



SAARTHI - सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal

"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य।"

करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

गायक

A Singer is an artist who trains their voice to perform professionally — whether it is playback singing for films, live stage performance, classical and Sufi singing, devotional (bhajan) music, folk songs, or independent music on...



Scan for everything on this career

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

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/singer

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, जेठन्तरी

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

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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 Singer is an artist who trains their voice to perform professionally — whether it is playback singing for films, live stage performance, classical and Sufi singing, devotional (bhajan) music, folk songs, or independent music on YouTube and streaming platforms. A good singer commands pitch, rhythm, beat and the emotion of the lyrics, and refines the voice through years of *riyaaz* (practice). In today's world of reels, streaming apps and social media, talents from small towns and villages can reach global audiences directly — but it is a career of hard work, patience and continuous learning, where income varies a great deal.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	No formal degree needed; music training and talent are key
Training duration	Years of <i>riyaaz</i> for a classical base (diploma 1–4 years)
Starting salary	₹8,000–20,000/month (highly variable)
Work mode	Freelance/project-based — shows, recording, streaming, teaching

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- A deep interest in singing, music and melody
- Enthusiasm for performing on stage or before the camera
- A drive to keep learning new styles, languages and songs

ABILITIES

- A tuneful voice with a firm sense of pitch and rhythm
- Good memory and the ability to express the emotion of lyrics

- Patience, discipline and dedication to years of riyaz

KEY SKILLS

- Voice training, control over pitch, rhythm and beat
- Microphone technique and live stage performance
- Creating and promoting content on YouTube, Instagram and streaming
- Coordinating with composers and instrumentalists
- Basic understanding of classical ragas and sargam
- Working in a recording studio and basic music software
- Singing across languages and styles (folk, devotional, film, ghazal)

4 How to get there

- 1 Begin classical/light-music training under a guru, music school or gurukul, and do daily riyaz.
- 2 Gain stage experience by singing at school/college events, temple fairs and local shows.
- 3 Take a music diploma such as Visharad from bodies like Prayag Sangeet Samiti/Gandharva Mahavidyalaya (optional but useful).
- 4 Build an identity and audience by posting covers and original songs on YouTube/Instagram.
- 5 Take part in reality shows like Indian Idol and Sa Re Ga Ma Pa, auditions and live competitions.
- 6 Connect with recording studios, music labels and composers to find work in jingles, playback and independent music.

MAIN EXAMS

- Sangeet Visharad (Vocal) examination by Prayag Sangeet Samiti / Akhil Bharatiya Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Mandal

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय, संगीत विभाग — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.uniraj.ac.in/>)
- केंद्रीय सांस्कृतिक संसाधन एवं प्रशिक्षण केंद्र (CCRT) — New Delhi / All-India (<https://ccrtindia.gov.in/>)
- प्रयाग संगीत समिति (संगीत परीक्षा व डिप्लोमा) — Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh (<https://prayagsangeetsamiti.in/vocal/>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- KM Music Conservatory (ए. आर. रहमान द्वारा स्थापित) — Chennai, Tamil Nadu (<https://www.kmmc.in/>)
- Shankar Mahadevan Academy — Bengaluru / Online (<https://www.shankarmahadevanacademy.com/>)

ONLINE

- Shankar Mahadevan Academy – हिंदुस्तानी वोकल (ऑनलाइन) — Online (<https://www.shankarmahadevanacademy.com/hindustani-vocal-music/>)
- KM Music Conservatory – समर व ऑनलाइन प्रोग्राम — Online (<https://www.kmmc.in/summer-programmes/>)

FEES

Training in the guru-shishya tradition or at government music schools is often free or very low-cost. Diploma/exam fees at bodies like Prayag Sangeet Samiti range from a few hundred to a few thousand rupees. Online courses at private academies (Shankar Mahadevan Academy etc.) cost roughly ₹5,000–30,000, while large institutes like KM Music Conservatory can charge annual fees running into a few lakh rupees.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- CCRT सांस्कृतिक प्रतिभा खोज छात्रवृत्ति (Cultural Talent Search Scholarship) (<https://ccrtindia.gov.in/scholarship-fellowship/cultural-talent-search-scholarship-scheme/>)
- युवा कलाकारों को छात्रवृत्ति – संस्कृति मंत्रालय (<https://culture.gov.in/offering/schemes-services/award-scholarships-young-artists-different-cultural-fields>)
- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Recording studios, film and music companies, live concerts and stages, temple fairs and cultural events, ad-jingle studios, YouTube/streaming platforms, and music schools (teaching).

