



SAARTHI - सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal

"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य।"

करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

प्रोडक्शन डिज़ाइनर

A Production Designer creates the entire visual world of a film, web series, TV show or play — sets, locations, colours, props, furniture and architecture all come together to form the on-screen 'look' that they envision. Working...



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/production-designer

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, जेठन्तरी

Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Jethantri · ब्लॉक समदड़ी · बालोतरा (Block Samdari · Balotra)

www.gsssjethantri.in · career.gsssjethantri.in



सुशील कुमार शर्मा

प्रधानाचार्य, रा.उ.मा.वि. जेठन्तरी · मास्टर ट्रेनर
Principal, GSSS Jethantri · Master Trainer



श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
Designed & developed · Lecturer (History)

विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. कानाना



सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

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

A Production Designer creates the entire visual world of a film, web series, TV show or play — sets, locations, colours, props, furniture and architecture all come together to form the on-screen 'look' that they envision. Working closely with the director and cinematographer, they bring the story's era, mood and place to life, and lead a team of art directors, set decorators and craftspeople. It is a mix of art and technique demanding sketching, a sense of history, budgeting and teamwork. With India's film, OTT and advertising industries booming, demand for this career keeps rising.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Class 12 pass + degree/diploma in art or design
Course duration	Degree 3–4 yrs / PG diploma 2–3 yrs
Starting salary	₹15,000–25,000/month (assistant)
Work mode	Project-based creative work in film/OTT/ads

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Deep interest in stories, history and the spaces/architecture of different eras
- Enthusiasm to work in the world of film, theatre and visual arts
- A love for drawing, sketching and making things look beautiful and meaningful

ABILITIES

- Strong spatial and visual imagination (sense of space, colour, form)
- Attention to detail and the patience to research and recreate any period
- Ability to lead a team and deliver within budget and deadlines

KEY SKILLS

- Set design and art direction
- Drafting, sketching and design software (e.g. AutoCAD, SketchUp, Photoshop)
- Budget planning, material selection and supervising set construction
- Props, set decoration and choosing/dressing locations
- Spatial and visual sense — colour, texture, light and composition
- Historical and cultural research and reference gathering
- Teamwork — coordinating with director, cinematographer, craftspeople and costume team

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete Class 12; keep up interest in art, drawing and history/humanities and start building a portfolio.
- 2 Do a degree in design/fine art (e.g. NID's B.Des) or a Fine Arts degree from an art college.
- 3 Take specialised training in film art direction/production design — from FTII Pune, SRFTI Kolkata or Whistling Woods.
- 4 Prepare for NID's DAT (Design Aptitude Test) and the portfolio/entrance tests of other institutes.
- 5 Gain hands-on experience as an assistant art director on film/ad/OTT sets and build a network.
- 6 With experience and a strong portfolio, rise to art director and then production designer.

MAIN EXAMS

- NID Design Aptitude Test (DAT) — prelims and mains, plus portfolio/studio test
- FTII/SRFTI entrance exam (JET) with portfolio and interview

5 Where to study**GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES**

- राजस्थान स्कूल ऑफ आर्ट, जयपुर (फाइन आर्ट्स की नींव) — Jaipur, Rajasthan
- राष्ट्रीय डिज़ाइन संस्थान (NID) — Ahmedabad (national) (<https://admissions.nid.edu/>)
- फिल्म एंड टेलीविजन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंडिया (FTII) — आर्ट डायरेक्शन व प्रोडक्शन डिज़ाइन — Pune (national) (<https://ftii.ac.in/p/film-wing/three-year-pg-diploma-course-in-art-direction-production-design>)
- सत्यजीत रे फिल्म एंड टेलीविजन इंस्टीट्यूट (SRFTI) — Kolkata (national) (<https://srfti.ac.in/>)

- राष्ट्रीय नाट्य विद्यालय (NSD) — मंच सज्जा/सिनोग्राफी — New Delhi (national) (<https://nsd.gov.in/>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- आर्च कॉलेज ऑफ डिज़ाइन एंड बिज़नेस — Jaipur, Rajasthan
- व्हिसलिंग वुड्स इंटरनेशनल — Mumbai, Maharashtra (<https://www.whistlingwoods.net/>)

ONLINE

- स्किल इंडिया डिजिटल हब — Online (<https://www.skillindiadigital.gov.in/>)
- NID प्रवेश (DAT जानकारी) — Online (<https://admissions.nid.edu/>)

FEES

Government institutes are relatively affordable — FTII's 3-year PG Diploma in Art Direction & Production Design and SRFTI's courses fall roughly in the ₹1–1.5 lakh per year range; NID's B.Des costs more (about ₹3–5 lakh per year). Private institutes (e.g. Whistling Woods) can be considerably costlier. Many institutes also offer scholarships and fee waivers.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)
- Buddy4Study – डिज़ाइन व कला छात्रवृत्तियाँ (<https://www.buddy4study.com/>)
- SJE राजस्थान छात्रवृत्ति (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Film production houses, OTT/streaming platforms, television channels, advertising (ad film) companies, theatre companies and event/live-show production. Work happens across studios, outdoor locations and set-construction workshops.

