does have a specific body or council to address the skills development for green **transition**, it has no existing institutional mechanism to anticipate skills needs and adapt training provision. Of the 27 countries surveyed, India and seven others fall under this category.

"Developing and emerging economies have relatively weaker institutional capacity for integrating skills and environmental **sustainability**," the report said.

The report stressed on the urgency of economies adopting sustainable practices, adding, in 2013, humanity used 1.7 times the amount of resources and waste that the biosphere was able to regenerate and absorb. The report reads, "It is striking that in a context of scarce resources and limited ability to absorb waste, current patterns of economic growth rely largely on the extraction of resources, manufacturing, consumption and waste." It explained this urgency from the perspective of the job market by connecting labour productivity to climate change. "Looking ahead, projected temperature increases will make heat stress more common, reducing the total number of working hours by 2% globally by 2030 and affecting workers in agriculture, and developing countries," the report said.

Q:1 Which of the following is the amount of electricity of the country's target to generate electricity from renewable sources by 2022?

1. 75 gigawatts
2. 15 gigawatts
3. 157 gigawatts
4. 175 gigawatts
5. 172 gigawatts

Q:2 According to the passage, which of the following is the full form of NRDC?

1. Natural Resource Development Council
2. National Research Development Cooperation
3. National Resources Defense Cooperation
4. National Research Development Council
5. Natural Resources Defense Council

Q:3 Which of the following will fit the best in the blank (1) given in the passage?

1. States
2. Hopes
3. Relies
4. Neglects
5. Denied

Q:4 Which of the following is the antonym of the term "Trajectory" as given in the passage?



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1. Course
2. Inaction
3. Route
4. Path
5. Track

Q:5 Which of the following is the synonym of the term "Tackling" as given in the passage?

1. Intercept
2. Inaction
3. Neglect
4. Passivity
5. Alternative

Q:6 According to the ILO report, which of the following is the prediction of net increase amount of jobs as a result of environmentally sustainable measures taken in the production and use of energy?

1. 81 million
2. 28 million
3. 18 million
4. 24 million
5. 38 million

Q:7 Which of the following is the correct meaning of the term "Transition"?

1. An act or instance of intercepting something.
2. A call to someone to participate in a competitive situation or fight to decide who is superior in terms of ability or strength.
3. A call to prove or justify something.
4. The process or a period of changing from one state or condition to another.
5. Come face to face with (someone) with hostile or argumentative intent.

Q:8 Identify the correct definition of the term "Sustainability"?

1. Undergo or cause to undergo a process or period of transition.
2. Avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance.
3. The presence in or introduction into the environment of a substance which has harmful or poisonous effects.
4. The dispersion or spread of any people from their original homeland.

5. Seasonal movement of animals from one region to another.

Direction (9 - 10): Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

The rapid anthropogenic climate change that is being experienced in the early twenty-first century is intimately entwined with the health and functioning of the biosphere. Climate change is impacting ecosystems through changes in mean conditions and in climate variability, coupled with other associated changes such as increased ocean acidification and atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations. It also interacts with other pressures on ecosystems, including degradation, defaunation and fragmentation. There is a need to understand the ecological dynamics of these climate impacts, to identify hotspots of vulnerability and resilience and to identify management interventions that may assist biosphere resilience to climate change. At the same time, ecosystems can also assist in the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. The mechanisms, potential and limits of such nature-based solutions to climate change need to be explored and quantified.

The thin living film of life on Earth that is intrinsically coupled to the atmosphere and hydrosphere and provides the nourishing fabric within which human societies exist. Hence, degradation or restoration of parts of the biosphere are likely to have regional or planetary consequences. Anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, which drive both climate change and ocean acidification, increasingly threaten the **viability** and resilience of natural ecosystems, and the human societies that depend upon them. The effects of these threats can be profound and, in recent years, have become increasingly observable. Already, Earth is committed to a substantially warmed climate, with expectations of further warming into the future, unless carbon emissions trajectories change dramatically. Scientific research continues to refine the understanding of Earth's climate system and its interdependence on the biosphere. For the most part, projections indicate an increased likelihood of negative consequences of climate change for ecosystems and people. Indeed, climate-related impacts are already being witnessed and seem to be increasing in severity and frequency. A number of potential climate tipping points in the Earth system are already showing early signs of

activation. In this thematic issue, the contributions that culminate from discussions held at the 2018 Royal Society-National Academy of Sciences Forum on Climate Change and Ecosystems are worth reading. The aims of the Forum, jointly organized by the two societies, were to build new opportunities for international collaboration, highlight the latest research findings on the focal topic, identify research gaps and future research priorities and discuss how research in this field may inform international policy. The Forum examined the latest science on how climate change can _____ (1) terrestrial, aquatic and marine ecosystems, often in interaction with other factors. In particular, it addressed research frontiers such as the effects of changes in climate variability and extremes; interactions among multiple stressors; thresholds and the potential for abrupt change; and multi-trophic interactions, across a range of terrestrial, aquatic and marine ecosystems. The Forum also considered opportunities to assist and manage ecosystems to enhance both their resilience and societal resilience to climate change by exploring a range of science and policy dimensions. This included how ecosystems can best be managed to enhance their resilience to climate change, their ability to transform under climate change and how ecosystem management can be a strategy for more general adaptation to change. Hence, a central focus was to consider how ecosystem management and restoration have the potential to contribute 'nature-based solutions' (NbS) to tackle both the causes and consequences of climate change. However, the effectiveness, scalability and magnitude of different nature-based strategies need to be explored, better understood and evaluated. Climate extremes and historical contingencies are also considered by Bardgett and Caruso, who **synthesize** current understanding of the attributes of belowground ecological communities that make them resistant, resilient or vulnerable to climate extremes.

