



कनिष्ठ अभियंता (कृषि) — जल ग्रहण विकास एवं भू-संरक्षण, राजस्थान

The biggest question in Rajasthan farming is water and soil — scarce rain, water that runs off the slope, and the topsoil that goes with it. The Watershed Development and Soil Conservation Department, under the Agriculture...



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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 biggest question in Rajasthan farming is water and soil — scarce rain, water that runs off the slope, and the topsoil that goes with it. The Watershed Development and Soil Conservation Department, under the Agriculture Department, works on exactly that: water-harvesting structures, anicuts, check dams, farm ponds, field bunding and soil-conservation works, planned by treating a watershed as the unit. The Junior Engineer (Agriculture) is the field technical officer for that work — site selection, survey, estimates, supervision of construction and measurement. The most important thing about the post is its qualification, and it is unlike any other Junior Engineer post on this portal: it requires a DEGREE in agricultural engineering — a diploma does not qualify, and neither does civil or mechanical engineering.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	A degree in Agricultural Engineering from a university established by law in India, together with a working knowledge of Hindi written in the Devanagari script and a knowledge of Rajasthani culture. A diploma does not qualify for this post, and neither does a degree in civil or mechanical engineering
Recruiting body	Rajasthan Staff Selection Board (RSSB) — the post belongs to the Watershed Development & Soil Conservation Department, under the Agriculture Department
Age limit	18 to 40 years, reckoned on the 1st of January following the last date for applications — the upper limit is relaxed for reserved categories and for women (detail below)
Starting salary	₹33,800 (basic) — Pay Matrix Level 10
Demand	A specialised cadre — the recruitment does not come every year, but when it does the competition is comparatively narrow, because eligibility is confined to graduates in agricultural engineering

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- An interest in technical work connected with farming, water and soil
- Working in the field — farms, slopes and construction sites
- Work whose result is visible in the village

ABILITIES

- Accuracy in survey and measurement, because if a structure's location or level is wrong the whole water harvesting is wasted
- The ability to work with farmers and the village community, because the structures are built on their land
- Ability with estimates and calculation, because both the sanction of the work and its payment rest on them

KEY SKILLS

- Surveying a watershed and planning its treatment
- Estimating and designing anicuts, check dams, farm ponds and other water-harvesting structures
- Technical supervision of field bunding and soil-conservation works
- Checking the quality of construction and measuring completed work
- Record-keeping and entry on the departmental portal
- Explaining water-harvesting and soil-saving techniques to farmers

4 How to get there

- 1 Take a degree in agricultural engineering — and that is the single, strict condition on this post. The advertisement requires a degree in agricultural engineering from a university established by law in India. Nothing less will do: not a diploma, and not a degree in another branch.
- 2 If you are in Class 12 and considering this direction, know that the agricultural engineering degree is available at Rajasthan's agricultural universities — at Jodhpur, Kota, Bikaner and Udaipur — and needs Class 12 science. The subject is not as widely taken as the common engineering branches, and that is also its practical advantage, because competition for this post is narrow in the same proportion.
- 3 Your age must be between 18 and 40, reckoned on the 1st of January following the last date for applications. The usual relaxations in the upper age limit apply for reserved categories and for women.
- 4 Final-year students may also apply, but with a condition. The advertisement says candidates appearing in the final year of the prescribed qualification may apply, but the qualification must be acquired BEFORE the examination date of this recruitment — candidates acquiring it after the examination will not be treated as eligible.
- 5 When the Board's advertisement appears, apply online through your SSO ID — and watch for this post by name, because several different recruitments in Rajasthan are called "Junior Engineer" and only this one is for agricultural engineers.

MAIN EXAMS

- There are five different routes called "Junior Engineer" in Rajasthan and their conditions are not the same — letting the name do the reasoning is the commonest and costliest mistake here. This portal carries pages for all four of the others: the railway Junior Engineer takes a three-year diploma with no experience; SSC takes a degree, or a diploma plus two years' experience; the Rajasthan state departments' JEn takes a diploma; and the power companies take only a four-year degree, and that as a regular student. And this fifth one takes only a degree in agricultural engineering. One name, five different conditions.
- One comparison about pay can now be made on this portal. This post is at Pay Matrix Level 10, whose starting basic is ₹33,800. The Motor Vehicle Sub Inspector post is also at Level 10, and it is reached with a three-year diploma. So the pay level is not tied directly to the level of qualification — it is settled by the post, the department and the service rules. That is useful at the moment of deciding: a degree in agricultural engineering leads to this post, but some other routes reach the same level with less study. The real advantage of the degree is that it opens further doors, not just this one.
- The recruitment runs under the Rajasthan Agriculture Subordinate Service Rules, 1978, read for the scheduled areas with the Rajasthan Scheduled Areas Subordinate, Ministerial and Class IV Service Rules, 2014. Note that this is the AGRICULTURE department's service rule — which is why this post's conditions match the agriculture cadre rather than the state's other engineering posts. The Agriculture Supervisor post on this portal falls under the same rules.
- This is a field post, and that should be understood in advance. Watershed development work does not happen in an office — site selection happens out on the slope, measurement at the construction site, and quality checking where the structure is being built. It is also work done on farmers' land, so the ability to talk to people matters as much as technical competence. A candidate who comes to engineering expecting office or design work will find this post different.