WORK CULTURE

The work is mostly project-based and freelance; hours during shoots can be long and irregular. It is a creative but high-pressure environment where deadlines and budgets must be met. It involves plenty of travel and coordinating with different teams; the field is also opening up rapidly for women.

WHO HIRES

- Film production houses (e.g. Yash Raj Films, Dharma Productions, Reliance Entertainment)
- OTT/streaming platforms (Netflix, Amazon Prime, JioHotstar) and their content studios

- Television channels and TV production companies
- Advertising agencies and ad-film production houses
- Theatre companies, event and live-show production companies
- Film studios and set-building companies (e.g. ND Studios, Ramoji Film City)

DEMAND (2026)

Film, web-series and advertising production in India is growing at an unprecedented pace. OTT platforms create hundreds of new series and films every year, and audiences now demand grand, authentic and believable visual worlds — so the need for skilled production designers and art directors has risen sharply. The wave of period dramas, historical and fantasy content has made this profession even more important.

7 Career growth

- 1 Assistant Art Director / Art Assistant
- 2 Art Director
- 3 Production Designer
- 4 Independent/Lead Production Designer & Studio Head

EARNINGS

Starting	₹15,000–25,000/माह
Mid level	₹40,000–80,000/माह
Senior level	₹1,50,000–5,00,000+/माह (या प्रति प्रोजेक्ट लाखों में)

Per Indeed (2026), a production designer's average salary in India is about ₹26,000/month, reflecting entry/salaried levels. Established production designers on big films and OTT projects earn several lakhs per project; income depends heavily on experience, project scale and reputation. The work is mostly freelance/project-based.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Highly creative work — the chance to build whole worlds on screen from your imagination
- Rising demand from the film/OTT boom, with grand projects and recognition
- High earnings once established, with the potential to reach national awards

The challenges

- Irregular, project-based work — income can be unstable at the start
- Long hours during shoots, travel and heavy deadline/budget pressure
- Building a strong portfolio and network to break in can take several years

9 Real-life journeys

Mansi Dhruv Mehta

Production Designer — 'Sardar Udham' (National Film Award, Best Production Design 2021)

Production designer Mansi Dhruv Mehta recreated the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh and the era's London and Punjab so meticulously for Shoojit Sircar's 'Sardar Udham' that audiences are pulled straight into history. Working from limited references — little more than an old painting — she rebuilt the exact width of the lane, the surrounding buildings and hundreds of fine details. For this vast, research-heavy work she won the 2021 National Film Award for Best Production Design. Her story shows how deep research, imagination and team leadership can carry a woman production designer to the country's highest honour.

Film Companion · <https://www.filmcompanion.in/features/sardar-udhams-recreation-of-the-jallianwala-bagh-massacre-vicky-kaushal-shoojit-sircar>

Nitin Chandrakant Desai

Celebrated Art Director & Production Designer (four-time National Film Award winner)

From a middle-class family in Maharashtra, Nitin Chandrakant Desai began in 1987 as an assistant art director on the TV serial 'Tamas' and rose to become one of Indian cinema's most celebrated production designers. The unforgettable sets of grand films like 'Lagaan', 'Devdas', 'Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam' and 'Jodhaa Akbar' were his vision, winning him the National Film Award four times. He also built the sprawling ND Studios near Karjat. His journey shows that even from an ordinary start, skill, hard work and creative vision can carry one to the top of this field.

Wikipedia · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nitin_Chandrakant_Desai

10 If this route does not work out

One exam or one attempt does not close the door. The same subjects also open these routes — entry is usually easier, and you can return to this field later.

- Design Engineer
- Industrial Designer
- Product Designer

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Production Designer — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%aa%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%b0%e0%a5%8b%e0%a4%a1%e0%a4%95%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%b6%e0%a4%a8-%e0%a4%a1%e0%a4%bf%e0%a4%9c%e0%a4%bc%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%87%e0%a4%a8%e0%a4%b0-production-designer/>
2. Wikipedia – National Film Award for Best Production Design — https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Film_Award_for_Best_Production_Design
3. FTII – PG Diploma in Art Direction & Production Design — <https://ftii.ac.in/p/film-wing/three-year-pg-diploma-course-in-art-direction-production-design>
4. National Institute of Design – Admissions (DAT) — <https://admissions.nid.edu/>
5. Indeed – Production Designer Salary (India, 2026) — <https://in.indeed.com/career/production-designer/salaries>



And 770+ more careers — the whole portal

Interest and aptitude tests, government jobs, skill courses and a CV builder — free, no login, and it works offline.

career.gssssjethantri.in