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संगीतकार

A Musician is an artist who plays instruments, composes tunes and performs music for the stage, films, studios or streaming. Some master an instrument like the sitar, tabla, sarangi, flute, guitar or keyboard; others become music...



Scan for everything on this career

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

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/musician

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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 Musician is an artist who plays instruments, composes tunes and performs music for the stage, films, studios or streaming. Some master an instrument like the sitar, tabla, sarangi, flute, guitar or keyboard; others become music directors who create the melodies and arrangements of songs. Classical (Hindustani/Carnatic), Rajasthani folk (Manganiyar–Langa), film and independent (indie) music are all possible paths. It is a creative career that demands discipline and daily practice (riyaz), and in the age of streaming and live shows, opportunities are growing fast.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	No formal minimum; skill is key — a music diploma/degree after Class 10/12 helps
Training duration	Years of riyaz to master an instrument; diploma 1–3 years
Starting salary	₹10,000–20,000/month (gigs/tuition, irregular)
Work mode	Mostly freelance/gig-based; teaching, live shows, studio

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- A deep love for music, rhythm and melody
- Interest in performing on stage and connecting with audiences
- Passion to learn an instrument and practise for hours

ABILITIES

- A good ear for pitch, rhythm and tempo
- Patience, discipline and stamina for long practice
- Hand–eye coordination and finger dexterity

KEY SKILLS

- Mastery of one instrument (sitar/tabla/sarangi/flute/guitar/keyboard)
- Composing tunes, arrangement and music composition
- Live performance and stage confidence
- Promoting one's music on streaming and social media
- Understanding of raga, tala and musical notation
- Using recording and music software (DAWs like FL Studio/Logic)
- Collaboration and accompaniment with other artists

4 How to get there

- 1 Start learning one instrument early with a guru or music school and practise daily (riyaz).
- 2 Clear music exams/diplomas like Prabhakar/Visharad from a body such as Prayag Sangeet Samiti.
- 3 After Class 12, do a BA/BPA (Music — Instrumental) or diploma from a university (optional but useful).
- 4 Gain experience and networks by playing at local events, weddings, temples, orchestras and folk troupes.
- 5 Record and share your music on YouTube/Spotify/Instagram and seek studio/session work.
- 6 Apply for CCRT/Ministry of Culture scholarships to advance your training.

MAIN EXAMS

- Prayag Sangeet Samiti music exams (Prabhakar/Visharad) and instrumental diploma
- University BA/BPA (Music — Instrumental) admission process

5 Where to study**GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES**

- राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय — संगीत विभाग (बी.पी.ए. वादन) — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.uniraj.ac.in/>)
- इंदिरा कला संगीत विश्वविद्यालय (राष्ट्रीय संगीत विश्वविद्यालय) — Khairagarh (national option)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- प्रयाग संगीत समिति (मान्यता प्राप्त संगीत परीक्षा संस्था) — Prayagraj (<https://prayagsangeetsamiti.in/>)
- जयपुर संगीत महाविद्यालय — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.jaipursangeetmv.com/>)

- के.एम. म्यूज़िक कंज़र्वेटरी (ए.आर. रहमान द्वारा स्थापित) — Chennai (<https://www.kmmc.in/>)

ONLINE

- के.एम. म्यूज़िक कंज़र्वेटरी — ऑनलाइन कोर्स — Online (<https://www.kmmc.in/courses/>)
- प्रयाग संगीत समिति — दूरस्थ परीक्षा — Online/Postal (<https://prayagsangeetsamiti.in/>)

FEES

BA/BPA (Music) fees at government universities are roughly ₹5,000–20,000 per year. Prayag Sangeet Samiti exam fees range from a few hundred to a few thousand rupees. Private institute/guru tuition costs about ₹1,000–5,000 per month, while premium schools like KM Conservatory can be much higher. Many folk artists learn almost free of cost through the guru-shishya tradition.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- CCRT — युवा कलाकारों को छात्रवृत्ति योजना (संस्कृति मंत्रालय) / CCRT Scholarships to Young Artists (<https://ccrtindia.gov.in/scholarship-fellowship/scheme-for-scholarships-to-young-artists/>)
- संस्कृति मंत्रालय — विभिन्न सांस्कृतिक क्षेत्रों में युवा कलाकारों को छात्रवृत्ति / Ministry of Culture – Scholarships to Young Artists (<https://www.indiaculture.gov.in/award-scholarships-young-artists-different-cultural-fields>)
- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल / National Scholarship Portal (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Music work can happen anywhere — stages and auditoriums, recording studios, film and ad sets, hotels/resorts, weddings, temples and dargahs, music schools, and from home online (streaming/YouTube). In Rajasthan, folk artists also play at tourist sites, havelis and cultural festivals.