- After joining, the first two years are spent as a probationer-trainee, paid not the pay scale of the post but a fixed remuneration set by the state government, with dearness allowance and house rent allowance not payable. On completion of probation the full pay scale and allowances apply. This provision applies alike to all of Rajasthan's direct recruitments.
- 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

- Agriculture University, Jodhpur — the agricultural engineering degree this post requires — Jodhpur, Rajasthan (<https://www.aujodhpur.ac.in/>)
- Agriculture University, Kota — agricultural engineering and allied degrees — Kota, Rajasthan (<http://aukota.org/>)
- Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner — agricultural engineering — Bikaner, Rajasthan (<https://www.skrau.ac.in/>)
- Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur — the College of Technology and Engineering — Udaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.mpuat.ac.in/>)

ONLINE

- कृषि विभाग, राजस्थान — जल ग्रहण विकास एवं भू-संरक्षण से जुड़ी जानकारी — this post belongs to this department (<https://agriculture.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- राजस्थान कर्मचारी चयन बोर्ड — विज्ञप्ति, पाठ्यक्रम एवं परिणाम — the recruitment is by this Board (<https://rssb.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

This is a four-year engineering degree route, so it cannot be called cheap — but at Rajasthan's agricultural universities the degree is available at far lower fees than at private engineering colleges, and that is its most practical path. Class 12 science at a government school is close to free. One thing to know while planning: a degree in agricultural engineering is not confined to this post — it also leads to other technical posts in the Agriculture Department, to research and extension work at the agricultural universities, to irrigation and water-resources work, and to the farm machinery and food processing industries. So the degree should not be judged as the cost of this one post. The Board's usual examination fee applies on the application.

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

WHO HIRES

- Watershed Development & Soil Conservation Department, under the Agriculture Department, Government of Rajasthan

DEMAND (2026)

This is a specialised cadre and its recruitment does not come every year. But there is another side to that, which works in the post's favour: eligibility is confined to graduates in agricultural engineering, and that is a small group. Hundreds of thousands of civil and mechanical engineering graduates cannot apply for this post. So competition here is not what it is in recruitments open to any engineering branch — and this is one of the few government posts where choosing a less crowded subject pays off directly. 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 This is a regular government post, so seniority, annual increments, promotion and pension all apply.
- 2 Within the agriculture subordinate and state service, Assistant Engineer (Agriculture) and the technical posts above it come next, reached on seniority and the conditions of the service rules. This portal carries a separate page on the Assistant Engineer, and it is useful to read alongside this one.
- 3 Because of the degree, routes outside this post stay open as well, and that is its larger advantage: postgraduate study and research at the agricultural universities, work in the irrigation and water-resources departments, and the farm machinery and food processing industries. For someone who completes an M.Tech while in government service, teaching and research also open up.

EARNINGS

Starting	₹33,800 (मूल, पे मैट्रिक्स लेवल-10)
Mid level	₹45,000 – ₹60,000 (भत्तों सहित, कुछ वर्षों की सेवा के बाद)
Senior level	₹70,000 से अधिक (भत्तों सहित, वरिष्ठ एवं पर्यवेक्षी स्तर पर)

The advertisement gives Pay Matrix Level 10 for this post on the seventh pay scale. The starting basic at Level 10 is ₹33,800, and that same figure is independently recorded on this portal's page for the power companies' Junior Engineer — so the number does not rest on the reading of a single document. One comparison is worth knowing: the Motor Vehicle Sub Inspector is at the same level and is reached with a three-year diploma. The pay level is settled not by the qualification but by the post and its service rules. 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 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

- Competition is narrow, because eligibility is confined to graduates in agricultural engineering — the hundreds of thousands of civil and mechanical graduates cannot apply here.
- Regular government service at Pay Matrix Level 10 — with a pay scale, annual increments, promotion and pension.
- The result of the work is visible: a structure built holds water in the next monsoon, and the village sees the difference for itself.
- The degree is not confined to this one post — research and extension at the agricultural universities, the irrigation department, and the farm machinery and food processing industries all open on the same qualification.

The challenges

- The qualification condition is very narrow and has no substitute: only a degree in agricultural engineering will do. Diploma holders and engineers of other branches are entirely out, so this post can only be a plan for someone who has already chosen that subject.
- The recruitment does not come every year and the cadre is small, so the wait can be long even with the qualification in hand.
- This is field work — on slopes, farms and construction sites, in every season. Someone who comes to engineering expecting office or design work will find it different.
- Structures are built on farmers' or common land, so site selection involves local agreement and sometimes dispute — a technical decision alone is not enough.
- The first two years are spent as a probationer-trainee on a fixed remuneration, without dearness allowance or house rent allowance.

9 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Staff Selection Board — Junior Engineer (Agriculture) direct recruitment 2024, Detailed Advertisement 43/2024 (the qualification, age and pay level are all in this document) — https://rssb.rajasthan.gov.in/storage/advertisement_item/1733104468.pdf
2. Agriculture Department, Rajasthan — Watershed Development & Soil Conservation — <https://agriculture.rajasthan.gov.in/>

3. Rajasthan Staff Selection Board — the advertisement section — <https://rssb.rajasthan.gov.in/advertisements>
4. Rajasthan Staff Selection Board (official) — <https://rssb.rajasthan.gov.in/>
5. Department of Personnel, Rajasthan — service rules — <https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/>
6. 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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