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कृषि अधिकारी (राजस्थान)

The Agriculture Officer is the officer in the extension machinery of the agriculture department who carries new farming technique to the farmer. The work covers advice on crop production and protection, checking the quality of...



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करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

The Agriculture Officer is the officer in the extension machinery of the agriculture department who carries new farming technique to the farmer. The work covers advice on crop production and protection, checking the quality of seed, fertiliser and pesticide and inspecting dealers, implementing agricultural schemes and subsidies, running demonstration plots and farmer training, and survey and reporting in the field during drought, locust attack or an outbreak of disease. The post matters particularly in Rajasthan, where farming depends heavily on rainfall, water is limited, and drought-tolerant crops, irrigation efficiency and soil health are everyday questions. One thing about this post should be clear from the start, because it causes more confusion than anything else: direct recruitment requires a Master's (M.Sc.) in Agriculture or Horticulture — a B.Sc. Agriculture alone does not lead to this post directly.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	For direct recruitment: a Master's in agriculture or horticulture — M.Sc. (Agriculture) or M.Sc. (Horticulture) from a university established by law in India (Service Rules 1960, Schedule)
Recruiting body	Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC), Ajmer — department: Agriculture
Age limit	20 to 40 years — the upper limit from the Schedule's own column, raised from 35 to 40 by a notification of 06-03-2018 — the upper limit is relaxed for reserved categories and for women (detail below)
Starting salary	The pay matrix level is not given in the service rules — see the advertisement
Demand	60% by direct recruitment, 40% by promotion (from Assistant Agriculture Officer and equivalent posts on 5 years of experience)

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- An interest in farming, crops and soil science
- Working directly with farmers and being in the field
- Applying science in a practical form

ABILITIES

- The ability to explain — a technique only works if the farmer adopts it
- Recognising disease and pest in the field
- Drawing conclusions from data and survey

KEY SKILLS

- Crop production, crop protection and soil health management
- Quality checking of seed, fertiliser and pesticide, and inspection of dealers
- Dryland farming, irrigation efficiency and water conservation
- Agricultural extension — demonstration plots, farmer meetings and training
- Implementing agricultural schemes and subsidies, and their records
- Survey and reporting during drought, locust attack and disease outbreak

4 How to get there

- 1 Pass Class 12 with science — biology, or with agriculture as a subject.
- 2 Do a B.Sc. (Agriculture) or B.Sc. (Horticulture). Note that this is not sufficient for direct recruitment to this post — it is preparation for the next step.
- 3 Take an M.Sc. (Agriculture) or M.Sc. (Horticulture). This is the direct-recruitment qualification and the real gate to the post. The Schedule carries two qualification columns — one for promotion and one for direct recruitment — and the postgraduate one is the direct-recruitment column.
- 4 If you do not want to do a Master's, the other route runs from inside the department: with a B.Sc. (Agriculture) or B.Sc. (Horticulture) Honours, join as Assistant Agriculture Officer or an equivalent post in the extension section of the Rajasthan Agriculture Subordinate Service, and reach this post by promotion after five years of service. 40% of posts are filled that way.
- 5 Your age must be between 20 and 40. The upper limit was raised from 35 to 40 in 2018 — older advertisements or older information may still show 35 or 33, and neither applies now.

- 6** Apply when the RPSC advertisement appears.

MAIN EXAMS

- Recruitment is by the Rajasthan Public Service Commission. The post is filled 60% by direct recruitment and 40% by promotion — that ratio is the most practical piece of information about this post, because it means two posts in every five are filled from inside the department and direct-recruitment vacancies are reduced accordingly.
- The text of the qualification has itself changed: the promotion column formerly said only "B.Sc. (Agri.*)" and B.Sc. (Horticulture) Honours was added by a notification of 28-02-2013. The horticulture route is therefore a relatively recent opening.
- One point about the qualification is deliberately repeated on this page, because it is very easy to get wrong when reading the Schedule. The Schedule has two separate qualification columns: "minimum qualification for promotion" and "minimum qualification and age limit for direct recruitment". The promotion column carries B.Sc. (Agriculture) or B.Sc. (Horticulture) Honours with five years of experience; the direct-recruitment column carries M.Sc. (Agriculture) or M.Sc. (Horticulture). Read as a flat stream the B.Sc. comes first and looks like the entry qualification — it is not.
- Care is needed on the age limit too. The Schedule today says 40 years, which came in place of "35 years" by a notification of 06-03-2018; before that, a 2004 notification had replaced "33 years" with 35. Both older figures are quoted in footnotes and do not apply. This is the same series of notifications that moved the upper age from 35 to 40 across many Rajasthan services — so if an older source shows 35 for this post, that is pre-2018 text.