WORK CULTURE

The work culture is creative but irregular — late-night shows, travel and festival-season busyness are common. Income depends on projects/gigs, so many musicians combine performing with teaching.

WHO HIRES

- Film and music production companies, music labels and recording studios
- Live event and concert organisers, orchestras and bands

- Music schools, universities and private tuition (teaching)
- Hotels, resorts, cruises and wedding music troupes
- Streaming platforms and YouTube (independent/indie music, royalties)
- Rajasthan folk cultural troupes and tourism department (Manganiyar–Langa performances)

DEMAND (2026)

Opportunities for musicians are rising with streaming (Spotify, YouTube Music), independent indie music, live concerts and social media. Films, ads, gaming and web series demand original music, and Rajasthani folk music is finding fresh recognition through global stages and tourism. Still, income stays irregular, so balancing it with teaching and session work is important.

7 Career growth

- 1 Learner/Student — learning an instrument and riyaz under a guru or school
- 2 Beginner artist — local shows, accompaniment, weddings and small studio gigs
- 3 Session/performing musician — regular recordings, concerts and tours
- 4 Established soloist/music director/composer
- 5 Guru and mentor — running schools, one's own band/label and international stages

EARNINGS

Starting	₹10,000–20,000/माह (शुरुआती गिग/ट्यूशन, अनियमित) ₹10,000–20,000/month (early gigs/tuition, irregular)
Mid level	₹25,000–60,000/माह (नियमित परफॉर्मिंग/सेशन व शिक्षण) ₹25,000–60,000/month (regular performing/session and teaching)
Senior level	₹1,00,000–3,00,000+/माह (प्रतिष्ठित कलाकार/संगीत निर्देशक; शीर्ष फिल्म कम्पोज़र और अधिक) ₹1,00,000–3,00,000+/month (established artists/music directors; top film composers earn much more)

Income is highly irregular and gig/project-based — there is no fixed monthly salary. A struggle is normal at the start; teaching, sessions and streaming royalties together bring stability. Figures are 2026 estimates.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- The joy of making your passion (music) your career
- Streaming and indie music open new paths to a stage and recognition
- Flexible, creative work with chances to perform in India and abroad

The challenges

- Irregular income and financial uncertainty in the early years
- Years of hard riyaz and stiff competition
- Late-night shows, travel and an irregular routine

9 Real-life journeys

Lakha Khan

Manganiyar folk musician and Sindhi sarangi player, Padma Shri (2021)

From Raneri village in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan, Lakha Khan is a renowned folk musician of the Manganiyar community and one of the last great masters of the Sindhi sarangi. Amid poverty and hardship, he began playing at age 12 and devoted his whole life to the sarangi and singing. He carried Rajasthani folk music to over 40 countries, won the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2008 and India's Padma Shri in 2021. His story shows that even from a humble village, deep devotion to an instrument can build a musician's national and international recognition.

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

Anuradha Pal

Tabla player and composer — the world's first professional female tabla artist

Anuradha Pal is the world's first professional female tabla player (Limca Book of Records, 1991). From the age of six she trained under maestros Ustad Alla Rakha and Ustad Zakir Hussain, and by seventeen was called 'Lady Zakir Hussain'. In an instrument traditionally seen as 'for men', she has performed over 5,000 concerts across 40 countries, founded the world's first all-female band 'Stree Shakti' in 1996 and composed 75+ works. Her journey inspires every girl who wants a career in instrumental music.

AnuradhaPal.com · <https://www.anuradhapal.com/about>

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.

- Actor
- Photographer
- Singer

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Musician — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%b8%e0%a4%82%e0%a4%97%e0%a5%80%e0%a4%a4%e0%a4%95%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%b0-musician/>
2. CCRT – Scheme for Scholarships to Young Artists — <https://ccrtindia.gov.in/scholarship-fellowship/scheme-for-scholarships-to-young-artistes/>
3. Ministry of Culture – Scholarships to Young Artists — <https://www.indiaculture.gov.in/award-scholarships-young-artists-different-cultural-fields>
4. University of Rajasthan, Jaipur — <https://www.uniraj.ac.in/>
5. Indeed – Musician Salary (India) — <https://in.indeed.com/career/musician/salaries>



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