Resilience in ecological communities requires longer-term perspectives to improve our understanding of community responses to change. Iglesias and Whitlock use palaeoenvironmental records of pollen and charcoal from temperate forests in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres to consider the role of fire in changing forest tree species composition. They find that the resilience or vulnerability of

forest species composition to changing fire regimes depends on a variety of local factors, including climate, soil conditions and historical legacies; in some cases, extreme events, combined with biophysical feedbacks, can cause ecosystems made up of long-lived species to completely shift in ecosystem composition in response to a single fire event. Temperate forests have undergone both long periods of stability and abrupt change in response to climate change and human activities (burning for land clearing) during the Late Quaternary, and a site-specific understanding of stability versus disequilibrium is needed to anticipate future ecological scenarios under rates of warming that are unprecedented in the Holocene and beyond.

Q:9 According to the passage, ecosystems can also assist in the adaptation of which of the following means?

1. Degradation
2. Climate adaptation
3. Temperate forests
4. Climate change
5. Shift in ecosystem

Q:10 Which of the following will be the correct meaning of the term "Resilience" as given in the passage?

1. Denoting a phase dispersed in another phase, as in a colloid.
2. Scatter (seeds) by hand or machine rather than placing in drills or rows.
3. The quality or state of being exposed to the possibility of being attacked or harmed, either physically or emotionally.
4. The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.
5. The quality of being delicate or vulnerable.

Answer Key

1. (4)	2. (5)	3. (3)	4. (2)	5. (1)
6. (3)	7. (4)	8. (2)	9. (4)	10. (4)

Answers and Solutions

Q:1 The correct answer is **Option 4** i.e. **175 gigawatts**.

The question is based on direct observation from the passage.

According to the passage, the country's target of generating **175 gigawatts** of electricity from renewable sources by 2022.

Hence, the correct answer is **Option 4** i.e. **175 gigawatts**.

Q:2 The correct answer is **Option 5** i.e. **Natural Resources Defense Council**.

The question is based on direct observation from the passage.

The full form of NRDC as given in the passage is **Natural Resources Defense Council**.

Hence, the correct answer is **Option 5** i.e. **Natural Resources Defense Council**.

Q:3 The correct answer is **Option 3** i.e. **Relies**.

The question is to find out the correct fit for the given blank (1) in the passage.

The statement containing blank (1) seems to show inferences on India to be rapidly increasing its share of renewable energy sources, but still it 'depends' or 'relies' on coal, oil, natural gas, and the related carbon emissions for 80% of its electricity.

So, the word '**Relies**' will fit best in the given blank.

Hence, the correct answer is **Option 3** i.e. **Relies**.

Q:4 The correct answer is **Option 2** i.e. **Inaction**.

The question is to find out the antonym of the term 'Trajectory' as given in the passage.

The term '**Trajectory**' means '**a curve or surface cutting a family of curves or surfaces at a constant angle.**'

Among the given words, '**Inaction**' is the most appropriate antonym of the given word as it means '**lack of action where some is expected or appropriate.**'

Hence, the correct answer is **Option 2** i.e. **Inaction**.

Q:5 The correct answer is **Option 1** i.e. **Intercept**.

The concept is to find out the synonym of the term 'Tackling' as given in the passage.

The term '**Tackling**' means '**to make determined efforts to deal with (a problem or difficult task); (especially in soccer) try to take the ball from (an opponent) by intercepting them.**'

Among the given words 'Intercept' seems to be carrying similar meaning to the given word, as it means '**obstruct (someone or something) so as to prevent them from continuing to a destination.**'

Hence, correct answer is **Option 1** i.e. **Intercept**.

Q:6 The correct answer is **Option 3** i.e. **18 million**.

The question is based on direct observation from the passage.

According to the passage, according to the ILO report, there will be a net increase of **18 million** jobs across the globe as a result of environmentally sustainable measures taken in the production and use of energy.

Hence, the correct answer is **Option 3** i.e. **18 million**.

Q:7 The correct answer is **Option 4**, i.e. The process or a period of changing from one state or condition to another.

The question is to identify the correct meaning of the term 'Transition'

The term 'Transition' means 'the process or a period of changing from one state or condition to another.'

Hence, the correct answer lies in **Option 4**

Q:8 The correct answer is **Option 2** i.e. **Avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance.**

The question is to identify the correct definition of the term 'Sustainability' as given in the passage.

The term '**Sustainability**' means '**avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance.**'

Hence, the correct answer is **Option 2** i.e. **Avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance.**

Q:9 The correct answer is **Option 4**, i.e. Climate change

The question is based on direct observation from the passage.



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According to the passage, Ecosystems can also assist in the mitigation of, and adaptation to, **climate change**.

Hence, the correct answer is Option 4, i.e. Climate change.

Q:10 The correct answer is Option 4, i.e. The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.

The question is based on identifying the exact meaning of the given term 'Resilience'.

The term 'Resilience' means 'the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.'

The correct answer is given in Option 4