- Note — this post is not in the Schedules to the CET Rules 2022, so a CET score is not required for it. It is a Commission post, not a Board post.
- Relaxation in the upper age limit — 5 years for male candidates of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, More Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Sections; 5 years for women candidates of the General category; and 10 years for women candidates of those same categories. Which means plainly that the bare figure printed against a post understates a reserved-category woman's eligibility by a decade — if you are in that category, work out your eligibility only after adding the relaxation. In Rajasthan, 30% of the posts in direct recruitment are reserved category-wise for women candidates. Widows and divorced women have no upper age limit at all — the rules say it in those words. It is Rule 13(9) of the Rajasthan State and Subordinate Services (Direct Recruitment by Combined Competitive Examination) Rules 1999, it appears again as the same proviso in the Rajasthan Medical & Health Subordinate Service Rules, and RPSC advertisements reproduce it. A widow must furnish a certificate of the death of her husband from the competent authority, and a divorced woman the proof of divorce. The exact terms of relaxation and reservation are given in that recruitment's own advertisement.

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University — B.Sc. and M.Sc. Agriculture — Jobner, Jaipur (<https://sknau.ac.in/>)
- Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University — Bikaner, Rajasthan (<https://raubikaner.org/>)
- Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology — Udaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.mpuat.ac.in/>)
- Agriculture University, Kota and Jodhpur — B.Sc. and M.Sc. in agriculture and horticulture — Kota and Jodhpur

ONLINE

- कृषि विभाग, राजस्थान — This is the department the post belongs to (<https://agriculture.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- ICAR — Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and its research material — Government of India (<https://icar.org.in/>)
- Krishi Vigyan Kendras — district-level agricultural science centres — Across the districts of Rajasthan (<https://icar.org.in/>)
- राज किसान साथी — राजस्थान की कृषि योजनाओं का पोर्टल — Government of Rajasthan (<https://rajkisan.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- आर.एस.एस.बी. — पिछले प्रश्न-पत्र, उत्तर कुंजी व पाठ्यक्रम (निःशुल्क) — The Staff Selection Board's own site — the most reliable free preparation material there is (https://rsmssb.rajasthan.gov.in/show_archived?menuName=Xj4lCb9vGxpQnfLs%2FxlZ2g%3D%3D)
- विभागीय सेवा नियम (कार्मिक विभाग) — पद की योग्यता व आयु मूल दस्तावेज़ में पढ़ें — The Department of Personnel publishes the service rules for every cadre. Read these before any coaching material — qualification, age and the method of recruitment are settled here and nowhere else. (<https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- स्वयं (SWAYAM) — भारत सरकार के निःशुल्क ऑनलाइन कोर्स — Free (<https://swayam.gov.in/>)
- राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल पुस्तकालय (NDLI) — Free books and study material (<https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/>)
- एन.सी.ई.आर.टी. — निःशुल्क पाठ्यपुस्तकें — The foundation for general knowledge, maths and science (<https://ncert.nic.in/>)

FEES

Rajasthan has four agricultural universities and both the B.Sc. and the M.Sc. are available there at government fees, so this route does not require leaving the state. ICAR and university scholarships are available during the M.Sc., which materially reduces the burden of the two extra years — and since the Master's is mandatory for direct recruitment, that cost should be built into the plan for this post from the start. The second practical point is that the M.Sc. is not only for this post: teaching and research in agricultural universities, ICAR recruitments, seed and fertiliser companies, agricultural banking and institutions such as NABARD all open from the same qualification. Much of the study material is free on the ICAR and agricultural university websites.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana (free coaching, apply via SSO) (<https://sso.rajasthan.gov.in/signin>)
- Rajasthan Social Justice and Empowerment Dept scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- National Scholarship Portal (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in/>)
- Buddy4Study scholarship search (<https://www.buddy4study.com>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Agriculture offices at district and panchayat samiti level, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, demonstration and seed multiplication farms, and most of all the farmers' fields. Seed and fertiliser dealers' shops also fall within the inspection remit.

WORK CULTURE

The cycle of the work follows the season, and that is the defining feature of the profession — at kharif and rabi sowing, and during an outbreak of disease or locust, the workload multiplies, and in the remaining months the pace is ordinary. Postings are rural and much of the day is spent in the fields, so it suits people who do not want to be tied to an office. The hardest part of the post is not technical but a matter of trust: a farmer stakes a whole year's income on one crop, and will not adopt a new technique merely because it is scientifically sound — they need confidence that the person advising understands their situation. An officer who earns that confidence has influence that travels a long way; one who does not finds their advice stays on paper. Alongside this sits the inspection side — counterfeit seed and fertiliser injure the farmer directly, and acting against them falls to this post, which brings local pressure with it.