WORK CULTURE

Working hours are irregular — late-night recordings, weekend shows and festival-season rushes are common. It is largely freelance, project-based work, so building your identity, network and constant *riyaaz* matters. Many artists with disabilities, including the visually impaired, have built outstanding careers in music.

WHO HIRES

- Film music, music labels and recording companies (e.g. T-Series, Zee Music)
- Streaming and digital platforms (YouTube, Spotify, JioSaavn)
- Music schools, academies and schools (teaching)
- Event and live-concert companies, and hotels/resorts
- Advertising agencies and jingle studios
- Cultural troupes, temple trusts and government cultural departments

DEMAND (2026)

Streaming apps, reels and social media have hugely expanded demand for music — independent artists can now reach millions directly without a big label. There is steady opportunity in film and ad music, live shows, weddings, and devotional/folk music. However, competition is intense, and success needs continuous hard work, a distinctive voice and a strong online presence.

7 Career growth

- 1 Learner/amateur singer (riyaaz and local shows)
- 2 Independent/local professional singer (YouTube, events, chorus)
- 3 Established playback/independent singer (films, albums, big shows)
- 4 Renowned singing artist / music director and mentor

EARNINGS

Starting	₹8,000–20,000/माह
Mid level	₹25,000–60,000/माह
Senior level	₹1,00,000+/माह

Income in singing is very uncertain and variable. Early on, a little comes from chorus work, small shows, teaching and YouTube; many singers combine it with teaching or other work. Once established, earnings per song, per show or as royalties multiply, and top playback/star singers earn very high incomes (sources like Indeed/PayScale show average monthly pay). This career depends far more on talent, reputation and constant effort than on a fixed salary.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- You earn recognition and deep satisfaction from your art and voice
- Streaming and social media give even small-town talent a direct global reach
- Once established, there is no upper limit to income and opportunities

The challenges

- Income is uncertain and variable; the early struggle can be long
- Very intense competition and irregular working hours
- The voice must be protected; throat problems can affect the career

9 Real-life journeys

Sunny Hindustani

Indian Idol Season 11 winner, playback and Sufi singer

Sunny Hindustani, from Bathinda in Punjab, comes from a very poor family — after his father's death he supported the household by polishing shoes outside the bus stand, having left school after Class 6. Inspired by Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan's qawwalis, he kept singing in streets and at religious events, and on the strength of his voice won Indian Idol Season 11 in 2020, earning a ₹25 lakh prize and a playback-singing opportunity. His story shows that from even the humblest of starts, true effort and devotion to one's voice can reach great heights.

Storypick · <https://storypick.com/indian-idol-11-winner-sunny-hindustani/>

Rajnigandha Shekhawat

Rajasthani folk-fusion and playback singer, 'Maharani of Mashups'

Rajnigandha Shekhawat of Rajasthan was the first woman from her Rajput community to take up music professionally, breaking social barriers. After a Visharad and later a Master's in Hindustani classical music from Jaipur, she blended Rajasthani folk with Western pop — creating viral mashups (like 'Cheap Thrills' × 'Ghoomar'), performing over 500 concerts worldwide and singing film tracks including 'Badri Ki Dulhania'. Her story inspires Rajasthani girls who want to build a modern, global identity in music while staying rooted in their own culture.

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

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
- Model
- Choreographer

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Singer — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%97%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%af%e0%a4%95-singer/>
2. CCRT – Cultural Talent Search Scholarship — <https://ccrtindia.gov.in/scholarship-fellowship/cultural-talent-search-scholarship-scheme/>
3. Ministry of Culture – Scholarships to Young Artists — <https://culture.gov.in/offering/schemes-services/award-scholarships-young-artists-different-cultural-fields>
4. Indeed – Singer Salary in India — <https://in.indeed.com/career/singer/salaries>
5. PayScale – Musician/Singer Pay in India — https://www.payscale.com/research/IN/Job=Musician_or_Singer/Salary



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