



SAARTHI - सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal

"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य।"

करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

फोटोग्राफर

A Photographer is a creative professional who uses a camera, light and imagination to turn a moment, person, product or event into a lasting image. The profession has many branches — portrait and wedding photography,...



Scan for everything on this career

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

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/photographer

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, जेठन्तरी

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

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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 Photographer is a creative professional who uses a camera, light and imagination to turn a moment, person, product or event into a lasting image. The profession has many branches — portrait and wedding photography, photojournalism, fashion, wildlife and nature, and commercial photography for advertising and e-commerce. Beyond mastering camera settings, composition and lighting, a photographer is also skilled in editing software such as Photoshop and Lightroom. The explosion of social media, digital content and the wedding industry has made this a fast-growing, self-reliant career across Rajasthan and India, open to both freelance and studio pathways.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Class 10/12 pass; diploma or portfolio helps
Course duration	Certificate 3–12 months; diploma/degree 1–4 years
Starting salary	₹10,000–18,000/month (varies by genre)
Work mode	Freelance, studio or agency

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- A love for capturing images, scenes and beauty on camera
- Enjoy working with technology, cameras and editing software
- Interest in creativity, storytelling and exploring new places

ABILITIES

- A good eye — sense of composition, colour and light
- Ease with people and adaptability to varied situations
- Patience, timing the right moment and attention to detail

KEY SKILLS

- Full control of camera, lenses, aperture, shutter speed and ISO
- Photoshop, Lightroom and other post-production editing
- Building a portfolio, client handling and pricing
- Equipment care and planning a shoot
- Composition, framing and natural & artificial lighting
- Different genres — portrait, wedding, fashion, wildlife, product
- Getting work via social media, website and marketing

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete Class 10 or 12; build interest in art and visual subjects.
- 2 Start daily practice with a good DSLR/mirrorless camera or smartphone.
- 3 Take a certificate or diploma/degree course in photography (optional but valuable).
- 4 Learn on the job as an assistant to an experienced photographer or studio.
- 5 Build a portfolio and Instagram/website, and start taking small assignments.
- 6 Specialise in a genre and go freelance or open your own studio.

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad — Ahmedabad, Gujarat (<https://www.nid.edu/>)
- AJK Mass Communication Research Centre (MCRC), Jamia Millia Islamia — New Delhi (<https://jmi.ac.in/>)
- Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) — Pune, Maharashtra (<https://ftii.ac.in/>)
- University of Rajasthan – Department of Drawing & Painting / Visual Arts — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.uniraj.ac.in/>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- JECRC University – Jaipur School of Design — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://jecrcuniversity.edu.in/program/jaipur-school-of-design/>)
- Arch College of Design & Business — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.archedu.org/>)
- Light & Life Academy — Ooty, Tamil Nadu (<https://llacademy.org/>)

- National Institute of Photography — Mumbai, Maharashtra (<https://www.shiksha.com/college/national-institute-of-photography-dadar-west-mumbai-28624/courses>)

ONLINE

- स्किल इंडिया डिजिटल हब — Online (<https://www.skillindiadigital.gov.in/>)
- एनआईओएस व्यावसायिक पाठ्यक्रम — Online / nearest centre (<https://www.nios.ac.in/>)
- Coursera / Domestika - Photography Courses — Online

FEES

Short photography courses on Skill India, NIOS and government schemes are free or very low-cost. Private institutes charge roughly ₹15,000–60,000 for certificates, about ₹1–3 lakh for a one-year diploma, and ₹2–8 lakh for degree/professional programmes at leading institutes like NID or Light & Life Academy.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in/>)
- SJE Rajasthan Scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- Buddy4Study – Art & Design Scholarships (<https://www.buddy4study.com/>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Photo studios, newspapers and media houses, wedding and event companies, advertising and fashion agencies, e-commerce companies, wildlife and travel projects, and independent (freelance) assignments.

WORK CULTURE

Working hours are irregular — weddings and events often run late into the night and on weekends. Shoots involve travel, and workload peaks in season. It is a creative, flexible profession offering control over your own schedule and fees; opportunities for women and persons with disabilities are also growing.

WHO HIRES

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Newspapers, news portals and media houses | • Photo studios and wedding/event photography companies |
| • Advertising, fashion and creative agencies | • E-commerce and product companies (catalogue shoots) |

- Independent freelance clients and social-media brands
- Wildlife, travel and documentary projects

DEMAND (2026)

The explosion of social media, YouTube, Instagram and digital marketing means every brand, shop and individual needs good images. Rajasthan's rich wedding and tourism industry, growing e-commerce and the content-creation boom keep pushing demand for skilled photographers upward. Those who also know video, reels and editing find opportunities growing even faster.

7 Career growth

- 1 Photography Assistant / Trainee
- 2 Junior Photographer
- 3 Professional Photographer (genre specialist)
- 4 Senior / Lead Photographer
- 5 Studio Owner / Renowned Specialist Photographer

EARNINGS

Starting	₹10,000–18,000/माह
Mid level	₹25,000–70,000/माह
Senior level	₹70,000–1,25,000+/माह

Income depends heavily on genre and season. Assistants/freshers earn about ₹8,000–15,000/month; experienced freelancers ₹25,000–70,000/month, and top specialists cross ₹1 lakh+ per month. During the wedding season or big commercial projects monthly income can multiply several times (source: AAFT, PayScale, Indeed 2026).

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Creative, independent, travel-filled work — build a name through your art
- Control over your own schedule and fees as a freelancer or studio owner
- Rapidly rising demand from the digital and wedding boom

The challenges

- Irregular hours, seasonal income and early-career uncertainty
- Heavy initial investment in equipment like cameras and lenses
- Stiff competition; building a reputation takes time and effort

9 Real-life journeys

Aishwarya Sridhar

Wildlife photographer & filmmaker; first Indian woman to win Wildlife Photographer of the Year

Mumbai's Aishwarya Sridhar began photographing wildlife at age 13 and turned her passion into a career. In 2020 she became the first Indian woman to win London Natural History Museum's prestigious 'Wildlife Photographer of the Year' award. A National Geographic Explorer and producer of environmental documentaries, Aishwarya's story shows that, armed with a camera and passion, a girl too can build a world-class name in wildlife and nature photography.

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

Raghu Rai

Legendary photojournalist; Magnum Photos member and Padma Shri awardee

Raghu Rai left civil engineering to take up photography at 23 and became chief photographer at 'The Statesman' in 1966. Impressed by his images, the legendary Henri Cartier-Bresson nominated him to the prestigious Magnum Photos collective in 1977. His moving documentation of the Bangladesh War and the Bhopal gas tragedy earned him the Padma Shri in 1972, and his work appeared in 'Time', 'Life' and 'The New York Times'. His journey teaches new photojournalists that honest, sensitive images can record history itself.

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

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.

- Sculptor
- Visual Artist (Painter)

- Dancer

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Photographer — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%ab%e0%a5%8b%e0%a4%9f%e0%a5%8b%e0%a4%97%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%b0%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%ab%e0%a4%b0-photographer/>
2. AAFT – Photographer Salary in India — <https://aافتonline.com/blog/photographer-salary-in-india-average-monthly-role-based-breakdown/>
3. PayScale – Wedding Photographer Salary 2026 — https://www.payscale.com/research/IN/Job=Wedding_Photographer/Salary
4. Indeed – Freelance Photographer Salary in India — <https://in.indeed.com/career/freelance-photographer/salaries>
5. National Scholarship Portal — <https://scholarships.gov.in/>



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.

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