WHO HIRES

- Department of Agriculture, Rajasthan
- Agriculture offices at district and panchayat samiti level
- The horticulture department and units connected with agricultural marketing
- Seed and fertiliser quality control laboratories

DEMAND (2026)

Agriculture is the base of Rajasthan's economy and employment and the extension machinery reaches every district and panchayat samiti, so this cadre is permanent and comparatively large — its structure is wider than that of many Commission posts on this site. Climate change, declining water availability and the need for drought-tolerant crops have raised the importance of the work further. Two things to keep in view when planning. First, 40% of posts are filled by promotion, so direct-recruitment vacancies are fewer than the total. Second, and more important, the M.Sc. is mandatory for direct recruitment — so if you are doing a B.Sc. Agriculture and want to reach this post, the decision has to be taken now: either plan for the Master's, or enter through Assistant Agriculture Officer in the subordinate service and take the promotion route. Both are valid, but they are different, and their preparation begins at different times. The number of posts describes the department's requirement, not your chances of selection. One thing to be clear about — the "demand" described above counts posts, not your chance of getting one. Selection is by open competition and the number of applicants runs to many times the number of posts, so most candidates are not selected in any given recruitment. That is not an argument against this career; it is an argument against making it your only plan. Keep studying or building a skill alongside your preparation, so that the year is not lost whichever way the result goes.

7 Career growth

- 1** Assistant Agriculture Officer and equivalent (Rajasthan Agriculture Subordinate Service, extension section) — with a B.Sc. (Agriculture) or B.Sc. (Horticulture) Honours, five years of service gives promotion into 40% of the Agriculture Officer posts
- 2** Agriculture Officer — 60% by direct recruitment (with an M.Sc.), 40% by promotion
- 3** Assistant Director — 100% by promotion, on five years as Agriculture Officer
- 4** Deputy Director — 100% by promotion, on five years as Assistant Director
- 5** Additional Director and Director — the top of the department; the rules also record that if a suitable candidate is not available for promotion, the Government in consultation with the Commission may appoint an officer from the IAS

EARNINGS

Starting	विज्ञप्ति में घोषित पे मैट्रिक्स स्तर के अनुसार
Mid level	₹55,000 – ₹75,000 (भत्तों सहित, कुछ वर्षों बाद)
Senior level	₹90,000 से अधिक (भत्तों सहित, सहायक एवं उप निदेशक स्तर पर)

The 1960 service rules do not give a pay matrix level, so no starting figure is printed on this page — it will be in that cycle's advertisement. This is a gazetted-level post requiring a postgraduate qualification, so it sits above posts that ask only for a graduation. The mid-level and senior figures above are approximate and are not confirmed from any official document; read them as a direction, not a promise. Because postings are rural, the cost of living tends to be lower than in cities. The starting figure is BASIC PAY, so that it can be compared directly against other careers. Dearness allowance (60% of basic since 1 January 2026) and house rent allowance are added on top of it, so take-home pay is appreciably higher. The mid-level and senior figures are approximate monthly income including allowances, not basic pay. Note — in Rajasthan a direct recruit is a probationer-trainee for the first 2 years and is paid a fixed remuneration, not the pay scale; dearness allowance and house rent allowance are not payable in those two years (Rajasthan Service Rules, rule 7(30A)). The full pay scale applies once probation is completed. The pay matrix level for this post could not be confirmed on this page from an official document — it is not in the service rules and not in the CET Rules 2022 schedule. No level is therefore stated here. The correct figure is printed in the official advertisement for the recruitment; check it there before applying. The figures above rest on the Rajasthan 7th pay matrix, which is what applies as of 17 August 2026. The Terms of Reference of the 8th Central Pay Commission were approved on 28 October 2025 and it must report within 18 months of its constitution. State governments normally adopt a Central Pay Commission with modifications, and later than the Centre does — so Rajasthan pay will be revised too, though by how much and when is not yet settled.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Work in the fields rather than tied to an office
- Direct results — better crops and a direct effect on farm income
- The same M.Sc. also works in ICAR, agricultural universities, NABARD and the private sector
- Two valid routes — direct recruitment with a Master's, or promotion from the subordinate service
- A comparatively large cadre with a structure reaching every district

The challenges

- The M.Sc. is mandatory for direct recruitment — a B.Sc. Agriculture does not lead here directly
- 40% of posts go by promotion, so direct vacancies are fewer
- Postings are rural and often remote
- The workload is uneven with the season — very heavy at sowing and during an outbreak
- Seed and fertiliser inspection brings local pressure

9 Sources & further reading

1. Department of Personnel, Rajasthan — Rajasthan Agriculture Service Rules, 1960 — https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/writereaddata/modulCategory/202312050450504686646Agriculture1960_merged.pdf
2. Rajasthan Public Service Commission — advertisements — <https://rpsc.rajasthan.gov.in/advertisements>
3. Department of Agriculture, Rajasthan — <https://agriculture.rajasthan.gov.in/>
4. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) — <https://icar.org.in/>
5. Rajasthan Staff Selection Board (official) — <https://rssb.rajasthan.gov.in/>
6. Department of Personnel, Rajasthan — service rules — <https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/>
7. 8th Central Pay Commission — Cabinet approval of the Terms of Reference (PIB, 28 October 2025) — <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2183289>



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